

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S10531–S10683*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-four bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1910–1933, and S. Res. 288–291. **Pages S10604–05**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 793, to provide for the expansion and improvement of traumatic brain injury programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–140)

H.R. 1260, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6301 Highway 58 in Harrison, Tennessee, as the “Claude Ramsey Post Office”.

H.R. 1335, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 508 East Main Street in Seneca, South Carolina, as the “S Sgt Lewis G. Watkins Post Office Building”.

H.R. 1425, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4551 East 52nd Street in Odessa, Texas, as the “Staff Sergeant Marvin “Rex” Young Post Office Building”.

H.R. 1434, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 896 Pittsburgh Street in Springdale, Pennsylvania, as the “Rachel Carson Post Office Building”.

H.R. 1617, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 561 Kingsland Avenue in University City, Missouri, as the “Harriett F. Woods Post Office Building”.

H.R. 1722, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 Banyan Trail in Boca Raton, Florida, as the “Leonard W. Herman Post Office”.

H.R. 2025, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11033 South State Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the “Willye B. White Post Office Building”.

H.R. 2077, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20805 State Route 125 in Blue Creek, Ohio, as the “George B. Lewis Post Office Building”.

H.R. 2078, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14536 State Route

136 in Cherry Fork, Ohio, as the “Staff Sergeant Omer T. ‘O.T.’ Hawkins Post Office”.

H.R. 2127, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 408 West 6th Street in Chelsea, Oklahoma, as the “Clem Rogers McSpadden Post Office Building”.

H.R. 2563, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 309 East Linn Street in Marshalltown, Iowa, as the “Major Scott Nisely Post Office”.

H.R. 2570, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Boardwalk Drive in Fort Collins, Colorado, as the “Dr. Karl E. Carson Post Office Building”.

S. 1011, to change the name of the National Institute on Drug Abuse to the National Institute on Diseases of Addiction and to change the name of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism to the National Institute on Alcohol Disorders and Health, with an amendment.

S. 1539, to designate the post office located at 309 East Linn Street, Marshalltown, Iowa, as the “Major Scott Nisely Post Office”.

S. 1596, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 South Getty Street in Uvalde, Texas, as the “Dolph S. Briscoe, Jr. Post Office Building”.

S. 1693, to enhance the adoption of a nationwide interoperable health information technology system and to improve the quality and reduce the costs of health care in the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1732, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Boardwalk Drive in Fort Collins, Colorado, as the “Dr. Karl E. Carson Post Office Building”.

S. 1772, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 South Elm Street in Gardner, Kansas, as the “Private First Class Shane R. Austin Post Office”.

S. 1781, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 118 Minner Avenue in Bakersfield, California, as the “Buck Owens Post Office”.

S. 1896, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11 Central Street in

Hillsborough, New Hampshire, as the “Officer Jeremy Todd Charron Post Office”.

S. 1923, to authorize appropriations for assistance for the Housing Assistance Council, the Raza Development Fund, and for the Housing Partnership Network (HPN) and its members. **Pages S10603–04**

#### Measures Passed:

**Safety of Seniors Act:** Senate passed S. 845, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand and intensify programs with respect to research and related activities concerning elder falls, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S10676–78**

Casey (for Enzi/Mikulski) Amendment No. 2622, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S10677–78**

**National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness Month:** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 221, supporting National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness Month and efforts to educate people about peripheral arterial disease, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S10678**

**Honoring Coach Bill Walsh:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 290, honoring the life and career of former San Francisco 49ers Head Coach Bill Walsh. **Pages S10678–79**

**National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 291, designating the week beginning September 9, 2007, as “National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week”. **Pages S10679–80**

#### Measures Considered:

**Small Business Tax Relief Act:** Senate continued consideration of H.R. 976, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for small businesses, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S10537–92**

Rejected:

By 26 yeas to 58 nays (Vote No. 287), Grassley (for Ensign) Amendment No. 2538 (to Amendment No. 2530), to amend the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986 to create a Disease Prevention and Treatment Research Trust Fund. **Pages S10537–40**

