



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 154

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2008

No. 182

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, at 11 a.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2008

(Legislative day of Thursday, November 20, 2008)

The Senate met at 11 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 5, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CARDIN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECESS UNTIL MONDAY,
DECEMBER 8, 2008, AT 3 P.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 3 p.m., on Monday, December 8, 2008.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 11 and 28 seconds a.m., recessed until Monday, December 8, 2008, at 3 p.m.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S10787

Friday, December 5, 2008

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Senate met at 11:00:00 a.m. in pro forma session, and recessed at 11:00:28 a.m. until 3 p.m., on Monday, December 8, 2008.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DOMESTIC AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: On Thursday, December 4, Committee continued hear-

ings to examine the state of the domestic automobile industry, after receiving testimony from Gene L. Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; G. Richard Wagoner, Jr., General Motors Corporation, and Ron Gettelfinger, both of Detroit, Michigan; Robert Nardelli, Chrysler LLC, Auburn Hills, Michigan; Alan R. Mulally, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Michigan; James Fleming, Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association, Simsbury, Connecticut; Keith Wandell, Johnson Controls, Inc., Glendale, Wisconsin; and Mark Zandi, Moody's Economy.com, West Chester, Pennsylvania.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, pursuant to section 2 of H. Con. Res. 440.

Committee Meetings

INDUSTRY PLANS TO STABILIZE THE AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled "Review Industry Plans to Stabilize the Financial Condition of the American Automobile Industry." Testimony was heard from G. Richard Wagoner, Jr., Chairman and CEO, General Motors Corporation; Robert Nardelli, CEO, Chrysler; Alan Mulally, President and CEO, Ford Motor Company; Ron Gettelfinger, President, United Auto Workers; Gene Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General, GAO; and public witnesses.

2009 BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD BENEFIT: WHAT IT MEANS FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: On December 3, the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia held a

hearing entitled "2009 Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Benefit: What it means for Federal employees." Testimony was heard from Nancy H. Kichak, Associate Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy, OPM; Stephen W. Gammarino, Senior Vice President, National Programs, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

EMPLOYMENT

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for November 2008, after receiving testimony from Keith Hall, Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 8 through December 13, 2008

Senate Chamber

To be announced.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

To be announced.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, December 8, hearing to review the role of credit derivatives in the U.S. economy, 1 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, December 11, hearing on the Impact of Recession on States and Local Communities, 9:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, December 10, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing entitled "Implementation of the CPSIA: Urgent Questions about Application Dates, Testing and Certification, and Protecting Children," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, December 10, hearing entitled "Oversight Concerns Regarding Treasury Department Conduct of the Troubled Assets Relief Program," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government, December 9, hearing on The Role of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in the Financial Crisis, followed by a markup of a committee report regarding President Bush assertion of executive privilege in response to the committee subpoena to Attorney General Mukasey, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, December 8, executive, briefing on Mumbai/Cyber Update, 2 p.m., H-405 Capitol.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, December 11, hearing entitled "Approaching Midnight: Oversight of the Bush Administration's Last-Minute Rulemakings," 10 a.m., room to be announced.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, December 8

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Tuesday, December 9

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.



Congressional Record

printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through *GPO Access*, a service of the Government Printing Office, free of charge to the user. The online database is updated each day the *Congressional Record* is published. The database includes both text and graphics from the beginning of the 103d Congress, 2d session (January 1994) forward. It is available through *GPO Access* at www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess. Customers can also access this information with WAIS client software, via telnet at swais.access.gpo.gov, or dial-in using communications software and a modem at 202-512-1661. Questions or comments regarding this database or *GPO Access* can be directed to the *GPO Access* User Support Team at: E-Mail: gpoaccess@gpo.gov; Phone 1-888-293-6498 (toll-free), 202-512-1530 (D.C. area); Fax: 202-512-1262. The Team's hours of availability are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, except Federal holidays. ¶The *Congressional Record* paper and 24x microfiche edition will be furnished by mail to subscribers, free of postage, at the following prices: paper edition, \$252.00 for six months, \$503.00 per year, or purchased as follows: less than 200 pages, \$10.50; between 200 and 400 pages, \$21.00; greater than 400 pages, \$31.50, payable in advance; microfiche edition, \$146.00 per year, or purchased for \$3.00 per issue payable in advance. The semimonthly *Congressional Record Index* may be purchased for the same per issue prices. To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954, or phone orders to 866-512-1800 (toll free), 202-512-1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202-512-2250. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.