

Thursday, December 14, 1995

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to Interior and VA/HUD Appropriations Conference Reports.

Senate passed State Department Authorizations/Reorganization.

House Committees ordered reported 21 sundry measures.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S18583–S18671*

**Measures Introduced:** Three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1478–1480. **Page S18662**

**Measures Reported:** Reports were made as follows:

S. 650, to increase the amount of credit available to fuel local, regional, and national economic growth by reducing the regulatory burden imposed upon financial institutions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 104–185)

H.R. 2527, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to improve the electoral process by permitting electronic filing and preservation of Federal Election Commission reports.

H.J. Res. 69, providing for the reappointment of Homer Alfred Neal as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.J. Res. 110, providing for the appointment of Howard H. Baker, Jr. as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.J. Res. 111, providing for the appointment of Anne D'Harnoncourt as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.J. Res. 112, providing for the appointment of Louis Gerstner as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S. Con. Res. 34, to authorize the printing of "Vice Presidents of the United States, 1789–1993", with an amendment. **Page S18662**

**Measures Passed:**

*Federally Supported Health Centers Assistance Act:* Senate passed H.R. 1747, to amend the Public Health Services Act to permanently extend and clarify malpractice coverage for health centers, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S18668**

*Commemorative Coin Act Amendment:* Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2336, to amend the Doug Barnard, Jr.—1996 Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games Commemorative Coin Act, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S18668–69**

*Possessions and Territories Criminal Law Clarification Act:* Senate passed S. 1332, to clarify the application of certain Federal criminal laws to territories, possessions, and commonwealths, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S18669**

**Interior Appropriations Conference Report:** By 58 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. 604), Senate agreed to the conference report on H.R. 1977, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996. **Pages S18595–S18616**

**State Department Authorizations/Reorganization:** Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1561, to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States; to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1996 and 1997; and to responsibly reduce the authorizations of appropriations for United States foreign assistance programs for fiscal years 1996 and 1997, and by 82 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 605), the bill was passed, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 908, Senate companion measure, after taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: **Pages S18616–37**

Adopted:

Helms/Kerry Amendment No. 3100, to authorize the transmittal of a reorganization plan or plans streamlining and consolidating the Department of

State and the independent foreign affairs agencies, and to make technical amendments. **Pages S18635–36**

Withdrawn:

Dole Amendment No. 2025, to withhold certain funds for international conferences if funds were expended for U.S. participation in the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women while Harry Wu was being detained in China. **Pages S18616–17**

Helms Amendment No. 2031, to authorize reduced levels of appropriations for foreign assistance programs for fiscal years 1996 and 1997.

**Pages S18616–17**

Kerry (for Boxer) Amendment No. 2032 (to Amendment No. 2025), to express the sense of the Senate regarding the arrest of Harry Wu by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

**Pages S18616–17**

Helms Amendment No. 2041, to express the sense of the Congress regarding the consolidation and reinvention of the foreign affairs agencies of the United States.

**Pages S18616–17**

Helms Amendment No. 2042 (to Amendment No. 2041, in the nature of a substitute).

**Pages S18616–17**

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon and the Chair appointed the following conferees: Senators Helms, Snowe, Brown, Coverdell, Ashcroft, Pell, Kerry, Sarbanes, and Dodd.

**Page S18639**

Subsequently, S. 908 was returned to the Senate calendar.

**Page S18637**

**Cuban Liberty and Solidarity Act—Conferees:** Senate insisted on its amendment to H.R. 927, to seek international sanctions against the Castro government in Cuba, and to plan for support of a transition government leading to a democratically elected government in Cuba, agreed to the request of the House for a conference thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees: Senators Helms, Coverdell, Thompson, Snowe, Pell, Dodd, and Robb.

**Page S18639**

**VA/HUD Appropriations—Conference Report:** By 54 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 606), Senate agreed to the conference report on 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 the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996.

**Pages S18639–58**

Senate concurred in the amendment of the House to Senate amendment No. 63.

**Page S18658**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

A. Peter Burleigh, of California, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka,

and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Maldives.

Sandra J. Kristoff, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as U.S. Coordinator for Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

John Raymond Malott, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Malaysia.

Kenneth Michael Quinn, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

William H. Itoh, of New Mexico, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand.

Frances D. Cook, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman.

J. Stapleton Roy, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia.

Thomas W. Simons, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Richard Henry Jones, of Nebraska, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon.

James Franklin Collins, of Illinois, to be Ambassador at Large and Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for the New Independent States.

Charles H. Twining, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon.

James A. Joseph, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa.

Don Lee Gevirtz, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Fiji, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Nauru, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Tonga, and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Tuvalu.

Joan M. Plaisted, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Kiribati.

Jim Sasser, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

David P. Rawson, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mali.

Gerald Wesley Scott, of Oklahoma, to be Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia

Robert E. Gribbin III, of Alabama, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda.

Charles H. Twining, of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-

Counselor, to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador of the United States of America to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea.

29 Army nominations in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Navy. **Pages S18637–39, S18669–71**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S18661**

**Measures Placed on Calendar:** **Pages S18585, S18661**

**Communications:** **Pages S18661–62**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S18662**

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** **Pages S18662–64**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page S18664**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S18664–67**

**Authority for Committees:** **Page S18667**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S18667–68**

**Record Votes:** Three record votes were taken today. (Total–606) **Pages S18616, S18637, S18657–58**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:15 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Friday, December 15, 1995. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S18670.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded hearings on S. 1271, to provide for the storage and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level nuclear waste from the nation's defense program and commercial nuclear power plants, after receiving testimony from Idaho Governor Philip E. Batt, Boise; Hazel R. O'Leary, Secretary of Energy; Robert B. Pirie, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment); Gary Gates, Omaha Public Power District, Omaha, Nebraska, on behalf of the American Public Power Association; William K. Sherman, Vermont Department of Public Health, Montpelier, on behalf of the Northeast High-Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force; Dick Snell, Pinnacle West Capital Corporation, Phoenix, Arizona; and Corbin A. McNeill, Jr., PECO Energy Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Finance:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1470, to provide for increases in the amounts of allowable earnings under the social security earn-

ings limit for individuals who have attained retirement age, with amendments; and

The nominations of Joshua Gotbaum, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Economic Policy, and Jeffrey R. Shafer, of New Jersey, to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs.

### SOUTH AFRICA

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee held hearings to examine the status of United States assistance programs in South Africa, receiving testimony from John F. Hicks, Assistant Administrator for Africa, Leslie Dean, South African Mission Director, and William Ford, former South African Mission Director, all of the Agency for International Development.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

### FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

*Committee on Governmental Affairs:* Committee held hearings on proposed legislation to improve financial management in the Federal Government, receiving testimony from Charles A. Bowsher, Comptroller General of the United States, and Gene Dodaro, Assistant Comptroller General, and Jeffrey Steinhoff, Director of Planning and Reporting, both of the Accounting and Information Management Division, all of the General Accounting Office; G. Edward DeSeve, Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget; California State Auditor Kurt R. Sjoberg, Sacramento; William R. Phillips, Coopers & Lybrand, McLean, Virginia; and Ted Sheridan, Sheridan Management Corporation, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Financial Executives Institute.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Merrick B. Garland, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Also, committee began consideration of S. 605, to establish a uniform and more efficient Federal process for protecting property owners' rights guaranteed by the fifth amendment, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on Wednesday, December 20.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Rules and Administration:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 426, to authorize the establishment of a memorial to Martin Luther King, Jr., in the District of Columbia;

H.R. 2527, to permit electronic filing of Federal Election Commission reports and to require members