

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House and Senate met in a Joint Meeting to Receive His Excellency Jose Maria Aznar, President of the Government of Spain.

House passed H.R. 3030, Improving the Community Services Block Grant Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S549–S598

Measures Passed:

Homeland Security Technology Improvement Act: Senate passed S. 1612, to establish a technology, equipment, and information transfer program within the Department of Homeland Security, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S596–97**

SAFE Transportation Equity Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 1072, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S549–68, S571–75**

Pending:

Modified committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Dorgan Amendment No. 2267, to exempt certain agricultural producers from certain hazardous materials transportation requirements. **Pages S571–75**

Gregg Amendment No. 2268 (to Amendment No. 2267), to provide that certain public safety officials have the right to collective bargaining. **Pages S573–75**

Withdrawn:

Bond Amendment No. 2265, to make certain improvements to the bill. **Pages S554–68, S571**

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

Gregg Amendment No. 2266 (to Amendment No. 2265), to provide that certain public safety officials have the right to collective bargaining, fell when Bond Amendment No. 2265, (listed above) was withdrawn. **Pages S557–68, S571**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 5, 2004. **Pages S597–98**

California Missions Preservation Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that H.R. 1446, to support the efforts of the California Missions Foundation to restore and repair the Spanish colonial and mission-era missions in the State of California and to preserve the artworks and artifacts of these missions, be referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. **Page S596**

APPOINTMENTS:

Task Force on Slave Laborers: The Chair, on behalf of the President Pro Tempore, pursuant to S. Con. Res. 130 (106th Congress), appointed the following individual to the Task Force on Slave Laborers: Virginia Walden-Ford, of Washington, D.C. **Page S596**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By unanimous vote of 96 yeas (Vote No. Ex. 8), Mark R. Filip, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. **Pages S568–71, S598**

Messages From the House: **Page S588**

Measures Referred: **Pages S588–89**

Executive Communications: **Pages S589–90**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S590–91**

Additional Statements: **Page S588**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S591–95**

Authority for Committees to Meet: **Page S596**

Privilege of the Floor: **Page S596**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—8) **Page S571**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 1 p.m. and adjourned at 7:09 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Thursday, February 5, 2004. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S598.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2005 and future years defense program, after receiving testimony from Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense; and General Peter Pace, USMC, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Lawrence T. Di Rita, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, and Francis J. Harvey, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration, and 438 military nominations in the Army, Navy and Air Force.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill entitled Federal Public transportation Act of 2004.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Administration's Health and Human Services budget priorities for fiscal year 2005, after receiving testimony from Tommy G. Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine workforce issues relating to preserving a strong United States Postal Service, after receiving testimony from Walter M. Olihovik, National Association of Postmasters of the United States, Steve D. LeNoir, National League of Postmasters, and Ted Keating, National Association of Postal Supervisors, all of Alexandria, Virginia; John Calhoun Wells, San Antonio, Texas, former Director of Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service; James L. Medoff, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Michael L. Wachter, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 3763–3780; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 357–359, and H. Res. 515–519 were introduced.

Pages H391–92

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H392–393

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Chaplain: Today's prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Michael J. Easley, Senior Pastor, Immanuel Bible Church in Springfield, Virginia.

Page H311

Recess: The House recessed at 10:05 a.m. and reconvened at 10:50 a.m.

Page H311

Joint Meeting to Receive His Excellency Jose Maria Aznar, President of the Government of Spain: The House and Senate met in a Joint Meeting to receive His Excellency Jose Maria Aznar, President of the Government of Spain. He was escorted into the House Chamber by a committee comprised of Representatives DeLay, Blunt, Pryce

(OH), Bereuter, Weller, Pelosi, Hoyer, Menendez, Lantos, and Rodriguez and Senators Frist, Stevens, Santorum, Kyl, Allen, Lugar, Smith, Daschle, and Dodd.

Pages H311–13

Recess: The House recessed at 11:30 a.m. and reconvened at 12:06 p.m.

Page H314

Improving the Community Services Block Grant Act of 2003: The House passed H.R. 3030, to amend the Community Service Block Grant Act to provide for quality improvements by voice vote.

Pages H319–59

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce printed in the bill was considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment.

Pages H325–26

Agreed to:

George Miller of California amendment (No. 5 printed in the Congressional Record of February 3)