

Tuesday, July 7, 1998

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S7525–S7619*

**Measures Introduced:** Seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2265–2271, and S. Con. Res. 107. **Page S7574**

**Measures Reported:** Reports were made as follows: S.J. Res. 44, A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of crime victims, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7574**

**VA/HUD Appropriations:** Senate resumed consideration of S. 2168, 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, 1999, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

**Pages S7538–65**

Pending:

Daschle Amendment No. 3063, to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage. **Pages S7562–63**

Rejected:

By 33 yeas to 66 nays (Vote No. 185), Bumpers Amendment No. 3062, to terminate the International Space Station program and provide additional funding for veterans and low-income housing. **Pages S7538–59, S7563–64**

**Product Liability:** Senate began consideration of S. 648, to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

**Pages S7525–34, S7565**

Pending:

Lott Amendment No. 3064, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7565**

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

By 71 yeas to 24 nays (Vote No. 184), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to close fur-

ther debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S7525–26**

A motion was entered to close further debate on Amendment No. 3064, listed above, and in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on the cloture motion will occur on Thursday, July 9, 1998. **Page S7565**

**IRS Reform—Conference Report:** Senate began consideration of the conference report on H.R. 2676, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restructure and reform the Internal Revenue Service. **Pages S7565–73**

Senate will continue consideration of the conference report on Wednesday, July 8, 1998.

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Sallyanne Harper, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Agency. **Pages S7610, S7619**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Carolyn H. Becraft, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Ruby Butler DeMesme, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

Patrick T. Henry, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

Bert T. Edwards, of Maryland, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of State.

Joseph H. Melrose, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Sierra Leone.

John Shattuck, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Czech Republic.

David G. Carpenter, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State.

David G. Carpenter, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Foreign Missions, and to have the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service.

Richard Henry Jones, of Nebraska, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Charles F. Kartman, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for the Korean Peace Talks.

Kathryn Dee Robinson, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ghana.

Robert Patrick John Finn, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tajikistan.

3 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

27 Army nominations in the rank of general.

7 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Public Health Service. **Pages S7611–19**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S7574**

**Measures Placed on Calendar:** **Page S7574**

**Communications:** **Page S7574**

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** **Pages S7574–80**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S7580–81**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S7584–S7605**

**Authority for Committees:** **Page S7605**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S7605–10**

**Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—185) **Pages S7526, S7564**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:27 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 8, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7611.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded hearings on S. 263, to prohibit the import, export, sale, purchase, possession, transportation, acquisition, and receipt of bear viscera or products that contain or claim to contain bear viscera, S. 361, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to prohibit the sale, import, and export of products labeled as containing endangered species, S. 659, to amend the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 to provide for implementation of recommendations of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service contained in the Great Lakes Fishery Restoration Study Report, S. 1970, to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds, S. 2094, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1978 to enable the Secretary of the Interior to more effectively use the proceeds of sales of certain items, S. 2244, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to promote volunteer programs and community partnerships for the benefit of national wildlife refuges, H.R. 2807, to amend the Rhinoceros and Tiger

Conservation Act of 1994 to prohibit the sale, importation, and exportation of products labeled as containing substances derived from rhinoceros or tiger, and H.R. 3113, to authorize funds through fiscal year 2004 for the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund, after receiving testimony from John Rogers, Deputy Director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Ginette Hemley, World Wildlife Fund, Wayne Pacelle, Humane Society of the United States, and Gary Taylor, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, all of Washington, D.C.; Kristin L. Vehrs, American Zoo and Aquarium Association, Bethesda, Maryland; Molly Krival, Ding Darling Wildlife Society, Sanibel, Florida; and Thomas Crane, Great Lakes Commission, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

### U.S.-VIETNAM EMIGRATION WAIVER

*Committee on Finance:* Subcommittee on International Trade held hearings on S.J. Res. 47, disapproving the recommendation of the President to extend the authority to waive freedom of emigration requirements in the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Vietnam, receiving testimony from Senators Helms, Kerry, McCain, and Smith; Stanley O. Roth, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Richard T. Childress, former Director of Asian Affairs, National Security Council; Bruce Harter, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and Frances Zwenig, United States-Vietnam Trade Council, both of Washington, D.C.; and Nguyen Dinh Thang, Boat People, S.O.S., Merrifield, Virginia, on behalf of the Vietnamese Community of Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia, and the Coalition Against the Jackson-Vanik Waiver for Vietnam.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

### SSI CHILDHOOD DISABILITY BENEFITS

*Committee on Finance:* Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy held oversight hearings on the Social Security Administration's implementation of the new eligibility criteria for childhood disability benefits under the Supplemental Security Income program set forth by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (P.L. 104–193), receiving testimony from Kenneth S. Apfel, Commissioner, Social Security Administration; Jonathan M. Stein, Community Legal Services, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Dawn Wardyga, Family Voices of Rhode Island, Barrington; Michael Brennan, National Council of Directors of Disability Determinations, Lincoln, Nebraska; Robert E. Cooke, Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, Washington, D.C.; Laurie Humphries, Lexington, Kentucky, on