

Wednesday, May 21, 1997

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House Committees ordered reported 10 sundry measures.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4781–S4923

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and two resolutions were introduced as follows: S. 771–778 and S. Res. 88 and 89. **Pages S4878–79**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows: S. 459, to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to extend certain authorizations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 105–20) **Page S4878**

Measures Passed:

Majority Party Committee Appointments: Senate agreed to S. Res. 89, to constitute the majority party's membership on the Governmental Affairs committee for the 105th Congress, or until their successors are chosen. **Page S4915**

Congressional Gold Medal to Mother Teresa: Senate passed H.R. 1650, to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Mother Teresa of Calcutta in recognition of her outstanding and enduring contributions through humanitarian and charitable activities, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S4918–19**

Authorizing Use of Capitol Grounds: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 67, authorizing the 1997 Special Olympics Torch Relay to be run through the Capitol Grounds. **Page S4919**

New Mexico Trust Fund Protection: Senate passed S. 430, to amend the Act of June 20, 1910, to protect the permanent trust funds of the State of New Mexico from erosion due to inflation and modify the basis on which distributions are made from those funds. **Page S4919**

Volunteer Protection Act: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House to S. 543, to provide certain protections to volunteers, nonprofit organizations, and government entities in lawsuits based on

the activities of volunteers, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S4915–18**

Concurrent Budget Resolution: Senate continued consideration of S. Con. Res. 27, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States government for fiscal years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: **Pages S4782–S4849, S4851–76, S4920**

Adopted:

By 98 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 75), Domenici Modified Amendment No. 307, to clarify the use of funds for health coverage for eligible children. **Pages S4810–27**

Kerrey Amendment No. 312, to express the sense of the Senate on the need for long-term entitlement reforms. **Pages S4830–31**

Gramm Modified Amendment No. 317, to express the sense of the Senate on disaster assistance funding. **Pages S4834, S4847–48**

Brownback/Kohl Amendment No. 329, to express the sense of the Senate on enforcement of the bipartisan budget agreement. **Pages S4848–49**

By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 78), Mack Amendment No. 315, to express the sense of the Senate that the Federal commitment to biomedical research should be doubled over the next 5 years. **Pages S4833–34, S4861–69**

Domenici (for Feinstein) Amendment No. 341, to express the sense of the Senate that certain elderly legal aliens should continue to receive benefits during a redetermination transition period. **Pages S4869–70**

Domenici (for Coverdell) Amendment No. 342, to express the sense of the Senate regarding retroactive taxes. **Pages S4870–71**

Domenici (for Dorgan/Hollings/Daschle) Amendment No. 343, to express the sense of the Senate on Social Security and balancing the budget. **Page S4871**

Domenici (for Daschle/Rockefeller) Amendment No. 344, to express the sense of the Senate in support of sufficient funding for veterans programs and benefits. **Pages S4871–72**

Domenici (for Murray) Amendment No. 345, to express the sense of Congress concerning domestic violence. **Page S4872**

Rejected:

Hatch/Kennedy Amendment No. 297, to increase the excise taxes on tobacco products for the purpose of providing affordable health coverage for low- and moderate-income uninsured children and for additional deficit reduction. (By 55 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 76), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S4782–S4828**

Gramm Amendment No. 318, to hold nondefense discretionary spending for fiscal years 1998 through 2002 to the same levels proposed in the President's fiscal year 1997 budget request. (By 68 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. 77), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S4834–44, S4846**

Pending:

Murray/Wellstone Amendment No. 291, to express the sense of the Congress concerning domestic violence. **Pages S4831–32**

Inhofe Amendment No. 301, to create a point of order against any budget resolution for fiscal years after 2001 that causes a unified budget deficit for the budget year or any of the 4 fiscal years following the budget year. **Page S4829**

Hollings Amendment No. 302, to express the sense of the Senate that the Highway Trust Fund should not be taken into account in computing the deficit in the budget of the United States. **Page S4828**

Hollings Amendment No. 303, to express the sense of the Senate that the Airport and Airway Trust Fund should not be taken into account in computing the deficit in the budget of the United States. **Pages S4828–29**

Hollings Amendment No. 304, to express the sense of the Senate that the Military Retirement Trust Funds should not be taken into account in computing the deficit in the budget of the United States. **Pages S4828–29**

Hollings Amendment No. 305, to express the sense of the Senate that the Civil Service Retirement Trust Funds should not be taken into account in computing the deficit in the budget of the United States. **Pages S4828–29**

Hollings Amendment No. 306, to express the sense of the Senate that the Federal Unemployment Compensation Trust fund should not be taken into account in computing the deficit in the budget of the United States. **Pages S4828–29**

