

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2006 through 2009.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S10529–S10630*

**Measures Introduced:** Ten bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1779–1788, S.J. Res. 27, S. Res. 254–259, and S. Con. Res. 54.

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#### Measures Reported:

H.R. 2863, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

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#### Measures Passed:

**NASA Authorization:** Senate passed S. 1281, to authorize appropriations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for science, aeronautics, exploration, exploration capabilities, and the Inspector General, for fiscal years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010, after agreeing to the committee amendments, and the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S10610–20

Graham (for Hutchison/Nelson (FL)) Amendment No. 1875, of a perfecting nature.

Page S10614

**Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act:** Senate passed S. 1235, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the availability of \$400,000 in life insurance coverage to servicemembers and veterans, to make a stillborn child an insurable dependent for purposes of the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program, to make technical corrections to the Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2004, to make permanent a pilot program for direct housing loans for Native American veterans, and to require an annual plan on outreach activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title.

Pages S10620–22

**Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Act:** Senate

passed H.R. 3864, to assist individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricanes Katrina or Rita through vocational rehabilitation services, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S10622

**Honoring Sandra Feldman:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 256, honoring the life of Sandra Feldman.

Pages S10622–23

**Recognizing Jacob Mock Doub:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 257, recognizing the spirit of Jacob Mock Doub and many young people who have contributed to encouraging youth to be physically active and fit, and expressing support for "National Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day".

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**Commending Timothy S. Wineman:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 258, to commend Timothy Scott Wineman.

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**Airport Improvement Project Grants:** Senate passed S. 1786, to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to make emergency airport improvement project grants-in-aid under title 49, United States Code, for repairs and costs related to damage from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Page S10624

**Montana Indian Water Rights—Referral Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of S. 1219, to authorize certain tribes in the State of Montana to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights to meet the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Inc., and the bill was then referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Page S10624

**Roberts Nomination:** Senate continued consideration of the nomination of John G. Roberts, Jr., of Maryland, to be Chief Justice of the United States.

Pages S10529–78

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination

at 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, September 28, 2005, provided further, that the time until 10:30 a.m., be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, and at 11:30 a.m., vote on confirmation of the nomination. **Page S10624**

**Removal of Injunction of Secrecy:** The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaty:

Protocol Amending the Tax Convention with France (Treaty Doc. No. 109–4).

The treaty was transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed. **Page S10624**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Jendayi Elizabeth Frazer, Assistant Secretary of State (African Affairs), to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for the remainder of the term expiring September 27, 2009.

Horace A. Thompson, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring April 27, 2011.

Kent D. Talbert, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Education.

Carol E. Dinkins, of Texas, to be Chairman of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.

Alan Charles Raul, of the District of Columbia, to be Vice Chairman of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.

Timothy C. Batten, Sr., of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

Kristi Dubose, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama.

Thomas E. Johnston, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia.

Virginia Mary Kendall, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

W. Keith Watkins, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama.

Routine lists in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service.

**Pages S10629–30**

**Messages From the House:** **Pages S10592–93**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S10593**

**Measures Placed on Calendar:** **Page S10593**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S10593–94**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S10594–96**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

**Pages S10596–S10604**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S10590–92**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S10604–08**

**Notices of Hearings/Meetings:** **Pages S10608–09**

**Authority for Committees to Meet:** **Pages S10609–10**

**Privilege of the Floor:** **Page S10610**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:37 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, September 29, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S10624.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEFENSE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Committee ordered favorably reported H.R. 2863, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

### PROFESSIONAL SPORTS INTEGRITY

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded hearings to examine S. 1114, to establish minimum drug testing standards for major professional sports leagues, and S. 1334, to provide for integrity and accountability in professional sports, after receiving testimony from Senator Bunning; Allan H. Selig, Major League Baseball, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Donald M. Fehr, Major League Baseball Players Association, Paul Tagliabue, National Football League, David J. Stern, National Basketball Association, Antonio Davis, National Basketball Players Association, and Gary Bettman, National Hockey League, all of New York, New York; Eugene Upshaw, National Football League Players Association, and Ted Saskin, National Hockey League Players' Association, both of Washington, D.C.; Ryne Sandberg, Phoenix, Arizona; Robin Roberts, Tampa, Florida; Lou Brock, St. Louis, Missouri; and Paul Niekro, and Hank Aaron, both of Atlanta, Georgia.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 166, to amend the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 to reauthorize the participation of the Bureau of Reclamation in the Deschutes River Conservancy;