

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 3082, Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, with an amendment.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S10849–10934

Measures Introduced: One bill was introduced, as follows: S. 4051. **Pages S10929–30**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 2889, to reauthorize the Surface Transportation Board. (S. Rept. No. 111–380)

Report to accompany S. 3302, to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish new automobile safety standards, make better motor vehicle safety information available to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the public. (S. Rept. No. 111–381)

Report to accompany S. 3566, to authorize certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation. (S. Rept. No. 111–382)

S. 1633, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to establish a program to issue Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2982, to combat international violence against women and girls, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3798, to authorize appropriations of United States assistance to help eliminate conditions in foreign prisons and other detention facilities that do not meet minimum human standards of health, sanitation, and safety, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S.J. Res. 37, calling upon the President to issue a proclamation recognizing the 35th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. Con. Res. 71, recognizing the United States national interest in helping to prevent and mitigate

acts of genocide and other mass atrocities against civilians, and supporting and encouraging efforts to develop a whole of government approach to prevent and mitigate such acts, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble. **Page S10929**

Measures Passed:

Federal Water Pollution Control: Senate passed S. 3481, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Federal responsibility for stormwater pollution, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S10933**

Harkin (for Cardin) Amendment No. 4917, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S10933**

Energy Policy and Conservation Act: Senate passed H.R. 5470, to exclude an external power supply for certain security or life safety alarms and surveillance system components from the application of certain energy efficiency standards under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. **Page S10933**

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Clarification Act: Senate passed H.R. 4445, to amend Public Law 95–232 to repeal a restriction on treating as Indian country certain lands held in trust for Indian pueblos in New Mexico. **Pages S10933–34**

Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo: Senate passed S. 3903, to authorize leases of up to 99 years for lands held in trust for Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, after agreeing to the committee amendments. **Page S10934**

House Messages:

Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act: By 79 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 289), Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 3082, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, with

Reid Amendment No. 4885 (to the House amendment to the Senate amendment), of a perfecting nature, after taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Page S10852**

Withdrawn:

Reid Amendment No. 4886 (to Amendment No. 4885), to change the enactment date.

Pages S10852, S10885

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 82 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. 288), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 4885 (listed above).

Pages S10853, S10868

Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 4887, to provide for a study, fell when cloture was invoked on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 4885.

Pages S10852, S10868

Reid Amendment No. 4888 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 4887), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 4887, fell.

Pages S10852, S10868

Reid Amendment No. 4889 (to Amendment No. 4888), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 4888, fell.

Pages S10852, S10869

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senator Webb be authorized to sign any duly enrolled bills and joint resolutions beginning December 27, 2010 through 11:59 a.m., Monday, January 3, 2011.

Page S10934

Treaty with Russia on Measures for Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of Treaty Doc. 111–5, between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed in Prague on April 8, 2010, with Protocol, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Page S10888–21

Adopted:

Kerry (for Kyl) Amendment No. 4864, to require a certification that the President intends to modernize the triad of strategic nuclear delivery vehicles.

Page S10915

Kerry (for LeMieux) Modified Amendment No. 4908, to require negotiations to address the disparity between tactical nuclear weapons stockpiles.

Pages S10915–21

Rejected:

By 32 yeas to 63 nays (Vote No. 293), Ensign Amendment No. 4855, to amend the Treaty to provide for a clear definition of rail-mobile missiles.

Pages S10894–99, S10903

Risch Amendment No. 4878, to provide a condition regarding the return of stolen United States Military equipment. (By 61 yeas to 32 nays (Vote No. 294), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S10899, S10903–04

By 34 yeas to 59 nays (Vote No. 295), Wicker/Kyl Amendment No. 4895, to provide an understanding that provisions adopted in the Bilateral Consultative Commission that affect substantive rights or obligations under the Treaty are those that create new rights or obligations for the United States and must therefore be submitted to the Senate for its advice and consent.

Pages S10904–06, S10913

By 31 yeas to 62 nays (Vote No. 296), Kyl Amendment No. 4860, to require a certification that the President has negotiated a legally binding side agreement with the Russian Federation that the Russian Federation will not deploy a significant number of nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missiles during the duration of the New START Treaty.

Pages S10906–09, S10913–14

By 30 yeas to 63 nays (Vote No. 297), Kyl Amendment No. 4893, to provide that the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification of the New START Treaty is subject to an understanding regarding the non-use of covers by the Russian Federation that tend to interfere with Type One inspections and accurate warhead counting, is subject to the United States and the Russian Federation reaching an agreement regarding access and monitoring, and is subject to a certification that the Russian Federation has agreed that it will not deny telemetric exchanges on new ballistic missile systems it deploys during the duration of the Treaty.

Pages S10909–13, S10914–15

Pending:

Corker Modified Amendment No. 4904, to provide a condition and an additional element of the understanding regarding the effectiveness and viability of the New START Treaty and United States missile defenses.

Page S10888

During consideration of this treaty today, Senate took the following action:

By 67 yeas to 28 nays (Vote No. 292), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the treaty.

Page S10888

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the treaty at approximately 9 a.m., on Wednesday, December 22, 2010, and that the time during adjournment or period of morning business count post-cloture.

Page S10934

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 56 yeas 39 nays (Vote No. EX. 290), Benita Y. Pearson, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

Pages S10885–87

By 58 yeas 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 291), William Joseph Martinez, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

Pages S10885–88

Messages from the House:

Pages S10928–29

Additional Cosponsors:

Page S10930

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S10930–32

Additional Statements:

Pages S10927–28

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S10932–33

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S10933**

Record Votes: Ten record votes were taken today. (Total—297) **Pages S10853, S10885, S10887, S10888, S10903, S10903–04, S10913, S10914**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:05 p.m., until 9 a.m. on Wednesday, December 22, 2010. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S10934.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R. 6560–6569 were introduced.

Pages H8940–41

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H8941

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 6116, to reform the financing of House elections, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 111–691, Pt. 1);

H. Res. 1781, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5116) to invest in innovation through research and development, to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 2751) to accelerate motor fuel savings nationwide and provide incentives to registered owners of high polluting automobiles to replace such automobiles with new fuel efficient and less polluting automobiles; and providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2142) to require quarterly performance assessments of Government programs for purposes of assessing agency performance and improvement, and to establish agency performance improvement officers and the Performance Improvement Council (H. Rept. 111–692);

H.R. 2811, to amend title 18, United States Code, to include constrictor snakes of the species

Python genera as an injurious animal, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–693); and

H. Res. 1782, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3082) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010 (H. Rept. 111–694). **Page H8941**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Monsignor Stephen J. Rossetti, Catholic University of America, Washington, DC. **Page H8787**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Shark Conservation Act: Concurred in the Senate amendment to H.R. 81, to amend the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to improve the conservation of sharks;

Pages H8790–92

Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2010: Concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 5809, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize and modify provisions relating to the diesel emissions reduction program; **Pages H8792–98**

Defense Level Playing Field Act: H.R. 6540, to require the Secretary of Defense, in awarding a contract for the KC-X Aerial Refueling Aircraft Program, to consider any unfair competitive advantage