

Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to Agriculture Appropriations, 1999 Conference Report.
The House agreed to the conference report on H.R. 4194, VA, HUD
Appropriations.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S11529–S11642

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2552–2562, S. Con. Res. 124, and S. Res. 288. Page S11582

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

S. 1404, to establish a Federal Commission on Statistical Policy to study the reorganization of the Federal statistical system, to provide uniform safeguards for the confidentiality of information acquired for exclusively statistical purposes, and to improve the efficiency of Federal statistical programs and the quality of Federal statistics by permitting limited sharing of records among designated agencies for statistical purposes under strong safeguards, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 105–367)

Report to accompany S. 2117, to authorize the construction of the Perkins County Rural Water System and authorize financial assistance to the Perkins County Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, in the planning and construction of the water supply system. (S. Rept. No. 105–368)

Report to accompany S. 744, to authorize the construction of the Fall River Water Users District Rural Water System and authorize financial assistance to the Fall River Water Users District, a nonprofit corporation, in the planning and construction of the water supply system. (S. Rept. No. 105–369)

Report to accompany S. 736, to convey certain real property within the Carlsbad Project in New Mexico to the Carlsbad Irrigation District. (S. Rept. No. 105–370)

S. 2238, to reform unfair and anticompetitive practices in the professional boxing industry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 105–371)

Report to accompany S. 2151, to clarify Federal law to prohibit the dispensing or distribution of a controlled substance for the purpose of causing, or assisting in causing, the suicide, euthanasia, or mercy killing of any individual. (S. Rept. No. 105–372)

S. 2402, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands in San Juan County, New Mexico, to San Juan College, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2413, to provide for the development of a management plan for the Woodland Lake Park tract in Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest in the State of Arizona reflecting the current use of the tract as a public park, with amendments.

S. 2458, to amend the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the creation of the Morristown National Historical Park in the State of New Jersey, and for other purposes” to authorize the acquisition of property known as the “Warren Property”.

S. 2513, to transfer administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land located within or adjacent to Rogue River National Forest and to clarify the authority of the Bureau of Land Management to sell and exchange other Federal land in Oregon.

Pages S11581–82

Measures Passed:

Reading Excellence Act: Senate passed H.R. 2614, to improve the reading and literacy skills of children and families by improving in-service instructional practices for teachers who teach reading, to stimulate the development of more high-quality family literacy programs, to support extended learning-time opportunities for children, and to ensure that children can read well and independently not later than third grade, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S11533–39

Jeffords Amendment No. 3740, in the nature of a substitute. Pages S11536–39

Judicial Anti-Nepotism: Senate passed S. 1892, to provide that a person closely related to a judge of a court exercising judicial power under article III of the United States Constitution (other than the Supreme Court) may not be appointed as a judge of the same court. Pages S11578–79

Library of Congress Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3790, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Library of Congress, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. Page S11638

Consumer Reporting Employment Clarification Act: Senate passed S. 2561, to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act with respect to furnishing and using consumer reports for employment purposes. Pages S11638–39

Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Promotion Act: Senate passed H.R. 4248, to authorize the use of receipts from the sale of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps to promote additional stamp purchases, clearing the measure for the President. Page S11639

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Authorization: Senate passed S. 2095, to reauthorize and amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act, after withdrawing the committee amendments and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: Pages S11639–42

Snowe (for Chafee) Amendment No. 3749, in the nature of a substitute. Pages S11640–41

Agriculture Appropriations, 1999—Conference Report: By 55 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 298), Senate agreed to the conference report on H.R. 4101, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, clearing the measure for the President. Pages S11545–69

Internet Tax Freedom Act: Senate resumed consideration of S. 442, to establish a national policy against State and local government interference with interstate commerce on the Internet or interactive computer services, and to exercise Congressional jurisdiction over interstate commerce by establishing a moratorium on the imposition of exactions that would interfere with the free flow of commerce via the Internet, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: Pages S11572–77

Adopted:

McCain (for Frist) Amendment No. 3743, authorizing funds for a grant to Portland State University in Portland, Oregon, to establish the Oregon Institute of Public Service and Constitutional Studies at the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government. Page S11577

Rejected:

Graham Amendment No. 3729, to require a supermajority of both Houses to extend the moratorium. (By 83 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. 299), Senate tabled the amendment.) Pages S11572–75

Bumpers/Graham Amendment No. 3742, to require persons selling tangible personal property via the Internet to disclose to purchasers that they may be subject to State and local sales and use taxes on the purchases. (By 71 yeas to 27 nays (Vote No. 300), Senate tabled the amendment.) Pages S11575–76

Senate will vote on a motion to close further debate on the bill on Wednesday, October 7, 1998.

