

Executive Reports of Committees:	Page S4695
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S4696–97
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	Pages S4697–S4710
Additional Statements:	Pages S4692–93
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S4710–24
Notices of Hearings/Meetings:	Page S4724
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Pages S4724–25

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—128) **Page S4651, S4675, S4676, S4687**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:15 a.m., and adjourned at 7 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Thursday, May 18, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S4725–26.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE BROADBAND LOAN PROGRAM

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service Broadband Loan and Loan Guarantee Program, after receiving testimony from Jim Andrew, Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture; Larry Sevier, Rural Telephone Service Company, Lenora, Kansas; Mark Pagon, Pegasus Communications Corporation, Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania; and Tom Simmons, Midcontinent Communications, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense; and General Peter Pace, USMC, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.

### NATIONAL GUARD

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the roles and missions of the National Guard in support of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, after receiving testimony from Paul McHale, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense; Lieutenant General James T. Conway, USMC, Director of Operations, J–3, The Joint Staff; Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum,

USA, Chief, National Guard Bureau; and Chief David V. Aguilar, Office of Border Patrol, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Dale Klein, of Texas, to be Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, who was introduced by Senator Hutchison, and Molly A. O'Neill, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### PHYSICIAN-OWNED SPECIALTY HOSPITALS

*Committee on Finance:* Committee held a hearing to examine the quality of patient care and services at physician-owned specialty hospitals, receiving testimony from Mark B. McClellan, Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; Michael W. Wilson, Sellwood Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon; Cindy Morrison, Sioux Valley Health System, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on behalf of the Coalition of Full Service Hospitals; John M. House, Irving, Texas, on behalf of the American Surgical Hospital Association; Dan Mulholland, Horty, Springer and Mattern, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and James C. Cobey, Washington, DC.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

### IRAN

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee held a hearing to examine Iran's political and nuclear ambitions and the enrichment of uranium, focusing on United States policy options, the possibility of unilateral sanctions targeting European and Asian corporations, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), receiving testimony from Robert J. Einhorn, Center for Strategic and International Studies, David Albright, Institute for Science and International Security, Kenneth M. Pollack, Brookings Institution, Karim Sadjadpour, International Crisis Group, Patrick Clawson, Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and Geoffrey Kemp, Nixon Center, all of Washington, DC.

Hearing will continue on tomorrow.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of April H. Foley, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Hungary, who was introduced by Representative Kelly, Michael D. Kirby, of Virginia, to

be Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova, John A. Cloud, Jr., of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania, Tracey Ann Jacobson, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tajikistan, Michael Wood, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to Sweden, and Robert Anthony Bradtke, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

## NOMINATION

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Robert J. Portman, of Ohio, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Voinovich, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

## SECURITY CLEARANCE PROCESS

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia continued hearings to examine the Federal government's security clearance process, focusing on the progress of the Office of Personnel Management in implementing a plan to address the longstanding backlog of security clearance investigations, including the next steps by the Office of Management and Budget, and the recent halt by the Defense Security Service in processing government contractor security clearances, receiving testimony from Clay Johnson, III, Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget; Kathy L. Dillaman, Associate Director for Federal Investigative Services Division, Office of Personnel Management; Robert Andrews, Deputy Under Secretary for Counter-Intelligence and Security, and Robert W. Rogalski, Special Assistant to the Under Secretary for Intelligence, both of the Department of Defense; and Derek B. Stewart, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, Government Accountability Office.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2823, to provide life-saving care for those with HIV/AIDS;

S. 2803, to amend the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 to improve the safety of mines and mining, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 860, to amend the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act to require State academic assessments of student achievement in United States history and civics; and

The nominations of Jerry Gayle Bridges, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, and Vince J. Juaristi, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors, both of the Corporation for National and Community Service, J.C.A. Stagg, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, Kent D. Talbert, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Education, and Horace A. Thompson, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

## SUICIDE PREVENTION

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee continued oversight hearings to examine how suicide prevention programs and resources that exist outside of Indian country might be applied to American Indians and Alaska Natives, receiving testimony from Jerry Gidner, Deputy Bureau Director for Tribal Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Charles W. Grim, Director, Indian Health Service, and Charles G. Curie, Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, both of Department of Health and Human Services; Donna Vigil, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Whiteriver, Arizona; William E. Martin, Alaska State Suicide Prevention Council, Juneau; R. Dale Walker, Oregon Health and Science University One Sky Center, Portland; and Jo Ann Kauffman, Kauffman and Associates, Inc., Spokane, Washington, on behalf of Native Aspirations Project.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

## VOTING RIGHTS ACT

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine understanding the benefits and cost of Section 5 pre-clearance requirements of the Voting Rights Act, after receiving testimony from Fred Gray, Gray, Langford, Sapp, McGowan, Gray and Nathanson, Montgomery, Alabama; Drew S. Days, III, Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut; Abigail M. Thernstrom, Manhattan Institute, New York, New York; Armand Derfner, Derfner, Altman and Wilborn, Charleston, South Carolina; and Nathaniel Persily, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia.

## INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.