By 42 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 288), Gregg Amendment No. 2587 (to Amendment No. 2530), to limit the matching rate for coverage other than for low-income children or pregnant women covered through a waiver and to prohibit any new waivers for coverage of adults other than pregnant women. **Pages S10537, S10541–42**

By 32 yeas to 64 nays (Vote No. 289), Dole Amendment No. 2554 (to Amendment No. 2530), to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to

provide for a 60-vote point of order against legislation that includes a Federal excise tax rate increase which disproportionately affects taxpayers with earned income of less than 200 percent of the Federal poverty level. **Pages S10556–58, S10581**

Bunning Amendment No. 2547 (to Amendment No. 2530), to eliminate the exception for certain States to cover children under SCHIP whose income exceeds 300 percent of the Federal poverty level. (By 53 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 290), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S10537, S10577–78, S10581–82**

By 35 yeas to 61 nays (Vote No. 291), Lott Modified Amendment No. 2593 (to Amendment No. 2530), of a perfecting nature. **Pages S10542–44, S10575, S10589, S10582–83**

By 36 yeas to 60 (Vote No. 292), Kerry Modified Amendment No. 2602 (to Amendment No. 2530), to provide sufficient funding and incentives to increase the enrollment of uninsured children. **Pages S10558–75, S10578–80, S10583–84**

Pending:

Baucus Amendment No. 2530, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S10537**

Dorgan Amendment No. 2534 (to Amendment No. 2530), to revise and extend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. **Page S10537**

McConnell/Specter Amendment No. 2599 (to Amendment No. 2530), to express the sense of the Senate that Judge Leslie Southwick should receive a vote by the full Senate. **Pages S10544–56**

Thune Amendment No. 2579 (to Amendment No. 2530), to exclude individuals with alternative minimum tax liability from eligibility from SCHIP coverage. **Pages S10575–77**

Grassley (for Ensign) Amendment No. 2541 (to Amendment No. 2530), to prohibit a State from providing child health assistance or health benefits coverage to individuals whose family income exceeds 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level unless the State demonstrates that it has enrolled 95 percent of the targeted low-income children who reside in the State. **Pages S10537, S10580–81**

Grassley (for Ensign) Amendment No. 2540 (to Amendment No. 2530), to prohibit a State from using SCHIP funds to provide coverage for nonpregnant adults until the State first demonstrates that it has adequately covered targeted low-income children who reside in the State. **Pages S10580–81**

Grassley (for Graham) Amendment No. 2558 (to Amendment No. 2530), to sunset the increase in the tax on tobacco products on September 30, 2012. **Pages S10584–86**

Grassley (for Kyl) Amendment No. 2537 (to Amendment No. 2530), to minimize the erosion of private health coverage. **Pages S10584–86, S10589–92**

Grassley (for Kyl) Amendment No. 2562 (to Amendment No. 2530), to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the 15-year straight-line cost recovery for qualified leasehold improvements and qualified restaurant improvements and to provide a 15-year straight-line cost recovery for certain improvements to retail space.

**Pages S10584–86**

Baucus (for Specter) Amendment No. 2557 (to Amendment No. 2530), to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reset the rate of tax under the alternative minimum tax at 24 percent.

**Pages S10586–88**

Webb Amendment No. 2618 (to Amendment No. 2530), to eliminate the deferral of taxation on certain income of United States shareholders attributable to controlled foreign corporations.

**Pages S10588–89**

A motion was entered to close further debate on Baucus Amendment No. 2530, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, August 3, 2007.

**Page S10589**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, August 3, 2007.

**Page S10589**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill upon disposition of the House message on S. 1.

**Page S10682**

#### **Appointments:**

Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), appointed the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy: Senator Hutchison, from the Committee on Appropriations, Senator Landrieu, from the Committee on Appropriations, Senator Reed, designated by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, and Senator Collins, at Large.

