

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8211–S8328

Measures Introduced: Fourteen bills were introduced, as follows: S. 3731–3744. **Pages S8269–70**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 5576, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 109–293)

S. 3526, to amend the Indian Land Consolidation Act to modify certain requirements under that Act. (S. Rept. No. 109–294)

Report to accompany S. 2703, to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965. (S. Rept. No. 109–295)

Page S8269

Measures Passed:

Temporary Assistance Program: Senate passed H.R. 5865, to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to temporarily increase funding for the program of temporary assistance for United States citizens returned from foreign countries, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S8216–17

Martinez (for Grassley/Baucus) Amendment No. 4695, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8217**

Burmese Import Restriction Renewal: Senate passed H.J. Res. 86, Approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S8217–22**

Foreign Investment and National Security Act: Senate passed S. 3549, 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, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S8317–21

Shelby Amendment No. 4703, to make certain revisions to the bill. **Pages S8318–21**

Lebanon Evacuation Funding Authority: Senate passed S. 3741, to provide funding authority to facilitate the evacuation of persons from Lebanon.

Page S8321

Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act—Conference Report: Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany S. 250, to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 to improve the Act.

Pages S8321–28

Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3711, to enhance the energy independence and security of the United States by providing for exploration, development, and production activities for mineral resources in the Gulf of Mexico.

Pages S8211–16, S8222–55

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 86 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. 217), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S8215–16**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that following the opening remarks of the Majority and Democratic Leaders on Thursday, July 27, 2006, the motion to proceed be agreed to and the Senate begin consideration of the bill. **Page S8328**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

James Lambright, of Missouri, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2009.

Ronald S. Cooper, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term of four years.

Lawrence A. Warder, of Texas, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Education.

Troy R. Justesen, of Utah, to be Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, Department of Education.

R. Hunter Biden, of Delaware, to be a Member of the Reform Board (Amtrak) for a term of five years.

Donna R. McLean, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Reform Board (Amtrak) for a term of five years.

Geoffrey S. Bacino, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Federal Housing Finance Board for a term expiring February 27, 2013.

Linda Mysliwy Conlin, of New Jersey, to be First Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2009.

J. Joseph Grandmaison, of New Hampshire, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2009.

Frederic S. Mishkin, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2000.

Edmund C. Moy, of Wisconsin, to be Director of the Mint for a term of five years.

3 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

Page S8328

Messages From the House: Page S8266

Measures Referred: Pages S8266–67

Enrolled Bills Presented: Page S8267

Petitions and Memorials: Pages S8267–69

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S8270–71

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S8271–82

Additional Statements: Pages S8262–66

Amendments Submitted: Pages S8282–S8317

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S8317

Privileges of the Floor: Page S8317

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—217) **Pages S8215–16**

Recess: Senate convened at 9 a.m., and recessed at 7:23 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, July 27, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8328.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Michael V. Dunn, of Iowa, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, who was introduced by Senator Harkin; Nancy Montanez-Johner, of Nebraska, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food, Nutrition, and Con-

sumer Services, and to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, who was introduced by Senator Nelson (NE); Margo M. McKay, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights, who was introduced by Senator Allen; and Bruce I. Knight, of South Dakota, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, and to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, who was introduced by Senator Thune, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

TAX GAP

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS (Internal Revenue Service) Oversight held a hearing to examine the size and sources of the tax gap, which is the difference between the amount of tax imposed on taxpayers for a given year and the amount that is paid voluntarily and timely, receiving testimony from Mark J. Mazur, Director, Research, Analysis, and Statistics, IRS, J. Russell George, Inspector General for Tax Administration, and Raymond T. Wagner, Jr., Chairman, IRS Oversight Board, all of the Department of the Treasury; Nina E. Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate Service; and Michael Brostek, Director, Tax Issues, Strategic Issues Team, Government Accounting Office.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Philip S. Goldberg, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bolivia, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine a progress report on protecting and enforcing intellectual property rights here and abroad, focusing on the Administration's Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy (STOP!) and the extent to which it has been effective in educating businesses about the issues related to conducting business in the global economy, the progress made since the appointment of the IP Coordinator last July, and explore if the STOP! initiative has identified effective human capital and strategic plans to build on the existing program, and if it has the necessary resources required to complete its mission, after receiving testimony from Chris Israel, Coordinator for International Intellectual Property Enforcement, and Stephen M. Pinkos, Deputy Under Secretary for Intellectual Property, and