

Tuesday, July 21, 1998

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed Legislative Branch Appropriations.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8595–S8688

Measures Introduced: Eight bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2332–2339. **Page S8658**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

Report to accompany S. 1301, Consumer Bankruptcy Reform Act. (S. Rept. No. 105–253)

S. 2333, making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes. (S. Rept. No. 105–254)

S. 2334, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999. (S. Rept. No. 105–255)

S. 2206, to amend the Head Start Act, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, and the Community Services Block Grant Act to reauthorize and make improvements to those Acts, to establish demonstration projects that provide an opportunity for persons with limited means to accumulate assets, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 105–256)

H.R. 1836, to amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to improve administration of sanctions against unfit health care providers under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 105–257)

Pages S8657–58

Measures Passed:

Legislative Branch Appropriations, 1999: By 90 yeas to 9 nays (Vote No. 214), Senate passed H.R. 4112, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, as amended. **Pages S8600–01, S8687**

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

By 83 yeas to 16 nays (Vote 213), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to close further debate on the bill. **Page S8600**

Subsequently, McCain Amendment No. 3225, to make available on the Internet, for purposes of access and retrieval by the public, certain information available through the Congressional Research Service web site, was ruled out of order as being non-germane when cloture was invoked. **Pages S8600–01**

Senate insisted on its amendments, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Bennett, Stevens, Craig, Cochran, Dorgan, Boxer, and Byrd. **Page S8687**

Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 1999: Senate resumed consideration of S. 2260, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: **Pages S8604–53**

Adopted:

Coats Amendment No. 3227, to establish a prohibition on commercial distribution on the World Wide Web of material that is harmful to minors. **Pages S8610–14**

McCain Amendment No. 3228 (to Amendment No. 3227), to direct the Federal Communications Commission to study systems for filtering or blocking matter on the Internet, and to require the installation of such system on computers in schools and libraries with Internet access. **Pages S8610–14**

McCain/Burns Modified Amendment No. 3229, to promote competition in the market for delivery of multichannel video programming. **Pages S8615–16, S8639–40**

By 72 yeas to 28 nays (Vote No. 215), Craig/Hatch Amendment No. 3238, to provide for firearms safety. **Pages S8631–34**

Smith, of New Hampshire, Amendment No. 3233, to require the destruction of information submitted by or on behalf of any person who has been determined not to be prohibited from owning a firearm, and to prohibit the use of funds for the implementation of a gun tax. **Pages S8625–26, S8635–38**

By 69 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. 217), Smith, of New Hampshire, Amendment No. 3234 (to Amendment No. 3233), of a perfecting nature.

Pages S8625–26, S8635–38

Durbin Modified Amendment No. 3240, to prohibit foreign nationals admitted to the United States under a nonimmigrant visa from possessing a firearm. **Pages S8640–42**

Rejected:

Boxer/Kohl Amendment No. 3230, to improve the safety of handguns by requiring child safety locks. (By 61 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 216), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S8616–25, S8627–29, S8631–35

Withdrawn:

Boxer Amendment No. 3231 (to Amendment No. 3230), of a perfecting nature.

Pages S8616–25, S8627–31

Lott motion to commit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report back forthwith in status quo with a Lott Amendment No. 3235, to provide for firearms safety, and the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S8629, S8631**

Lott Amendment No. 3236 (to the instructions), to provide for firearms safety. (The amendment fell when the motion to commit was withdrawn)

Pages S8629–31

Lott Amendment No. 3237 (to Amendment No. 3236), of a perfecting nature. (The amendment fell when the motion to commit was withdrawn)

Pages S8630–31

Pending:

Bumpers Modified Amendment No. 3243, to amend the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, relating to counsel for witnesses in grand jury proceedings.

Pages S8644–48

Graham/DeWine Amendment No. 3244, to modify the definition of the term "public aircraft".

Pages S8650–52

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the pending amendments on Wednesday, July 22, 1998, with votes to occur thereon.

