

Wednesday, September 17, 1997

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to Military Construction Appropriations, 1998 Conference Report.

House Committees ordered reported 14 sundry measures.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S9437-S9529

Measures Introduced: Eight bills were introduced, as follows: S1183-1190. Page S9515

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

S. 1093, to extend nondiscriminatory treatment (most-favored-nation treatment) to the products of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 105-83) Page S9515

Measures Passed:

Treasury/Postal Service Appropriations, 1998: Pursuant to the order of July 17, 1997, Senate passed H.R. 2378, making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 1023, Senate companion measure, as passed by the Senate on July 22, 1997. Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees: Senators Campbell, Shelby, Faircloth, Kohl, and Mikulski. Page S9510

Labor/HHS Appropriations, 1998: Pursuant to the order of September 4, 1997, Senate passed H.R. 2264, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 1061, Senate companion measure, as passed by the Senate on September 11, 1997. Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees: Senators Specter, Cochran, Gorton, Bond,

Gregg, Faircloth, Craig, Hutchison, Stevens, Harkin, Hollings, Inouye, Bumpers, Reid, Kohl, Murray, and Byrd. Page S9510

Subsequently the bill was indefinitely postponed.

Authorizing Use of Capitol Rotunda: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 134, authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol to allow members of Congress to greet and receive His All Holiness, Patriarch Bartholomew. Page S9529

Passage Vitiating:

Treasury/Postal Service Appropriations, 1998: Pursuant to the order of July 17, 1997, Senate vitiating passage of S. 1023, making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and the bill was indefinitely postponed.

Labor/HHS Appropriations, 1998: Pursuant to the order of September 4, 1997, Senate vitiating passage of S. 1061, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. Page S9529

Interior Appropriations, 1998: Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 2107, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, with certain excepted committee amendments, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: Pages S9440-43, S9448-S9501, S9503-10

Adopted:

Brownback Amendment No. 1204, to ensure that the Huron Cemetery in Kansas City, Kansas, is used as a cemetery. Pages S9448-50, S9496-97

Bumpers Amendment No. 1209 (to committee amendment beginning on page 123, line 9 through

page 124, line 20), relating to Bureau of Land Management regulations governing hardrock mining on certain Federal land. **Pages S9484–85**

Gorton (for Craig) Amendment No. 1212, to require the Forest Service to implement recreation residence special use permit fees over a five year phase-in period and provides that no increases in fees may occur on the Sawtooth National Forest until January 1, 1999, and further provides that no fees may be increased sooner than a year after release of the Forest Service appraisal of the property. **Page S9507**

Gorton (for Bumpers) Amendment No. 1213, to revise the boundaries of the Arkansas Post Memorial. **Page S9507**

Gorton (for Cochran) Amendment No. 1214, of a technical nature. **Pages S9507–08**

Gorton (for Murkowski) Amendment No. 1215, to provide that entry and permit limitations for Glacier Bay National Park shall not apply to the Auk Nu Marine—Glacier Bay Ferry entering Bartlett Cove for the sole purpose of accessing park or other authorized visitor services or facilities at, or originating from, the public dock area at Bartlett Cove. **Page S9508**

Gorton (for Murkowski) Amendment No. 1216, to amend certain oil and gas lease provisions with regard to the exploration of the national petroleum reserve in Alaska. **Pages S9508–09**

Gorton (for Murkowski) Amendment No. 1217, to limit the expenditure of funds which may occur to fund the Forest Service's Juneau regional office. **Pages S9509–10**

Jeffords Amendment No. 1218, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the preservation of Civil War battlefields. **Pages S9505–07**

Rejected:

By 23 yeas to 77 nays (Vote No. 241), Ashcroft Amendment No. 1188 (to committee amendment beginning on page 96, line 12 through page 97, line 8), to eliminate funding for programs and activities carried out by the National Endowment for the Arts. **Pages S9440–43, S9465–83**

By 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 242), Bryan Amendment No. 1205, to reduce funding for Forest Service road construction and eliminate the purchaser credit program. (Also, by 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 243), Senate failed to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was rejected.) **Pages S9450–65, S9483–84**

By 26 yeas to 73 nays (Vote No. 244), Abraham Amendment No. 1206 (to committee amendment beginning on page 96, line 12 through page 97, line 8), to reduce funding for the National Endowment of the Arts, and provide additional construction funds for the National Park Service. **Pages S9486–88, S9495**

