

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S13465–S13495

Measures Introduced: Six bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2246–2251, and S. Res. 357. **Pages S13489–90**

Measures Reported:

S. 635, to provide for a research program for remediation of closed methamphetamine production laboratories. (S. Rept. No. 110–207)

S. 1347, to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to modify the date as of which certain tribal land of the Lytton Rancheria of California is deemed to be held in trust and to provide for the conduct of certain activities on the land. (S. Rept. No. 110–208)

S. 2248, to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, to modernize and streamline the provisions of that Act. (S. Rept. No. 110–209) **Page S13489**

Measures Passed:

National Veterans Awareness Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 357, designating the week of November 11 through November 17, 2007, as “National Veterans Awareness Week” to emphasize the need to develop educational programs regarding the contributions of veterans to the country. **Pages S13493–94**

National Be Bear Aware and Wildlife Stewardship Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 347, designating May 2008 as “National Be Bear Aware and Wildlife Stewardship Month”. **Pages S13494–95**

Victims of August 2007 Flooding: Senate agreed to S. Res. 346, expressing heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding during August 2007 in the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin, after agreeing to the committee amendment, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S13494–95**

Reid (for Coleman) Amendment No. 3471, to amend the title of the resolution. **Page S13495**

Measures Indefinitely Postponed:

Charleston Fallen Firefighters: Senate indefinitely postponed H. Con. Res. 172, honoring the life of each of the 9 fallen City of Charleston firefighters who lost their lives in Charleston, South Carolina, on June 18, 2007. **Page S13493**

Congressional Gold Medal: Senate indefinitely postponed H.R. 1154, to award a congressional gold medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D. **Page S13493**

Measures Considered:

Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, agreeing to the committee amendments, which will be considered as original text for purpose of further amendment, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S13466–69**

Pending:

Lautenberg (for Carper) Amendment No. 3454 (to Amendment No. 3452), of a perfecting nature. **Page S13466**

Allard Amendment No. 3455, to strike the provisions repealing Amtrak’s self-sufficiency requirements. **Page S13466**

Bond (for DeMint) Amendment No. 3467, to require Amtrak to disclose the Federal subsidy of every ticket sold for transportation on Amtrak. **Pages S13466–67**

Bond (for DeMint) Amendment No. 3468, to increase competition in the American rail system by allowing any qualified rail operator or transportation company to compete for passenger rail service. **Pages S13466–67**

Bond (for DeMint) Amendment No. 3469, to clarify the level of detail to be included in the modern financial accounting and reporting system required under section 203. **Pages S13466–67**

Bond (for DeMint) Amendment No. 3470, to require the Performance Improvement Plan to address reaching financial solvency by eliminating routes and services that do not make a profit. **Pages S13466–67**

Bond Amendment No. 3464, to amend section 24101 of title 49, United States Code, to clarify Amtrak’s mission. **Pages S13467–69**

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, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Friday, October 26, 2007, a vote on cloture will occur at to be determined by the Majority Leader on Tuesday, October 30, 2007.

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A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all first-degree germane amendments be filed at the desk by 3:30 p.m., on Monday, October 29, 2007.

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A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 4:30 p.m., on Monday, October 29, 2007.

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State Children's Health Insurance Program: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3963, to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the Children's Health Insurance Program.

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A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of 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 Tuesday, October 29, 2007.

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Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn.

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

P. Robert Fannin, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

Gail Dennise Mathieu, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Namibia.

Eunice S. Reddick, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.

Ronald K. McMullen, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the State of Eritrea.

Christopher Egan, of Massachusetts, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, with the rank of Ambassador.

Robin Renee Sanders, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

David T. Johnson, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs).

James D. McGee, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Barry Leon Wells, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia.

Mark M. Boulware, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Paul E. Simons, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chile.

Dan Mozena, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola.

Louis John Nigro, Jr., of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chad.

Vincent Obsitnik, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Slovak Republic.

Thomas F. Stephenson, of California, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic.

Daniel V. Speckhard, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to Greece.

George E. Pataki, of New York, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-second Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Kelly G. Knight, of Kentucky, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-second Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Rodger D. Young, of Michigan, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-second Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

William H. Frist, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation for a term of three years.

Kenneth Francis Hackett, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation for a term of two years.

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

John H. Gibson, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

Steven R. Chealander, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2012.

Mark V. Rosenker, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term of two years.

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Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S13489**

Measures Read the First Time: **Page S13489**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S13490**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
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Additional Statements: **Page S13489**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S13492**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 1:47 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, October 29, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S13495.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, October 29, 2007.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of October 29 through November 3, 2007

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 4:30 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of S. 294, Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: October 31, Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance and Investment, to hold hearings to examine climate disclosure, focusing on measuring financial risks and opportunities, 2:30 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: October 31, to hold hearings to examine S. 2063, to establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action, to assure the economic security of the United States, and to expand future prosperity and growth for all Americans, 9 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: October 30, business meeting to consider S. 2096, to amend the Do-Not-Call Implementation Act to eliminate the automatic removal of telephone numbers registered on the Federal "do-not-call" registry, S. 1580, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, S. 2045, to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission to provide greater protection for children's products, to improve the screening of noncompliant consumer products, to improve the effectiveness of consumer product recall programs, S. 1853, to promote competition, to preserve the ability of local governments to provide broadband capability and services, S. 1675, to implement the recommendations of

the Federal Communications Commission report to the Congress regarding low-power FM service, H. Con. Res. 225, honoring the 50th anniversary of the dawn of the Space Age, and the ensuing 50 years of productive and peaceful space activities, and the nominations of Todd J. Zinser, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Commerce, Robert Clarke Brown, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, and promotions lists in the United States Coast Guard, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: October 31, to hold hearings to examine the licensing process for the Yucca Mountain Repository, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: November 1, to hold hearings to examine pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: October 30, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Sean R. Mulvaney, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Daniel D. Heath, of New Hampshire, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

October 31, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. Res. 334, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the degradation of the Jordan River and the Dead Sea and welcoming cooperation between the peoples of Israel, Jordan, and Palestine, United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, with Annexes, done at Montego Bay, December 10, 1982 (the "Convention"), and the Agreement Relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, with Annex, adopted at New York, July 28, 1994 (the "Agreement"), and signed by the United States, subject to ratification, on July 29, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-39), Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and accompanying Protocol, signed on November 27, 2006, at Brussels (the "proposed Treaty") (Treaty Doc. 110-03), Protocol Amending the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income signed at Copenhagen May 2, 2006