

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the resolution of ratification to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

The House passed H.R. 1274, National Institute of Standards and Technology Authorization Act, H.R. 1273, National Science Foundation Authorization Act, and H.R. 1275, Civilian Space Authorization Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3567-S3697

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 641-650, S.J. Res. 28, S. Res. 78, and S. Con. Res. 23. **Page S3662**

Measures Passed:

Technical Correction: Senate passed H.R. 1225, to make a technical correction to title 28, United States Code, relating to jurisdiction for lawsuits against terrorist states, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S3697**

Resolution of Ratification Approved: By 74 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. 51), two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the resolution of ratification (S. Exec. Res. 75) to the Convention on the Prohibition of Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, opened for signature and signed by the United States at Paris on January 13, 1993 (Treaty Doc. 103-21), after taking action on amendments on the resolution of ratification, as follows: **Pages S3568-S3658**

Adopted:

By 71 yeas to 29 nays (Vote No. 46), Biden Amendment No. 47, to strike the condition to require that before depositing the instrument of ratification, the President certified to Congress that countries which have been determined to have offensive chemical weapons programs have ratified or otherwise acceded to the Convention. **Pages S3583-96**

By 66 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. 47), Biden Amendment No. 48, to strike the condition relating to Russian elimination of chemical weapons. **Pages S3604-16**

By 66 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. 48), Biden Amendment No. 49, to strike the condition requiring the President to certify to Congress that compliance with the Convention is effectively verifiable. **Pages S3618-21, S3623**

By 56 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 49), Biden Amendment No. 50, to strike the condition requiring the President to exercise the right to bar certain inspectors. **Pages S3621-23**

By 66 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. 50), Biden Amendment No. 51, to strike the condition requiring the President to certify to Congress that the State Parties have made an agreement to amend the Convention to stem the proliferation of chemical weapons. **Pages S3624-36**

Helms Amendment No. 52, to make technical and clerical corrections. **Page S3639**

Closed Session: Senate held a closed session during consideration of The Chemical Weapons Convention (Treaty Doc. No. 103-21) **Page S3570**

Senior Citizen Home Equity Protection Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the consideration of S. 562, to amend section 255 of the National Housing Act to prevent the funding of unnecessary or excessive costs for obtaining a home equity conversion mortgage, on Friday, April 25, 1997. **Page S3697**

Messages From the House: **Page S3659**

Measures Referred: **Page S3659**

Communications: **Pages S3659-61**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S3661-62**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S3662-87**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S3687**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S3689**

Notices of Hearings: Pages S3689–90
Authority for Committees: Page S3690
Additional Statements: Pages S3690–97
Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—51) Pages S3596, S3616, S3623, S3636, S3651

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 10:48 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Friday, April 25, 1997. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3697.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—NOAA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, and Related Agencies concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the Department of Commerce, after receiving testimony from D. James Baker, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

APPROPRIATIONS—ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS/BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for programs of the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation, after receiving testimony from H. Martin Lancaster, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works; Lt. Gen. Joe N. Ballard, Chief, and Maj. Gen. Russell L. Fuhrman, Director for Civil Works, both of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and Patricia J. Beneke, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, and Eluid L. Martinez, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, both of the Department of the Interior.

APPROPRIATIONS—ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998, receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from Jane Alexander, Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts; and Sheldon Hackney, Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities.

Subcommittee will meet again on Thursday, May 1.

NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE ACT

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 7, to establish a United States policy for the deployment of a national missile defense system; and 2,449 military nominations in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force.

ISTEA AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee held hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, focusing on truck safety issues, receiving testimony from Rodney E. Slater, Secretary of Transportation; Mayor Louis Bronaugh, Lufkin, Texas, on behalf of the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks; Warren Hoemann, Traffic Safety Alliance, Burlingame, California; Thomas J. Donohue, American Trucking Associations, Alexandria, Virginia; Lisa Irwin, Michigan State Police, Lansing, on behalf of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance; and Steven Wellington, Mesa, Arizona, on behalf of Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways (CRASH).

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

AUTHORIZATION—NASA

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), after receiving testimony from Daniel S. Goldin, Administrator, Edward A. Frankle, General Counsel, and Malcolm Peterson, Comptroller, all of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Marcia Smith, Specialist in Aerospace and Telecommunications Policy, and Dave Radzanowski, Analyst in Aerospace Policy, both of the Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Kenneth F. Galloway, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee; and Jerry Grey, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Reston, Virginia.

AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property and Nuclear Safety held hearings to examine the Environmental Protection Agency implementation and health effects of proposed revisions to the national ambient air quality standards for ozone and particulate matters, receiving testimony from Mary D. Nichols, Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency; Kenneth W. Chilton, Center for the Study of American Business/Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri; Thomas B. Starr, ENVIRON International Corporation, Raleigh, North Carolina; Susan E. Dudley, Economists Incorporated, Alan J. Krupnick, Resources for the Future, and Paul C. Kerkhoven,