Pages S8645–46

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

Transmitting the report concerning the national emergency with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East Peace Process; referred to

the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-146). **Page S8656**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Thomasina V. Rogers, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring April 27, 2003.

Ritajeon Hartung Butterworth, of Washington, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2004.

Bernard Daniel Rostker, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Army.

John Melvin Yates, of Washington, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador of the United States of America to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea.

Robert C. Randolph, of Washington, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Agency for International Development.

Sylvia M. Mathews, of West Virginia, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

James A. Tassone, of Florida, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Florida for the term of four years.

Scott Richard Lassar, of Illinois, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

Leigh A. Bradley, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

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Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of the withdrawal of the following nominations:

Thomasina V. Rogers, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 27, 2001, which was sent to the Senate on June 24, 1998.

Bernard Daniel Rostker, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, which was sent to the Senate on April 2, 1998. **Pages S8687–88**

Messages From the President: **Page S8656**

Messages From the House: **Pages S8656–57**

Measures Referred: **Page S8657**

Measures Placed on Calendar: **Page S8657**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S8658–76**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S8676–77**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S8677–83**

Notices of Hearings: **Pages S8683–84**

Authority for Committees: Page S8684

Additional Statements: Pages S8684–87

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—217) Pages S8600–01, S8634–35, S8638

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9 a.m., and adjourned at 8:55 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 22, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8687)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—FOREIGN ASSISTANCE/ DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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

An original bill (S. 2333) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999; and

An original bill (S. 2334) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to consider pending nominations, but made no announcements, and will meet again tomorrow.

MONETARY POLICY

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine the Federal Reserve's monetary policy and economic outlook report to Congress, after receiving testimony from Alan Greenspan, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

PERSONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded hearings to examine the administration of proposed personal savings accounts within the Social Security system, after receiving testimony from Francis X. Cavanaugh, former Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board; James S. Phalen, State Street Bank and Trust Company, Boston, Massachusetts; and Fred T. Goldberg, Jr., Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, Washington, D.C.

DISCRETIONARY FUNDING PROGRAMS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded hearings to examine the process by which the Department of Commerce and De-

partment of Transportation distribute financial assistance or discretionary funds to states, municipalities, and other eligible entities, after receiving testimony from Kenneth M. Mead, Inspector General, and Kenneth R. Wykle, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, both of the Department of Transportation; and Johnnie E. Frazier, Acting Inspector General, and W. Scott Gould, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration, both of the Department of Commerce.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill to encourage increased trade and economic cooperation between the United States and sub-Saharan African countries, to extend duty-free treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences, to extend preferential treatment to certain products imported from Caribbean Basin countries, to extend tariff proclamation authority and fast track procedures for congressional consideration of certain trade agreements, to extend certain trade adjustment assistance programs, to bolster United States efforts to eliminate barriers to American agricultural exports, to approve and implement the OECD Shipbuilding Trade Agreement, to extend permanent normal trade relations tariff treatment to imports from Mongolia, and to reduce or suspend duties on imports of certain types of wool fabric in order to correct an inversion in the tariff schedule. (As approved by the committee, the bill incorporates certain provisions of S. 219, S. 343, S. 1216, S. 1269, S. 1278, S. 1457, S. 2047, and H.R. 1432.)

CONTRACEPTIVE INSURANCE COVERAGE

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee concluded hearings on S. 766, to require equitable coverage of prescription contraceptive drugs and devices and contraceptive services under health plans, after receiving testimony from Senators Snowe and Reid; Maryland State Delegate Sharon Grosfeld, Kensington; and Gloria Feldt, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, and Richard H. Schwarz, New York Methodist Hospital, on behalf of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, both of New York, New York.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Scott E. Thomas, of the District of Columbia, David M. Mason, of Virginia, Darryl R. Wold, of California, and Karl J. Sandstrom, of Washington, each to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Mr. Wold was introduced by Representative Thomas.