

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7505–S7616

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2819–2826, S. Res. 311, and S. Con. Res. 133. **Page S7579**

Measures Reported:

S. 1777, to authorize assistance for individuals with disabilities in foreign countries, including victims of landmines and other victims of civil strife and warfare, with amendments. **Page S7577**

Greater Access to Affordable Pharmaceuticals Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 812, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide greater access to affordable pharmaceuticals, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S7516–51**

Rejected:

McConnell Amendment No. 4326 (to Amendment No. 4299), to provide for health care liability reform. (By 57 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 197), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S7516–35**

Pending:

Reid (for Dorgan) Amendment No. 4299, to permit commercial importation of prescription drugs from Canada., **Pages S7516–51**

Graham Amendment No. 4345 (to Amendment No.4299), to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide protection for all Medicare beneficiaries against the cost of prescription drugs. **Pages S7535–51**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 31, 2002; that there be 90 minutes of debate on the motion to waive the Budget Act with respect to Graham Amendment No. 4345 (to Amendment No.4299), listed above, equally divided between Senator Graham and Senator Grassley; that if the motion to waive fails and the amendment falls, then the underlying Dorgan Amendment be agreed to, and the Senate vote immediately on cloture on the bill; further, that if cloture is invoked, the bill be read a third time and the Senate then vote immediately on final passage of the bill. **Page S7545**

Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act Conference Report: By 66 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. 198), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the conference report on H.R. 3009, to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, and to grant additional trade benefits under that Act, and then began consideration of the conference report. **Page S7551**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a cloture vote will occur on Thursday, August 1, 2002. **Page S7551**

Appointments:

Global Climate Change Observer Group: The Chair, announced, on behalf of the two Leaders, pursuant to provisions of S. Res. 98, agreed to July 25, 1997, the appointment of Senator Reid to the Global Climate Change Observer Group, vice Senator Kerrey, retired. **Page S613**

National Skill Standards Board: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to P.L. 103–227, reappointed Barbara Kairson, of New York, Representative of Labor, to the National Skill Standards Board, effective August 13, 2002. **Page S7613**

Nomination Considered: Senate began consideration of the nomination of D. Brooks Smith, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit. **Pages S7551–64**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination on Wednesday, July 31, 2002; and that following the vote on final passage of S. 812, Greater Access to Affordable Pharmaceuticals Act, a vote will occur on confirmation of the nomination. **Page S7545**

Messages From the House: **Page S7575**

Measures Placed on Calendar: **Page S7575**

Executive Communications: **Pages S7575–77**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S7577–79**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S7579–80**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S7580–88

Additional Statements:

Pages S7572–75

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S7588–S7612

Authority for Committees to Meet: Pages S7612–13**Privilege of the Floor:** Page S7613

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—198) Pages S7534–35, S7551

Adjournment: Senate met at 10:30 a.m., and adjourned at 9:03 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 31, 2002.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION AND SMUGGLING

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities concluded hearings to examine the report of the General Accounting Office on nuclear proliferation and efforts to help other countries combat nuclear smuggling, after receiving testimony from Gary L. Jones, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, General Accounting Office; John M. Caravelli, Assistant Deputy Administrator for International Materials Protection and Emergency Cooperation, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy; Lisa Bronson, Deputy Under Secretary for Technology Security Policy and Counter-Proliferation, and Director, Defense Technology Security Administration, Department of Defense; Norman A. Wulf, Special Representative to the President for Nonproliferation, Department of State; and Jayson P. Ahern, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Ben S. Bernanke, of New Jersey, and Donald L. Kohn, of Virginia, each to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY FINANCIAL TROUBLE

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee held hearings to examine recent financial troubles in the telecommunications marketplace, including the events that led up to WorldCom's recent filing under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, and focusing on maintaining the operations of essen-

tial communications facilities, receiving testimony from Michael K. Powell, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; John W. Sidgmore, WorldCom, Inc., Ashburn, Virginia; John Legere, Global Crossing, Madison, New Jersey; and Afshin Mohebbi, Qwest Communications International, Inc., Denver, Colorado.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR RIGHTS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism concluded hearings to examine improvement in consumer choice with regard to automobile repair shops, and related provisions of S. 2617, to protect the rights of American consumers to diagnose, service, and repair motor vehicles purchased in the United States, after receiving testimony from Senator Wellstone; Bill Haas, Automotive Service Association, Bedford, Texas; John M. Cabaniss, Jr., Association of International Automobile Manufacturers, Arlington, Virginia; Dale Feste, Dale Feste Automotive, Hopkins, Minnesota; Gregory Dana, Alliance of Automobile Manufacturer, and John Nielsen, Automotive Services and Repair Network, both of Washington, D.C.; and John Vallely, McLean Marathon Service, Elgin, Illinois.

PUBLIC LANDS AND FORESTS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests concluded hearings on S. 2016, to authorize the exchange of lands between an Alaska Native Village Corporation and the Department of the Interior, S. 2565, to enhance ecosystem protection and the range of outdoor opportunities protected by statute in the Skykomish River Valley of the State of Washington by designating certain lower-elevation Federal lands as wilderness, S. 2587, to establish the Joint Federal and State Navigable Waters Commission for Alaska, S. 2612, to establish wilderness areas, promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for high quality development in Clark County, Nevada, S. 2652, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange certain land in the State of Florida, and S. Con. Res. 107, expressing the sense of Congress that Federal land management agencies should fully support the Western Governors Association "Collaborative 10-year Strategy for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment", as signed August 2001, to reduce the overabundance of forest fuels that place national resources at high risk of catastrophic wildfire, and prepare a National prescribed Fire Strategy that minimizes risks of escape, after receiving testimony from Senators Reid, Murray, and Ensign; Robert Abbey, Acting Assistant Director for Renewable Resources,