

Wednesday, March 17, 1999

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed National Missile Defense Act and FAA Authorization Bills.

The House passed H.R. 975, to provide for a reduction in the volume of steel imports and to establish a steel import notification and monitoring program.

The House passed H.R. 820, Coast Guard Authorization Act.

House Committees ordered reported 15 sundry measures, including the Fiscal Year 2000 Budget Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2787-S2880

Measures Introduced: Eighteen bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 638-655, S.J. Res. 14, S. Res. 64-68, and S. Con. Res. 18-19.

Pages S2840-41

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

S. 243, 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. 106-18)

S. 291, to convey certain real property within the Carlsbad Project in New Mexico to the Carlsbad Irrigation District. (S. Rept. No. 106-19)

S. 292, to preserve the cultural resources of the Route 66 corridor and to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance. (S. Rept. No. 106-20)

S. 356, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain works, facilities, and titles of the Gila Project, and designated lands within or adjacent to the Gila Project, to the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District. (S. Rept. No. 106-21)

S. 366, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro as a National Historic Trail, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 106-22)

S. 382, to establish the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota. (S. Rept. No. 106-23)

H.R. 171, to authorize appropriations for the Coastal Heritage Trail Route in New Jersey. (S. Rept. No. 106-24)

H.R. 193, to designate a portion of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. (S. Rept. No. 106-25)

H.R. 92, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 251 North Main Street in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, as the "Hiram H. Ward Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

H.R. 158, to designate the Federal Courthouse located at 316 North 26th Street in Billings, Montana, as the "James F. Battin Federal Courthouse".

H.R. 233, to designate the Federal building located at 700 East San Antonio Street in El Paso, Texas, as the "Richard C. White Federal Building".

H.R. 396, to designate the Federal building located at 1301 Clay Street in Oakland, California, as the "Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building".

S. 67, to designate the headquarters building of the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, District of Columbia, as the "Robert C. Weaver Federal Building".

S. 272, to designate the Federal building located at 1301 Clay Street in Oakland, California, as the "Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building".

S. 392, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at West 920 Riverside Avenue in Spokane, Washington, as the "Thomas S. Foley Federal Building and United States Courthouse", and the plaza at the south entrance of

that building and courthouse as the “Walter F. Horan Plaza”.

S. 437, to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 338 Las Vegas Boulevard South in Las Vegas, Nevada, as the “Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse”.

S. 453, to designate the Federal building located at 709 West 9th Street in Juneau, Alaska, as the “Hurff A. Saunders Federal Building”.

S. 460, to designate the United States courthouse located at 401 South Michigan Street in South Bend, Indiana, as the “Robert K. Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy Courthouse”.

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Measures Passed:

National Missile Defense Act: By 97 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 51), Senate passed S. 257, entitled “The Cochran-Inouye National Missile Defense Act of 1999”, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: Pages S2792–S2820

Withdrawn:

Bingaman Amendment No. 74, to provide for the policy of the United States that a decision to deploy a National Missile Defense system shall be made only after the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation of the Department of Defense, has determined that the system has demonstrated operational effectiveness.

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Harkin Amendment No. 75, to provide for a comparative study of relevant current and emerging national security threats to the United States.

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Federal Aviation Administration Authorization: By a unanimous vote of 100 yeas (Vote No. 52), Senate passed S. 643, to authorize the Airport Improvement Program for 2 months, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S2821–25

McCain (for Warner/McCain/Robb) Amendment No. 76, to release \$30,000,000 of the funds available to the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority for passenger facility fee/airport development projects.

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Federal Aviation Administration Authorization: By unanimous consent, Senate passed H.R. 99, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend Federal Aviation Administration programs through September 30, 1999, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 643, Senate companion measure, as amended.

Page S2825

Good Friday Peace Agreement: Senate agreed to S. Res. 64, recognizing the historic significance of

the first anniversary of the Good Friday Peace Agreement.

