

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 294, Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S13531–S13588

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2258–2266, and S. Res. 360. **Pages S13579–80**

Measures Passed:

Third Higher Education Extension Act: Senate passed S. 2258, to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, to amend the definition of an eligible not-for-profit holder. **Pages S13532–33**

Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act: By 70 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. 400), Senate passed S. 294, to reauthorize Amtrak, and after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S13536–67**

Adopted:

Bond (for DeMint) Modified Amendment No. 3469, to clarify the level of detail to be included in the modern financial accounting and reporting system required under section 203. **Page S13548**

Lautenberg (for Vitter) Amendment No. 3486, to require the rail cooperative research program to include research designed to review rail crossing safety improvements, including improvements using new safety technology. **Page S13548**

Lautenberg (for Schumer) Modified Amendment No. 3489, to authorize a passenger rail study. **Page S13548**

Rejected:

By 24 yeas to 67 nays (Vote No. 397), Coburn Amendment No. 3474, to require Amtrak to regularly report to Congress on the profits or losses relating to the provision of food and beverage service and to limit such service on Amtrak rail lines that incur losses. **Pages S13537–41**

By 27 yeas to 65 nays (Vote No. 399), Bond (for DeMint) Amendment No. 3467, to require Amtrak

to disclose the Federal subsidy of every ticket sold for transportation on Amtrak. **Pages S13541–48**

Withdrawn:

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 S13537, S13543**

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 S13537, S13543**

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

By 79 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. 398), 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 bill. **Page S13541**

Condolences Regarding Tragic Fire In Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina: Senate agreed to S. Res. 360, offering condolences regarding the tragic fire in Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, which killed 6 University of South Carolina students and 1 student from Clemson University on October 28, 2007. **Page S13587**

Essential Air Service Subsidies Extension: Senate passed S. 2265, to extend the existing provisions regarding the eligibility for essential air service subsidies through fiscal year 2008. **Page S13587**

The Andrew Larochelle God, Family, and Country Act: Senate passed S. 2198, to require the Architect of the Capitol to permit the acknowledgment of God on flag certificates. **Page S13587**

Appointments:

United States Commission on Civil Rights: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore and upon the recommendation of the Republican Leader, pursuant to Section 2 (b) of Public Law 98–183, as amended by Public Law 103–419, appointed Gail

Heriot, of California, to the United States Commission on Civil Rights, for a term of six years.

Page S13587

State Children's Health Insurance Program—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31, 2007, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the H.R. 3963, to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the Children's Health Insurance Program; and that the vote on the motion to invoke on the motion to proceed to its consideration not occur prior to 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, October 31, 2007, or at a time to be determined by the two Leaders on Wednesday.

Page S13588

Messages from the House:

Page S13577

Measures Referred:

Page S13577

Measures Read the First Time:

Pages S13577, S13588

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Page S13577

Executive Reports of Committees:

Page S13579

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S13580–81

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S13581–86

Additional Statements:

Pages S13575–77

Amendments Submitted:

Page S13586

Notices of Hearings/Meetings:

Pages S13586–87

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S13587

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—400) Pages S13540–41, S13548, S13551

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:16 p.m., until 12 noon on Wednesday, October 31, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S13588.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 33 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

S. 2045, to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission to provide greater protection for children's products, to improve the screening of non-compliant consumer products, to improve the effec-

tiveness of consumer product recall programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

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, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1580, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, with amendments;

S. 1853, to promote competition, to preserve the ability of local governments to provide broadband capability and services, with amendments;

S. 1675, to implement the recommendations of the Federal Communications Commission report to the Congress regarding low-power FM service, with amendments;

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 promotion lists in the United States Coast Guard, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Daniel D. Heath, of New Hampshire, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, Sean R. Mulvaney, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Patrick Francis Kennedy, of Illinois, to be an Under Secretary of State (Management), after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

ISLAMIST EXTREMISM

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the role of local law enforcement in countering violent Islamist extremism, focusing on the radicalization process, after receiving testimony from Lawrence H. Sanchez, and Mitchell D. Silber, both of the New York City Police Department, New York, New York; Michael P. Downing, Los Angeles Police Department Counter-Terrorism/Criminal Intelligence Bureau, Los Angeles, California; Michael R. Ronczkowski, Miami-Dade Police Department Homeland Security Bureau, Miami, Florida; and Thomas Dailey, Kansas City Police Department Homeland Security Division, Kansas City, Missouri.