

Thursday, September 3, 1998

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed Treasury/Postal Service Appropriations, 1999.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S9901–S9945

Measures Introduced: Four bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2436–2439, and S. Res. 271. Pages S9939–40

Treasury/Postal Service Appropriations, 1999: By 91 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. 260), Senate passed H.R. 4101, making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 2312, Senate companion measure, as amended, and after taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: Pages S9912–16

Adopted:

McConnell Amendment No. 3379, to provide for appointment and term length for the staff director and general counsel of the Federal Election Commission. Page S9912

Glenn Amendment No. 3380, to provide additional funding for enforcement activities of the Federal Election Commission. Page S9913

Campbell (for Grassley) Amendment No. 3386, to protect Federal law enforcement officers who intervene in certain situations to protect life or prevent bodily injury. Page S9913

Withdrawn:

Graham/Mack Amendment No. 3381, to provide funding for the Central Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area. Page S9913

Harkin Amendment No. 3387, to provide additional funding to reduce methamphetamine usage in High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas. Page S9913

Kohl (for Kerrey) Amendment No. 3389, to express the sense of the Senate regarding payroll tax relief. Page S9913

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

Amendment No. 3356, to require the Administrator of General Services to acquire a lease for the Department of Transportation headquarters and to provide additional funding for security for the Capitol complex, agreed to on July 28, 1998, was modified. Page S9913

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Campbell, Shelby, Faircloth, Stevens, Kohl, Mikulski, and Byrd. Page S9916

Subsequently, S. 2312 was indefinitely postponed. Page S9916

American Missile Protection Act—Cloture Filed:

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1873, to state the policy of the United States regarding the deployment of a missile defense system capable of defending the United States against limited ballistic missile attack, and by unanimous-consent agreement, the vote on the cloture motion will occur on Wednesday, September 9, 1998. Pages S9916–17

Consumer Bankruptcy Reform Act—Cloture Filed:

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1301, to amend title 11 United States Code, to provide for consumer bankruptcy protection, with a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and by unanimous-consent agreement, the vote on the cloture motion will occur on Wednesday, September 9, 1998. Page S9917

Appointments:

Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, after consultation with the democratic leader, pursuant to Public Law 93–415, as amended by Public Law 102–586, announced the appointment of Robert H. Maxwell, of Mississippi,

to serve a one-year term on the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Joseph Swerdzewski, of Colorado, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years.

Pamela A. Ferguson, of Iowa, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2004.

Anita K. Jones, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2004.

Robert C. Richardson, of New York, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2004.

5 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard.

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Communications:

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Petitions:

Pages S9938–39

Statements on Introduced Bills:

Pages S9940–41

Additional Cosponsors:

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Amendments Submitted:

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Notices of Hearings:

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Authority for Committees:

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Additional Statements:

Pages S9942–45

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—250).

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Recess: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and recessed at 6:24 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Friday, September 4, 1998, for a pro forma session.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999.

IRAQ INSPECTION SITES

Committee on Armed Services/Committee on Foreign Relations: Committees held joint hearings to examine United States policy with regard to United Nations inspections of Iraqi chemical sites, receiving testimony from William S. Ritter, Jr., former member of

the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) Inspection Team.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded hearings to examine Department of Energy low-level radioactive waste disposal practices, after receiving testimony from Mary Ann Sullivan, General Counsel, and Jim Owendoff, Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, both of the Department of Energy; Karen Cyr, General Counsel, Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Jack K. Lemley, American Ecology Corporation, Boise, Idaho; Charles A. Judd, Envirocare of Utah, Inc., Salt Lake City; Earl E. Hoelien, International Uranium U.S.A. Corporation, Denver, Colorado; and Eric Peus, Waste Control Specialists, Inc., Pasadena, Texas.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded hearings on the nomination of Susan G. Esserman, of Maryland, to be Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Graham, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1999 for the United States Customs Service, focusing on its role in the protection of U.S. borders and the facilitation of trade, after receiving testimony from James E. Johnson, Under Secretary for Enforcement, and Raymond W. Kelly, Commissioner, U.S. Customs Service, both of the Department of the Treasury; George J. Weise, Washington, D.C., former Commissioner of Customs; Jerry Cook, Sara Lee Knit Products, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; James D. Phillips, Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance, Lewiston, New York; and Ronald D. Schoof, Caterpillar Inc., Peoria, Illinois, on behalf of the Joint Industry Group.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Patricia A. Broderick, Natalia Combs Greene, and Neal E. Kravitz, each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Mr. Kravitz was introduced by Senator Sarbanes.