

CONGRESSIONAL VOTES, WEEK OF DEC. 5-11

BY TARGETED NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON Here’s a look at how area members of Congress voted over the previous week. Along with roll call votes, this week the House also passed these measures: the Semiquincentennial Tourism and Access to Recreation Sites Act (H.R. 4285), to direct the Interior Department to designate an entrance-fee free date in 2026 at National Park Service sites in order to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States of America; the Studying NEPA’s Impact on Projects Act (H.R. 573), to require the Council on Environmental Quality to publish an annual report on environmental reviews and causes of action based on alleged non-compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act; and the ePermit Act (H.R. 4503), to improve environmental reviews and authorizations through the use of interactive, digital, and cloud-based platforms. The Senate also passed: the ASCEND Act (S. 1437), to require the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to establish a program to identify, evaluate, acquire, and disseminate commercial Earth remote sensing data and imagery in order to satisfy NASA’s scientific, operational, and educational requirements; the BADGES for Native Communities Act (S. 390), to require federal law enforcement agencies to report on cases of missing or murdered Indians; and the Billion Dollar Boondoggle Act (S. 766), to require an annual report of taxpayer-funded projects that are over budget and behind schedule.

HOUSE VOTES

House Vote 1: **FEDERAL FUNDING FOR RURAL SCHOOLS:** The House has passed the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act (S. 356), sponsored by Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, to extend through fiscal 2026 programs under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. A supporter, Rep. Doug LaMalfa, R-Calif., said the reauthorization “means that schools, public works, and county services will not be forced to lay off dozens of employees who do the essential work for rural counties and schools.” The vote, on Dec. 9, was 399 yeas

to 5 nays. **NOT VOTING:** Barr R-KY (6th) **YEAS:** Guthrie R-KY (2nd), Rogers (KY) R-KY (5th), Comer R-KY (1st), McGarvey D-KY (3rd) **NAYS:** Massie R-KY (4th) **House Vote 2:** **STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT:** The House has passed the Make SWAPs Efficient Act (H.R. 1676), sponsored by Rep. Byron Donalds, R-Fla., to change the Interior Department’s State Wildlife Grant Program by requiring Interior to approve state wildlife action plans (SWAPs) within six months of receipt, so long as the plans comply with the grant program’s requirements. Donalds called the six-month deadline “a real swipe to unnecessary red tape, minimize self-induced delays, and streamline the regulatory process for the allocation of much-needed conservation funding to our states.” The vote, on Dec. 9, was unanimous with 400 yeas. **NOT VOTING:** Barr R-KY (6th) **YEAS:** Guthrie R-KY (2nd), Massie R-KY (4th), Rogers (KY) R-KY (5th), Comer R-KY (1st), McGarvey D-KY (3rd) **House Vote 3:** **MILITARY SPENDING:** The House has passed the National Defense Authorization Act (S. Res. 1071), sponsored by Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, to authorize \$901 billion of military and military construction spending in fiscal 2026, including a 3.8 percent pay increase for enlisted soldiers. A supporter, Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Ala., said the bill “includes a series of reforms to put commercial solutions first, eliminate regulatory burdens, and end bureaucratic inertia. It also puts in place a system that will deliver capability to the warfighter at the speed and scale that we need.” A bill opponent, Rep. John Garamendi, D-Calif., said it failed to “push forward the appropriate role of the Congress to carry out its funding, as well as our oversight responsibility.” The vote, on Dec. 10, was 312 yeas to 112 nays. **YEAS:** Barr R-KY (6th), Guthrie R-KY (2nd), Rogers (KY) R-KY (5th), Comer R-KY (1st) **NAYS:** Massie R-KY (4th), McGarvey D-KY (3rd) **House Vote 4:** **IMPEACHING PRESIDENT:** The House has passed a motion to table a bill (H. Res. 939), sponsored by Rep. Al