VA/HUD Appropriations, 1999 Conference Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the conference report on H.R. 4194, making appropriations for Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, with a vote to occur thereon. Page S11642

Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the nomination of William A. Fletcher, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, with a vote to occur thereon, and to consider the nominations of H. Dean Buttram, Jr., and Inge Prytz Johnson, each to be a United States District Judge of the Northern District of Alabama, and Robert Bruce King, of West Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit. Page S11577

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Kay Kelley Arnold, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2004.

Donnie R. Marshall, of Texas, to be Deputy Administrator of Drug Enforcement.

Jose Antonio Perez, of California, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of California for the term of four years. Page S11642

Messages From the House: Pages S11580–81

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S11582

Statements on Introduced Bills: Pages S11582–85

Additional Cosponsors: Page S11586
Amendments Submitted: Pages S11588–S11629
Authority for Committees: Pages S11629–30
Additional Statements: Pages S11630–38
Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—300) Pages S11569, S11575–76
Recess: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and recessed at 7:14 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, October 7, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S11642.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NATIONAL SECURITY

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded hearings to examine worldwide threats facing the United States and potential United States operational and contingency requirements, after receiving testimony from William S. Cohen, Secretary of Defense; and Gen. Henry H. Shelton, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ACT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded hearings on S. 2178, to amend the National Housing Act to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to insure mortgages for the acquisition, construction, or substantial rehabilitation of child care and development facilities and to establish the Children's Development Commission to certify such facilities for such insurance, after receiving testimony from Senator Kohl; Representatives Maloney and Baker; Mildred Kiefer Wurf, on behalf of the Girls Incorporated and the National Collaboration for Youth, and Melinda Green, National Black Child Development Institute, both of Washington, D.C.; Faith Wohl, Child Care Action Campaign, New York, New York; and Cheryl Luce, Boothwyn, Pennsylvania.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

The nominations of David Micaela, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health, and Rose Eileen Gottemoeller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Non-Proliferation and National Security, both of the Department of Energy, and Eljay B. Bowron, of Michigan, to be Inspector General, Department of the Interior;

S. 2402, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands in San Juan County, New Mexico, to San Juan College, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2413, to provide for the development of a management plan for the Woodland Lake Park tract in Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest in the State of Arizona reflecting the current use of the tract as a public park, with amendments;

S. 2513, to transfer administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land located within or adjacent to Rogue River National Forest and to clarify the authority of the Bureau of Land Management to sell and exchange other Federal land in Oregon; and

S. 2458, to amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the creation of the Morristown National Historical Park in the State of New Jersey, and for other purposes" to authorize the acquisition of property known as the "Warren Property".

ACID DEPOSITION CONTROL

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property and Nuclear Safety concluded hearings on S. 1097, to reduce acid deposition under the Clean Air Act, after receiving testimony from Senator D'Amato; Representative Solomon; Brian J. McLean, Director, Acid Rain Division, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency; Edward Kropp, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Charleston; Bernard Melewski, Adirondack Council, Albany, New York; and William F. Tyn dall, Cinergy Corporation, Cincinnati, Ohio.

BALLISTIC MISSILE THREAT

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings to examine a report on the nature and extent of the existing and emerging ballistic missile threat to the United States, after receiving testimony from Donald H. Rumsfeld, former Secretary of Defense, Barry M. Blechman, former Assistant Director for Weapons Evaluation and Control, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and William Robert Graham, former Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, and former Deputy Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, all on behalf of the Commission to Assess the Ballistic Missile Threat to the United States (Rumsfeld Commission).

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded hearings on the nomination of Sylvia M. Mathews, of West Virginia, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Byrd and