

3345 through 3349 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the "Vacancies Act") to clarify statutory requirements relating to vacancies in and appointments to certain Federal offices.

Pages S11021–39

Higher Education Authorizations Conference Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the conference report on H.R. 6, to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, on Tuesday, September 29, 1998, with a vote to occur thereon.

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Defense Appropriations Conference Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the conference report on H.R. 4103, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, on Tuesday, September 29, 1998, with a vote to occur thereon

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Treaty Approved: The following treaty having passed through its various parliamentary stages, up to and including the presentation of the resolution of ratification, upon division, two-thirds of the Senators present and having voted in the affirmative, the resolution of ratification was agreed to, with one declaration and two provisos:

Montreal Protocol No. 4 (formerly Treaty Doc. Ex. B, 95–1)

Pages S11059–62

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

Transmitting the annual report of the Railroad Retirement Board for fiscal year 1997; referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources. (PM–160).

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Carl J. Barbier, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Gerald Bruce Lee, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Patricia A. Seitz, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Steven Robert Mann, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkmenistan.

Elizabeth Davenport McKune, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the State of Qatar.

Melissa Foelsch Wells, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia.

Richard E. Hecklinger, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand.

Theodore H. Kattouf, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates.

William B. Traxler, Jr., of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit.

Robert M. Walker, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Pages S11059, S11068

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Alex R. Munson, of the Northern Mariana Islands, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands for a term of ten years.

Edward J. Damich, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Nancy B. Firestone, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Emily Clark Hewitt, of Massachusetts, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

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Messages From the President:

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Messages From the House:

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Measures Read First Time:

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Communications:

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Statements on Introduced Bills:

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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:

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Record Votes: One record vote was taken today (Total—289)

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Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon, and adjourned at 6:49 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Tuesday, September 29, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S11068.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEFENSE FINANCE CONTROLS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts concluded oversight hearings to examine the effectiveness of financial controls at the Department of Defense, focusing on recent internal fraudulent activities, after receiving testimony from Sharon A. Brown, Joseph A. Wise, and Otas J. Horn, each a Systems Accountant, Air Force Material Command, Wendell L. Jones, Auditor, Air Force Audit Agency, Jeffrey C. Steinhoff, Director of Planning and Reporting, and

Gayle L. Fischer, Assistant Director of Defense Audits, both of the Accounting and Information Management Division, General Accounting Office, John S. Nabil, Director, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, and A. Ernest Fitzgerald, Management Systems Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

WENDELL H. FORD GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS REFORM ACT

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 2288, to provide for the reform and continuing legislative oversight of the production, procurement, dissemination, and permanent public access of the Government's publications, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 5 public bills, H.R. 4650–4654, and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 557–559, were introduced. Page H9178

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 494, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to the treatment of crops destroyed by casualty (H. Rept. 105–751);

H.R. 2943, to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the amount of leave time available to a Federal employee in any year in connection with serving as an organ donor (H. Rept. 105–752);

H.R. 1608, to authorize the Pyramid of Remembrance Foundation to establish a memorial in the District of Columbia or its environs to soldiers who have died in foreign conflicts other than declared wars (H. Rept. 105–753); and

H. Res. 558, waiving a requirement of clause 4(b) of rule XI with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 105–754); and

H.R. 633, to amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to provide that the annuities of certain special agents and security personnel of the Department of State be computed in the same way as applies generally with respect to Federal law enforcement officers (H. Rept. 105–755 part 1). Page H9178

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Petri to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H9085

Recess: The House recessed at 11:12 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. Page H9090

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Nutria Eradication and Control Pilot Program: H.R. 4337, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the State of Maryland for a pilot program to develop measures to

eradicate or control nutria and restore marshland damaged by nutria; Pages H9092–93

Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Promotion Act: H.R. 4248, amended, to authorize the use of receipts from the sale of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps to promote additional stamp purchases; Pages H9094–95

Energy Conservation Reauthorization Act: H.R. 4017, amended, to extend energy conservation programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act through September 30, 2002. Subsequently, S. 417 was passed in lieu after being amended to contain the text of H.R. 4017. Agreed to amend the title. H.R. 4017 was laid upon the table; Pages H9096–H9104

Hydroelectric Project in Arkansas: H.R. 4081, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Arkansas; Pages H9104–05

Africa: Seeds of Hope Act: H.R. 4283, to support sustainable and road-based agricultural and rural development in sub-Saharan Africa; Pages H9105–10

Designating Sidney R. Yates Federal Building: H.R. 4595, amended, to redesignate a Federal building located in Washington, D.C., as the “Sidney R. Yates Federal Building”. Agreed to amend the title; Pages H9117–18

Designating Richard C. White Federal Building: H.R. 3598, to designate the Federal building located at 700 East San Antonio Street in El Paso, Texas, as the “Richard C. White Federal Building”; Pages H9118–19

Designating Jere Cooper Federal Building: H.R. 2730, to designate the Federal building located at 309 North Church Street in Dyersburg, Tennessee, as the “Jere Cooper Federal Building”; Pages H9119–20

Designating Thurgood Marshall United States Courthouse: H.R. 2187, to designate the United