By 37 yeas to 62 nays (Vote No. 245), Hutchinson Amendment No. 1187 (to committee amendment beginning on page 96, line 12 through page 97, line 8), to provide financial assistance to States to support the arts. **Pages S9488–96**

Pending:

Hutchinson Amendment No. 1196, to authorize the President to implement the recently announced American Heritage Rivers Initiative subject to designation of qualified rivers by Act of Congress. **Pages S9440–41**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill on Thursday, September 18, 1997. **Page S9529**

Military Construction Appropriations Conference Report:

By 97 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 240), Senate agreed to the conference report on H.R. 2016, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S9443–47**

Appointments:

National Nutrition Monitoring Advisory Council: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 101–445, appointed Charles H. White, of Mississippi, to the National Nutrition Monitoring Advisory Council. **Page S9510**

Messages From the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting the report on Federal Advisory Committees for fiscal year 1996; referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs. (PM–66). **Pages S9511–12**

Transmitting a report concerning the national emergency with respect to Iran; referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–67). **Pages S9512–13**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jerry MacArthur Hultin, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Navy.

Gloria Tristani, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 1998.

Gloria Tristani, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 1998. **Page S9529**

Messages From the President: **Pages S9511–13**

Messages From the House: **Pages S9513–14**

Measures Referred: **Page S9514**

Communications: **Page S9514**

Petitions:	Pages S9514–15
Statements on Introduced Bills:	Pages S9515–24
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S9524–25
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S9525–27
Authority for Committees:	Page S9527
Additional Statements:	Pages S9527–29
Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—245)	Pages S9447, S9483–84, S9495–96

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:45 a.m., and adjourned at 9:26 p.m., until 9:10 a.m., on Thursday, September 18, 1997. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S9529.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DIGITAL TV

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee held hearings to examine future technologies such as high-definition television, digital television and multiplexing, receiving testimony from Representative Tauzin; Reed E. Hundt, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; Larry Irving, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information; Robert W. Decherd, A.H. Belo Corporation, Dallas, Texas, on behalf of the National Association of Broadcasters; Preston Padden, ABC Television Network, New York, New York; and David D. Smith, Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

UNDERGROUND UTILITIES PROTECTION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine concluded hearings on S. 1115, to create uniform national standards and provide grants to establish or improve State one-call notification systems designed to protect America's underground infrastructure which includes buried communication and fiber optic cables, water and sewer pipes, electric lines, and oil and gas pipelines, after receiving testimony from Kelley S. Coyner, Acting Administrator for Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation; Catherine G. Abbott, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, Fairfax, Virginia; Frank Ianna, AT&T, Basking Ridge, New Jersey; Charles E. Dettmann, Association of American Railroads, Washington, D.C.; and Gene Shull, A.E. Shull and Company, Tyler, Texas, on behalf of the Associated General Contractors.

ALASKA LAND EXCHANGE

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded hearings on S. 1158, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, regarding the Huna Totem Corporation public interest land exchange, and S. 1159, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, regarding the Kake Tribal Corporation public interest land exchange, after receiving testimony from Eleanor Towns, Director of Lands, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Mayor Lonnie Anderson, and Gordon Jackson, Kake Tribal Corporation, both of Kake, Alaska; Albert Dick, Huna Totem Corporation, Hoonah, Alaska; and Jack Hession, Sierra Club, Anchorage, Alaska.

AUTHORIZATION—TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 1173, authorizing funds for construction of highway safety programs and for mass transit programs, with amendments.

FAST-TRACK TRADE AUTHORITY

Committee on Finance: Committee held hearings on proposed legislation to renew fast track trade authority to allow the President to negotiate further trade agreements to open foreign markets to United States goods and services, and other related trade proposals, receiving testimony from Robert E. Rubin, Secretary of the Treasury; Charlene Barshefsky, United States Trade Representative; and Jeffrey M. Lang, Deputy United States Trade Representative.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION TREATY

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings on the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), with Annexes, signed at Geneva on December 22, 1992, and amendments to the Constitution and Convention, signed at Kyoto on October 14, 1994, together with declarations and reservations by the United States as contained in the Final Acts (Treaty Doc. 104–34), after receiving testimony from Vonya B. McCann, Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy, Department of State; David F. Fisher, ADC Telecommunications, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Lon C. Levin, American Mobile Radio Corporation/American Mobile Satellite Corporation, Reston, Virginia.

CHINA POLICY ACT

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee held hearings on S. 1164, to state a policy of the United States that engages the People's Republic of China in areas of mutual interest, promotes human rights,