

**BUSINESS MEETING TO CONSIDER
PENDING MATTERS**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
Washington, DC.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 1:45 p.m., in room 124, U.S. Capitol Building, Hon. Johnny Isakson, (Chairman of the Committee) presiding.

Present: Senators Isakson, Boozman, Cassidy, Rounds, Tillis, Sullivan, Tester, Brown, Blumenthal, and Hirono.

**OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON, CHAIRMAN,
U.S. SENATOR FROM GEORGIA**

Chairman ISAKSON. I call order to this meeting of the Committee of Veterans' Affairs.

I invite a motion on pending business in the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Rules of procedure for the 116th Congress and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs. I recognize Senator Tester.

**HON. JON TESTER, RANKING MEMBER,
U.S. SENATOR FROM MONTANA**

Senator TESTER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee favorably report the rules of procedure for the 116th Congress and the original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Chairman ISAKSON. Is there a second?

Senator ROUNDS. Seconded.

Senator ISAKSON. Is there any debate?

[No response.]

Chairman ISAKSON. Everyone that wants to vote aye say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman ISAKSON. No's, same sign.

[No response.]

Chairman ISAKSON. So, we can't call it closed because we don't have a quorum yet. But when the quorum gets here, if the vote ends the way it is.

Senator TESTER. So, can I give the proxies, and if the person shows up—

Chairman ISAKSON. I think so. He can do the proxies now can't he?

[Audible yes.]

Chairman ISAKSON. I'm going to do this. I have a member of my staff retiring and they're honoring her. I'm supposed to make a speech down the hall now, so I'm going to excuse myself if you don't mind. I'll turn it over to my able vice chairman, Mr. Tester from Montana. Looking forward to a good year. Thank you all for being here, I appreciate your support on everything.

Committee MEMBER. Those of us that were here, are we recorded? Can we leave?

Chairman ISAKSON. You've all turned in your proxies?

Committee MEMBER. We have.

Senator TESTER. Yes, you guys can leave.

Chairman ISAKSON. I've voted and y'all have voted. Everyone in here has voted because we had no objections. So, we've only got two left.

Senator TESTER. Who takes the proxy votes in lieu of the person who comes in?

AIDE. I believe they'll go to Barry, the Chief Clerk.

Senator TESTER. Where is he at?

AIDE. He's trying to help track down Members.

Senator TESTER. When he gets in, send him over. I'll just give them to him and we'll go from there.

[Whereupon, at 1:53 p.m., the Committee was adjourned.]