

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2449–S2481

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

H.R. 3090, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to restore certain lands to the Elim Native Corporation. (S. Rept. No. 106–258)

S. 1993, to reform Government information security by strengthening information security practices throughout the Federal Government, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106–259) **Page S2465**

Congressional Budget Resolution—Conferees: The Chair appointed the following conferees on the part of the Senate to H. Con. Res. 290, Congressional Budget Resolution: Senators Domenici, Grassley, Bond, Gorton, Lautenberg, Conrad, and Wyden. **Page S2481**

Gas Tax Repeal—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the filing of second degree amendments to S. 2285, instituting a Federal fuels tax holiday, on Tuesday, April 11, 2000. **Page S2481**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2465–66**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2466–68**

Notices of Hearings: **Page S2468**

Authority for Committees: **Page S2468**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2461–65**

Text of H. Con. Res. 290, as Previously Agreed To: **Pages S2468–81**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon, and adjourned at 3:50 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, April 11, 2000. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2481.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FUNERAL AND BURIAL CONSUMER PROTECTION

Special Committee on Aging: Committee held hearings to examine issues facing consumers when preplanning, arranging and conducting funeral and burial activities, focusing on educating consumers about funeral-related industries, exposing bad practices, and exploring the extent of consumer satisfaction, receiving testimony from Toni Moore, Paradise Memorial Park Cemetery Memorial Fund, Santa Fe Springs, California; Cheryl L. Lankford, Lankford Funeral Home, DeLand, Florida; Father Henry Wasielewski, Catholic Diocese of Phoenix, Tempe, Arizona, on behalf of the Interfaith Funeral Information Committee; Lamar Hankins, FAMSA-Funeral Consumers Alliance, Inc., San Marcos, Texas; Robert Shreve, American Association of Retired Persons, Washington, DC; Danell D. Pepson, Leesburg, Virginia; Darryl J. Roberts, Scottsdale, Arizona; and Irwin Karp, an incarcerated witness, via video teleconferencing.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 7 public bills, H.R. 4220–4226; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 95–97 and H. Res. 467, were introduced. **Page H2012**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 852, to require the Department of Agriculture to establish an electronic filing and retrieval system to enable the public to file all required paperwork electronically with the Department and to have access to public information on farm programs, quarterly trade, economic, and production reports,

and other similar information, amended (H. Rept. 106–565);

H.R. 4163, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for increased fairness to taxpayers, amended (H. Rept. 106–566); and

H.R. 3439, to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from establishing rules authorizing the operation of new, low power FM radio stations, amended (H. Rept. 106–567). **Page H2012**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Wickner to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H1961

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Ronald Christian.

Page H1961

Recess: The House recessed at 12:31 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

Page H1961

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run through the Capitol Grounds: H. Con. Res. 280, authorizing the 2000 District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run to be run through the Capitol Grounds; **Pages H1962–63**

Use of the Capitol Grounds for the Soap Box Derby: H. Con. Res. 277, amended, authorizing the use of the Capitol grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby; **Pages H1963–65**

5th Anniversary of the Oklahoma City Bombing: H. Res. 448, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives in continued sympathy for the victims of the Oklahoma City bombing on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the bombing; **Pages H1965–66**

Honoring the American GI as the Person of the Century: H. Con. Res. 282, amended, declaring the “Person of the Century” for the 20th century to have been the American G.I. (agreed to by a ye and nay vote of 397 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 111);

Pages H1966–70, H1984–85

Honoring Vietnam Era Veterans and Their Families: H. Con. Res. 228, honoring the members of the Armed Forces and Federal civilian employees who served the Nation during the Vietnam era and the families of those individuals who lost their lives or remain unaccounted for or were injured during that era in Southeast Asia or elsewhere in the world in defense of United States national security interests (agreed to by a ye and nay vote of 399 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 112); and **Pages H1970–73, H1985–86**

Freedom to E-File Act: S. 777, amended, to require the Department of Agriculture to establish an electronic filing and retrieval system to enable the public to file all required paperwork electronically with the Department and to have access to public information on farm programs, quarterly trade, economic, and production reports, and other similar information (passed by a ye and nay vote of 397 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 113). Agreed to amend the title.

