

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 3979, Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6699–S6794

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3009–3017, and S. Res. 600–601.

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Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2015”. (S. Rept. No. 113–312)

S. 2055, to allow for the collection of certain user fees by non-Federal entities, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 113–309)

Report to accompany S. 1014, to reduce sports-related concussions in youth. (S. Rept. No. 113–310)

Report to accompany S. 2581, to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a rule to require child safety packaging for liquid nicotine containers. (S. Rept. No. 113–311)

Report to accompany S. 2922, to reinstate reporting requirements related to United States-Hong Kong relations. (S. Rept. No. 113–313)

Report to accompany S. 2482, to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, as adopted at Tokyo on February 24, 2012. (S. Rept. No. 113–314)

Report to accompany S. 2484, to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean, as adopted at Auckland on November 14, 2009. (S. Rept. No. 113–315)

Report to accompany S. 2485, to implement the Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, as adopted at Lisbon on September 28, 2007. (S. Rept. No. 113–316)

Report to accompany S. 2442, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land and mineral rights on the reservation of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Montana and other culturally important land into trust for the benefit of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. (S. Rept. No. 113–317)

Report to accompany S. 2140, to improve the transition between experimental permits and commercial licenses for commercial reusable launch vehicles. (S. Rept. No. 113–318)

Report to accompany S. 429, to enable concrete masonry products manufacturers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, education, and promotion to improve, maintain, and develop markets for concrete masonry products. (S. Rept. No. 113–319)

Report to accompany S. 2022, to establish scientific standards and protocols across forensic disciplines. (S. Rept. No. 113–320)

Report to accompany S. 2777, to establish the Surface Transportation Board as an independent establishment. (S. Rept. No. 113–321)

Report to accompany S. 2799, to extend the authority of satellite carriers to retransmit certain television broadcast station signals. (S. Rept. No. 113–322)

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Measures Passed:

Enrollment Correction: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 121, providing for a correction in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3979.

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Enrollment Correction: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 123, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3979.

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House Messages:

Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act: By 89 yeas to 11

nays (Vote No. 325), Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 3979, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, by the order of the Senate of December 11, 2014, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, after taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S6701–39**

Rejected:

By 18 yeas to 82 nays (Vote No. 323), Coburn Motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions to report back forthwith with changes to strike Title XXX, the nondefense-related lands portion of the bill. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, the motion was not agreed to.) **Page S6738**

Withdrawn:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 3984 (to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill), to change the enactment date. **Page S6738**

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

By 55 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 324), Senate sustained the ruling of the Chair that under precedent set by the Senate on October 6, 2011, such a motion is dilatory post-cloture and not in order. Subsequently, Senator Coburn motion to suspend Rule XXII for the purpose of proposing an amendment was rejected. **Page S6738**

Reid Amendment No. 3985 (to Amendment No. 3984), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 3984, was withdrawn. **Page S6738**

Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S6740–67**

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill. **Pages S6740–41**

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 4100 (to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill), to change the enactment date. **Page S6741**

Reid Amendment No. 4101 (to Amendment No. 4100), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6741**

Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 4102, to change the enactment date. **Page S6741**

Reid Amendment No. 4103 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 4102), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6741**

Reid Amendment No. 4104 (to Amendment No. 4103), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6741**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Sunday, December 14, 2014. **Page S6741**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, at approximately 12 noon, on Saturday, December 13, 2014. **Page S6794**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Mark Gilbert, of Florida, to be Ambassador to New Zealand, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Independent State of Samoa. **Pages S6739–40, S6794**

Robert C. Barber, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iceland. **Pages S6739–40, S6794**

By 62 yeas 35 nays (Vote No. EX. 326), David Nathan Saperstein, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom. **Pages S6739–40, S6794**

Amy Jane Hyatt, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Palau. **Pages S6739–40, S6794**

Virginia E. Palmer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Malawi. **Pages S6739–40, S6794**

Donald L. Heflin, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde. **Pages S6739–40, S6794**

Arnold A. Chacon, of Virginia, to be Director General of the Foreign Service. **Pages S6739–40, S6794**

Michael W. Kempner, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2015.

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Leon Aron, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2016.

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Messages from the House: Pages S6785–86

Enrolled Bills Presented: Page S6786

Executive Communications: Pages S6786–88

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S6788–89

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S6789–90

Additional Statements: Pages S6783–85

Amendments Submitted: Pages S6790–94

Privileges of the Floor: Page S6794

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—326) Pages S6738–40

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:53 p.m., until 12 noon on Saturday, December 13, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6794.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 131; H. Con. Res. 125; and H. Res. 782–783 were introduced. Page H10318

Additional Cosponsors: Page H10318

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 875, to provide for a comprehensive assessment of the scientific and technical research on the implications of the use of mid-level ethanol blends, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–667, Part 1);

H.R. 2750, to amend title 41, United States Code, to require the use of two-phase selection procedures when design-build contracts are suitable for award to small business concerns, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–668);

H.R. 3345, to amend title 31, United States Code, to consolidate suspension and debarment offices, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 113–669);

H.R. 3674, to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to provide incentives for the reallocation of Federal Government spectrum for commercial use, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–670, Part 1);

H.R. 4253, to permanently withdraw, reserve, and transfer Bureau of Land Management lands used for military purposes in Alaska, Nevada, and New Mexico to the appropriate Secretary of the military department concerned (H. Rept. 113–671, Part 1);

H.R. 5094, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs

to recoup certain bonuses or awards paid to employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, with amendments (H. Rept. 113–672, Part 1);

H.R. 5401, to impose limitations on the immigration status and immigration benefits for Libyan and third country nationals acting on behalf of Libyan entities, (H. Rept. 113–673);

H.R. 1773, to create a nonimmigrant H–2C work visa program for agricultural workers, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–674, Pt. 1); and

H.R. 4874, to provide for the establishment of a process for the review of rules and sets of rules, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–675, Part 1).

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Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Messer to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H10313

Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass H.J. Res. 131, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015. Page H10314

United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and pass S. 2338, to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency. Page H10314

Foreclosure Relief and Extension for Servicemembers Act of 2014: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and pass S. 3008, to extend temporarily the extended period of protection