**Page S10676**

Board of Visitors of the U.S. Naval Academy: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 6968(a), appointed the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Naval Academy: Senator Cochran, from the Committee on Appropriations, Senator Mikulski, from the Committee on Appropriations, Senator McCain, designated by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, and Senator Cardin, at Large.

**Page S10676**

**FISA Legislation—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that when the Majority Leader, or his designee, introduces Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) legislation, on Thursday, August 2, 2007, they be considered as

having received their first reading on the Legislative day of Wednesday, August 1, 2007.

**Page S10680**

**Legislative Transparency and Accountability Act—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 2, 2007, Senate resume consideration of the amendment of the House to S. 1, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process; that there be two hours of debate prior to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House; provided further, that the Majority Leader and the Republican Leader be permitted to use their Leadership Time at the expiration of the two hours, with the Majority Leader speaking immediately prior to the vote on the motion to invoke cloture; provided further, that upon the use of all time, Senate to vote on the motion to invoke cloture.

**Page S10682**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

David C. Geary, of Missouri, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2010.

Bijan Rafiekian, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2011.

Peter B. McCarthy, of Wisconsin, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Charles L. Hopkins, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Operations, Preparedness, Security and Law Enforcement).

Joe W. Stecher, of Nebraska, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska for the term of four years.

Jill E. Sommers, of Kansas, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 13, 2009.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration.)

Bartholomew H. Chilton, of Delaware, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 13, 2008.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration.)

Miguel Campaneria, of Puerto Rico, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2012.

Thomas P. D'Agostino, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, Department of Energy.

Eric G. John, of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Diane Auer Jones, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

Diane G. Farrell, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2011.

Michael W. Michalak, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

David H. McCormick, of Pennsylvania, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

31 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

25 Army nominations in the rank of general.

5 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Navy.

Pages S10604, S10682–83

Messages from the House: Page S10602

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Page S10602

Measures Read the First Time: Pages S10585, S10680

Executive Communications: Pages S10602–03

Petitions and Memorials: Page S10603

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S10604

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S10605–06

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S10606–28

Additional Statements: Pages S10600–01

Amendments Submitted: Pages S10628–58

Authorities for Committees To Meet: Pages S10658–60

Privileges of the Floor: Page S10660

Text of H.R. 2638 as Previously Passed: Pages S10660–76

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—292) Pages S10539–40, S10542, S10581, S10582, S10583, S10584

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 8:39 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 2, 2007. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S10682.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### BUSINESS MEETING

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

S. 1677, to amend the Exchange Rates and International Economic Coordination Act of 1988, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

An original bill (S. 1923), to authorize appropriations for assistance for the Housing Assistance Council, the Raza Development Fund, and for the Housing Partnership Network (HPN) and its members;

An original bill to establish requirements for private lenders to protect student borrowers receiving private educational loans; and

An original bill to establish a nonpartisan Commission on Natural Catastrophe Risk Management and Insurance.

### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE OVERSIGHT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Commerce, after receiving from Carlos Gutierrez, Secretary of Commerce.

### CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine recent advances in clean coal technology, focusing on the prospects for deploying these technologies at a commercial scale in the near future, after receiving testimony from Carl O. Bauer, Director, National Energy Technology Laboratory, Department of Energy; Jerry Hollinden, URS Corp, Louisville, Kentucky, on behalf of the National Coal Council, Inc.; Jeffrey N. Phillips, Electric Power Research Institute, Charlotte, North Carolina; Donald C. Langley, Babcock and Wilcox Company, Barberton, Ohio; Andrew Perlman, Great Point Energy, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Frank Alix, Powerspan Corp., Portsmouth, New Hampshire; Jim Rosborough, Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan; and Bill Fehrman, PacifiCorp Energy, Salt Lake City, Utah.

### WATER BILLS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power concluded to examine S. 1054 and H.R. 122, bills to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Inland Empire regional recycling project and in the Cucamonga Valley Water District recycling project, S. 1472, to authorize the