Pages H1973–75, H1986

Recess: The House recessed at 3:30 p.m. and reconvened at 5:03 p.m.

Page H1975

Motion to Instruct Conferees: Representative Rangel announced his intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1501, to provide grants to ensure increased accountability for juvenile offenders, to insist that the conference meet and report a substitute that includes enforcement of gun safety laws and safety measures that prevent felons, fugitives, and stalkers from obtaining firearms and children from getting access to guns.

Page H1975

Budget Resolution: The House disagreed to the Senate amendment to H. Con. Res. 290, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2005, and agreed to a conference.

Page H1975

Rejected the Spratt motion to instruct conferees to insist that the tax cuts and reconciliation legislation implementing tax cuts be reported no earlier than September 22, 2000, thereby allowing time to enact legislation establishing a universal prescription drug benefit, consistent with section 202 of the Senate amendment and provisions in section 10 of the concurrent resolution; and to recede to the lower tax cuts in the Senate amendment, by a ye and nay vote of 198 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 114.

Pages H1975–84 H1986–87

Appointed as conferees: Chairman Kasich, and Representatives Chambliss, Shays, Spratt, and Holt.

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H1961 and H1975.

Referral: S.J. Res. 43 was referred to the Committee on International Relations.

Page H2010

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four ye and nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1984–85, H1985–86, H1986, and H1987. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Committee Meetings

OVERSIGHT—INS: COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology held a hearing on "Oversight of the Internal Revenue Service: The Commissioner Reports". Testimony was heard from the following officials of the IRS, Department of the Treasury: Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner; and W. Val Oveson, National Taxpayer Advocate; Margaret Wrightson, Associate Director, Tax Policy and Administration Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D335)

H.R. 5, to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the earnings test for individuals who have attained retirement age. Signed April 7, 2000. (P.L. 106-182)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2000

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Special Committee on Aging: to continue hearings to examine funerals and burials, focusing on protecting consumers from bad practices, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings on the nomination of Christopher A. McLean, of Nebraska, to be Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture; to be followed by hearings to examine the Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) crisis and the future of renewable fuels, 9:30 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Energy, 9 a.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on Interior, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Energy, 9:30 a.m., SD-138.

Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for foreign health assistance, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings on the nominations of Bernard Daniel Rostker, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; Gregory Robert Dahlberg, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Army; and Madelyn R. Creedon, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the effects of permanent, nor-

malized trade relations with China on the U.S. economy, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings on S. 282, to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers by promoting competition in the electric power industry; S. 1047, to provide for a more competitive electric power industry; S. 1284, to amend the Federal Power Act to ensure that no State may establish, maintain, or enforce on behalf of any electric utility an exclusive right to sell electric energy or otherwise unduly discriminate against any consumer who seeks to purchase electric energy in interstate commerce from any supplier; S. 1273, to amend the Federal Power Act, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets; S. 1369, to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency; S. 2071, to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system; and S. 2098, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets, and to ensure electric reliability, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings on the nomination of Carey Cavanaugh, of Florida, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Negotiator for Nagorno-Karabakh and New Independent States Regional Conflicts; the nomination of Christopher Robert Hill, of Rhode Island, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Poland; and the nomination of 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, 9 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings on United States policy towards China, focusing on permanent normal trade status, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Children and Families, to hold hearings to examine early childhood programs for low-income families, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, on U.N. Peacekeeping, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs, on AID Administrator, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, on Native American issues, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, on Members of Congress, 10 a.m., and 2 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, on U.S. Mint, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Banking and Financial Services, hearing on the recommendations of the President's Working Group on Financial Markets concerning Financial Contract Netting, Hedge Fund Disclosure, and Over-the-Counter Derivatives, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Commerce, Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection, oversight hearing on the status of deployment of broadband technologies, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, to continue mark up of H.R. 4141, Education Opportunities To Protect and Invest In Our Nation's Students (Education OPTIONS) Act; and to mark up the following bills: H.R. 4055, IDEA Full Funding Act of 2000; and H.R. 3629, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the program for American Indian Tribal Colleges and Universities under part A of title III, 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, hearing on Recent Developments in Kosovo and Related Issues, 3 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, oversight hearing on the limit on regulatory powers under the Bankruptcy Code, 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, oversight hearing on Integration of Eco-region Assessments in Forest Service Plans, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, to consider the following: H.J. Res. 94, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States with respect to tax limitations; a resolution providing for consideration of motions to suspend the Rules; H.R. 2328, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Act to reauthorize the Clean Lakes Programs; and H.R. 3039, Chesapeake Bay Restoration Act of 1999, 1 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing on NASA's Fiscal Year 2001 Budget Re-

quest: Aero-Space Technology Enterprise, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Government Programs and Oversight, oversight hearing to examine the federal government's use of e-commerce to facilitate procurement in comparison to the private sector, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to consider the following: Corps of Engineers Survey Resolutions; H.R. 673, Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements Act of 1999; H.R. 855, Long Island Sound Preservation and Protection Act; H.R. 1106, Alternative Water Sources Act of 1999; H.R. 1237, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to permit grants for the national estuary program to be used for the development and implementation of a comprehensive conservation and management plan, to reauthorize appropriations to carry out the program; H.R. 2957, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Protection Act of 1999 and H.R. 3313, Long Island Sound Restoration Act; 11(b) Public Buildings Resolutions; H.R. 1405, to designate the Federal building located at 143 West Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio, as the "Donald J. Pease Federal Building"; H.R. 1571, to designate the Federal building under construction at 600 State Street in New Haven, Connecticut, as the "Merrill S. Parks, Jr., Federal Building"; H.R. 1729, to designate the Federal facility located at 1301 Emmet Street in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the "Pamela B. Gwin Hall"; H.R. 1901, to designate the United States border station located in Pharr, Texas, as the "Kika de la Garza United States Border Station"; and other pending business, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on Issues Arising out of the Egypt Air Crash, 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, Hazardous Materials and Pipeline Transportation, hearing on GSA's Fiscal Year 2001 Capital Investment Program, 3 p.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, hearing on fundamental tax reform, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing on efforts to inform the public about Social Security, 3 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, April 11

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Recognition of two Senators for speeches, and the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 12:30 p.m.).

Also at approximately 2:25 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to close further debate on S. 2285, Gas Tax Repeal.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m., for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 11

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of Suspensions:

1. H. Res. 465, Dissemination of Statistics on the Number of Abandoned Babies;
 2. H.R. 4051, Project Exile: The Safe Streets and Neighborhoods Act;
 3. H.R. 1658, Civil Assets Forfeiture Reform Act;
 4. H.R. 3767, Visa Waiver Permanent Program Act;
 5. S. Con. Res. 71, Establishment of Miami, Florida as the permanent location for the Free Trade Area of the Americas Secretariat;
 6. H.R. 4163, Taxpayer Bill of Rights;
 7. H. Res. 467, Clinton/Gore Tax Hikes;
 8. H.R. 4067, Business Checking Modernization Act.
- Motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1501.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Berman, Howard L., Calif., E520
Blumenauer, Earl, Ore., E520
Cardin, Benjamin L., Md., E520
Clement, Bob, Tenn., E521

DeLauro, Rosa L., Conn., E519, E521
Edwards, Chet, Tex., E522
Hall, Tony P., Ohio, E519
Jefferson, William J., La., E523
McCarthy, Carolyn, N.Y., E522
Miller, George, Calif., E519

Neal, Richard E., Mass., E521
Oxley, Michael G., Ohio, E523
John Edward Porter, Ill., E521
Visclosky, Peter J., Ind., E523
Waxman, Henry A., Calif., E522



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