

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate rejected Balanced Budget Constitutional Amendment.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1847–S1934*

**Measures Introduced:** Two bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 390 and 391, S.J. Res. 22, and S. Res. 60 and 61. **Page S1924**

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

S. Res. 19, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States opposition to the prison sentence of Tibetan ethnomusicologist Ngawang Choephel by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

#### Measure Rejected:

*Balanced Budget Constitutional Amendment:* By 66 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. 24), two-thirds of those Senators duly chosen and voting, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected S.J. Res. 1, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced budget.

**Pages S1847–83, S1884–S1922**

**Trade Act Application Waiver—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for the consideration of S.J. Res. 5, waiving certain provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to the appointment of the United States Trade Representative on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, with a vote to occur thereon. **Page S1933**

**Nomination—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, on Wednesday, March 5, 1997. **Page S1933**

**Measures Placed on Calendar:** **Page S1922**

**Communications:** **Pages S1922–23**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Pages S1923–24**

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** **Pages S1924–26**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page S1926**

**Notices of Hearings:** **Page S1928**

**Authority for Committees:** **Page S1928**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S1928–32**

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—24) **Pages S1920–21**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:04 p.m., until 12 noon, on Wednesday, March 5, 1997. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1934.)

### Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

#### AUTHORIZATION—NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the National School Lunch Act, after receiving testimony from Janet Bantly, Enfield, Connecticut, and Tami J. Cline, Alexandria, Virginia, both of the American School Food Service Association; Mary Kate Harrison, Hillsborough County Schools, Tampa, Florida; Dennis Bier, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, on behalf of the Children's Nutrition Research Center; Michael Berry, Disneyland Resort, Anaheim, California; and Judith L. Dodd, University of Pittsburgh, Allison Park, Pennsylvania.

## APPROPRIATIONS—AGRICULTURE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Agriculture, receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from Thomas J. Billy, Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Michael Dunn, Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Terry L. Medley, Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Lon S. Hatamiya, Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, James R. Baker, Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, and Dennis Kaplan, Deputy Director for Budget, Legislative and Regulatory Systems, Office of Budget and Program Analysis, all of the Department of Agriculture.

Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, March 11.

## APPROPRIATIONS—HHS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Health and Human Services, receiving testimony from Donna E. Shalala, Secretary of Human Services.

Subcommittee will meet again on Thursday, March 20.

## APPROPRIATIONS—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998, receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from Harris Wofford, Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service; Frank Nebeker, Chief Judge, Court of Veterans Appeals; Gen. John P. Herrling, Secretary, American Battle Monument Commission; Steven Dola, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Management and Budget), DOD-Civil, Cemeterial Expenses, Department of the Army; and Gil Coronado, Director, Selective Service System.

Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, March 11.

## NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported 1,634 military nominations in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force.

## AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee resumed hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense plan, focusing on Department of the Army programs, receiving testimony from Togo D. West, Jr., Secretary of the Army; and Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, USA, Chief of Staff of the Army.

Committee will meet again on Tuesday, March 11.

## FINANCIAL DERIVATIVES ACCOUNTING RULES

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Subcommittee on Securities concluded oversight hearings to examine Securities and Exchange Commission and Financial Accounting Standards Board proposals affecting the accounting treatment and supplemental disclosures of financial derivatives, after receiving testimony from Steven M.H. Wallman, Commissioner, Securities and Exchange Commission; Kenneth Lehn, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, former Chief Economist, SEC; Thomas D. Logan, Basic American, Inc., Walnut Creek, California, and Patrick M. Montgomery, ULLICO, Washington, D.C., both on behalf of the Treasury Management Association; William P. Miller II, Common Fund, Inc., Westport, Connecticut, on behalf of the Association for Investment Management and Research; and Joseph P. Bauman, Bank of America, San Francisco, California, on behalf of the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc.

