

Tuesday, July 14, 1998

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

House Committee ordered reported the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations for fiscal year 1999.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S8087-S8160*

**Measures Introduced:** Eleven bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2296-2306. **Page S8135**

#### Measures Passed:

**Tropical Forest Conservation Act:** Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2870, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to facilitate protection of tropical forests through debt reduction with developing countries with tropical forests, and the bill was then passed, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 1758, Senate companion measure, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto:

**Pages S8152-59**

Roberts (for Helms) Amendment No. 3148, to make technical and clarifying corrections.

**Pages S8155-57**

Subsequently, S. 1758 was placed back on the Senate Calendar.

**Page S8157**

**Congressional Gold Medal:** Senate passed H.R. 3156, to present a congressional gold medal to Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, clearing the measure for the President.

**Page S8159**

**Agriculture Appropriations, 1999:** Senate resumed consideration of S. 2159, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

**Page S8091**

#### Adopted:

Cochran Amendment No. 3128, to provide additional funding for the Agricultural Research Service, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, and the Rural Community Advance-

ment Program, to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Protection Act by eliminating the surcharge on the administrative fee for fiscal year 1999, and to restrict the Wetlands Reserve Program's new acreage enrollment in fiscal year 1999.

**Pages S8094-95**

Cochran/Bumpers Amendment No. 3129, to make a technical correction.

**Page S8095**

Cochran/Bumpers Amendment No. 3130, to transfer funding for credit sales of acquired property to subsidize the cost of additional farm ownership loans.

**Page S8095**

Bumpers Amendment No. 3131, to establish a personnel management demonstration project in the Department of Agriculture.

**Pages S8095-96**

Cochran (for D'Amato/Sarbanes) Amendment No. 3132, to extend for one year existing housing programs administered by the Rural Housing Service.

**Pages S8096-97**

Cochran (for Graham) Amendment No. 3133, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a review of methyl bromide alternatives research.

**Page S8097**

Cochran (for Gramm/Hutchison) Amendment No. 3134, to express the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of Agriculture should take certain actions to provide timely assistance to Texas agricultural producers that are experiencing worsening drought conditions.

**Pages S8097-98**

Cochran (for Lugar) Amendment No. 3135, to amend the Wetlands Reserve Program by exempting thirty year easements from payment limitations, and to clarify the interpretation of "Maximum Extent Practicable" regarding the Wetlands Reserve Program enrollment goal.

**Page S8098**

Cochran (for Lugar) Amendment No. 3136, to make technical corrections to the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998.

**Pages S8098-99**

Cochran (for Robb) Amendment No. 3137, to reform agricultural credit programs of the Department of Agriculture.

**Page S8099**

**Pending:**

Daschle (for Harkin/Daschle) Modified Amendment No. 3127, to express the sense of the Senate that emergency action is necessary to respond to the economic hardships facing agricultural producers and their communities. **Pages S8093–94, S8100–23, S8128**

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

By 43 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 198), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive the Congressional Budget Act with respect to consideration of Daschle Amendment No. 2729, to reform and structure 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. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Pages S8091–92**

A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for further consideration of Amendment No. 3127, listed above, on Wednesday, July 15, 1998, with a vote on a motion to table the amendment to occur thereon. **Page S8129**

**Agriculture Export Relief:** Senate concurred in the amendment of the House to S. 2282, to amend the Arms Export Control Act, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S8152**

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

Transmitting the report concerning the Comprehensive National Energy Strategy; referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (PM–142). **Page S8133**

Transmitting the annual report on Federal Advisory Committees for fiscal year 1997; referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs. (PM–143). **Page S8133**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations: Bill Richardson, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of Energy. **Page S8160**

**Messages From the President:** **Page S8133**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S8133**

**Communications:** **Pages S8134–35**

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** **Pages S8135–38**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S8138–39**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S8139–49**

**Notices of Hearings:** **Page S8149**

**Authority for Committees:** **Page S8149**

**Additional Statements:****Pages S8149–52**

**Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—199) **Pages S8092, S8128**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:05 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Wednesday, July 15, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S8159–60.)

**Committee Meetings***(Committees not listed did not meet)***APPROPRIATIONS: TRANSPORTATION/  
TREASURY/POSTAL SERVICE**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999; and

An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Treasury, United States Postal Service, Executive Office of the President, and certain independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 2279, to authorize funds for fiscal years 1999 through 2002 for programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 268, to promote air safety and restore or preserve natural quiet in national parks by establishing minimum flight altitudes and prohibiting overflights below such minimum altitudes in any national park, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 1353, to provide assistance and slots with respect to air carrier service between high density airports and airports that do not receive sufficient air service, and to improve jet aircraft service to underserved markets, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

**PUERTO RICO**

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee resumed hearings on H.R. 856, to provide a process leading to full self-government for Puerto Rico, and S. 472, to provide for referenda in which the residents of Puerto Rico may express democratically their preferences regarding the political status of the territory, receiving testimony from Puerto Rico Attorney General Jose A. Fuentes-Agostini, Puerto