

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 256, Bankruptcy Reform Act.

The House passed H.R. 3, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S2405–S2503*

**Measures Introduced:** Sixteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 587–602, S. Res. 79–81, and S. Con. Res. 17. **Pages S2482–83**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 99, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to contract with the city of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the storage of the city's water in the Kendrick Project, Wyoming. (S. Rept. No. 109–27)

S. 152, 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, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 109–28)

S. 176, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Alaska. (S. Rept. No. 109–29)

S. 231, to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the rehabilitation of the Wallowa Lake Dam in Oregon. (S. Rept. No. 109–30)

S. 232, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to assist in the implementation of fish passage and screening facilities at non-Federal water projects. (S. Rept. No. 109–31)

S. 244, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Wyoming. (S. Rept. No. 109–32)

S. 264, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize certain projects in the State of Hawaii. (S. Rept. No. 109–33)

S. 272, to designate certain National Forest System land in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as

components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 109–34)

S. 600, to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and international broadcasting activities for fiscal years 2006 and 2007, for the Peace Corps for fiscal years 2006 and 2007, for foreign assistance programs for fiscal years 2006 and 2007. (S. Rept. No. 109–35) **Page S2482**

#### Measures Passed:

**Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act Amendment:** By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 43), Senate passed S. 250, to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 to improve the Act, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S2428–59, S2462**

**Bankruptcy Reform Act:** By 74 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. 44), Senate passed S. 256, a bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2416–17, S2459–74**

#### Adopted:

By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 40), Durbin Amendment No. 112, to protect disabled veterans from means testing in bankruptcy under certain circumstances. **Pages S2426–27**

By 73 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. 42), Talent Amendment No. 121, to deter corporate fraud and prevent the abuse of State self-settled trust law. **Page S2428**

Feingold Modified Amendment No. 92, to amend the credit counseling provision. **Page S2463**

#### Rejected:

By 41 yeas to 58 nays (Vote No. 36), Dodd (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 70, to exempt debtors whose financial problems were caused by failure to

receive alimony or child support, or both, from means testing. **Page S2416**

By 41 yeas to 58 nays (Vote No. 37), Dodd (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 69, to amend the definition of current monthly income. **Pages S2416–17**

By 38 yeas to 61 nays (Vote No. 38), Akaka Amendment No. 105, to limit claims in bankruptcy by certain unsecured creditors. **Page S2417**

By 44 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 39), Kennedy (for Leahy/Sarbanes) Amendment No. 83, to modify the definition of disinterested person in the Bankruptcy Code. **Pages S2424–26**

By 43 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 41), Schumer Amendment No. 129 (to Amendment No. 121), to limit the exemption for asset protection trusts. **Pages S2427–28**

Withdrawn:

Feingold Amendment No. 90, to amend the provision relating to fair notice given to creditors. **Pages S2462–63**

Feingold Amendment No. 93, to modify the disclosure requirements for debt relief agencies providing bankruptcy assistance. **Page S2463**

Feingold Amendment No. 95, to amend the provisions relating to the discharge of taxes under chapter 13. **Page S2463**

Feingold Amendment No. 96, to amend the provisions relating to chapter 13 plans to have a 5-year duration in certain cases and to amend the definition of disposable income for purposes of chapter 13. **Page S2463**

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

Feingold Amendment No. 87, to amend section 104 of title 11, United States Code, to include certain provisions in the triennial inflation adjustment of dollar amounts, previously agreed to on Wednesday, March 9, 2005, was modified by unanimous consent. **Page S2463**

**Regarding Georgia and Moldova:** Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 69, expressing the sense of the Senate about the actions of Russia regarding Georgia and Moldova, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S2500–01**

**National Safe Place Week:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 71, designating the week beginning March 13, 2005 as “National Safe Place Week”, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S2501**

McConnell (for Craig) Amendment No. 139, to strike the request for a Presidential proclamation. **Page S2501**

**Yad Vashem Complex:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 79, expressing the sense of the Senate in marking the dedication on March 15, 2005, of the expanded museum complex at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Authority in Israel, in furtherance of Yad Vashem’s mission to document the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust, to preserve the memory and story of each of the victims, impart the legacy of the Holocaust to future generations, and recognize the Righteous Among the Nations. **Pages S2501–02**

**Honoring Fern Holland:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 80, honoring the life of Fern Holland and expressing the deepest condolences of the Senate to her family on their loss. **Page S2502**

**Honoring Chris LeDoux:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 81, recognizing the contribution of Chris LeDoux to country music. **Page S2502–03**

**Concurrent Budget Resolution—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the consideration of an original resolution setting forth the fiscal year 2006 budget for the Federal Government, at 10 a.m., on Monday, March 14, 2005, and that there be a total of 45 hours remaining on the resolution, with 22 hours controlled by the Majority and 23 hours controlled by the Minority. **Page S2499**

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

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the national emergency with respect to Iran; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–9) **Page S2481**

#### Appointments:

**NATO Parliamentary Assembly:** The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 1928–1928d, as amended, appointed Senator Biden as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly during the 109th Congress. **Page S2500**

**Mexico-U.S. Interparliamentary Group:** The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h–276k, as amended, appointed Senator Dodd as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Mexico-U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 109th Congress. **Page S2500**

**Public Interest Declassification Board:** The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105–567, as amended by Public Law 108–458 (Section 1102), appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Interest Declassification Board:

Joan Vail Grimson of Virginia. **Page S2500**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:  
 Michael Jackson, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security. **Pages S2500, S2503**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S2481**

**Measures Placed on Calendar:** **Pages S2481–82**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S2482**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S2483–84**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S2484–98**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S2480–81**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Page S2499**

**Authority for Committees to Meet:** **Page S2499**

**Record Votes:** Nine record votes were taken today. (Total—44) **Pages S2416, S2417, S2426, S2427, S2428**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:53 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Friday, March 11, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2503.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the reauthorization of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, after receiving testimony from Jeffrey C. Sprecher, Intercontinental Exchange, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia; Robert G. Pickel, International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc., New York, New York; Daniel J. Roth, National Futures Association, Chicago, Illinois; and Oliver I. Ireland, Morrison and Forester, LLP, on behalf of Huntsman Corporation, John G. Gaine, Managed Funds Association, and Micah S. Green, The Bond Market Association, all of Washington, D.C.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from Gale A. Norton, Secretary of the Interior.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Environmental Management and Radioactive Waste Management in the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony from Paul M. Golan, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, and Theodore J. Garrish, Deputy Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, both of the Department of Energy.

### APPROPRIATIONS: FOSTER CARE INITIATIVES

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for funding for Federal foster care initiatives in the District of Columbia, after receiving testimony from Brenda Donald Walker, District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency; Martha B. Knisley, District of Columbia Department of Mental Health; Lee F. Sattelfield, Family Court of District of Columbia Superior Court; Judith Metzler, Center for the Study of Social Policy, and Margie Chalofsky, Foster and Adoptive Family Advocacy Center, both of Washington, D.C.

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DETENTION OPERATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the review of Department of Defense detention operations and detainee interrogation techniques, after receiving testimony from Vice Admiral Albert T. Church III, USN, Director of the Navy Staff.

### IDENTITY THEFT

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee held hearings to examine recent developments involving the security of sensitive consumer information relating to identity theft, focusing on laws currently applicable to resellers of consumer information, receiving testimony from Senator Leahy; Deborah Platt Majoras, Chairman, Federal Trade Commission; Larry Johnson, Special Agent in Charge, Criminal Investigative Division, United States Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security; Amy S. Friend, Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury.

Hearings recessed subject to the call of the Chair.