

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1825–S1914*

**Measures Introduced:** Five bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2740–2744, and S. Res. 479. **Page S1876**

**Measures Passed:**

*Authorizing Use of Rotunda:* Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 313, authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to honor the 5 years of service and sacrifice of our troops and their families in the war in Iraq and to remember those who are serving our Nation in Afghanistan and throughout the world. **Page S1839**

*Kendell Frederick Citizenship Assistance Act:* Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 2516, to assist members of the Armed Forces in obtaining United States citizenship, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

**Pages S1891–92**

Brown (for Mikulski) Amendment No. 4177, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S1891–92**

*National Funeral Director and Mortician Recognition Day:* Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 390, designating March 11, 2008, as National Funeral Director and Mortician Recognition Day, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1892**

*National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 479, designating March 20, 2008, as “Second Annual National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day”. **Pages S1892–93**

*Authorizing Use of Rotunda:* Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 306, permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. **Page S1893**

*Enrollment Correction:* Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 270, to make corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 1593, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1893**

*Second Chance Act:* Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1593, to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to improve reentry planning and implementation, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S1893–95**

**Measures Considered:**

**Budget Resolution:** Senate continued consideration of S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013, taking action on the following amendments proposed there to: **Pages S1832–39, S1839–69, S1895–S1909**

Pending:

Baucus Amendment No. 4160, to provide tax relief to middle-class families and small businesses, property tax relief to homeowners, relief to those whose homes were damaged or destroyed by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and tax relief to America’s troops and veterans. **Pages S1839–55**

Graham Amendment No. 4170, to protect families, family farms and small businesses by extending the income tax rate structure, raising the death tax exemption to \$5,000,000 and reducing the maximum death tax rate to no more than 35 percent; to keep education affordable by extending the college tuition deduction; and to protect senior citizens from higher taxes on their retirement income, maintain U.S. financial market competitiveness, and promote economic growth by extending the lower tax rates on dividends and capital gains. **Pages S1855–69**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the resolution at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 12, 2008, and that Baucus Amendment No. 4160 (listed above) remain as the regular order, regardless of the pendency of other amendments. **Pages S1855, S1893**

**Message from the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was declared on March 15, 1995, with respect to Iran; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-41) **Pages S1874-75**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

William Clifford Smith, of Louisiana, to be a Member of the Mississippi River Commission for a term of nine years.

Rear Admiral Jonathan W. Bailey, NOAA, to be a Member of the Mississippi River Commission.

Mimi Alemayehou, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank for a term of five years.

Kiyo A. Matsumoto, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Cathy Seibel, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

5 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Navy.

**Pages S1909-14**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S1875**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S1875**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:**  
**Pages S1825, S1875**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S1875-76**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1877-78**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**  
**Pages S1878-82**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S1872-74**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S1882-89**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:**  
**Pages S1889-90**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S1890**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:52 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1893.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### IRAQ

*Committee on Appropriations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the effectiveness of the United States efforts to combat corruption, waste, fraud, and

abuse in Iraq, after receiving testimony from David M. Walker, Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; Claude M. Kicklighter, Inspector General, and Stuart W. Bowen, Jr., Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, both of the Department of Defense; and Radhi Hamza al-Radhi, Commission on Public Integrity, Republic of Iraq.

### DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 for the United States Pacific Command and United States Forces in Korea, and the future years defense program, after receiving testimony from Admiral Timothy J. Keating, USN, Commander, United States Pacific Command, and General B.B. Bell, Commander, United Nations Command (UNC), Commander, Republic of Korea—United States Combined Forces Command (CFC), and Commander, United States Forces Korea (USFK), both of the Department of Defense.

### NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the condition of the nation's infrastructure, focusing on proposals for needed improvements, including S. 1926, to establish the National Infrastructure Bank to provide funding for qualified infrastructure projects, after receiving testimony from David G. Mongan, American Society of Civil Engineers, Baltimore, Maryland; Felix G. Rohatyn, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and Tracy Wolstencroft, Goldman, Sachs, and Co., both of New York, New York; and Ron Blackwell, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), and Janet F. Kavinoky, United States Chamber of Commerce, both of Washington, D.C.

### U.S. BASIC RESEARCH BUDGET

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Innovation concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 to support basic research in the United States, after receiving testimony from John Marburger III, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President; James M. Turner, Acting Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; and Arden L. Bement, Jr., Director, National Science Foundation.

### CROSS-BORDER TRUCK PILOT PROGRAM

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Transportation's Cross-Border Truck pilot program, after receiving testimony from