

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 5386, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2007.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S4727–S4817*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-seven bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2830–2856, S. Res. 483–484, and S. Con. Res. 95.

**Pages S4795–96**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 1899, to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act to identify and remove barriers to reducing child abuse, to provide for examinations of certain children, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 109–255)

S. 2856, to provide regulatory relief and improve productivity for insured depository institutions. (S. Rept. No. 109–256)

S.J. Res. 1, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to marriage.

**Page S4795**

#### Measures Passed:

**Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. 193, to increase the penalties for violations by television and radio broadcasters of the prohibitions against transmission of obscene, indecent, and profane language, and the bill was then passed.

**Page S4816**

**Democracy in Burma:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 484, expressing the sense of the Senate condemning the military junta in Burma for its recent campaign of terror against ethnic minorities and calling on the United Nations Security Council to adopt immediately a binding, non-punitive resolution on Burma.

**Pages S4816–17**

**Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act:** Senate continued consideration of S. 2611, to provide for

comprehensive immigration reform, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

**Pages S4727–91**

#### Adopted:

By 56 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 129), Kennedy Amendment No. 4066, to modify the conditions under which an H–2C nonimmigrant may apply for adjustment of status.

**Pages S4730–33**

Akaka/Inouye Amendment No. 4029, to grant the children of Filipino World War II veterans special immigrant status for purposes of family reunification.

**Pages S4747–50**

Vitter/Grassley Amendment No. 3964, to modify the burden of proof requirements for purposes of adjustment of status.

**Pages S4750–52**

By 63 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. 131), Inhofe Further Modified Amendment No. 4064, to amend title 4 United States Code, to declare English as the national language of the United States and to promote the patriotic integration of prospective U.S. citizens.

**Pages S4735–39, S4752–57, S4761–70**

By 58 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 132), Salazar/Durbin Modified Amendment No. 4073, to declare that English is the common and unifying language of the United States, and to preserve and enhance the role of the English language.

**Pages S4757–61, S4770**

By 64 yeas to 32 nays (Vote No. 134), Cornyn Amendment No. 4038, to require aliens seeking adjustment of status under section 245B of the Immigration and Nationality Act or Deferred Mandatory Departure status under section 245C of such Act to pay a supplemental application fee, which shall be used to provide financial assistance to States for health and educational services for non-citizens.

**Pages S4772–76**

Nelson Modified Amendment No. 3998, to improve the United States ability to detain illegal aliens.

**Page S4788**

**Rejected:**

Ensign Amendment No. 3985, to reduce document fraud, prevent identity theft, and preserve the integrity of the Social Security system, by ensuring that persons who receive an adjustment of status under this bill are not able to receive Social Security benefits as a result of unlawful activity. (By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 130), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S4739–47**

By 43 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 133), Clinton Amendment No. 4072, to establish a grant program to provide financial assistance to States and local governments for the costs of providing health care and educational services to non-citizens, and to provide additional funding for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program. **Pages S4770–72, S4775**

Cornyn (for Kyl/Cornyn) Amendment No. 3969, to prohibit H–2C nonimmigrants from adjusting to lawful permanent resident status. (By 58 yeas to 35 nays (Vote No. 135), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S4776–86**

**Pending:**

Ensign/Graham Modified Amendment No. 4076, to authorize the use of the National Guard to secure the southern border of the United States. **Pages S4786–88**

Chambliss/Isakson Amendment No. 4009, to modify the wage requirements for employers seeking to hire H–2A and blue card agricultural workers. **Pages S4788–91**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, May 22, 2006, Senate proceed to a vote in relation to Chambliss/Isakson Amendment No. 4009 (listed above); and that the time from 5 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. be equally divided between Senator Chambliss and the Democratic manager or his designee; provided further, that following that vote, Senate proceed to a vote in relation to Ensign/Graham Modified Amendment No. 4076 (listed above), and that no second degree amendments be in order to either amendment prior to the votes. **Page S4791**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 19, 2006. **Page S4817**

**Heroes Earned Retirement Opportunities Act:** Senate concurred in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 1499, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow members of the Armed Forces serving in a combat zone to make contributions to their individual retirement plans even if the compensation on which such contribution is based is excluded from gross income, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S4815–16**

**Messages From the President:** Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Burma; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–48) **Page S4794**

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency protecting the Development Fund for Iraq and certain other property in which Iraq has an interest; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–49) **Page S4794**

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

Donald L. Kohn, of Virginia, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years.

