

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 1315, Veterans' Benefits Enhancement Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3337–S3413

Measures Introduced: Eighteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2903–2920, and S. Res. 530–533. **Pages S3401–02**

Measures Reported:

S. 2433, to require the President to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to further the United States foreign policy objective of promoting the reduction of global poverty, the elimination of extreme global poverty, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal of reducing by one-half the proportion of people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who live on less than \$1 per day, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 110–331)

H. Con. Res. 292, honoring Margaret Truman Daniel and her lifetime of accomplishments.

S. Res. 511, recognizing that John Sidney McCain, III, is a natural born citizen.

S. Res. 515, commemorating the life and work of Dith Pran. **Page S3400**

Measures Passed:

Farm Security and Rural Investment Act Extension: Senate passed S. 2903, to amend Public Law 110–196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond April 25, 2008.

Pages S3340–42

Veterans' Benefits Enhancement Act: By 96 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 112), Senate passed S. 1315, to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance life insurance benefits for disabled veterans, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute and taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S3347–63**

Adopted:

Akaka Amendment No. 4576, of a perfecting nature. **Page S3353**

Rejected:

By 41 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 111), Burr Amendment No. 4572, to increase benefits for disabled United States veterans and provide a fair benefit to World War II Filipino veterans for their service to the United States. **Pages S3347–53, S3354**

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination: By a unanimous vote of 95 yeas (Vote No. 113), Senate passed H.R. 493, to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S3363–75

Adopted:

Kennedy (for Snowe) Amendment No. 4573, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S3374**

Congressional Gold Medal: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4286, to award a congressional gold medal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy in Burma, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Pages S3411–12

National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 510, supporting the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S3412**

Recognizing the 60th Anniversary of the Founding of the Modern State of Israel: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 322, recognizing the 60th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel and reaffirming the bonds of close friendship and cooperation between the United States and Israel.

Page S3412

Measures Considered:

FAA Reauthorization Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2881, to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2008 through 2011, to improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system. **Pages S3411, S3412–13**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, April 24, 2008, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2008. **Page S3411**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 4:30 p.m., on Monday, April 28, 2008, with the time until 5:30 p.m., equally divided and controlled between the Majority and Republican Leaders, or their designees; provided further, that at 5:30 p.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S3411**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Majority Leader be authorized to sign bills and joint resolutions through the recess or adjournment of the Senate through Monday, April 28, 2008. **Page S3411**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Lyndon L. Olson, Jr., of Texas, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2008.

Kristen Silverberg, of Texas, to be Representative of the United States of America to the European Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

A routine list in the Navy. **Page S3413**

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

C. Boyden Gray, of the District of Columbia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the European Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador, which was sent to the Senate on January 9, 2007. **Page S3413**

Messages from the House: **Page S3397**

Measures Referred: **Page S3397**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S3397, S3412, S3413**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Pages S3397–98**

Executive Communications: **Pages S3398–S3400**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S3400–01**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3402–03**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3403–09**

Additional Statements: **Pages S3396–97**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3409–10**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S3410–11**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S3411**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—113) **Pages S3354, S3354–55, S3374**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:28 p.m., until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3412.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for military construction, after receiving testimony from Tina W. Jonas, Under Secretary (Comptroller), Wayne Army, Deputy Under Secretary for Installations and Environment, B.J. Penn, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment, Major General Eugene G. Payne, Jr., Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics (Facilities), and Rear Admiral Mark A. Handley, Deputy Commander, Navy Installations Command, all of the Department of Defense.

INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on sensitive intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 4,206 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

SOVEREIGN INVESTMENTS REGULATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States credit markets, focusing on the United States regulatory framework for assessing sovereign wealth