Kerry Amendment No. 309, to allocate funds for early childhood development programs for children ages zero to six. **Pages S4829–30**

Dorgan Amendment No. 310, to express the sense of the Senate that the Congress should continue efforts to reduce the on-budget deficit without counting Social Security surpluses. **Page S4830**

Warner/Baucus Amendment No. 311, to ensure that transportation revenues are used solely for transportation. **Page S4830**

Wellstone Amendment No. 313, to provide for increases in funding for Headstart and Early Start, child nutrition programs, and school construction, which will be paid for by reducing tax benefits to the top 2 percent of income earners in the United States as well as by reducing tax benefits that are characterized as corporate welfare or tax loopholes. **Pages S4832–33**

Wellstone Amendment No. 314, to provide that Pell Grants for needy students should be increased. **Page S4833**

Abraham Amendment No. 316, to express the sense of the Senate that, to the extent that future revenues exceed the revenue aggregates, those additional revenues should be reserved for deficit reduction and tax cuts only. **Page S4834**

Gramm Amendment No. 319, to ensure that the discretionary limits provided in the budget resolution shall apply in all years. **Pages S4834–35**

Gramm Amendment No. 320, to ensure that the 4.3 cents federal gas tax increase enacted in 1993 will be transferred to the Highway Trust Fund. **Pages S4834–35**

Faircloth Amendment No. 321, to express the sense of the Senate that a non-refundable tax credit for the expenses of an education at a 2-year college should be enacted. **Page S4839**

Ashcroft Amendment No. 322, to add enforcement mechanisms to reflect the stated commitment to reach a balanced budget in 2002, to maintain a balanced budget thereafter, and to achieve these goals without raising taxes. **Pages S4839–40**

Ashcroft Amendment No. 323, to limit increases in the statutory limit on the debt to the levels in the budget resolution. **Page S4840**

Bond Amendment No. 324, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the protection of children's health. **Page S4844**

Bond Amendment No. 325, to express the sense of the Senate concerning the Highway Trust Fund. **Page S4844**

McCain/Hollings Amendment No. 326, to express the sense of the Senate that the Congress shall take such steps as necessary to reconcile the difference between actual revenues raised and estimates made and

shall reduce spending accordingly if Spectrum Auctions raise less revenue than projected. **Page S4845**

McCain/Mack Amendment No. 327, to express the sense of the Senate with respect to certain highway demonstration projects. **Page S4845**

McCain Amendment No. 328, to express the sense of the Senate that the revenues generated to finance an intercity passenger rail fund under section 207 should not be appropriated before enactment of legislation to reauthorize and reform the National Rail Passenger Corporation. **Page S4845**

Brownback/Kohl Amendment No. 329, to express the sense of the Senate on enforcement of the bipartisan budget agreement.

Bumpers Amendment No. 330, to delay the effectiveness of the tax cuts assumed in the Budget Resolution until the Federal budget is balanced. **Page S4847**

Bumpers Amendment No. 331, to ensure that the Medicare cuts that will be enacted are not used to pay tax cuts and that instead the tax cuts are completely paid for by the closure of tax loopholes. **Page S4847**

Bumpers Amendment No. 332, to express the sense of the Senate that no budget reconciliation bill shall increase the Federal deficit. **Page S4847**

Lautenberg (for Moseley-Braun) Amendment No. 333, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the use of budget savings. **Pages S4846-47**

Lautenberg (for Moseley-Braun) Amendment No. 334, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the value of the social security system for future retirees. **Pages S4846-47**

Lautenberg (for Dodd) Amendment No. 335, to ensure that the concurrent resolution conforms with the bipartisan budget agreement to restrict revenue reductions over a ten-year period. **Pages S4846-47**

Moseley-Braun Amendment No. 336, to provide \$5 billion for school repair, renovation, modernization, and construction priorities, offset by closing tax loopholes. **Pages S4852-60**

Specter Amendment No. 338, to provide for a reduction in mandatory spending and an increase in discretionary spending relating to children's health. **Pages S4906-07**

Specter Amendment No. 339, to provide for a reduction in mandatory spending and an increase in discretionary spending relating to children's health. **Pages S4906-07**

Specter Amendment No. 340, to restore funding within the discretionary health function to maintain progress in medical research, offset by reductions in Federal agency administrative costs. **Pages S4906-07**

Domenici (for Grams) Amendment No. 346, to require that the \$225 billion CBO revenue receipt windfall be used for deficit reduction and tax relief,

and that non-defense discretionary spending be kept at a freeze baseline level. **Pages S4872-73**