Kathleen L. Casey, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2011.

Bobby E. Shepherd, of Arkansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit.

Kimberly Ann Moore, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit.

Martin J. Jackley, of South Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of South Dakota for the term of four years. **Page S4817**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S4794**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S4794**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Page S4794**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S4794–95**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S4795**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S4796–98**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S4798–S4808**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S4808–15**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S4815**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S4815**

**Record Votes:** Seven record votes were taken today. (Total—135)

**Pages S4733, S4747, S4769–70, S4770, S4775, S4785**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9 a.m., and adjourned at 10:17 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Friday, May 19, 2006. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S4817.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported 2,086 nominations in the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 1881, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Old Mint at San Francisco, otherwise known as the “Granite Lady”;

S. 633, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States; and

S. 2784, to award a congressional gold medal to Tenzin Gyatso, the Fourteenth Dalai Lama, in recognition of his many enduring and outstanding contributions to peace, non-violence, human rights, and religious understanding.

### INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND EXCHANGE RATE POLICIES

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the report to Congress on International Economic and Exchange Rate Policies, after receiving testimony from John W. Snow, Secretary of the Treasury.

### COMMUNICATIONS CONSUMER'S CHOICE AND BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT ACT

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee held a hearing to examine S. 2686, to amend the Communications Act of 1934, receiving testimony from former Representative Steve Largent, on behalf of the CTIA—The Wireless Association; Mayor Michael A. Guido, Dearborn, Michigan, on behalf of the United States Conference of Mayors and sundry organizations; Philip McClelland, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, Harrisburg, on behalf of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates; Kyle McSlarrow, National Cable and Telecommunications Association, Walter B. McCormick, Jr., United States Telecom Association (USTelecom), Gene Kimmelman, Consumers Union, on behalf of the Consumer Federation of America, and Free Press, and Joslyn Read, Satellite Industry Association, all of Washington, DC; Julia L. Johnson, Video Access Alliance, Tallahassee, Florida; and Shirley A. Bloomfield, National Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Arlington,

Virginia, on behalf of the Coalition to Keep America Connected.

Hearing continues on Thursday, May 25.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee ordered favorably reported S. 2802, to improve American innovation and competitiveness in the global economy, with amendments.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Finance:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of W. Ralph Basham, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Customs, Department of Homeland Security.

Also, Committee approved recommendations relative to proposed legislation implementing the United States-Oman Free Trade Agreement.

### IRAN

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded hearings to examine Iran's political and nuclear ambitions and the enrichment of uranium, focusing on the United Nations Security Council, and the prospect of direct talks with the government of Iran, after receiving testimony from Frank G. Wisner, American International Group, Inc., New York, New York; Vali R. Nasr, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California; and Julia Nanay, PFC Energy, and James A. Phillips, Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.

### NEPAL

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs concluded a hearing to examine recent political developments in Nepal, focusing on the role of the United States to support democracy, security and prosperity in Nepal, after receiving testimony from Richard A. Boucher, Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs; Deepak Thapa, Columbia University, and Sam Zarifi, Human Rights Watch, both of New York, New York; and John Norris, International Crisis Group, Washington, D.C.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Robert Irwin Cusick, Jr., of Kentucky, to be Director of the Office of Government Ethics, Office of Personnel Management, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator McConnell, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

### UNOBLIGATED BALANCES

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International