

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHT

House passed the budget reconciliation bill.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S15707–S15977

Measures Introduced: Three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1364–1366. **Page S15849**

Measures Reported: Report made as follows:

S. 848, to grant the consent of Congress to an amendment of the Historic Chattahoochee Compact between the States of Alabama and Georgia.

Page S15849

Budget Reconciliation: Senate continued consideration of S. 1357, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996, taking action on motions/amendments pending thereto:

Pages S15707–70, S15773–S15840

Adopted:

(1) By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 500), Abraham Amendment No. 2950, to establish beneficiary incentive programs to collect information on fraud and abuse against the Medicare program and to collect information on program efficiency.

Pages S15707, S15777

(2) By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 504), Kassebaum Amendment No. 2962, to strike the provisions relating to loan payments from institutions, the elimination of the grace period interest subsidy, and the PLUS loan interest rate and rebate.

Pages S15773–76, S15779–81

(3) By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 507), McCain Amendment No. 2964, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the need to raise the Social Security earnings limit. **Pages S15786–95, S15827**

(4) By 79 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. 508), Helms Amendment No. 2965, to allow senior citizens to continue to choose their doctors.

Pages S15786–95, S15827

(5) By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 509), Brown Amendment No. 2969, to provide that the \$1,000,000 limit on deductibility of compensation paid to an employee is extended to employees

of all businesses, and to use the resulting revenues to reduce the Social Security earnings penalty.

Pages S15795–96, S15827–28

(6) By 60 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 513), Chafee/Conrad Amendment No. 2973, to guarantee coverage under the Medicaid program for low-income aged, blind, and disabled individuals eligible for supplemental security income benefits under title XVI of the Social Security Act.

Pages S15805–07, S15829–30

(7) By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 515), Bond/Pryor Modified Amendment No. 2975, to increase the health insurance deduction for self-employed individuals and to strike the long-term care insurance provisions. **Pages S15808–12, S15830**

(8) Snowe Amendment No. 2976, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the coverage of treatment of breast and prostate cancer under Medicare.

Page S15813

Rejected:

(1) By 46 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 499), Rockefeller motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance, with instructions, regarding Medicare.

Pages S15707, S15776

(2) Bradley motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance, with instructions, regarding Earned Income Tax Credit. (By 53 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 501), Senate tabled the motion.)

Pages S15707–13, S15777–78

(3) Graham motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance, with instructions, regarding Medicaid. (By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 502), Senate tabled the motion.) **Pages S15713–33, S15778–79**

(4) Kennedy Amendment No. 2959, to strike those provisions that impose higher student loan costs on students and families. (By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 503), Senate tabled the motion.)

Pages S15733–50, S15779

(5) Bumpers motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance, with instructions, regarding

deficit reduction. (By 53 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 505), Senate tabled the motion.)

Pages S15750–57, S15781–82

(6) By 46 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 512), Byrd/Ford Amendment No. 2972, to strike the reductions in highway demonstration projects and to provide an offsetting revenue increase.

Pages S15803–05, S15829

(7) Breaux Amendment No. 2963, to provide for a partially refundable child tax credit. (By 53 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 514), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S15807–08, S15830

(8) Biden motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance, with instructions, regarding a tax deduction for costs of college education. (By 55 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 516), Senate tabled the motion.)

Pages S15812–13, S15831

Withdrawn:

(1) Brown Modified Amendment No. 2949 (to instructions of Rockefeller motion to commit), instructions that the committee should consider the findings of the trustees of the Federal Insurance Trust Fund.

Page S15707

(2) Harkin Amendment No. 2957 (to Amendment No. 2950), to strengthen efforts to combat Medicare waste, fraud and abuse.

Page S15707

(3) Nickles/Brown Amendment No. 2958 (to instructions of Bradley motion to commit the bill), to increase the Earned Income Tax Credit for families.

Page S15707

During consideration of this bill today, the following action also occurred:

By 46 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 506), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive certain provisions of the Congressional Budget Act with respect to consideration of the Baucus motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance, with instructions, regarding rural restoration. Subsequently, a point of order that the motion was in violation of the Congressional Budget Act was sustained, and the motion was ruled not in order.

Pages S15757–70, S15782

By 43 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 510), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act with respect to consideration of Harkin Amendment No. 2970, to strengthen efforts to combat Medicare waste, fraud and abuse. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of the Congressional Budget Act was sustained, and the amendment thus fell.

Pages S15796–S15801, S15828

By 25 yeas to 74 nays (Vote No. 511), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget

Act with respect to consideration of McCain Amendment No. 2971, to eliminate corporate welfare in Federal programs. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of the Congressional Budget Act was sustained, and the amendment thus fell.