Pages S2836–37

Legal Representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 65, to authorize testimony, document production, and legal representation in *Dirk S. Dixon, et al. v. Bruce Pearson, et al.*

Pages S2877–78

Legal Representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 66, to authorize testimony, documentary production, and representation of employees of the Senate in *United States v. Yah Lin “Charlie” Trie.*

Pages S2877–78

Legal Representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 67, to authorize representation of Secretary of the Senate in the case of *Bob Schaffer, et al. v. William Jefferson Clinton, et al.*

Pages S2877–78

Emergency Supplemental Appropriations: Senate began consideration of S. 544, making emergency supplemental appropriations and rescissions for recovery from natural disasters, and foreign assistance, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, taking action on the following amendment:

Pages S2826–36

Pending:

Specter Amendment No. 77, to permit the Secretary of Health and Human Services to waive recoupment of Federal government medicaid claims to tobacco-related State settlements if a State uses a portion of those funds for programs to reduce the use of tobacco products, to improve the public health, and to assist in the economic diversification of tobacco farming communities.

Pages S2828–36

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the bill, the pending Specter Amendment No. 77, and an amendment relative to Kosovo to be proposed to the bill, on Thursday, March 18, 1999, with a vote to occur on or in relation to the Specter Amendment No. 77 at 11 a.m.

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Nomination Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the Committee on Governmental Affairs to continue consideration of David C. Williams, of Maryland, to be Inspector General for Tax Administration, Department of the Treasury through Tuesday, April 6, 1999, and if not reported, the Committee on Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration, and the nomination be placed on the Executive Calendar.

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Phyllis K. Fong, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Small Business Administration.

T. J. Glauthier, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Energy.

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| Messages From the House: | Pages S2838–39 |
| Measures Referred: | Page S2839 |
| Measures Placed on Calendar: | Page S2839 |
| Communications: | Pages S2839–40 |
| Statements on Introduced Bills: | Pages S2841–65 |
| Additional Cosponsors: | Pages S2868–69 |
| Amendments Submitted: | Pages S2872–73 |
| Notices of Hearings: | Page S2873 |
| Authority for Committees: | Pages S2873–74 |
| Additional Statements: | Pages S2874–77 |
| Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—52) | Pages S2820, S2824 |

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 6:52 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, March 18, 1999. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2880.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CROP INSURANCE REFORM

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded hearings to examine the nature of risk management in agriculture and federal crop insurance programs, after receiving testimony from Ken Ackerman, Administrator, Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture; Phil Cyre, Hazel, South Dakota, on behalf of the National Farmers Union; Dean Kleckner, American Farm Bureau Federation, and Roger Swartz, Crop Insurance Research Bureau, both of Park Ridge, Illinois; Kyle Phillips, Iowa Corn Growers Association, Knoxville; Allen Helms, American Cotton Producers, Clarkedale, Arkansas, on behalf of the National Cotton Council; Marc Curtis, American Soybean Association, Leland, Mississippi; Mike Miller, American Association of Crop Insurers, Topeka, Kansas; and Ken Rulon, Cicero, Indiana.

APPROPRIATIONS—AIR FORCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for Air Force programs, focusing on airmen, infrastructure, and modernization, after receiving testimony from F. Whitten Peters, Acting Secretary, and Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Chief of Staff, both of the Air Force.

APPROPRIATIONS—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000, after receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress; Daniel P. Mulhollan, Director, Congressional Research Service; David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, General Accounting Office; Michael F. DiMario, Public Printer, Government Printing Office; and Janet S. Zagorin, American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

DEFENSE ACQUISITION REFORM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded hearings to examine the efforts to reform and streamline the Department of Defense's acquisition process, after receiving testimony from Paul J. Hoepfer, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology; H. Lee Buchanan, III, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition; Darleen A. Druyun, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition and Management; and Lt. Gen. Henry T. Glisson, USA, Director, Defense Logistics Agency, Department of Defense.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on tactical aviation modernization, and the future years defense program, after receiving testimony from H. Lee Buchanan, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition; Darleen A. Druyun, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition and Management; Philip E. Coyle, Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, Office of the Secretary of Defense; and Louis J. Rodrigues, Director, Defense Acquisitions, Issues, National Security and International Affairs Division, General Accounting Office.

2000 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee met to mark up a proposed concurrent resolution setting forth the fiscal year 2000 budget for the Federal Government, but did not complete consideration thereon, and will meet again tomorrow.