

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unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, be withdrawn).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.

**NON-TANK VESSEL OIL SPILLS**

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine oil spills from non-tank vessels, focusing on threats, risks, and vulnerabilities, after receiving testimony from Admiral Thad Allen, Commandant, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; Mary Glackin, Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Susan A. Fleming, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office; Mike Cooper, Washington State Oil Spill Advisory Council, Olympia; Dagmar Schmidt Etkin, Environmental Research Consulting, Cortlandt Manor, New York; and William G. Deaver, Totem Ocean Trailer Express, Federal Way, Washington.

**NOMINATION**

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Jon Wellinghoff, of Nevada, to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Prior to this action, committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Jon Wellinghoff, of Nevada, to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Bingaman, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

S. 1189, to designate the Federal building and United States Courthouse located at 100 East 8th Avenue in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, as the “George

Howard, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse”;

H.R. 735, to designate the Federal building under construction at 799 First Avenue in New York, New York, as the “Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building”;

S. 862, to designate the Federal building located at 210 Walnut Street in Des Moines, Iowa, as the “Neal Smith Federal Building”; and

The nominations of Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, and Gregory B. Jaczko, of the District of Columbia, both to be Members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**NOMINATION**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Steven H. Murdock, of Texas, to be Director of the Census, Department of Commerce, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Hutchison, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

**NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ondray T. Harris, of Virginia, to be Director, Community Relations Service, David W. Hagy, of Texas, to be Director of the National Institute of Justice, Cynthia Dyer, of Texas, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, and Nathan J. Hochman, of California, to be an Assistant Attorney General, who was introduced by Senator Coleman, all of the Department of Justice, and Scott M. Burns, of Utah, to be Deputy Director of National Drug Control Policy, after the nominees testified and answered questions on their own behalf.

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# House of Representatives

**Chamber Action**

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 63 public bills, H.R. 4774–4836; and 14 resolutions, H.J. Res. 71–73; H. Con. Res. 272; and H. Res. 883–892 were introduced. **Pages H16832–34**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H16834–35**

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows: H.R. 1834, to authorize the national ocean exploration program and the national undersea research program within the National Oceanic and Atmos-

pheric Administration, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–311, Pt. 2). **Page H16832**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Solis to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H16645**

**Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Monday, December 17th:

**Veterans Guaranteed Bonus Act of 2007:** H.R. 3793, amended, to amend title 37, United States