

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5437-S5505

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1063-1073, and S. Res. 103. Pages S5483-84

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:
H.R. 1034, to declare a portion of the James River and Kanawha Canal in Richmond, Virginia, to be nonnavigable waters of the United States for purposes of title 46, United States Code, and the other maritime laws of the United States. Page S5483

Measures Passed:

National Missile Defense Act: Senate passed H.R. 4, to declare it to be the policy of the United States to deploy a national missile defense, after striking all after the enacting clause, and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 257, Senate companion measure, as amended, and as passed the Senate on March 17, 1999. Page S5504

Public Safety Medal of Valor Act: Senate passed S. 39, to provide a national medal for public safety officers who act with extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty. Pages S5504-05

Y2K Act: Senate continued consideration of a motion to proceed to the consideration of S. 96, to regulate commerce between and among the several States by providing for the orderly resolution of disputes arising out of computer-based problems related to processing data that includes a 2-digit expression of that year's date. Pages S5437-43, S5460

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

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 120), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate failed to agree to close further debate on the motion to proceed to the consideration of the bill. Page S5442

Juvenile Justice: Senate resumed consideration of S. 254, to reduce violent juvenile crime, promote accountability by rehabilitation of juvenile criminals,

and punish and deter violent gang crime, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto.

Pages S5466-79

Adopted:

By 85 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. 121), Lott (for Allard) Amendment No. 351, to allow the erecting of an appropriate and constitutional permanent memorial on the campus of any public school to honor students and teachers who have been murdered at the school and to allow students, faculty, and administrative staff of a public school to hold an appropriate and constitutional memorial service on their campus to honor students and teachers who have been murdered at their school. Pages S5468-69, S5473

By 78 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. 122), Kohl/Hatch/Chafee Amendment No. 352, to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to require the provision of a secure gun storage or safety device in connection with the transfer of a handgun.

Pages S5467-68, S5473-74

By 85 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. 123), Hatch/Feinstein Amendment No. 353, authorizing funds for programs to combat gang violence.

Pages S5470-72, S5474

By 80 yeas to 17 nays, 1 member responding present (Vote No. 124), Byrd/Kohl Amendment No. 339, to provide for injunctive relief in Federal district court to enforce State laws relating to the interstate transportation of intoxicating liquor.

Pages S5472-75

Feinstein Modified Amendment No. 354, to modify the laws relating to interstate shipment of intoxicating liquors.

Pages S5473, S5475

Rejected:

Wellstone Amendment No. 359, to limit the effects of domestic violence on the lives of children. (By 55 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 125), Senate tabled the amendment.) Pages S5476-77

By 26 yeas to 73 nays (Vote No. 126), Sessions (for Ashcroft) Amendment No. 348, to encourage States to prosecute violent juveniles as adults for certain offenses involving firearms. Pages S5476-78

Pending:

Frist Amendment No. 355, to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 to authorize schools to

apply appropriate discipline measures in cases where students have firearms. **Page S5467**

Wellstone Amendment No. 356, to improve the juvenile delinquency prevention challenge grant program. **Page S5467**

Sessions/Inhofe Amendment No. 357, relating to the placement of a disclaimer on materials produced, procured or disseminated as a result of funds made available under this Act. **Page S5467**

Wellstone Amendment No. 358, to provide for additional mental health and student service providers. **Page S5467**

Hatch (for Santorum) Amendment No. 360, to encourage States to incarcerate individuals convicted of murder, rape, or child molestation. **Page S5467**

Ashcroft Amendment No. 361, to provide for school safety and violence prevention and teacher liability protection measures. **Page S5467**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of Amendment Nos. 357, 358, 360 and 361, on Wednesday, May 19, 1999, with votes to occur thereon, at 1 p.m.

Pages S5475-76

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

A message from the President of the United States transmitting, a notice of Continuation of Emergency with Respect to Burma; referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-29).

Page S5481

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jack E. Hightower, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science for a term expiring July 19, 1999.

Jack E. Hightower, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science for a term expiring July 19, 2004. (Re-appointment)

A routine list in the Foreign Service. **Page S5505**

Messages From the President: **Page S5481**

Measures Placed on Calendar: **Page S5481**

Communications: **Pages S5481-83**

Petitions: **Page S5483**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S5484-98**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5498-S5500**

Authority for Committees: **Page S5502**

Additional Statements: **Pages S5502-04**

Record Votes: Seven record votes were taken today. (Total—126) **Pages S5442, S5473-75, S5477-78**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:44 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Wednesday, May 19, 1999. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5505.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOXIOUS WEEDS AND PLANT PESTS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Subcommittee on Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization concluded hearings on S. 910, to streamline, modernize, and enhance the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to plant protection and quarantine, after receiving testimony from Senator Akaka; Craig A. Reed, Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and Robert Lewis, Deputy Chief for Research and Development, Forest Service, both of the Department of Agriculture; William Brown, Secretary's Science Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior; Virginia State Senator John C. Watkins III, Midlothian, on behalf of the American Nursery and Landscape Association; Frank Priestley, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, Boise, on behalf of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Elizabeth A. Chornesky, The Nature Conservancy, Arlington, Virginia; and Gene B. Cross, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Raleigh, on behalf of the Weed Science Society of America.

TELEVISION VIOLENCE

Committee on Commerce: Committee concluded hearings on issues relating to the effects of violence in mass media programming, and S. 876, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require that the broadcast of violent video programming be limited to hours when children are not reasonably likely to comprise a substantial portion of the audience, after receiving testimony from Leonard D. Eron, University of Michigan Institute for Social Research, Ann Arbor; William S. Abbott, National Foundation to Improve Television, Boston, Massachusetts; Robert L. Corn-Revere, Hogan and Hartson/Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, Washington, D.C.; James T. Hamilton, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina; and Dale Kunkel, University of California, Santa Barbara.

FEDERAL ROYALTY CERTAINTY ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy Research, Development, Production and Regulation concluded hearings on S. 924, entitled the "Federal Royalty Certainty Act", to codify that royalty value is the value of oil and gas