Green, D-Texas, that would have impeached President Trump for allegedly calling for the execution of six members of Congress in November, and allegedly promoting threats of violence against legislators and judges. Green said Trump “has called for the execution of members of the House of Representatives, of this very House. He has demeaned members of the judiciary.” The vote, on Dec. 11, was 237 yeas to 140 nays, with 47 voting present. **YEAS:** Barr R-KY (6th), Guthrie R-KY (2nd), Massie R-KY (4th), Rogers (KY) R-KY (5th), Comer R-KY (1st) **NAYS:** McGarvey D-KY (3rd) **House Vote 5:** **REGULATING ELECTRICAL GRID:** The House has passed the State Planning for Reliability and Affordability Act (H.R. 3628), sponsored by Rep. Gabe Evans, R-Colo. The bill would require state regulatory agencies to take electricity reliability concerns into account when reviewing a utility’s long-term integrated resource plan. Evans said it “helps bolster American innovation, keeps the lights on rain or shine, and helps reduce utility bills for the middle class.” An opponent, Rep. Frank Pallone Jr., D-N.J., called the bill “a wholesale attack on clean energy under the guise of reliability.” The vote, on Dec. 11, was 218 yeas to 207 nays. **YEAS:** Barr R-KY (6th), Guthrie R-KY (2nd), Massie R-KY (4th), Rogers (KY) R-KY (5th), Comer R-KY (1st) **NAYS:** McGarvey D-KY (3rd) **House Vote 6:** **ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CHAIN:** The House has passed the Electric Supply Chain Act (H.R. 3638), sponsored by Rep. Robert E. Latta, R-Ohio, to require the Energy Department to repeatedly report to Congress on concerns for the electrical grid supply chain, including a lack of critical minerals processing capacity and the current status of component supplies. Latta said the reports would put Energy “in a proactive posture to identify and address matters affecting our power sector supply chain as they arise.” A bill opponent, Rep. Jennifer L. McClellan, D-Va., said it “does nothing of substance to support and secure America’s electric supply chain.” The vote, on Dec. 11, was 267 yeas to 159 nays.

YEAS: Barr R-KY (6th), Guthrie R-KY (2nd), Massie R-KY (4th), Rogers (KY) R-KY (5th), Comer R-KY (1st) **NAYS:** McGarvey D-KY (3rd) **House Vote 7:** **INVESTMENT FUNDS:** The House has passed the Increasing Investor Opportunities Act (H.R. 3383), sponsored by Rep. Ann Wagner, R-Mo., to allow closed-end investment funds that invest in other private investment funds to sell securities. Wagner said that by increasing domestic investment opportunities, “more companies will choose to grow here, go public here, and create jobs here instead of overseas.” A bill opponent, Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., said it “would reduce federal investor protections, jeopardizing the retirement savings of millions of regular, hardworking Americans.” The vote, on Dec. 11, was 302 yeas to 123 nays. **YEAS:** Barr R-KY (6th), Guthrie R-KY (2nd), Massie R-KY (4th), Rogers (KY) R-KY (5th), Comer R-KY (1st) **NAYS:** McGarvey D-KY (3rd) **House Vote 8:** **REGULATING WATERWAYS:** The House has passed the Promoting Efficient Review for Modern Infrastructure Today Act (H.R. 3898), sponsored by Rep. Mike Collins, R-Ga., to define navigable waters, subject to federal regulation, as not including groundwater, ephemeral waterways, and certain other water features. Collins said that by reducing delays and costs associated with water regulation, the bill would “make sure that life is more affordable so that these young people can get out there and chase their version of the American Dream.” An opponent, Rep. Rick Larsen, D-Wash., said: “This bill will make it more difficult to keep our water clean and will, ironically, add more uncertainty to the permitting process.” The vote, on Dec. 11, was 221 yeas to 205 nays. **YEAS:** Barr R-KY (6th), Guthrie R-KY (2nd), Massie R-KY (4th), Rogers (KY) R-KY (5th), Comer R-KY (1st) **NAYS:** McGarvey D-KY (3rd) **House Vote 9:** **GOVERNMENT LABOR RELATIONS:** The House has passed the Protect America’s Workforce Act (H.R. 2550), sponsored by Rep. Jared Golden, D-Maine. The bill would nullify an executive order issued this March that excluded certain agencies in the executive branch from a federal law governing collective bargaining by government workers. Golden called the March order “the largest act of union busting in American history, and it left our federal workforce more vulnerable to unfair treatment and po-

