

Monday, May 18, 1998

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed American Competitiveness Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4945–S5030

Measures Introduced: Four bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2087–2090, S. Con. Res. 97, and S. Res. 231. **Page S5019**

Measures Passed:

American Competitiveness Act: By 78 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. 141), Senate passed S. 1723, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to assist the United States to remain competitive by increasing the access of the United States firms and institutions of higher education to skilled personnel and by expanding educational and training opportunities for American students and workers, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: **Pages S4954–S5001**

Adopted:

Abraham (for Warner/Robb) Amendment No. 2412, to provide for special immigrant status for NATO civilian employees in the same manner as for employees of international organizations. **Pages S4966–67**

Kennedy Amendment No. 2413, to provide whistleblower protection to foreign H-1B workers who file successful complaints against employers for violations of the H-1B program. **Pages S4967–68**

Reid Amendment No. 2414, to require that applications for passports for minors have parental signatures. **Pages S4978–79**

Abraham/Kennedy/McCain Amendment No. 2419, to modify the job training and scholarships provisions, to establish a prohibition of the use of H-1B visas by employers assisting in India's nuclear weapons program, and to make certain technical corrections. **Pages S4992–94**

Rejected:

Bumpers Amendment No. 2416, to repeal the Immigrant Investor Program. (By 74 yeas to 24 nays (Vote No. 140), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S4981–89, S4997**

Kennedy/Johnson Amendment No. 2417, to ensure that employers recruit qualified United States workers first, before applying for foreign workers under the H-1B visa program. (By 59 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 139), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S4989–92, S4996–97**

Kennedy/Johnson Amendment No. 2418, to ensure that participating employers cannot lay off United States workers and replace them with temporary foreign workers under the H-1B visa program. (By 60 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 138), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S4989–92, S4996**

Withdrawn:

Reed Amendment No. 2415, to strike section 4, relating to education and training in science and technology. **Pages S4979–80**

Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem—Technical Amendment: Senate agreed to S. Res. 231, to make a technical amendment to Senate Resolution 208. **Page S5029**

Universal Tobacco Settlement Act: Senate began consideration of S. 1415, to reform and restructure the processes by which tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed, to prevent the use of tobacco products by minors, and to redress the adverse health effects of tobacco use, with a modified committee amendment in the nature of a substitute (Amendment No. 2420). **Pages S5001–12**

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Tuesday, May 19, 1998.

Removal of Injunction of Secrecy: The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaty:

ILO Convention (No. 111) Concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) (Treaty Doc. 105–45).

The treaty was transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and was ordered to be printed.

Page S5029

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

Transmitting the report of the national emergency with respect to Burma; referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-127).

Pages S5013-14

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jose de Jesus Rivera, of Arizona, to be United States Attorney for the District of Arizona for the term of four years.

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Messages From the President:

Page S5013

Communications:

Page S5014

Petitions:

Pages S1514-19

Executive Reports of Committees:

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Statements on Introduced Bills:

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Additional Cosponsors:

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Amendments Submitted:

Pages S5025-27

Notices of Hearings:

Page S5027

Authority for Committees:

Page S5027

Additional Statements:

Pages S5027-29

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—141)

Pages S4996-98

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11 a.m., and adjourned at 8:35 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Tuesday,

May 19, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5030.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

INDONESIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs concluded hearings to examine the political situation in Indonesia and the United States response to recent incidents of unrest, after receiving testimony from Stanley O. Roth, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Donald Emmerson, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Adam Schwarz, Council on Foreign Relations, and Paul Wolfowitz, Johns Hopkins University, both of Washington, D.C.; and Sidney Jones, Human Rights Watch, New York, New York.

