

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed Federal Crop Insurance Act Amendments bill.

The Chaplain Emeritus, Dr. James D. Ford, announced his resignation as Chaplain of the House of Representatives effective March 23, and the Speaker appointed Father Daniel Coughlin of Illinois to act as Chaplain of the House.

The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 290, Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2001.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1619–S1693*

**Measures Introduced:** Sixteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2277–2292, S. Res. 277, and S. Con. Res. 98. **Page S1671**

**Measures Reported:** Reports were made as follows: H.R. 1658, to provide a more just and uniform procedure for Federal civil forfeitures, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1671**

#### Measures Passed:

**Federal Crop Insurance Act Amendments:** Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2559, to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers by providing greater access to more affordable risk management tools and improved protection from production and income loss, to improve the efficiency and integrity of the Federal crop insurance program, and by 99 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. 44), Senate passed the bill, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 2251, Senate companion measure, and after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S1627–42**

Adopted:

By 99 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 43), Wellstone Amendment No. 2888, to express the sense of Congress regarding the Rally for Rural America and the rural crisis. **Pages S1627–28**

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair

was authorized to appoint the following conferees: Senators Lugar, Helms, Cochran, Coverdell, Roberts, Harkin, Leahy, Conrad and Kerrey. **Page S1642**

Subsequently, S. 2251 was returned to the Senate calendar. **Page S1651**

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

Lugar/Harkin Modified Amendment No. 2887 (adopted by the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2000), was further modified. **Page S1628**

**Flag Desecration—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent time agreement was reached providing for the consideration of S.J. Res. 14, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States, with certain amendments to be proposed thereto, on Monday, March 27, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. Further, the Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Tuesday, March 28, 2000 at 9:30 a.m., with votes on or in relation to the pending amendments to occur at 2:15 p.m. **Page S1651**

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

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) (Treaty Doc. No. 106–23)

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 S1687**

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

Manuel Trinidad Pacheco, of Arizona, to be a Member of the National Security Education Board for a term of four years. (Reappointment)

Ella Wong-Rusinko, of Virginia, to be Alternate Federal Cochairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission.

Beth Susan Slavet, of Massachusetts, to be Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

Gordon S. Heddell, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Labor.

Steven S. Reed, of Kentucky, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky for the term of four years.

Julio F. Mercado, of Texas, to be Deputy Administrator of Drug Enforcement. **Page S1693**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S1668**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S1668**

**Measures Placed on Calendar:** **Page S1668**

**Communications:** **Pages S1668–69**

**Petitions:** **Pages S1669–71**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S1671**

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** **Pages S1671–83**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1683–84**

**Notices of Hearings:** **Page S1686**

**Authority for Committees:** **Pages S1686–87**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S1665–68**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S1687**

**Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—44) **Pages S1628, S1631**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 4:53 p.m., until 12 noon, on Monday, March 27, 2000. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1664.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### HAITI

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Foreign Operations concluded hearings to examine recent developments in Haiti and the Administration's efforts to address the challenges of promoting democracy, human rights, and economic recovery, after receiving testimony from Donald Steinberg, Special Haiti Coordinator, Department of State.

### APPROPRIATIONS—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Treasury and General Government concluded hearings on

proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Internal Revenue Service, after receiving testimony from Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury.

### APPROPRIATIONS—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Environmental Protection Agency, after receiving testimony from Carol M. Browner, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

### EXPORT CONTROLS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the national security implications of export controls, and related provisions of S. 1712, Export Administration Act (pending on Senate Calendar), after receiving testimony from Donald Mancuso, Deputy Inspector General, Department of Defense; Harold J. Johnson, Associate Director, International Relations and Trade Issues, National Security and International Affairs Division, General Accounting Office; John W. Douglass, Aerospace Industries Association, Washington, D.C.; and Gary L. Milhollin, University of Wisconsin Law School, Madison, on behalf of the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control.

### AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on SeaPower concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on Navy and Marine Corps' seapower operational capability requirements, after receiving testimony from Lt. Gen. Michael J. Williams, USMC, Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs and Resources, Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps; and Rear Adm. Michael G. Mullen, USN, Director, Surface Warfare Division, Maj. Gen. Dennis T. Krupp, USMC, Director, Expeditionary Warfare Division, Rear Adm. Malcolm I. Fages, USN, Director, Submarine Warfare Division, and Rear Adm. John B. Nathman, USN, Director, Air Warfare Division, all of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

### RAIL MERGERS

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine concluded oversight hearings on the Surface Transportation Board's moratorium on major rail mergers and 15-month rulemaking proceeding on future mergers, after receiving testimony from Linda J. Morgan, Chairman, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation.