

Law 105–63, announced the appointment of the following individual to serve as members of the National Council on the Arts: Senator Leahy, vice Senator Reid.

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

James H. Bilbray, of Nevada, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Philip Coyle, of California, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr., United States Navy, Retired, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

James V. Hansen, of Utah, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

General James T. Hill, United States Army, Retired, of Florida, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission. (Position)

Claude M. Kicklighter, of Georgia, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Samuel Knox Skinner, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner, United States Air Force, Retired, of Texas, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

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Messages From the House: **Pages S2732–33**

Measures Referred: **Page S2733**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2733–34**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2734**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S2735**

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Additional Statements: **Pages S2730–32**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2746–53**

Authority for Committees to Meet: **Pages S2753–54**

Privilege of the Floor: **Page S2754**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—50) **Pages S2691–94**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 10:06 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Wednesday, March 16, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2755.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine school nutrition programs, focusing on the elimination of reduced price meals, the Summer Food Service Program, and nutrition education and promotion, after receiving testimony from Senator Dole; Dora Rivas, Dallas Independent School District, Dallas, Texas; Annette Bomar Hopgood, Georgia Department of Education, Atlanta; Karen Johnson, Child Nutrition Programs, Yuma, Arizona, on behalf of the School Nutrition Association; and Ruth Jonen, Hoffman Estates, Palatine, Illinois.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, after receiving testimony from R. James Nicholson, Secretary, Jonathan B. Perlin, Acting Under Secretary for Health, Veterans' Health Administration, Vice Admiral Daniel L. Cooper (USN Ret.), Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, Richard A. Wannemacher, Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, National Cemetery Administration, Tim McClain, General Counsel, and Rita A. Reed, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Labor, after receiving testimony from Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, Judiciary and Housing and Urban Development concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Transportation, after receiving testimony from Norman Y. Mineta, Secretary of Transportation.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, the Office of Science, and the Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology in the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony from David Garman, Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Raymond L. Orbach, Director, Office of Science, and William D. Magwood, IV, Director, Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology, all of Department of Energy.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION: MILITARY STRATEGY

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine military strategy and operational requirements from combatant commanders in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2006, after receiving testimony from General Bantz J. Craddock, USA, Commander, U.S. Southern Command; and Admiral Timothy J. Keating, USN, Commander, U.S. Northern Command.

NOMINATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Anthony Joseph Principi, of California, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

HERITAGE AREA BILLS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks concluded a hearing to examine S. 175, to establish the Bleeding Kansas and Enduring Struggle for Freedom National Heritage Area, S. 322, to establish the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership in the States of Vermont and New York, S. 323, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the French Colonial Heritage Area in the State of Missouri as a unit of the National Park System, and S. 429, to establish the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, after receiving testimony from Janet Snyder Matthews, Associate Director, Cultural Resources, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; James Baker, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, St. Genevieve; Judy Billings, Kansas Chamber of Commerce, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Lawrence; Ronald D. Jones, Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, Inc., Salisbury, Connecticut; Ann Cousins, Preservation Trust of

Vermont, Burlington; John W. Cosgrove, Alliance of National Heritage Areas, Scranton, Pennsylvania; and J. Peyton Knight, American Policy Center, and American Land Rights Association, Warrenton, Virginia.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Howard J. Krongard, of New Jersey, to be Inspector General, Department of State, after the nominee answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Joseph R. DeTrani, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks, John Thomas Schieffer, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Japan, who was introduced by Senator Hutchison, and Christopher R. Hill, of Rhode Island, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, after each nominee testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Howard J. Krongard, of New Jersey, to be Inspector General, Department of State, Joseph R. DeTrani, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks, John Thomas Schieffer, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Japan, Christopher R. Hill, of Rhode Island, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, R. Nicholas Burns, of Massachusetts, to be an Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, C. David Welch, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, John B. Bellinger, of Virginia, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State, David B. Balton, of the District of Columbia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Fisheries, Rudolph E. Boschwitz, of Minnesota, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Human Rights Commission of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and promotion lists in the Foreign Service.

NATIONAL SECURITY PERSONNEL SYSTEM

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce and the District of Columbia concluded an oversight hearing to examine ensuring the success of the National Security

Personnel System, focusing on the proposed regulations jointly published by the Department of Defense and Office of Personnel Management for the National Security Personnel System regarding management of the department and for civil service reform across the Federal government, after receiving testimony from David M. Walker, Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; Charles S. Abell, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; George Nesterczuk, Senior Advisor to the Director on Department of Defense, Office of Personnel Management; Richard Oppedisano, Federal Managers Association, Alexandria, Virginia; and John Gage, American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, Washington, D.C., and Gregory J. Junemann, International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, AFL-CIO and CLC, Silver Spring, Maryland, both on behalf of the United DOD Workers' Coalition.

OPEN GOVERNMENT ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine S. 394, to promote accessibility, accountability, and openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (the OPEN Government Act), and S. 589, to establish the Commission on Freedom of Information Act Processing Delays, after receiving testimony from Katherine M. "Missy" Cary, Office of the Texas Attorney General, Austin; Mark Tapscott, The Heritage Foundation, Lisa Graves, American

Civil Liberties Union, Meredith Fuchs, George Washington University National Security Archive, and Thomas M. Susman, Ropes and Gray LLP, all of Washington, D.C.; and Walter Mears, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY MERGERS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the SBC/ATT and Verizon/MCI mergers relating to remaking the telecommunications industry, after receiving testimony from Edward E. Whitacre, Jr., SBC Communications Inc., San Antonio, Texas; Ivan G. Seidenberg, Verizon Communications, Inc., New York, New York; David Dorman, AT&T Corporation, Bedminster, New Jersey; and Michael D. Capellas, MCI, Inc., Ashburn, Virginia.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

RETIREMENT

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the economics of retirement, focusing on the aging population, after receiving testimony from Alan Greenspan, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Board.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 37 public bills, H.R. 1291–1327; 1 private bill, H.R. 1328; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 37; H. Con. Res. 96–99, and H. Res. 153–158, were introduced. **Pages H1506–09**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1509–10**

Reports Filed: Report were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 154, providing for consideration of H. Con. Res. 95, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006, revising appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2005, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 through 2010 (H. Rept. 109–19). **Page H1506**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Porter to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1423**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered today by Most Rev. Edward J. Slattery, Bishop, Diocese of Tulsa, Oklahoma. **Page H1425**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:17 a.m. and reconvened at 10 a.m. **Page H1425**

Emergency Supplemental Wartime Appropriations Act: The House began consideration of H.R. 1268, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005. Further consideration of the bill will resume tomorrow, March 16. **Pages H1436–90, H1490–H1500**