

Monday, July 14, 1997

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7401–S7428

Measures Introduced: Six bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1011–1016. **Page S7423**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:
S. 39, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to support the International Dolphin Conservation Program in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7423**

Measures Passed:

National Character Counts Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 63, proclaiming the week of October 19 through October 25, 1997, as “National Character Counts Week”. **Pages S7427–28**

Department of Defense Appropriations: Senate began consideration of S. 1005, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

Pages S7401–13, S7415–20

Adopted:

Stevens Amendment No. 837, to provide an additional \$60 million for “Former Soviet Threat Reduction” activities for fiscal year 1998. **Page S7404**

Inouye (for Mikulski) Amendment No. 839, to correct the source of the funding for procurement of digital terrain systems for F–16 aircraft. **Page S7405**

Inouye (for Dodd) Amendment No. 840, to provide funds to establish a program to provide appropriate health care to Persian Gulf veterans who suffer from a Gulf War illness. **Page S7405**

Inouye (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 841, to provide funds for a facial recognition technology program. **Page S7405**

Stevens (for Snowe/Collins) Amendment No. 842, to provide funds for a joint service core research program to develop a prototype hybrid integrated sensor array for chemical and biological point detection. **Page S7405**

Stevens (for Sessions) Amendment No. 843, to provide funds for a conventional munitions demilitarization program. **Page S7406**

Stevens (for Grassley) Amendment No. 844, to reduce to \$1,000,000 the threshold amount for the applicability of the requirement for advance matching of Department of Defense disbursements to particular obligations. **Pages S7406–07**

Pending:

Stevens/Inouye Amendment No. 846, to require a report to Congress on all anticipated costs to the United States for the admission of the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary to NATO. **Pages S7413, S7415–17**

Harkin Amendment No. 848, to prohibit the use of taxpayer funds to underwrite restructuring costs associated with a business merger. **Pages S7417–20**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill and certain amendments to be proposed thereto, on Tuesday, July 15, 1997. **Page S7420**

A further consent agreement was reached providing that when the Senate receives the House companion measure, all after the enacting clause be stricken and the text of S. 1005, as passed by the Senate, be inserted in lieu thereof, that the bill be passed, the Senate insist on its amendment, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate. **Page S7420**

Nomination Considered: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Joel I. Klein, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Pages S7413–15**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 78 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. 174), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S7414**

Messages From the House: **Pages S7420–21**

Communications: **Page S7421**

Petitions: **Pages S7421–23**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S7423–24**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S7424**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S7424–26**

Notices of Hearings: **Page S7426**

Additional Statements:

Pages S7426-27

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today.
(Total—174)

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Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon, and adjourned at 7:43 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Tuesday,

July 15, 1997. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7428.)

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 2159, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105-176);

H.R. 1853, to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act, amended (H. Rept. 105-177);

H.R. 2160, making appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105-178);

H.R. 765, to ensure maintenance of a herd of wild horses in Cape Lookout National Seashore (H. Rept. 105-179); and

H. Res. 184, providing for consideration of H.R. 2158, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105-180).

Page H5183

Recess: The House recessed at 3:25 p.m. and reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

Page H5181

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H5183.

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

Adjournment: Met at 3:00 p.m. and adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Committee Meetings**PROTECTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AFTER BOERNE v. FLORES**

Committee on the Judiciary: Held a hearing on Protecting Religious Freedom after *Boerne v. Flores*. Testi-

mony was heard from Jeff Sutton, Solicitor, State of Ohio; and public witnesses.

VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted a rule, by voice vote, providing 1 hour of debate on H.R. 2158, making appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2(l)(6) of rule XI (relating to the three day availability of the report); clause 7 of rule XXI (relating to the three day availability of printed hearings on appropriations bills); or Section 306 of the Budget Act (relating to the prohibition on including matters within the jurisdiction of the Budget Committee in a measure not reported by it).

The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI (prohibiting unauthorized appropriations and legislative provisions in an appropriation bill) and clause 6 of rule XXI (prohibiting reappropriations in an appropriations bill), except as specified in the rule.

The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules which may only be offered by a Member designated in the report and only at the appropriate point in the reading of the bill, shall be considered as read, and shall not be subject to further amendment or a demand for a division of the question. The rule permits the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to accord priority in recognition to those Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record prior to their consideration. The rule allows the Chairman to postpone recorded votes and reduce to five minutes the voting time on any postponed question, provided that the voting time on the first in any series of questions is not less than 15 minutes. Finally, the rule provides