litical interference.” An opponent, Rep. James Comer, R-Ky., questioned the merits of collective bargaining given that federal laws determine salaries and benefits for federal workers, and said the order represented President Trump fulfilling “his constitutional duty to ensure the laws of the land are faithfully executed.” The vote, on Dec. 11, was 231 yeas to 195 nays. **NAYS:** Barr R-KY (6th), Guthrie R-KY (2nd), Massie R-KY (4th), Rogers (KY) R-KY (5th), Comer R-KY (1st) **YEAS:** McGarvey D-KY (3rd) **SENATE VOTES** **Senate Vote 1:** **MISSISSIPPI JUDGE:** The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Robert Chamberlin to be a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi. Chamberlin has been a judge on Mississippi’s Supreme Court since 2017, after 12 years as a state circuit court judge and five years in the Mississippi Senate. An opponent, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said Chamberlin’s record as a legislator showed “that he holds extreme views that are out of the mainstream.” The vote, on Dec. 9, was 51 yeas to 46 nays. **YEAS:** Paul R-KY, McConnell R-KY **Senate Vote 2:** **LOUISIANA JUDGE:** The Senate has confirmed the nomination of William Crain to be a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Crain was a private practice lawyer for 22 years before becoming a district, appeals, and then, starting in 2019, Supreme Court judge in Louisiana. An opponent, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said that “during his time as a state court judge, Justice Crain has demonstrated his partisan ideology.” The vote, on Dec. 9, was 49 yeas to 46 nays. **YEAS:** Paul R-KY, McConnell R-KY **Senate Vote 3:** **SECOND MISSISSIPPI JUDGE:** The Senate has confirmed the nomination of James Maxwell to be a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi. Maxwell joined the Mississippi Supreme Court in 2016, after seven years on the state’s appeals court and time as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Northern District. An opponent, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., criticized two of Maxwell’s Mississippi Supreme Court opinions as raising “serious concerns.” The vote, on Dec. 9, was 51 yeas to 46 nays. **YEAS:** Paul R-KY, McConnell R-KY **Senate Vote 4:** **DEBATING EXECUTIVE NOMINEES:** The Senate has approved a cloture motion to end debate on a bill (S. Res. 532), sponsored by Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D.,

that would consider, en bloc, a set of 97 executive branch nominees, including ambassadorships, military posts, and numerous state-level U.S. attorneys and other executive posts. The vote, on Dec. 10, was 51 yeas to 47 nays. **NOT VOTING:** Paul R-KY **YEAS:** McConnell R-KY **Senate Vote 5:** **HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT SUBSIDIES:** The Senate has rejected a cloture motion to end debate on the motion to proceed to the Lower Health Care Costs Act (S. 3385), sponsored by Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho. The bill would have adopted direct payment subsidies for health savings accounts for adults younger than 65 who have less comprehensive plans purchased through the health insurance exchanges. The vote, on Dec. 11, was 51 yeas to 48 nays, with a three-fifths majority required. **NAYS:** Paul R-KY, McConnell R-KY **Senate Vote 6:** **HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDIES:** The Senate has rejected a cloture motion to end debate on the motion to proceed to the Lower Health Care Costs Act (S. 3385), sponsored by Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y. The bill would have extended, through 2028, health insurance tax credits that were enacted in 2021 and 2022. The vote, on Dec. 11, was 51 yeas to 48 nays, with a three-fifths majority required. **NAYS:** Paul R-KY, McConnell R-KY **Senate Vote 7:** **EXECUTIVE BRANCH NOMINEES:** The Senate has passed a bill (S. Res. 532), sponsored by Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., to consider, en bloc, a set of 97 executive branch nominees, including ambassadorships, military posts, and numerous state-level U.S. attorneys and other executive posts. The vote, on Dec. 11, was 52 yeas to 47 nays. **YEAS:** Paul R-KY, McConnell R-KY **Senate Vote 8:** **2026 MILITARY BUDGET:** The Senate has approved a motion to lay before the Senate the House message for the National Defense Authorization Act (S. 1071). An opponent, Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., said a bill provision allowing military aircraft to fly without an ADS-B broadcast positioning system “leaves the public less safe,” creating the risk of mid-air collisions akin to the one that happened over Washington, D.C., on January 29. The vote, on Dec. 11, was 75 yeas to 22 nays. **NAYS:** Paul R-KY, McConnell R-KY **Senate Vote 9:** **HEALTH POLICY PROCEDURES:** The Senate has approved a motion to proceed to a bill (S.J. Res. 82), sponsored by Sen. Angus King, ID-Vt., that would nullify a Health and Human Services (HHS) Department rule issued this March that revoked an exemption to procedural requirements for HHS when issuing rules and regulations governed by the Administrative Procedure Act. King said the bill “protects the public’s ability to know what is going on in one of the most important departments in our government and to have a chance to have a little say on those decisions.” An opponent, Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-La., said the rule merely aligned HHS policy with a long-standing exemption allowed to other agencies’ rules on “bureaucratic topics that do not impact the public.” The vote, on Dec. 10, was 50 yeas to 49 nays. **NAYS:** Paul R-KY, McConnell R-KY