Domenici (for Coverdell) Amendment No. 347, to provide for parental involvement in prevention of drug use by children. **Pages S4872-73**

Domenici (for Kyl) Amendment No. 348, to express the sense of the Senate that the budget resolution agreement does not foreclose the possibility of Congress adopting additional tax cuts in the future, so long as they are paid for. **Pages S4872-73**

Domenici (for Snowe/Coverdell) Amendment No. 349, to express the sense of the Senate relative to higher education tax relief and higher education expenses. **Pages S4873-74**

Lautenberg (for Harkin) Amendment No. 350, to express the sense of the Senate supporting an increase in funding for defense 050 account funds dedicated for medical research. **Pages S4874-75**

Lautenberg (for Harkin/Bingaman) Amendment No. 351, to reduce the incentives to use tax gimmicks that artificially increase revenues in 2002 in ways that make balancing the deficit more difficult after 2002. **Pages S4874-75**

Lautenberg (for Kohl/Kerry) Amendment No. 352, to express the sense of the Senate on early childhood education. **Pages S4874-75**

Lautenberg (for Byrd) Amendment No. 353, to expand opportunities to access funding in the Highway Reserve fund. **Pages S4874-75**

Lautenberg (for Biden) Amendment No. 354, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the extension of the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund through fiscal year 2002. **Pages S4874-75**

Lautenberg (for Boxer) Amendment No. 355, to express the sense of the Senate regarding tax cut benefits. **Pages S4874-76**

Robb Amendment No. 356, to express the sense of the Senate on Social Security and retirement savings. **Page S4920**

Withdrawn:

Jeffords Motion to recommit the resolution to the Committee on the Budget with instructions to report back forthwith with the following amendment:

Jeffords/Coats Amendment No. 337 (to the Motion to recommit), to strike the reconciliation instruction for the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, and adjust the reconciliation instructions for the Committee on Finance to reflect an increase in revenues. (The amendment fell when the motion to recommit was withdrawn.) **Pages S4860-61**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill on Thursday, May 22, 1997. **Page S4875**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

52 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

Pages S4919–20, S4923

Messages From the House: Pages S4877–78

Measures Referred: Page S4878

Measures Placed on Calendar: Page S4878

Measures Read First Time: Page S4878

Communications: Page S4878

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S4878

Statements on Introduced Bills: Pages S4879–98

Additional Cosponsors: Page S4898

Amendments Submitted: Pages S4898–S4910

Notices of Hearings: Page S4910

Authority for Committees: Page S4910

Additional Statements: Pages S4910–15

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—78)

Pages S4827–28, S4846, S4868

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 10:50 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, May 22, 1997. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4920.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Air Force programs, receiving testimony from Sheila E. Widnall, Secretary of the Air Force; and Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman, Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, June 4.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 1,121 routine military nominations in the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Army Reserve.

QUADRENNIAL DEFENSE REVIEW

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded hearings to examine the Department of Defense Quadrennial Defense Review which relates to the shape, makeup, characterization, and the implementation of American armed forces for the next several years, focusing on its impact on the future years defense program, after receiving testimony from Gen.

Dennis J. Reimer, USA, Chief of Staff, United States Army; Adm. Jay L. Johnson, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; Gen. Charles C. Krulak, USMC, Commandant, United States Marine Corps; and Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman, USAF, Chief of Staff, United States Air Force.

TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT REFORM

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded hearings to examine certain management and program areas in need of reform to improve efficiency and effectiveness at the Department of Transportation, after receiving testimony from Raymond J. DeCarli, Associate Deputy Inspector General, and Mortimer L. Downey, Deputy Secretary, both of the Department of Transportation; and John H. Anderson, Jr., Director, Transportation Issues, Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division, General Accounting Office.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following measures:

S. 417, authorizing funds for energy conservation programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (As approved by the committee, the amendment authorizes funds for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve through fiscal year 2000, and United States' participation in the International Energy Agency through fiscal year 2002);

S. 210, to make technical and other changes to the Organic Act of Guam, the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, and the Compact of Free Association Act, and to return excess Federal land to the people of Guam, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 649, to amend sections of the Department of Energy Organization Act that are obsolete or inconsistent with other statutes and to repeal a related section of the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974; and

S. Res. 57, to support the work of the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council and all the Federal, State, and local entities and other interested groups that are preparing bicentennial activities to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition during the years 2004 through 2006.

HISTORIC SITES/MEMORIALS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation concluded hearings on S. Res. 57, to support the commemoration of the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, S. 231, to establish