

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

- Senate passed S. 2499, Medicare/Medicaid/SCHIP Programs Extension.
- Senate completed action on H.R. 2764, Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act (Omnibus).
- Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 61, Adjournment Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S15793–S15943

Measures Introduced: Twenty-four bills and twelve resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2495–2518, S. Res. 409–416, and S. Con. Res. 59–62. **Pages S15910–11**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals From the Concurrent Resolution, Fiscal Year 2008”. (S. Rept. No. 110–250)

Special Report entitled “The 2007 Joint Economic Report”. (S. Rept. No. 110–251)

H.R. 3571, to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to permit individuals who have served as employees of the Office of Compliance to serve as Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, or General Counsel of the Office, and to permit individuals appointed to such positions to serve one additional term.

S. 901, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1551, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S15909**

Measures Passed:

Commending Senator Trent Lott: Senate agreed to S. Res. 409, commending the service of the Honorable Trent Lott, a Senator from the State of Mississippi. **Pages S15794–15818**

Medicare/Medicaid/SCHIP Programs Extension: Senate passed S. 2499, to amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to extend provisions under the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP programs. **Pages S15834–43**

Adjournment Resolution: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 61, providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate, and a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives. **Page S15935**

1882 Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation between the Kingdom of Chosun (Korea) and the United States: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 279, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 125th anniversary of the 1882 Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation between the Kingdom of Chosun (Korea) and the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S15935–36**

Pryor (for Biden) Amendment No. 3880, to strike a reference to the 2007 Free Trade Agreement and to add environmental protection to the list of bilateral goals that should be addressed by the United States and the Republic of Korea. **Page S15936**

Pryor (for Biden) Amendment No. 3883, to amend the preamble. **Page S15936**

Condemning Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 53, condemning the kidnapping and hostage-taking of 3 United States citizens for over 4 years by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), and demanding their immediate and unconditional release, and the resolution was then agreed to, after

agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Page S15936

Pryor (for Nelson (FL)) Amendment No. 3881, to amend the preamble.

Page S15936

Race Day in America: Senate agreed to S. Res. 410, designating February 17, 2008, as "Race Day in America" and highlighting the 50th running of the Dayton 500.

Page S15936

Honoring Dr. Hector P. Garcia: Senate agreed to S. Res. 411, honoring the life and recognizing the accomplishments of Texas civil rights pioneer Dr. Hector P. Garcia.

Pages S15936–37

Commending Appalachian State University Football Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 412, commending the Appalachian State University Mountaineers of Boone, North Carolina, for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division 1 Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division 1-AA) Championship.

Page S15937

Commending Wake Forest University Soccer Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 413, commending the Wake Forest University Demon Deacons of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Men's Soccer National Championship.

Pages S15937–38

National Stalking Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 414, designating January 2008 as "National Stalking Awareness Month".

Page S15938

Honoring William Karnet "Bill" Willis: Senate agreed to S. Res. 415, honoring the life and recognizing the accomplishments of William Karnet "Bill" Willis, pioneer and Hall of Fame football player for both Ohio State University and the Cleveland Browns.

Page S15938

Recognizing United States Air Force: Senate agreed to S. Res. 416, recognizing the 60th anniversary of the United States Air Force as an independent military service.

Pages S15938–39

Enrollment Correction: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 62, to correct the enrollment of H.R. 660.

Page S15939

Essential Air Service Subsidies Extension: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. 2260, to extend the existing provisions regarding the eligibility for essential air service subsidies through fiscal year 2008, and the bill was then passed.

Pages S15939–40

Ernest Childers Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 366, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as the "Er-

nest Childers Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic", and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S15940

Internal Revenue Commissioner: Senate passed S. 2436, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the term of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Page S15940

Child Soldiers Accountability Act: Senate passed S. 2135, to prohibit the recruitment or use of child soldiers, to designate persons who recruit or use child soldiers as inadmissible aliens, to allow the deportation of persons who recruit or use child soldiers, after agreeing to the committee amendment, and the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S15941–43

Pryor (for Feingold) Amendment No. 3882, to exclude groups assembled solely for non-violent political association from the definition of an armed force or group.

Page S15943

House Messages:

Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act—House Message: By 76 yeas to 17 nays, 1 voting present (Vote No. 441), Senate concurred in House amendment No. 1 to the Senate amendment to the text of H.R. 2764, making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S15830–34, S15843–88

Adopted:

By 70 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. 439), McConnell motion to concur in the House Amendment No. 2 to the Senate Amendment to the bill, with McConnell Amendment No. 3874, to make emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

Pages S15844–45, S15860–61

Withdrawn:

By 24 yeas to 71 nays (Vote No. 437), Feingold Amendment No. 3875 (to Amendment No. 3874), to provide for the safe redeployment of United States troops from Iraq. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, be withdrawn).

Pages S15845–53

By 50 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 438), Levin Amendment No. 3876 (to Amendment No. 3874), to express the sense of Congress on the transition of the missions of United States Forces in Iraq to a more limited set of missions as specified by the President on September 13, 2007. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, be withdrawn).

Pages S15853–60

By 48 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 440), Reid motion to concur in the House Amendment No. 1, to the Senate amendment to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 3877, relative to AMT relief. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, be withdrawn). **Pages S15861–63**

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

By 44 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 436), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to concur in the House amendments to the Senate amendment to the text of the bill. **Page S15844**

Lott Tributes—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that tributes to Senator Lott in the Congressional Record be printed as a Senate Document and that Senators be permitted to submit statements in tribute until January 30, 2008. **Page S15935**

Lott Letter of Resignation—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Chair lay before the Senate the letter of resignation of Senator Trent Lott of Mississippi and that the letter be deemed read and spread upon the Journal. **Page S15943**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By a unanimous vote of 93 yeas (Vote No. EX. 442), John Daniel Tinder, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit. **Pages S15888–91**

Messages from the House: **Pages S15906–07**

Executive Communications: **Pages S15907–09**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S15909–10**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S15912–13**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S15913–21**

Additional Statements: **Pages S15903–06**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S15921–34**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S15934–35**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S15935**

Record Votes: Seven record votes were taken today. (Total—442)

Pages S15844, S15853, S15860–61, S15863, S15888, S15891

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 12:10 a.m., on Wednesday, December 19, 2007 until 11:30 a.m. on the same day. (For Senate's

program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S15943.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Mary Beth Long, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs, and James Shinn, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, and Craig W. Duehring, of Minnesota, to be an Assistant Secretary for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, John H. Gibson, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary for Financial Management, both of the United States Air Force, all of the Department of Defense, and 720 nominations in the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Prior to this action, committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Mary Beth Long, of Virginia, and James Shinn, of New Jersey, both to be an Assistant Secretary, and Craig W. Duehring, of Minnesota, and John H. Gibson, of Texas, both to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Carl T. Johnson, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, and Francis P. Mulvey, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, both of the Department of Transportation; Denver J. Stutler, Jr., of Florida, Nancy A. Naples, of New York, and Thomas C. Carper, of Illinois, all to be a Member of the Reform Board (Amtrak); and a promotion list in the United States Coast Guard.

Prior to this action, committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Carl T. Johnson, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, who was introduced by Senator Stevens, and Francis P. Mulvey, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, both of the Department of Transportation and Denver J. Stutler, Jr., of Florida, who was introduced by Senator Martinez, and Nancy A. Naples, of New York, each to be a Member of the Reform Board (Amtrak), after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.