

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed Bankruptcy Reform Act.

House Committee ordered reported the Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Act.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S225–S304*

**Measures Introduced:** Five bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2022–2026, S.J. Res. 38, and S. Res. 251–252. **Page S285**

**Measures Reported:** Reports were made as follows: S. 1053, to amend the Clean Air Act to incorporate certain provisions of the transportation conformity regulations, as in effect on March 1, 1999, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106–228) **Page S285**

#### Measures Passed:

**Bankruptcy Reform Act:** By 83 yeas to 14 nays, 1 responding present (Vote No. 5), Senate passed H.R. 833, to amend title 11 of the United States Code, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 625 (Senate companion measure), and after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S225–57**

#### Adopted:

Schumer/Durbin Modified Amendment No. 2762, to modify the means test relating to safe harbor provisions. **Page S243**

By 80 yeas to 17 nays, 1 responding present (Vote No. 2), Schumer Amendment No. 2763, to ensure that debts incurred as a result of clinic violence are nondischargeable. **Pages S226–32, S247**

#### Rejected:

Feingold Modified Amendment No. 2748, to provide for an exception to a limitation on an automatic stay under section 362(b) of title 11, United States Code, relating to evictions and similar proceedings to provide for the payment of rent that becomes due after the petition of a debtor is filed. (By 54 yeas to 43 nays, 1 responding present (Vote No. 3), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S237–41, S243–45, S248**

By 29 yeas to 68 nays, 1 responding present (Vote No. 4), Levin Amendment No. 2658, to provide for the nondischargeability of debts arising from fire-arm-related debts. **Pages S238–39, S241–43, S248–49**

#### Withdrawn:

Reid (for Harkin) Amendment No. 2770, invalidating hidden security interests on nearly valueless household liens. **Pages S232–33, S236–37**

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

Reed (for Sessions) Modified Amendment No. 2650, to control certain abuses of reaffirmations, previously adopted on November 10, 1999, was further modified. **Pages S233–36**

Senate insisted on its amendment, and requested a conference with the House thereon. **Page S255**

Subsequently, S. 625 was placed back on the Senate calendar. **Page S255**

**Nomination:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Alan Greenspan, of New York, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. **Pages S258–78, S301**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination on Thursday, February 3, 2000, with a vote on confirmation to occur at 10:30 a.m. **Page S301**

**Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act—Cloture Vote Vitiating:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the cloture vote scheduled for today be vitiating. **Page S301**

**Removal of Injunction of Secrecy:** The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaty:

Treaty with Egypt on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (Treaty Doc. No. 106-19).

The treaty was 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 was ordered to be printed. **Page S301**

**Sequential Committee Referral—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that when the Committee on Governmental Affairs reports S. 1977, Corporate Subsidy Reform Commission Act, the bill then be sequentially referred to the Committee on Finance for a period of up to 45 days during which the Senate is in session. **Page S301**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Thomas G. Weston, of Michigan, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Coordinator for Cyprus.

Susan S. Jacobs, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to Solomon Islands, and as Ambassador to the Republic of Vanuatu.

Karl William Hofmann, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Togolese Republic.

John F. Tefft, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania.

Janet A. Sanderson, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

Donald Y. Yamamoto, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Djibouti.

Laurens L. Wise II, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Education Statistics for a term expiring June 21, 2003.

18 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps. **Pages S302–04**

**Messages From the House:** **Pages S280–81**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S281**

**Communications:** **Pages S281–85**

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** **Pages S285–92**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S292–93**

**Authority for Committees:** **Page S294**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S294–S301**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Page S281**

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—5) **Pages S247–49, S255**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:52 p.m., until 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 3, 2000. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S301.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### BOSNIA AND KOSOVO SECURITY

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine current security status in Bosnia and Kosovo following U.S. military operations, after receiving testimony from Gen. Wesley K. Clark, USA, Commander-in-Chief, United States European Command, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.

### INTERNET TAXATION

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee concluded hearings to examine Internet taxation issues, focusing on the implications of State and local government sales taxes applied to purchases made over the Internet, after receiving testimony from Massachusetts Governor Argeo Paul Cellucci, Boston; Michigan Governor John Engler, Lansing, on behalf of the National Governors' Association; Charles E. McLure, Jr., Stanford University Hoover Institute, Stanford, California; and Aaron Lukas, Cato Institute Center for Trade Policy Studies, and Iris J. Lav, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, both of Washington, D.C.

### IRS REFORM

*Committee on Finance:* Committee held hearings on the status of Internal Revenue Service reform, focusing on the implementation of the Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, receiving testimony from Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner, and W. Val Oveson, National Taxpayer Advocate, both of the Internal Revenue Service, and David C. Williams, Inspector General for Tax Administration, all of the Department of the Treasury; and James R. White, Director, Tax Policy and Administration Issues, General Government Division, General Accounting Office.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

### GENE THERAPY SAFETY

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Subcommittee on Public Health held hearings to examine certain issues regarding patient safety in gene therapy clinical trials, focusing on federal oversight procedures and guidelines for informing patients and their families of potential risks and benefits of gene therapy, receiving testimony from Amy Patterson, Director, Office of Biotechnology Activities, National Institutes of Health, and Jay P. Siegel, Director, Office of Therapeutics Research and Review, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, both of the Department