

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 1542, Internet Freedom and Broadband Deployment Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1223–S1326

Measures Introduced: Three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1970–1972. **Pages S1251–52**

Measures Passed:

Read Across America Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 211, designating March 2, 2002, as “Read Across America Day”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1260**

Election Reform: Senate continued consideration of S. 565, to establish the Commission on Voting Rights and Procedures to study and make recommendations regarding election technology, voting, and election administration, to establish a grant program under which the Office of Justice Programs and the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice shall provide assistance to States and localities in improving election technology and the administration of Federal elections, and to require States to meet uniform and nondiscriminatory election technology and administration requirements for the 2004 Federal elections, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1223–41**

Pending:

Clinton Amendment No. 2906, to establish a residual ballot performance benchmark. **Page S1223**

Dodd (for Schumer) Modified Amendment No. 2914, to permit the use of a signature or personal mark for the purpose of verifying the identity of voters who register by mail. **Page S1223**

Dodd (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 2916, to clarify the application of the safe harbor provisions. **Page S1223**

Hatch Amendment No. 2935, to establish the Advisory Committee on Electronic Voting and the Electoral Process, and to instruct the Attorney Gen-

eral to study the adequacy of existing electoral fraud statutes and penalties. **Page S1223**

Hatch Amendment No. 2936, to make the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 permanent. **Page S1223**

Schumer/Wyden Amendment No. 2937, to permit the use of a signature or personal mark for the purpose of verifying the identity of voters who register by mail. (By 46 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 38), Senate failed to table the amendment.) **Pages S1223–28**

Smith (NH) Amendment No. 2933, to prohibit the broadcast of certain false and untimely information on Federal elections. **Page S1223**

Bond Amendment No. 2940 (to Amendment No. 2937), to permit the use of signature verification programs to verify the identity of individuals who register to vote by mail. **Pages S1228–32**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the cloture vote will occur on Friday, March 1, 2002. **Page S1241**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 11 a.m., on Thursday, February 28, 2002. **Page S1241**

National Laboratories Partnership Improvement Act: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached modifying the pending Daschle/Bingaman Amendment No. 2917 to S. 517, to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006. **Pages S1262–S1320**

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

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the continuation of the national emergency

relating to Cuba and of the emergency authority relating to the regulation of the anchorage and movement of vessels to extend beyond March 1, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-71) **Page S1251**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

3 Air Force nominations in the rank of general. Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy. **Pages S1325-26**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Deborah Matz, of New York, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board for a term expiring August 2, 2005.

Lawrence E. Butler, of Maine, to be Ambassador to The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

J. Russell George, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Corporation for National and Community Service.

Victoria A. Lipnic, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Naomi Shihab Nye, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2006. (Reappointment)

John Leonard Helgeson, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army.

Pages S1320-25

Messages From the House: **Page S1251**

Measures Referred: **Page S1251**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S1251**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S1252**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S1252-58

Additional Statements: **Page S1250**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1258-59**

Authority for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1259-60**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total-38) **Page S1228**

Adjournment: Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:15 p.m., until 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 28, 2002. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1320).

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies held hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2003 for the Department of Agriculture, receiving testimony from Ann M. Veneman, Secretary of Agriculture, who was accompanied by several of her associates.

Hearings continue on Wednesday, March 13.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2003 for the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from Paul Wolfowitz, Deputy Secretary, and Dov S. Zakheim, Under Secretary/Comptroller, both of the Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS—HIGHWAY SAFETY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation concluded hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2003 for the Department of Transportation, focusing on highway safety programs, after receiving testimony from Jeffrey W. Runge, Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation; Marion C. Blakey, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; James W. McMahan, New York State Police, Ballston Lake, on behalf of the International Associations of Chiefs of Police; and Millie I. Webb, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Houston, Texas.

FEMA TERRORISM RESPONSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies concluded hearings to examine the role of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) concerning terrorism response, including funding for first responder and live agent training facilities such as the Center for Domestic Preparedness, the impact of the proposed transfer of the Office of Emergency Preparedness from the Department of Justice to FEMA, and U.S. chemical weapons stockpiles protection, after receiving testimony from Joe M. Allbaugh, Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency.