

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Withdrawn: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:

Page S5019

Statements on Introduced Bills:

Pages S5019-22

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S5022-23

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.