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Ashland Zeena Inc - DBA Name - Ashland Food Mart, 2002 Greenup Ave., Ashland, KY 41101-7713 hereby declares its intention(s) to apply for NQ-Malt Beverage Package license(s) no later than December 17, 2025. The business to be licensed will be located at 2002 Greenup Ave., Ashland, KY 41101-7713 doing business as Ashland Food Mart. The owners are as follows: Officer, Kasyap Patel of 603 E. Main Street, Suite C, Grayson, KY 41143; Officer, Tushar Patel of 281 Chestnut Ave. Apt B, Cookeville, TN 38501; Officer, Pintu Patel of 1556 W. StoneHenge Dr., Sycamore, IL 60178. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 500 Mero Street, 2NE33 Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, within thirty (30) days of the date of legal publication.
Published: December 15, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Sealed bids will be received by the City of Ashland, Kentucky on the following item(s):
CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, INFORMATION –LABOR & MATERIALS FOR SHOWER INSTALLATION PROJECT FOR THE ASHLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT.
Specifications may be obtained by contacting Steve Alley, Fire Chief, at salley@ashlandky.gov; or during regular business hours at the Ashland Fire Department, 1021 Carter Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky or by telephone at 606-385-3235.
Potential bidders are encouraged to contact Chief Stephen Alley at either 606-385-3232 or 606-923-9114 to answer any questions or schedule a time to look at the project to assist in formulating a bid.
Bids will be received by the City Clerk until 3:00PM, EST., January 8, 2026. At 3:15 P.M., EST., January 8, 2026 the bids will be opened and publicly read in the Commissioner’s Chambers, Third Floor, City Building, 1700 Greenup Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky.
The City of Ashland, through its City Manager and the Fire Chief, reserves the right to accept all or to reject all or any part of the bid should it be deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Ashland.
Published: December 15 & 17, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICES
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF INTENT TO DEMOLISH
The City of Ashland hereby advises, without further notice, that any person or entity claiming ownership of or holding interest or other encumbrances in the property at **924 Prospect Avenue, Ashland, KY 41101** is notified that the structures have been found unsafe and unfit for human habitation or use. Failure to repair, demolish, or obtain a restraining order within thirty (30) days of the publication of this notice will result in the City of Ashland razing and removing all structures. A lien for all associated notification, legal, and demolition expenses will be charged against the real estate. For inquiries, please contact Jacob Risner, Program and Grant Administrator, at (606) 268-0541, jrisner@ashlandky.gov, by mail at PO Box 1839, Ashland, KY 41105, or in person during regular business hours at 1700 Greenup Avenue, Room 208, Ashland, KY 41101.
Published: December 15, 2025
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HOW TO REACH US

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Business hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays

Phone: (606) 326-2600 (800) 955-5860

Advertising: (606) 326-2619 kpratt@dailyindependent.com

Delivery issues and subscription information: (606)326-2674 customerservice@dailyindependent.com

Newsroom: News: (606) 326-2664 Sports: (606) 326-2658 asnyder@dailyindependent.com