

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to S. Con. Res. 30, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 30) providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the consent the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 30) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 30

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Friday, December 20, 2013, through Tuesday, December 31, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 11:45 a.m. on Friday, January 3, 2014, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Monday, December 23, 2013, through Tuesday, December 31, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 11 a.m. on Friday, January 3, 2014, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 3 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. (a) The Majority Leader of the Senate or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the Senate to reassemble at such place and time he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the Senate adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by the Majority Leader or his designee, the Senate shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

SEC. 3. (a) The Speaker or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the House to reassemble at such place and time he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the House adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by the Speaker or his designee, the House shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1859 and S. 1881

Mr. DURBIN. I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1859) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 1881) to expand sanctions imposed with respect to Iran and to impose additional sanctions with respect to Iran, and for other purposes.

Mr. DURBIN. I object to any further proceedings with respect to these bills en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bills will be placed on the calendar.

MEASURE READ FOR THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 2019

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2019) to eliminate taxpayer financing of political party conventions and reprogram savings to provide for a 10-year pediatric research initiative through the Common Fund administered by the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

MEASURES INDEFINITELY POSTPONED—H. Con. Res. 72 and H.R. 219

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following items be indefinitely postponed, H. Con. Res. 72 and H. Res. 219.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that during the adjournment or recess of the Senate from Friday, December 20 to Monday, January 6, the majority leader and Senators WARNER and ROCKEFELLER be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, as I mentioned earlier today, I spoke with

Majority Leader REID this morning. He sounds hale and hearty and anxious to get home and then back to work. We look forward to that happening when he returns to his desk early in the new year in 2014.

CLOSING THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, there are many traditions around this holiday season that I cherish, but I must confess that the tradition of spending Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve on the floor of the Senate is not one of those traditions. Happily, this year we won't be repeating that practice from previous years. We are leaving here shortly—some have already—to spend the holidays at home with family.

As we close this first session of the 113th Congress, I wish to personally thank our majority leader Senator HARRY REID—and let me add his wife Landra—for their leadership and their resolve that helps to make this Senate work.

I also thank the minority leader Senator MITCH MCCONNELL. Although we may disagree on many issues and have our debates on the floor of the Senate, I have a great respect for my colleagues and particularly their leader Senator MCCONNELL. We all know we can't do this work alone. It takes a lot of dedicated people to keep the Senate functioning.

On behalf of Leader REID, I wish to acknowledge and thank the Senate Parliamentarians and clerical staff and doorkeepers. I also thank the cloakroom staffs, the members of our floor staffs who put in even longer than usual hours these past few weeks, and all of the Senate staffers, Democratic and Republican.

I thank the Capitol Police officers for keeping us safe. We have to remember they risk their lives every day for us and all the people who work and visit this great Capitol.

A special thanks to our Senate pages. We ask a lot of them—long hours for a lot of young people. We want them to know that their work is greatly appreciated. We wish them the best of luck. They will be coming back in January to finish their current assignment as pages. I hope they have a great time at home with their families. Perhaps someday they will return here, maybe as Senators themselves.

Part of the magic of this holiday season is that it enables many of us, even just for a few moments, to consider a new world, to look at it with a little less cynicism. I hope all of my colleagues will have a few moments like that in the coming holidays, and I hope we are all going to come back and try to preserve some small measure of good will and make it part of our life's work in the next year of the Senate session.

The budget agreement we passed this week was a good beginning to a less

partisan, more productive Senate. I hope that is a portent of good things to come.

There is a lot more we need to do. The American people are still counting on us to work together on measures that will help to create good jobs and strengthen America's economy, strengthen working families in Wisconsin and Illinois and all across America.

And particularly at this Christmas-time, let's remember the message of Pope Francis and religious leaders all over the world: to remember the needy and the help they need that we can provide and must provide in this caring world.

We all only serve in this body for a finite period of time. After we are gone, we want to look back on our service in the Senate and we all want to be able to say: I was part of something important. I helped meet the great challenges of my time, and I helped to preserve the American dream. I hope that is part of our new year's resolve on both sides of the aisle.

SENATE AGENDA

When we return in January, the Senate will continue working on nominations, starting with confirmation of Janet Yellen to head the Federal Reserve when we vote on January 6. Our first order of legislative business will be to vote to extend unemployment benefits for those who have exhausted their benefits and still can't find work through no fault of their own. This is a matter of simple fairness. It affects more than 1 million Americans and their families. We will not give up on them and on our responsibility to help them through this difficult time.

In closing, let me wish all of my fellow Senators and our staffs, those who transcribe our remarks, and many others who make the Senate work every single day, as well as our fellow Americans, a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2013 THROUGH MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only with no business conducted on the following dates and times and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session, unless the Senate receives a message from the House that it has adopted S. Con. Res. 30, the adjournment resolution: Tuesday, December 24, at 12 noon; Friday, December 27, at 12 noon; Tuesday, December 31, at 12 noon; and Friday, January 3, at 11:45 a.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, January 3, 2014, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m., on Monday, January 6, 2014; further, that if the Senate receives a message that the House has adopted S. Con. Res. 30, the Senate adjourn until Friday, January

3, at 11:45 a.m. for a pro forma session only with no business conducted, and that following the pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until 2 p.m., on Monday, January 6, 2014; that on Monday, January 6, 2014, following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; and that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 1845, the unemployment insurance extension, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each; further, that at 3 p.m., the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of Executive Calendar No. 452, the nomination of Janet Yellen to be Chairman of the Federal Reserve System, with the time until 5:30 p.m. equally divided and controlled in the usual form prior to a vote on confirmation of the Yellen nomination; and, finally, that following the vote on confirmation of the Yellen nomination, the Senate resume legislative session and proceed to vote on cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1845, the unemployment insurance extension bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, there will be two rollcall votes beginning at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, January 6.

CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2013

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:10 p.m., conditionally adjourned until Tuesday, December 24, 2013, at 12 noon.

DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations by unanimous consent and the nominations were confirmed:

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF CAPT. FRANCIS S. PELKOWSKI, TO BE REAR ADMIRAL (LOWER HALF).

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CAPT. MEREDITH L. AUSTIN AND ENDING WITH CAPT. PAUL F. THOMAS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2013.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 20, 2013:

THE JUDICIARY

BRIAN J. DAVIS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

ALEJANDRO NICHOLAS MAYORKAS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

JOHN ANDREW KOSKINEN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE FOR THE TERM EXPIRING NOVEMBER 12, 2017.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. PAUL S. DWAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIGADIER GENERAL CATHERINE A. CHILTON
BRIGADIER GENERAL STAYCE D. HARRIS
BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM B. WALDROP, JR.
BRIGADIER GENERAL TOMMY J. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. JOSEF F. SCHMID III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL TALENTINO C. ANGELOSANTE
COLONEL JAMES R. BARKLEY
COLONEL THOMAS G. CLARK
COLONEL MICHAEL J. CLARE
COLONEL SAMUEL C. MAHANEY
COLONEL BRETT J. MCMULLEN
COLONEL JOSE R. MONTEAGUDO
COLONEL RANDALL A. OGDEN
COLONEL JOHN P. STOKES
COLONEL STEPHEN D. VAUTRAIN

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. STEPHEN E. RADER

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. MICHAEL T. MCGUIRE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. JOHN W. RAYMOND

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES A. FLYNN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. DAVID G. PERKINS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL JAMES T. IACocca
COLONEL DANIEL G. MITCHELL
COLONEL KURT L. SONNTAG

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. ANTHONY L. HALL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624, 3037 AND 3064:

To be brigadier general, judge advocate general's corps

COL. PAUL S. WILSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED