

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House Committees ordered reported 12 sundry measures.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6937–S7009

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1107–1117. **Page S6991**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Revised Allocation To Subcommittees Of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2002”. (S. Rept. No. 107–35) **Page S6991**

Patients’ Bill of Rights: Senate continued consideration of S. 1052, to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S6937–83

Adopted:

By a unanimous vote of 100 yeas (Vote No. 201), McCain Amendment No. 820, to clarify that nothing in the bill permits independent medical reviewers to require that plans or issuers cover specifically excluded items or services. **Pages S6963–68, S6971–72**

Rejected:

By 45 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 199) Allard Amendment No. 817, to exempt small employers from certain causes of action. **Pages S6937–44**

Kyl Amendment No. 818, to clarify that independent medical reviewers may not require coverage for excluded benefits and to clarify provisions relating to the independent determinations of the reviewer. (By 54 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 200), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S6937, S6947–59, S6963

Pending:

Thompson Amendment No. 819, to require the exhaustion of administrative remedies before a claimant goes to court. **Pages S6959–63**

Collins Amendment No. 826, to modify provisions relating to preemption and State flexibility.

Pages S6968–71

Breaux Amendment No. 830, to modify provisions relating to the standard with respect to the continued applicability of State law. **Pages S6972–83**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9:15 a.m., on Thursday, June 28, 2001, with votes to occur on Collins Amendment No. 826 and Breaux Amendment No. 830 (both listed above), beginning at approximately 9:45 a.m. Further, that upon the disposition of those amendments, Senator Gregg, or his designee, be recognized to offer an amendment relative to liability with 1 hour for debate equally divided prior to a vote in relation to that amendment; following which, Senators Snowe and Frist each be recognized to offer a first degree liability amendment with 4 hours for debate equally divided, and that at the conclusion or yielding back of time the Senate vote in relation to the Snowe amendment followed by a vote in relation to the Frist amendment, and that no second degree amendments be in order to any of the amendments listed in this agreement prior to a vote in relation to the amendment.

Pages S6967–68

Messages from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on blocking property of persons who threaten international stabilization efforts in the Western Balkans; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–30) **Pages S6989–90**

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the Report of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for Fiscal Year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs. (PM–31) **Page S6990**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

John Arthur Hammerschmidt, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 2002.

Claude M. Kicklighter, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Policy and Planning). **Page S7009**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6990–91**

Messages From the House: **Page S6990**

Measures Referred: **Page S6990**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S6992–S7002**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6991–92**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S7002–08**

Additional Statements: **Pages S6986–89**

Authority for Committees: **Page S7008**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—201) **Pages S6944, S6963, S6971–72**

Adjournment: Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:18 p.m., until 9:15 a.m., on Thursday, June 28, 2001. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S7008–09.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Dionel M. Aviles, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Financial Management and Comptroller, Reginald Jude Brown, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Stephen A. Cambone, of Virginia, to be Deputy Under Secretary for Policy, Michael Montelongo, of Georgia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, and John J. Young, Jr., of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition, all of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Mr. Brown was introduced by Senator Warner, Mr. Montelongo was introduced by Representative Reyes, and Mr. Young was introduced by Senators Stevens and Inouye.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Policy held hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal years 2002–2004 for the Defense Production Act, receiving testimony from Kenneth I. Juster, Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration; Michael D. Brown, General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Eric J. Fygi, Deputy General Counsel, Department of Energy; and Delores

M. Etter, Acting Director, Defense Research and Engineering, Department of Defense.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Committee on the Budget: Committee held hearings to examine the economic slowdown and its impact on productivity, the federal budget, and the outlook of the United States economy, receiving testimony from Martin N. Baily, Institute for International Economics, Washington, D.C., former Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers; William C. Dudley, Goldman, Sachs, and Company, New York, New York; and Brian S. Wesbury, Griffin, Kubik, Stephens and Thompson, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, former Chief Economist for the Joint Economic Committee.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Vicky A. Bailey, of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary of Energy for International Affairs and Domestic Policy, and John W. Keys III, of Utah, to be Commissioner of Reclamation, and Frances P. Mainella, of Florida, to be Director of the National Park Service, both of the Department of the Interior, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Ms. Baily was introduced by Senator Bayh, Mr. Keys was introduced by Senator Bennett, and Ms. Mainella was introduced by Senators Graham and Bill Nelson.

PRESCRIPTION FRAUD

Committee on Finance: Committee held hearings to examine prescription fraud, focusing on the General Accounting Office report into consultants who advise health care providers how to take unfair advantage of the Medicare system, improperly bill the government, and circumvent compliance regulations, causing the loss of millions in taxpayers' dollars and inadequate treatment for the elderly, receiving testimony from Robert H. Hast, Managing Director, and William D. Hamel, Assistant Director of Investigations, both of the Office of Special Investigations, General Accounting Office; Marjorie Kanof, Deputy Director for Payment Policy, Center for Medicare Management, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and Lewis Morris, Assistant Inspector General for Legal Affairs, Office of Inspector General, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; and Kathryn Locatell, Sacramento, California.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Clark T. Randt, Jr.,