

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S10537-S10655

Measures Introduced: Five bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1566-1570, S.J. Res. 33, S. Res. 179, and S. Con. Res. 55.

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Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:
Reported on Friday, August 27, during the adjournment:

H.R. 457, 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. (S. Rept. No. 106-143)

S. 28, to authorize an interpretive center and related visitor facilities within the Four Corners Monument Tribal Park, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106-144)

S. 400, to provide technical corrections to the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to improve the delivery of housing assistance to Indian tribes in a manner that recognizes the right of tribal self-governance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106-145)

S. 1346, to ensure the independence and non-partisan operation of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 106-146)

Special Report entitled "Summary of Legislative and Oversight Activities During the 105th Congress." (S. Rept. No. 106-147)

Reported today:

S. 299, to elevate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 106-148)

S. 401, to provide for business development and trade promotion for native Americans, with an

amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106-149)

S. 613, to encourage Indian economic development, to provide for the disclosure of Indian tribal sovereign immunity in contracts involving Indian tribes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106-150)

S. 614, to provide for regulatory reform in order to encourage investment, business, and economic development with respect to activities conducted on Indian lands, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106-151)

S. 406, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to make permanent the demonstration program that allows for direct billing of medicare, medicaid, and other third party payors, and to expand the eligibility under such program to other tribes and tribal organizations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106-152)

S. 1156, to amend provisions of law enacted by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 to ensure full analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules proposed by certain agencies, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 106-153)

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Measures Passed:

Commerce/Justice/State Appropriations: Pursuant to the order of July 22, 1999, Senate passed H.R. 2670, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 1217, Senate companion measure, as passed the Senate on July 22, 1999. Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Gregg, Stevens, Domenici, McConnell, Hutchison, Campbell, Cochran, Hollings, Inouye, Lautenberg, Mikulski, and Byrd.

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Subsequently, passage of S. 1217 was vitiated and then indefinitely postponed.

Organ Donor Leave Act: Senate passed H.R. 457, 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, clearing the measure for the President.

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Veteran's Benefits: Senate passed S. 1076, to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance programs providing health care and other benefits for veterans, to authorize major medical facility projects, and to reform eligibility for burial in Arlington National Cemetery, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S10637–54

Brownback (for Rockefeller/Specter) Amendment No. 1622, to improve the provisions relating to long-term health care for veterans. Pages S10643–46

Department of the Interior Appropriations: Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 2466, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S10551–83

Adopted:

Graham Amendment No. 1577, to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from implementing class III gaming procedures without State approval.

Pages S10551–58

Pending:

Gorton Amendment No. 1359, of a technical nature.

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Bond (for Lott) Amendment No. 1621, to provide funds to assess the potential hydrologic and biological impact of lead and zinc mining in the Mark Twain National Forest of Southern Missouri.

Pages S10553–54, S10571–72

Hutchison Amendment No. 1603, to prohibit the use of funds for the purpose of issuing a notice of rulemaking with respect to the valuation of crude oil for royalty purposes until September 30, 2000.

Pages S10558–69, S10579–83

Robb Amendment No. 1583, to strike section 329, provisions that would overturn recent decisions handed down by the 11th circuit corporation and federal district court in Washington State dealing with national forests.

Pages S10561–62, S10570–79

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill with votes to occur on pending Amendment Nos. 1621 and 1583 (listed above) on Thursday, September 9, 1999.

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Removal of Injunction of Secrecy: The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaties: International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (Treaty Doc No. 106–6); and

Treaty with Dominican Republic for Return of Stolen or Embezzled Vehicles, with Annexes (Treaty Doc. No. 106–7).

The treaties were transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and were ordered to be printed.

Pages S10636–37

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 93 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 262), Adalberto Jose Jordan, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Pages S10544–45, S10655

Carlos Murguia, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas.

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By 93 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 263), Marsha J. Pechman, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jay Johnson, of Wisconsin, to be Director of the Mint for a term of five years.

Willene A. Johnson, of New York, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank for a term of five years.

Joseph W. Prueher, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

Mark Reid Tucker, of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Foreign Service.

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Messages From the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Communications:

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Petitions:

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Statements on Introduced Bills:

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Additional Cosponsors:

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Amendments Submitted:

Pages S10621–23

Notices of Hearings:

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Authority for Committees:

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Additional Statements:

Pages S10623–26

Text of S. 632, S. 800, S. 1072, and S. 1255, as Previously Passed:

Pages S10626–30

Enrolled Bills Presented: Page S10587

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today.
(Total—263) Page S10545

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon, and adjourned at 8:37 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, September 9, 1999. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S10654.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

RUSSIAN COMPANY PROLIFERATION ACTIVITIES

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee held a closed briefing on proliferation activities of a certain Russian company from John A. Lauder, Special Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence for Nonproliferation.

Committee recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 13 public bills, H.R. 2807–2819; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 180–182 and H. Res. 284, were introduced. Pages H7995–96

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 462, to clarify that governmental pension plans of the possessions of the United States shall be treated in the same manner as State pension plans for purposes of the limitation on the State income taxation of pension income (H. Rept. 106–302);

H.J. Res. 54, granting the consent of Congress to the Missouri-Nebraska Boundary Compact (H. Rept. 106–303);

H.J. Res. 62, to grant the consent of Congress to the boundary change between Georgia and South Carolina (H. Rept. 106–304);

H.R. 2506, to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, amended (H. Rept. 106–305);

H.R. 1619, to amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to expand the boundaries of the Corridor, amended (H. Rept. 106–306);

S. 323, to redesignate the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument as a national park and establish the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area, amended (H. Rept. 106–307);

H.R. 1231, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest lands to Elko County, Nevada, for continued use as a cemetery, amended (H. Rept. 106–308);

H. Res. 281, providing for consideration of a motion to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 106–309);

H. Res. 282, waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2587)

making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000 (H. Rept. 106–310); and

H. Res. 283, providing for consideration of H.R. 417, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform the financing of campaigns for elections for Federal office (H. Rept. 106–311).

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Migratory Bird Commission: Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, August 5, 1999 and upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader, the Speaker appointed Representative Dingell to the Migratory Bird Commission on August 11, 1999.

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International Financial Institution Advisory Commission: Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, August 5, 1999, the Speaker appointed Mr. Lee Hoskins of Nevada to the International Financial Institution Advisory Commission on August 11, 1999.

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Recess: The House recessed at 10:22 a.m. and reconvened at 12:43 p.m.

Page H7891

VA/HUD Appropriations, 2000: The House completed general debate and began considering amendments to H.R. 2684, making appropriations for the 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, 2000. The House will resume consideration on September 9.

Pages H7892–H7958

Agreed to:

The Nadler amendment that increases funding for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS