

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 2466—Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8423–S8530

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1362–1371, and S. Res. 138–140. **Page S8505**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows: S. 1248, to correct errors in the authorizations of certain programs administered by the National Highway Traffic Administration. (S. Rept. No. 106–107)

S. Res. 138, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

S. Res. 139, authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence. **Page S8505**

Measures Passed:

Military Construction Appropriations: Pursuant to the order of June 15, 1999, Senate passed H.R. 2465, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 1205, Senate companion measure, as passed by the Senate on June 16, 1999. Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair, as authorized, appointed the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Burns, Hutchison, Craig, Kyl, Stevens, Murray, Reid, Inouye, and Byrd. **Page S8504**

Subsequently, passage of S. 1205 was vitiated and then indefinitely postponed. **Page S8504**

Patients' Bill of Rights Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 1344, to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect consumers in managed care plans

and other health coverage, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S8429–S8501

Adopted:

By 55 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 203), Snowe Amendment No. 1241 (to Amendment No. 1239), to enhance breast cancer treatment by requiring certain coverage for minimum hospital stay for mastectomies and lymph node dissections for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for secondary consultations. **Pages S8438–56**

Dodd Amendment No. 1239 (to Amendment No. 1232), to provide coverage for individuals participating in approved clinical trials and for approved drugs and medical devices. **Pages S8429–71**

Rejected:

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 204), Daschle (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 1242 (to Amendment No. 1239), to ensure that the protections provided for in the Patients' Bill of Rights apply to all patients with private health insurance. **Pages S8456–71**

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 205), Kennedy (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 1245 (to Amendment No. 1243), to guarantee access to specialty care. **Pages S8481–S8501**

Pending:

Daschle Amendment No. 1232, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S8429–S8501**

Collins Amendment No. 1243 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 1232), to expand deductibility of long-term care to individuals; expand direct access to obstetric and gynecological care; provide timely access to specialists; and expand patient access to emergency medical care. **Pages S8471–81**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for an amendment to be offered at 10 a.m., on Thursday, July 15, 1999. **Page S8530**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Robert A. Katzmann, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

Pages S8529–30

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

James J. Brady, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana.

Charles A. Pannell, Jr., of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

Florence-Marie Cooper, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Tibor P. Nagy, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Marine Corps, Navy.

Page S8530

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of the withdrawal of the following nomination:

Kenneth W. Kizer, of California, to be Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs for a term of four years, which was sent to the Senate on January 6, 1999.

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Messages From the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Measures Placed on Calendar:

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Communications:

Pages S8504–05

Statements on Introduced Bills:

Pages S8505–14

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S8514–15

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S8516–27

Notices of Hearings:

Page S8527

Authority for Committees:

Pages S8527–28

Additional Statements:

Page S8528

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—205)

Pages S8456, S8471, S8501

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:19 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, July 15, 1999. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8530.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

COUNTERDRUG OPERATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittees on Defense and Military Construction concluded joint hearings on Department of Defense forward operating locations for counterdrug operations, focusing

on Panama, after receiving testimony from Walter B. Slocombe, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy; and Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm, USMC, Commander in Chief, United States Southern Command.

RURAL HOSPITAL CARE COSTS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies concluded hearings on health care cost issues affecting rural hospitals, focusing on the effects of the passage of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and Medicare's payment policies, after receiving testimony from Robert A. Berinson, Director, Center for Health Plans and Providers, and Roland E. King, former Chief Actuary, both of the Health Care Financing Administration, and Claude Earl Fox, Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration, all of the Department of Health and Human Services; Gail R. Wilensky, Chair, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission; G. Douglas Higginbotham, South Central Regional Medical Center, Laurel, Mississippi; Anne Klawiter, Southwest Health Center, Platteville, Wisconsin, on behalf of the Federation of American Health Systems; and Debra L. Griffin, Humphreys County Memorial Hospital, Belzoni, Mississippi.

TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded hearings to examine transportation conformity activities under the Clean Air Act and the effect recent litigation may have on this program, and S. 1053, to amend the Clean Air Act to incorporate certain provisions of the transportation conformity regulations, as in effect on March 1, 1999, after receiving testimony from Robert Perciasepe, Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency; Kenneth R. Wykle, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, and Gordon J. Linton, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, both of the Department of Transportation; E. Dean Carlson, Kansas Department of Transportation, Topeka, on behalf of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; Jack L. Stephens, Jr., Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, Atlanta, Georgia; Jacob L. Snow, Clark County Regional Transportation Commission, Las Vegas, Nevada; Mark Pisano, Southern California Association of Governments, Los Angeles; Michael A. Replogle, Environmental Defense Fund, Washington, D.C.; and Jack Kinstlinger, KCI Technologies, Inc., Hunt Valley, Maryland, on behalf of the American Road and Transportation Builders Association.