

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 609, to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2547–S2675

Measures Introduced: Six bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2481–2486 and S. Res. 415. **Pages S2602–03**

Measures Reported:

S. 65, to amend the age restrictions for pilots, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 109–225)

S. 829, to allow media coverage of court proceedings.

S. 1768, to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings. **Page S2602**

Securing America's Borders Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 2454, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for comprehensive reform, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2553–94**

Adopted:

By a unanimous vote of 94 yeas (Vote No. 83), Frist Amendment No. 3191 (to Amendment No. 3192), to require the Commissioner of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection to collect statistics, and prepare reports describing the statistics relating to deaths occurring at the border between the United States and Mexico. **Pages S2575–76**

Pending:

Specter/Leahy Amendment No. 3192, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2562**

Kyl/Cornyn Amendment No. 3206 (to Amendment No. 3192), to make certain aliens ineligible for conditional nonimmigrant work authorization and status. **Pages S2584–85, S2590–94**

Cornyn Amendment No. 3207 (to Amendment No. 3206), to establish an enactment date. **Pages S2585–89**

Bingaman Amendment No. 3210 (to Amendment No. 3192), to provide financial aid to local law enforcement officials along the Nation's borders. **Pages S2589–90**

Alexander Amendment No. 3193 (to Amendment No. 3192), to prescribe the binding oath or affirmation of renunciation and allegiance required to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States, to encourage and support the efforts of prospective citizens of the United States to become citizens. **Page S2590**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, March 31, 2006. **Page S2675**

Executive Reports of Committees: Senate received the following executive report of a committee:

Report to accompany Protocol of 1997 Amending MARPOL Convention (Treaty Doc. 108–7) (Ex. Rept. 109–13). **Page S2602**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Daniel L. Cooper, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs for a term of four years.

Gary D. Orton, of Nevada, to be United States Marshal for the District of Nevada for the term of four years.

3 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Army, Foreign Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. **Page S2675**

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

Daniel P. Ryan, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, which was sent to the Senate on February 14, 2005. **Page S2675**

Messages From the House: **Page S2600**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S2600**

Executive Communications:	Pages S2600–02
Executive Reports of Committees:	Page S2602
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S2603–04
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	Pages S2604–12
Additional Statements:	Pages S2597–S2600
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S2612–73
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Pages S2673–74
Privileges of the Floor:	Page S2674
Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—83)	Pages S2575–76

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:49 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Friday, March 31, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2675.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from P. Lynn Scarlett, Deputy Secretary, R. Thomas Weimer, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, and Pamela K. Haze, Co-Director, Office of Budget, all of the Department of the Interior.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of Energy's Supply and Conservation account, Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability account, Office of Nuclear Energy, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, Office of Environmental Management, Office of Fossil Energy Research and Development, and Office of Science, after receiving testimony from David K. Garman, Under Secretary for Energy, Science, and Environment, and Raymond L. Orbach, Director, Office of Science, both of the Department of Energy.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies

concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of Agriculture, after receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from Keith Collins, Chief Economist, J.B. Penn, Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, Mark E. Rey, Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, Eric M. Bost, Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, Richard A. Raymond, Under Secretary for Food Safety, and Charles Lambert, Acting Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, all of the Department of Agriculture.

FLAT FEDERAL INCOME TAX

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine the potential effects of a flat Federal income tax in the District of Columbia, after receiving testimony from Natwar M. Gandhi, Chief Financial Officer for the Government of the District of Columbia; and Terence C. Golden, Federal City Council, Washington, D.C.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine the proposed defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007, focusing on reserve component personnel policies, after receiving testimony from Thomas F. Hall, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs; Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum, USA, Chief National Guard Bureau; Lieutenant General Clyde A. Vaughn, USA, Director, Army National Guard; Lieutenant General Daniel James III, USAF, Director, Air National Guard; Lieutenant General James R. Helmly, USA, Chief, Army Reserve; Vice Admiral John G. Cotton, USN, Chief, Navy Reserve; Lieutenant General John W. Bergman, USMC, Commander, Marine Forces Reserve; and Lieutenant General John A. Bradley, USAF, Chief, Air Force Reserve.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill to amend the Defense Production Act of 1950, to strengthen Government review and oversight of foreign investment in the United States, to provide for enhanced Congressional oversight with respect thereto.

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation concluded a hearing to examine S. 1801, to amend the