Pages S15801–03, S15828–29

By 47 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 517), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive certain provisions of the Congressional Budget Act with respect to consideration of Dorgan Amendment No. 2977, to end deferral for United States shareholders on income of controlled foreign corporations attributable to property imported into the United States. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of the Congressional Budget Act was sustained, and the amendment thus fell.

Pages S15814–16, S15831–32

Pending:

Gramm Amendment No. 2978, to provide states additional flexibility in providing for Medicaid beneficiaries.

Pages S15816–17

Kerry/Kennedy Amendment No. 2979, to express the sense of the Senate that the Senate should debate and vote on whether to raise the minimum wage before the end of the first session of the 104th Congress.

Pages S15817–18

Domenici (for Murkowski/Johnston) Amendment No. 2980, of a technical nature.

Page S15818

Kennedy/Kassebaum Amendment No. 2981, to strike the provision allowing the transfer of excess pension assets.

Pages S15818–21

Wellstone Amendment No. 2982, to eliminate the tax deduction for oil drilling, to eliminate the corporate minimum tax provisions, to eliminate the foreign earned income exclusion, and to eliminate the section 936 possession tax credit.

Pages S15821–23

Pryor/Cohen Amendment No. 2983, to provide for the continuation of requirements for nursing facilities in the Medicaid program.

Pages S15823–25

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Friday, October 27, 1995.

Messages From the House:

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Communications:

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Petitions:

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Executive Reports of Committees:

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Statements on Introduced Bills:

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Amendments Submitted:

Pages S15852–971

Notices of Hearings:

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Authority for Committees:

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Additional Statements:

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Record Votes: Nineteen record votes were taken today. (Total—517) Pages S15776, S15777, S15778, S15779, S15781, S15782, S15827, S15828, S15828—29, S15829, S15829—30, S15830, S15831, S15831—32

Recess: Senate convened at 9 a.m., and recessed on Friday, October 27, 1995 at 12:23 a.m., to reconvene at 9:15 a.m. the same day. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S15771.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Development: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1260, to reform and consolidate the public and assisted housing programs of the United States, and to redirect primary responsibility for these programs from the Federal Government to States and localities, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Dwight P. Robinson, of Michigan, to be Deputy Secretary, John A. Knubel, of Maryland, to be Chief Financial Officer, Hal C. DeCell III, of Mississippi, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Kevin G. Chavers, of Pennsylvania, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Joseph H. Neely, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Alicia Haydock Munnell, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers, Norman S. Johnson, of Utah, and Isaac C. Hunt, Jr., of Ohio, both to be Members of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Albert James Dwoskin, of Virginia, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation.

FEDERAL FOREST MANAGEMENT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management held oversight hearings to review alternatives to federal forest management and ownership, receiving testimony from Sally K. Fairfax, University of California, Berkeley; Jon A. Souder, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff; and Curtis Johnson, Pierre, South Dakota, and Jim Magagna, Cheyenne, Wyoming, both on behalf of the Western States Land Commissioners Association.

Hearings continue on Thursday, November 2.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

The nominations of R. Guy Cole, Jr., of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Susan J. Dlott, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, Stephen M. Orlofsky, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, Barry Ted Moskowitz, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, John R. Tunheim, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, and Juan Abran DeHerrera, to be United States Marshal for the District of Wyoming;

H.R. 660, to modify the exemption from certain familial status discrimination prohibitions granted to housing for older persons, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 848, to grant the consent of Congress to an amendment of the Historic Chattahoochee Compact between the States of Alabama and Georgia; and

S. 1136, to control and prevent commercial counterfeiting, with an amendment.

SADDLEBACK MOUNTAIN—ARIZONA SETTLEMENT ACT

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded hearings on S. 1341, to provide for the transfer of certain lands to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and the city of Scottsdale, Arizona, after receiving testimony from Terrance L. Virden, Acting Director, Office of Trust Responsibilities, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; and Mayor Herbert R. Drinkwater, and Ivan Makil, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, both of Scottsdale, Arizona.

MEDICAID REFORM: NURSING HOME QUALITY

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded hearings on Medicaid reform issues, focusing on proposals to strengthen the enforcement of uniform Federal protections and standards for nursing home residents, after receiving testimony from Scott R. Sevrens, National Citizens' Coalition for Nursing Home Reform, and Sheldon L. Goldberg, American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, both of Washington, D.C.; John F. Willis, Texas Department on Aging, Austin, on behalf of the National Association of State Ombudsman Program; Ellen T. Reap, Delaware Office of Health Facilities Licensing and Certification, Wilmington, on behalf of the Association of Health Facility Survey Agencies; Catherine Hawes, Research Triangle Institute, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina; Keith Weikel, Health Care and Retirement Corporation of America,