

Wednesday, April 26, 1995

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5683–S5737

Measures Introduced: One bill and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 726, S. Res. 111, and S. Con. Res. 11. Page S5726

Measures Passed:

Navajo-Hopi Authorization: Senate passed S. 349, to reauthorize appropriations for the Navajo-Hopi Relocation Housing Program. Page S5734

Aquaculture Inspections: Senate passed S. 268, to authorize the collection of fees for expenses for triploid grass carp certification inspections. Page S5734

Indian Child Protection Authorization: Senate passed S. 441, to reauthorize appropriations for certain programs under the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act. Page S5734

Death of Senator Stennis: Senate agreed to S. Res. 111, relative to the death of the Honorable John C. Stennis, late a Senator from the State of Mississippi. Page S5734

Product Liability Fairness Act: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 956, to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: Pages S5683–85, S5689–S5725

Adopted:

Abraham Modified Amendment No. 597 (to Amendment No. 596), to provide for equity in legal fees. (By 45 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 135), Senate earlier failed to table the amendment.)

Pages S5683, S5710–17

By 56 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. 136), Gorton (for Brown) Amendment No. 599 (to Amendment No. 596), to restore to rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure the restrictions on frivolous legal actions that existed prior to 1994.

Pages S5683, S5689–92, S5717–25

Rejected:

Hollings Amendment No. 598 (to Amendment No. 597), to establish a limitation on attorneys' fees in all civil actions to \$50 per hour. (By 94 yeas to

3 nays (Vote No. 134), Senate tabled the amendment.) Pages S5683, S5716

Pending:

Gorton Amendment No. 596, in the nature of a substitute. Page S5683

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Thursday, April 27, 1995.

Communications:

Page S5726

Statements on Introduced Bills: Pages S5726–28

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S5728–30

Amendments Submitted: Pages S5730–32

Authority for Committees: Page S5732

Additional Statements: Pages S5732–33

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—136) Pages S5716, S5717, S5725

Recess: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m., and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Senator John C. Stennis, of Mississippi, in accordance with S. Res. 111, recessed at 9:10 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 27, 1995. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's RECORD on pages S5736–37.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—ENERGY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Energy, focusing on energy conservation programs, receiving testimony from Christine A. Irvin, Assistant Secretary of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Subcommittee will meet again tomorrow.

FEDERAL FOREST MANAGEMENT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management resumed oversight hearings to review Federal forest management issues, focusing on the coordination of and conflicts between Federal forest management and general environmental statutes, receiving testimony

from Jack Ward Thomas, Chief, and Gray Reynolds, Deputy Chief, both of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; George T. Frampton, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; Rolland Schmitt, Director, National Marine Fisheries Service; Dinah Bear, General Counsel, Council on Environmental Quality; Robert H. Wayland, III, Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, Environmental Protection Agency; William R. Murray, American Forest and Paper Association, and Mike Pieti, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, both of Washington, D.C.; Tom Geary, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, Burley, on behalf of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Nathaniel Lawrence, Natural Resources Defense Council, San Francisco, California; Douglas L. Honnold, Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, Inc., Bozeman, Montana; Glen Spain, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, Eugene, Oregon; Olivia Falconer James, The River Company, Sun Valley, Idaho; Sue Kupillas, Jackson County, Oregon; and Jerry Rust, Lane County, Oregon.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

Committee on Finance: Committee held hearings on the implementation of the Child Welfare and Adoption Assistance Act (P.L. 96-272), and related provisions of H.R. 4, Personal Responsibility Act of 1995, receiving testimony from Peter M. DiBari, Child and Family Services of Newport County, Newport, Rhode Island; Peter Digre, Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, Los Angeles, California; Wade F. Horn, National Fatherhood Initiative, Gaithersburg, Maryland; and Ernestine Moore, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan.

Committee will meet again tomorrow.

NOMINATION

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded hearings, in open and closed session, on the nomination of John M. Deutch, of Massachusetts, to be Director of Central Intelligence, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Domenici, Kerry, and Kennedy, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, May 1.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1995

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 the Department of Energy, focusing on fossil energy, clean coal technology, Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and the Naval Petroleum Reserve, 9 a.m., SD-116.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Readiness, to hold hearings on the near and long term readiness of the Armed Forces as it relates to the future years defense program, 9 a.m., SR-232A.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, Housing Opportunity and Community Development, to resume hearings on proposals to reorganize the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), focusing on housing policy reform issues, 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, business meeting, to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Full Committee, to hold hearings on S. 537 and H.R. 402, bills to make certain technical corrections to the

Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, 9:45 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works, Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment, to hold oversight hearings on the implementation of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 9 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance, to continue hearings to examine welfare reform proposals, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations, Subcommittee on European Affairs, to hold hearings to examine the future of NATO, focusing on problems, threats and U.S. interests, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on the Judiciary, business meeting, to resume mark up of S. 343, to reform the Federal regulatory process, and to consider the nomination of Susan Y. Illston, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, 8 a.m., SD-226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nature and extent of the threat of terrorism in the United States, focusing on possible legislative responses, 2 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Labor and Human Resources, Subcommittee on Education, Arts and Humanities, to hold hearings to examine vocational education programs, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

NOTICE

For a listing of Senate Committee Meetings scheduled ahead, see pages E883-84 in today's RECORD.

House

Committee on the Budget, hearing on the Administration's Defense Budget: Bottom Up or Belly Up? 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m. Thursday, April 27

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12:30 p.m., Monday, May 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the recognition of six Senators for speeches and the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 10:30 a.m.), Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 956, to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: Legislative program will be announced later.



Congressional Record

The public proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by the Official Reporters thereof, are 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 at one time. ¶The Congressional Record is available as an online database through *GPO Access*, a service of the U.S. Government Printing Office. 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 on a Wide Area Information Server (WAIS) through the Internet and via asynchronous dial-in. The annual subscription fee for a single workstation is \$375. Six month subscriptions are available for \$200 and one month of access can be purchased for \$35. Discounts are available for multiple-workstation subscriptions. To subscribe, Internet users should telnet swais.access.gpo.gov and login as *newuser* (all lower case); no password is required. Dial in users should use communications software and modem to call (202) 512-1661 and login as *swais* (all lower case); no password is required; at the second login prompt, login as *newuser* (all lower case); no password is required. Follow the instructions on the screen to register for a subscription for the Congressional Record Online via *GPO Access*. For assistance, contact the *GPO Access* User Support Team by sending Internet e-mail to help@eids05.eids.gpo.gov, or a fax to (202) 512-1262, or by calling (202) 512-1530 between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. ¶The Congressional Record paper and 24x microfiche will be furnished by mail to subscribers, free of postage, at the following prices: paper edition, \$112.50 for six months, \$225 per year, or purchased for \$1.50 per issue, payable in advance; microfiche edition, \$118 per year, or purchased for \$1.50 per issue payable in advance. The semimonthly Congressional Record Index may be purchased for the same per issue prices. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, directly to the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. ¶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.