FAITH-BASED CHARITIES

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring, and the District of Columbia concluded hearings to examine the role of certain faith-based charities in the District of Columbia, after receiving testimony from Senator Coats; Edward J. Eyring, Gospel Rescue Ministries of Washington, D.C., Hannah M. Hawkins, Children of Mine Center, Jim Till, Strategies to Elevate People, Amy Johnson, Neighborhood Learning Center, April Lassiter, The Initiative for Children, and Joe Loconte, Heritage Foundation, all of Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 1 resolution, H. Res. 440, was introduced. Page H3366

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 3433, to amend the Social Security Act to establish a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program in the Social Security Administration to provide beneficiaries with disabilities meaningful opportunities to return to work and to extend Medicare coverage for such beneficiaries, and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for impairment-related work expenses, amended (H. Rept. 105-537);

H.R. 2202, to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the bone marrow donor program, amended (H. Rept. 105-538); and

H. Con. Res. 171, declaring the memorial service sponsored by the National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Memorial Service Board of Directors to honor emergency medical services personnel to be the "National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service" (H. Rept. 105-539). Pages H3365-66

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Miller of Florida to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H3357

Advancement of Federal Law Enforcement Commission: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment on May 15th of Mr. Robert E. Sanders of Florida to the Commission on the Advancement of Federal Law Enforcement. Page H3357

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H3357.

Referral: S. 1525, to provide financial assistance for higher education to the dependents of Federal, State, and local public safety officers who are killed or permanently and totally disabled as the result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Page H3365

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

Adjournment: Met at 12:00 noon and adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No Committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 19, 1998

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

House

Committee on Commerce, Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials, hearing on H.R. 1689, Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1997, 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Medicare Billing: Savings Through Implementation of Commercial Software, 2 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on "Who Pays for the Rerun Teamsters' Election?" 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology, hearing on protecting Health Information: Legislative Options, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources, and Regulatory Affairs, to continue hearings on "The Kyoto Protocol: Is the Clinton-Gore Administration Selling Out Americans? Part II, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, oversight hearing on the State of Competition in the Airline Industry, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, hearing on the following: H.R. 2291, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1978 to enable the Secretary of the Interior to more effectively utilize the proceeds of sales of certain items; H.R. 3460, to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Republic of Latvia, and for other purposes; H.R. 3461, to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Republic of Poland; and H.R. 3647, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make technical corrections to a map relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 3839, Utah Schools and Lands Exchange Act of 1998, 9:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water and Power, hearing on H.R. 1212, Fall River Water Users District Rural Water System Act of 1997, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, to continue consideration of H.R. 3616, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998, 2:30 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing on Coast Guard Deepwater Capability Replacement Analysis, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on Child Support Enforcement, 3 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9 a.m., Tuesday, May 19

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 10 a.m.), Senate will continue consideration of S. 1415, Universal Tobacco Settlement Act.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 19

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of 11 Suspensions:

- (1) H.R. 3039, Veterans Transitional Housing Opportunities Act of 1998;
- (2) H.R. 3603, Authorizing Major Medical Facility Projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs;

(3) H.R. 1023, Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act of 1997;

(4) H.R. 2652, Collections of Information Antipiracy Act;

(5) H.R. 3718, Limiting the Jurisdiction of the Federal Courts with Respect to Prison Release Orders;

(6) H.R. 3809, Drug Free Borders Act of 1998;

(7) H.R. 1522, National Historic Preservation Fund Reauthorization;

(8) H.R. 2556, Wetlands and Wildlife Enhancement Act of 1997;

(9) H. Con. Res. 171, Honoring Emergency Medical Services Personnel who have Died in the Line of Duty;

(10) H.R. 2472, To Extend Certain Programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act; and

(11) H.R. 2202, National Bone Marrow Registry Reauthorization Act of 1998;

Consideration of H.R. 3534, Mandates Information Act of 1998 (Complete Consideration);

Consideration of H.R. 512, New Wildlife Refuge Authorization Act (Open Rule); and

Consideration of H.R. 3616, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (general debate only).

NOTE: The House will meet at 10:30 a.m. for morning hour and 12:00 noon for legislative business. No recorded votes are expected before 5:00 p.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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