

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS:

Senate agreed to S. Res. 107, Iraq Resolution.

Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 20, Iraq Resolution.

Senate rejected S. J. Res. 9, Iraq Resolution.

House committees ordered reported 15 sundry measures, including the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2007.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3149–S3237

Measures Introduced: Twenty-three bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 888–910, S. Res. 107–110, and S. Con. Res. 20.

Pages S3199–S3200

Measures Reported:

S. Res. 95, designating March 25, 2007, as “Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy”.

S. Res. 96, expressing the sense of the Senate that Harriett Woods will be remembered as a pioneer in women’s politics.

S. J. Res. 5, proclaiming Casimir Pulaski to be an honorary citizen of the United States posthumously.

S. Con. Res. 14, commemorating the 85th anniversary of the founding of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, a leading association for the 1,300,000 United States citizens of Greek ancestry and Philhellenes in the United States.

Pages S3198–99

Measures Passed:

Iraq Resolution: By 96 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 76), Senate agreed to S. Res. 107, expressing the sense of the Senate that no action should be taken to undermine the safety of the Armed Forces of the United States or impact their ability to complete their assigned or future missions.

Pages S3187–88

Iraq Resolution: By 82 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 77), Senate began consideration of S. Con. Res. 20, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that no funds should be cut off or reduced for American Troops in the field which would result in

undermining their safety or their ability to complete their assigned mission.

Page S3188

Greek Independence Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 95, designating March 25, 2007, as “Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy”.

Pages S3228–29

Congratulating the University of Alaska Fairbanks Rifle Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 109, congratulating the University of Alaska Fairbanks rifle team for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Rifle Championship.

Page S3229

American National Red Cross Governance Modernization Act: Senate passed S. 655, to amend the Congressional Charter of The American National Red Cross to modernize its governance structure, to enhance the ability of the board of governors of The American National Red Cross to support the critical mission of The American National Red Cross in the 21st century, after agreeing to the committee amendment.

Pages S3229–34

United States-Poland Parliamentary Youth Exchange Program Act: Senate passed S. 377, to establish a United States-Poland parliamentary youth exchange program.

Page S3234

NATO Freedom Consolidation Act: Senate passed S. 494, to endorse further enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and to facilitate the timely admission of new members to NATO, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Reid (for Biden) Amendment No. 462, to clarify references to Macedonia.

Pages S3234–36

Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation: Senate passed S. 676, to provide that the Executive Director of the Inter-American Development

Bank or the Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank may serve on the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation. **Page S3236**

Calling on the Government of the United Kingdom: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 20, calling on the Government of the United Kingdom to immediately establish a full, independent, and public judicial inquiry into the murder of Northern Ireland defense attorney Patrick Finucane, as recommended by Judge Peter Cory as part of the Weston Park Agreement, in order to move forward on the Northern Ireland peace process, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S3236–37**

Reid (for Biden) Amendment No. 463, of a technical nature. **Page S3237**

Measures Rejected:

Iraq Resolution: By 48 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 75), Senate rejected S.J. Res. 9, to revise United States policy on Iraq, after agreeing to the motion to proceed. Pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, March 15, 2007, requiring 60 votes for the adoption of the joint resolution, the vote was vitiated and the joint resolution was returned to the calendar. **Pages S3162–88**

Committee on the Budget—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Friday, March 16, 2007, notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, that Committee on the Budget be permitted to report the concurrent budget resolution during the hours of 10 until 12 noon. **Page S3237**

Preserving United States Attorney Independence Act: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 19, 2007, Senate begin consideration of S. 214, to amend chapter 35 of title 28, United States Code, to preserve the independence of United States attorneys; that the bill be considered under certain limitations and that certain amendments be in order; that there be 6 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on the Judiciary; that on Tuesday, March 20, 2007, Senate vote on, or in relation to, certain amendments; that upon disposition of all amendments, Senate vote on final passage of the bill; provided further, that the motion to invoke cloture on the bill be withdrawn. **Pages S3161–62**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By unanimous vote of 95 yeas (Vote No. EX. 78), Thomas M. Hardiman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit. **Pages S3188–92, S3237**

John Preston Bailey, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of West Virginia. **Pages S3188, S3191, S3237**

Otis D. Wright, II, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Pages S3188, S3190–91, S3237**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Dell L. Dailey, of South Dakota, to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank and status of Ambassador at Large.

Mark P. Lagon, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, with the rank of Ambassador at Large.

Henry Bonilla, of Texas, to be Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Organization of American States, with the rank of Ambassador.

William R. Brownfield, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia.

Phillip Carter, III, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea.

Hans G. Klemm, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

Stephen W. Porter, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2012. **Page S3237**

Messages From the House: **Page S3198**

Measures Referred: **Page S3198**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S3198–99**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3200–01**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3201–27**

Additional Statements: **Pages S3195–98**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S3227**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S3227**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S3227–28**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S3228**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—78) **Pages S3187, S3188, S3192**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:31 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, March 19, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3237.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FHA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine solvency and reform proposals for the Federal Housing Administration, after receiving testimony from Brian D. Montgomery, Assistant Secretary for Housing, Federal Housing Commissioner, and Kenneth M. Donohue, Inspector General, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; William B. Shear, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; and JoAnne Poole, National Association of Realtors, and John M. Robbins, Mortgage Bankers Association, both of Washington, D.C.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD ASSISTANCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine international food assistance, after receiving testimony from Mark Keenum, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; James Kunder, Deputy Administrator, United States Agency for International Development; James Morris, United Nations World Food Programme, Rome, Italy; Walter Middleton, World Vision International, Federal Way, Washington; Cindy Brown, Chippewa Valley Bean Company, Inc., Menomonie, Wisconsin; Daniel Kuot, Chicago, Illinois; and Abass Mohamed, Princeton, New Jersey.

APPROPRIATIONS: NASA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, after receiving testimony from Michael D. Griffin, Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS: ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEER/DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008, after receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, and Lieutenant General Carl Strock, Chief of Engineers, both of the Army Corps of Engineers; Robert Johnson, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, and

Mark Limbaugh, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, both of the Department of the Interior.

APPROPRIATIONS: INTELLIGENCE SUPPLEMENTAL

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a closed hearing to examine the fiscal year 2007 Intelligence community supplemental request, after receiving testimony from Patrick Kennedy, Deputy Director for Management, Mary Margaret Graham, Deputy Director for Collection, and Tom Fingar, Deputy Director for Analysis, all of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BUDGET

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the posture of the United States Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Preston M. Geren, III, Acting Secretary, General Peter J. Schoomaker, USA, Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General James J. Lovelace, Deputy Chief of Staff, and Lieutenant General Jack C. Stultz, Commanding General, United States Army Reserve Command, all of the United States Army; and Lieutenant Colonel Coll S. Haddon, Deputy Director, Operations Program Manager, Future Combat Systems, Brigade Combat Team.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Lieutenant General Robert L. Van Antwerp, USA, for reappointment to the grade of lieutenant general and to be Chief of Engineers/Commanding General, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Admiral Timothy J. Keating, USN, for reappointment to the grade of admiral and to be Commander, United States Pacific Command, Lieutenant General Victor E. Renuart, Jr., USAF, for appointment to be general and to be Commander, United States Northern Command/Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command, and Lieutenant General Peter W. Chiarelli, USA, for appointment to be lieutenant general and Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense.

2008: BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee ordered favorably reported an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 and 2009 through 2012.