

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Thomas B. Griffith, of Utah, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6427–S6597

Measures Introduced: Nineteen bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1230–1248, and S. Res. 171. **Page S6481**

Measures Reported:

S. 1230, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the extension of the Highway Trust Fund and the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund expenditure authority and related taxes and to provide for excise tax reform and simplification. (S. Rept. No. 109–82) **Page S6481**

Measures Passed:

Honoring Robert M. La Follette: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 161, honoring the life of Robert M. La Follette, Sr., on the sesquicentennial of his birth, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6588**

Energy Policy Act: Senate began consideration of H.R. 6, to ensure jobs for our future with secure, affordable, and reliable energy, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S6439–45, S6445–67

Adopted:

Domenici Amendment No. 775, in the nature of a substitute. (Amendment, as agreed to, will be considered original text for the purpose of further amendment.) **Page S6447**

Rejected:

Boxer Amendment No. 781 (to Amendment No. 779), to ensure that ethanol is treated like all other motor vehicle fuels and that taxpayers and local governments do not have to pay for environmental damage caused by ethanol (By 59 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 137), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S6460–63

Pending:

Domenici Amendment No. 779 (to Amendment No. 775), to eliminate methyl tertiary butyl ether from the United States fuel supply, to increase production and use of renewable fuel, and to increase the Nation's energy independence. **Pages S6447–60**

Schumer Amendment No. 782 (to Amendment No. 779), to strike the reliable fuels subtitle of the amendment. **Pages S6463–67**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, June 15, 2005. **Pages S6588–89**

Appointments:

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki): The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94–304, as amended by Public Law 99–7, appointed the following Senators as members of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the 109th Congress: Senators Smith, Chambliss, Burr, and Vitter. **Page S6588**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 73 yeas, 24 nays (Vote No. EX. 136), Thomas B. Griffith, of Utah, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Pages S6427–38 S6597

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Thomas Craig Wheeler, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Margaret Mary Sweeney, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

4 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Navy.

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Messages From the House:	Page S6480
Measures Referred:	Page S6480
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Notices of Hearings/Meetings:	Page S6587
Authority for Committees to Meet:	Page S6587
Privilege of the Floor:	Page S6588
Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—137)	Pages S6438, S6462–63
Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:44 a.m., and adjourned at 7:19 p.m. until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, June 15, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6588.)	

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD BIOTECHNOLOGY

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the benefits and future developments in agriculture and food biotechnology, focusing on crossbreeding, hybridization, and bioengineering, legal and regulatory background, and the interagency Agricultural Biotechnology Working Group, after receiving testimony from Chuck Lambert, Deputy Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs; Clifford Gabriel, Director, Office of Science Coordination and Policy, Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances, Environmental Protection Agency; Robert E. Brackett, Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Jim Greenwood, Biotechnology Industry Organization, Washington, D.C.; Ron Heck, American Soybean Association, Perry, Iowa; and Kenneth M. Quinn, World Food Prize Foundation, Des Moines, Iowa.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security approved for full Committee consideration H.R. 2360, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year

ending September 30, 2006, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

APPROPRIATIONS: ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water, and Related Agencies approved for full Committee consideration H.R. 2419, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch resumed a hearing to examine the progress of the Capitol Visitor Center construction, receiving testimony from Alan Hantman, Architect of the Capitol; and Bernard Ungar, Director, and Terrell Dorn, Assistant Director, both of Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office.

Hearing will continue on Thursday, July 14.

SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Securities and Investment concluded a hearing to examine the role of financial markets in social security reform, focusing on the Federal Thrift Savings Plan, personal retirement savings accounts, and retirement plan administrative costs, after receiving testimony from Gary A. Amelio, Executive Director, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board; Francis Enderle, Barclays Global Investors, San Francisco, California; Francis X. Cavanaugh, Public Finance Consulting, Chevy Chase, Maryland; Michael Tanner, CATO Institute, and David C. John, The Heritage Foundation, both of Washington, D.C.; and Jason Furman, New York University Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee met and approved recommendations on proposed legislation implementing the United States-Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement.

NORTH KOREA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the status of the Six-Party Talks in Beijing, and matters related to the resolution of the North Korean nuclear crisis, after receiving testimony from Christopher R. Hill, Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, and Joseph R. DeTrani, Special Envoy, Six-Party Talks, both of the Department of State.