

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate upon reconsideration passed H.R. 1495, Water Resources Development Act, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding.

Senate confirmed the nomination of Michael B. Mukasey, of New York, to be Attorney General.

Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3222, Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

The House agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3222, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2008.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S14105–S14234

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2324–2333, and S. Res. 371–374. **Pages S14191–92**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals From the Concurrent Resolution, Fiscal Year 2008”. (S. Rept. No. 110–226) **Page S14191**

Measures Passed:

Targeting Veterans For Employment: Senate agreed to S. Res. 373, encouraging all employers to target veterans for recruitment and to provide preference in hiring to qualified veterans. **Pages S14232–33**

Veterans History Project Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 374, expressing support for designation of a National Veterans History Project Week to encourage public participation in a nationwide project that collects and preserves the stories of the men and women who served our Nation in times of war and conflict. **Page S14233**

Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day: Committee on Veterans’ Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 289, expressing the sense of the Senate that a “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day” should be established, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S14233–34**

Measures Considered:

Farm Bill Extension Act: Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S14118–39**

Pending:

Harkin Amendment No. 3500, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S14118**

Reid (for Dorgan/Grassley) Amendment No. 3508 (to Amendment No. 3500), to strengthen payment limitations and direct the savings to increased funding for certain programs. **Page S14118**

Reid Amendment No. 3509 (to Amendment No. 3508), to change the enactment date. **Page S14118**

Reid Amendment No. 3510 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 3500), to change the enactment date. **Page S14118**

Reid Amendment No. 3511 (to Amendment No. 3510), to change the enactment date. **Page S14118**

Motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with instructions to report back forthwith, with Reid Amendment No. 3512. **Page S14118**

Reid Amendment No. 3512 (to the instructions of the motion to commit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with instructions), to change the enactment date. **Page S14118**

Reid Amendment No. 3513 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit), to change the enactment date. **Page S14118**

Reid Amendment No. 3514 (to Amendment No. 3513), to change the enactment date. **Page S14118**

Veto Messages:

Water Resources Development Act—Veto Message: By 79 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. 406), two-thirds of the Senators voting, a quorum being present, having voted in the affirmative, H.R. 1495, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, upon reconsideration was passed, the objections of the President of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding. **Pages S14113–18**

Conference Reports:

Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2008: Senate agreed to the conference report on H.R. 3222, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, clearing the measure for the President.

Pages S14139–47, S14182

Refuge Ecology Protection, Assistance, and Immediate Response Act Referral—Agreement: A unanimous consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 767, to protect, conserve, and restore native fish, wildlife, and their natural habitats at national wildlife refuges through cooperative, incentive-based grants to control, mitigate, and eradicate harmful nonnative species, and the bill be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Page S14234

Messages from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 on November 14, 1994; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–32) **Pages S14189–90**

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 on November 14, 1979; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–33) **Page S14190**

Dow Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Robert M. Dow, Jr., of Illinois, to be United

States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and that the nomination be debated until 10:10 a.m., with the time equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees; provided further, that at 10:10 a.m. Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination. **Page S14234**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 53 yeas 40 nays (Vote No. EX. 407), Michael B. Mukasey, of New York, to be Attorney General.

Pages S14147–82

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Patricia M. Haslach, of Oregon, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as United States Senior Coordinator for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum.

Mary Beth Long, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

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Messages from the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Measures Placed on the Calendar:

Pages S14106, S14190–91

Measures Read the First Time:

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Executive Communications:

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Executive Reports of Committees:

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Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S14192–93

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S14193–S14200

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S14202–16

Notices of Hearings/Meetings:

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Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S14216–17

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S14217

Text of H.R. 3043, as amended on November 7, 2007:

Pages S14217–32

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—407) **Pages S1417, S14182**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:45 a.m. and adjourned at 11:39 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Friday, November 9, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S14234.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

LOCALISM, DIVERSITY, AND MEDIA OWNERSHIP

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine localism, diversity, and media ownership, after receiving testimony from Alex Nogales, National Hispanic Media Coalition (NHMC), Los Angeles, California; Frank A. Blethen, Seattle Times, Seattle, Washington; Timothy F. Winter, Parents Television Council (PTC), Alexandria, Virginia; James F. Goodman, Capitol Broadcasting Company, Inc., Raleigh, North Carolina; and John Lavine, Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism, Evanston, Illinois.

HISTORIC LAND BILLS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks concluded a hearing to examine S. 86, to designate segments of Fossil Creek, a tributary to the Verde River in the State of Arizona, as wild and scenic rivers, S. 1365, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with any of the management partners of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, S. 1449, to establish the Rocky Mountain Science Collections Center to assist in preserving the archeological, anthropological, paleontological, zoological, and geologic artifacts and archival documentation from the Rocky Mountain region through the construction of an on-site, secure collections facility for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science in Denver, Colorado, S. 1921, to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, S. 1941, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Wolf House, located in Norfolk, Arkansas, as a unit of the National Park System, S. 1961, to expand the boundaries of the Little River Canyon National Preserve in the State of Alabama, S. 1991, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of extending the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to include additional sites associated with the preparation and return phases of the expedition, S. 2098, to establish the Northern Plains Heritage Area in the State of North Dakota, S. 2220, to amend the Outdoor Recreation Act of 1963 to authorize certain appropriations, and H.R. 1191, to authorize the National Park Service to pay for services rendered by subcontractors under a General Services Administration Indefinite Deliver Indefinite Quantity Contract

issued for work to be completed at the Grand Canyon National Park, after receiving testimony from Katherine H. Stevenson, Acting Assistant Director, Business Services, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief for the National Forest System, United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Ron Steed, R and W Excavating, Hildale, Utah; George Sparks, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Denver, Colorado; Charles Wichman, Jr., National Tropical Botanical Garden, Kalaheo, Hawaii; and Tracy Potter, Northern Plains Heritage Foundation, Mandan, North Dakota.

AMERICA'S CLIMATE SECURITY ACT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee held a hearing to examine S. 2191, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases, receiving testimony from Peter A. Darbee, PG&E Corporation, San Francisco, California; and Jonathan C. Pershing, World Resources Institute, Anne E. Smith, CRA International, Margo Thorning, American Council for Capital Formation, and Wiley Barbour, Environmental Resources Trust, Inc., all of Washington, D.C.

Committee will meet again on Tuesday, November 13, 2007.

SYRIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Near East and South and Central Asian Affairs concluded a hearing to examine Syria, focusing on options and implications for Lebanon and the surrounding region, after receiving testimony from C. David Welch, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Bureau; Robert Malley, International Crisis Group, and Emile El-Hokayem, Henry L. Stimson Center, both of Washington, DC; and David W. Lesch, Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas.

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ways to protect the employment rights of those who protect the United States, after receiving testimony from Charles S. Ciccolella, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training; L. Gordon Sumner, Jr., Executive Director, National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, and Lieutenant Colonel Steve Duarte, USMC, both of the Department of Defense; Scott Bloch, Special Counsel, United States Office of Special Counsel; Brenda Farrell, Director, Military and Civilian Personnel Issues in the Defense Capabilities and Management Team, Government Accountability Office; Major Ladda Tammy Duckworth, Illinois Department of