## PRODUCT LIABILITY REFORM

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee held hearings on S. 5, to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, receiving testimony from Representatives Campbell and Gekas; Richard Vuernick, Citizen Action, Victor Schwartz, Crowell and Moring, both of Washington, D.C.; Lucinda Finley, University of Buffalo School of Law, Buffalo, New York; Julie Nimens, Schutt Sports, Inc., Litchfield, Illinois; Steven J. Sharp, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Tom Deushle, Liberty, Missouri; and Steve Gunther, McLean, Virginia.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

**SUPERFUND REFORM**

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment held oversight hearings to examine liability and resource issues associated with the clean-up and redevelopment of abandoned or underutilized industrial and commercial properties, focusing on the current state of the Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative and proposals to reform the Superfund program, receiving testimony from Timothy Fields, Jr., Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency; Peter F. Guerrero, Director, Environmental Protection Issues, Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division, General Accounting Office; James M. Seif, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Harrisburg; Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, Elizabeth, New Jersey, on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Mayors; Lorrie Louder, St. Paul Port Authority, St. Paul, Minnesota, on behalf of the National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals; William J. Riley, Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, on behalf of the American Iron and Steel Institute; J. Peter Scherer, Taubman Company, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, on behalf of the National Realty Committee; and William K. Wray, Citizens Financial Group, Providence, Rhode Island.

Subcommittee will meet again tomorrow.

**MEDICARE/MEDICAID/WELFARE BUDGET**

*Committee on Finance:* Committee resumed hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998, focusing on spending proposals relating to Medicare, Medicaid, and welfare, receiving testimony from Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis, Congressional Budget Office; and Jonathan Ratner, Associate Director, Health Financing and Systems Issues, Health, Education, and Human Services Division, General Accounting Office.

Committee will meet again tomorrow.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. Res. 19, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States opposition to the prison sentence of Tibetan ethnomusicologist Ngawang Choephel by the Government of the People's Republic of China; and

The nominations of Pete Peterson, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Princeton Nathan Lyman, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, and a Foreign Service Officers' promotion list received by the Senate on January 21, 1997.

# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

**Bills Introduced:** 14 public bills, H.R. 908–921; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 59 and H. Con. Res. 32–35, were introduced. **Pages H724–25**

**Reports Filed:** No reports were filed today.

**Speaker Pro Tempore:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Ewing to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H711**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:58 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m. **Page H714**

**Order of Business:** It was made in order that on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, the Speaker be authorized to entertain motions to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolutions: H. Con. Res. 17, congratulating the people of Guatemala on the success of the recent negotiations to establish a peace process for Guatemala, H. Con. Res. 18, congratulating the people of the Republic of Nicaragua on the success of their democratic elections, and S. Con. Res. 4, commending and thanking the Honorable Warren Christopher for his exemplary service as Secretary of State. And, that on Thursday, March 6, 1997, the Speaker be authorized to entertain a motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 513, District of Columbia Council Contract Review Reform Act of 1997. **Page H715**

**Suspension—Display of the Ten Commandments:** The House completed all debate on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 31, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten Commandments by Judge Roy S. Moore, a judge on the circuit court of the State of Alabama. The vote was postponed until, Wednesday, March 5, 1997. **Pages H715–21**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** No quorum calls or votes developed during the proceedings of the House today.

**Adjournment:** Met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

**AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Research, Education and Economics. Testimony was heard from Catherine E. Woteki, Acting Under Secretary, Research, Education and Economics, USDA.

**COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary held a hearing on Attorney General. Testimony was heard from Janet Reno, Attorney General, Department of Justice.

**ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: H. Martin Lancaster, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works); Lt. Gen. Joe N. Ballard, USA, Chief, Corps of Engineers; and Maj. Gen. Russell Fuhrman, USA, Director, Civil Works.

**INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior continued appropriations hearing, with emphasis on Natural Resources. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**LABOR—HHS—EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, the National Institute of Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human