

Tuesday, September 26, 1995

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S14223–S14334*

**Measures Introduced:** Three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1273–1275. **Page S14312**

**VA/HUD Appropriations, 1996:** Senate continued consideration of H.R. 2099, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, with certain excepted committee amendments, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: **Pages S14223–S14307**

Adopted:

(1) Bond Amendment No. 2778, to ensure that veterans in the State of Hawaii are given appropriate and equal access to VA-funded medical care. **Pages S14228–30**

(2) Stevens/Murkowski Amendment No. 2779, to provide for a 1-year exemption from the oxygenated fuel requirements of the Clean Air Act for Fairbanks, Alaska. **Pages S14246–48**

(3) Chafee Amendment No. 2780 (to committee amendment on page 143, line 17 through page 151, line 10), to modify the provisions with respect to arsenic. **Pages S14248–49**

(4) Jeffords Amendment No. 2783, to require the Environmental Protection Agency to give priority to small businesses in its green programs and to require the EPA to perform a study to determine the feasibility of making these programs self-sufficient. **Pages S14281–86**

(5) McCain Amendment No. 2787, to require the Department of Veterans Affairs to allocate funding to insure that veterans have equal access to quality health care. **Pages S14299–S14302**

Rejected:

(1) By 35 yeas to 64 nays (Vote No. 463), Bumpers Amendment No. 2776 (to committee amendment on page 158, lines 13–14), to reduce the appropriation for the implementation of the space station program for the purpose of terminating the program. **Pages S14230–46**

(2) By 47 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 464), Mikulski Amendment No. 2781, to restore funding for national and community service programs. **Pages S14249–71**

Withdrawn:

Inouye Amendment No. 2777, to make available \$38,000,000 for construction at the Spark M. Matsunaga Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Hawaii. **Pages S14226–28**

Pending:

Sarbanes Amendment No. 2782, to restore homeless assistance funding to fiscal year 1995 levels using excess public housing agency project reserves. **Pages S14273–79, S14281**

Rockefeller Amendment No. 2784, to strike section 107 which limits compensation for mentally disabled veterans and offset the loss of revenues by ensuring that any tax cut benefits only those families with incomes less than \$100,000. **Pages S14286–89**

Rockefeller Amendment No. 2785 (to committee amendment on page 8, lines 9–10), to increase funding for veterans' medical care and offset the increase in funds by ensuring that any tax cut benefits only those families with incomes less than \$100,000. **Pages S14290–95**

Baucus Amendment No. 2786, to provide that any provision that limits implementation or enforcement of any environmental law shall not apply if the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency determines that application of the prohibition or limitation would diminish the protection of human health or the environment otherwise provided by law. **Pages S14295–99**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill and certain amendments to be proposed thereto. **Page S14295**

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Wednesday, September 27, 1995.

**Small Business Lending Enhancement Act—Conferees:** Senate disagreed to the amendments of the House to S. 895, to amend the Small Business Act to reduce the level of participation by the Small Business Administration in certain loans guaranteed by the Administration, agreed to the request of the House for a conference thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees: Senators Bond, Burns, Coverdell, Bumpers, and Nunn. **Page S14333**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S14309**

**Communications:** **Pages S14309–10**

**Petitions:** **Pages S14310–12**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S14312**

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** **Pages S14312–18**

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S14318–19  
 Amendments Submitted: Pages S14319–21  
 Authority for Committees: Page S14321  
 Additional Statements: Pages S14321–24  
 Text of S. 1244 as Previously Passed: Pages S14324–32

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—464) Pages S14246, S14271

Recess: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and recessed at 8:55 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Wednesday, September 27, 1995. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's RECORD on pages S14333–34.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Gen. John M. Shalikashvili, United States Army, for reappointment as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and reappointment to the grade of general while serving in that position.

### BUDGET RECONCILIATION

*Committee on Finance:* Committee began its review of certain spending reductions and revenue increases to meet reconciliation expenditures as imposed by H. Con. Res. 67, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, but did not complete action thereon and will meet again tomorrow.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of James A. Joseph, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa, and Charles H. Twining, of Maryland, to be

Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### RUBY RIDGE

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Government Information resumed hearings to examine certain Federal law enforcement actions with regard to the 1992 incident at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, receiving testimony from Thomas W. Miller, Assistant Special Agent in Charge (Louisville, Kentucky), Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Jeffrey Howard, Concord, New Hampshire, former Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice; and Kevin Harris, Spokane, Washington.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Labor and Human Resources:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Thomas R. Bloom, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Education, Ernest W. DuBester, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board, Daniel A. Mica, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace, Hughey Walker, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability, Harris Wofford, of Pennsylvania, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service, and a list in the Public Health Service Corps received by the Senate on June 26, 1995.

Also, committee completed its review of certain spending reductions and revenue increases to meet reconciliation expenditures as imposed by H. Con. Res. 67, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, and agreed on recommendations which it will make thereon to the Committee on the Budget.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. It will meet next at noon on Wednesday, September 27.

## Committee Meetings

No Committee meetings were held.

## Joint Meetings

### NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM DESIGNATION ACT

*Conferees* met to resolve the differences between the Senate- and House-passed versions of S. 440, to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for the designation of the National Highway System, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to call.