

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

The House passed H.R. 6599, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2009.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S7983–S8079*

**Measures Introduced:** Thirty-two bills and nine resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3418–3449, and S. Res. 643–651. **Pages S8034–36**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 702, to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to State courts to develop and implement State courts interpreter programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–436)

S. 789, to prevent abuse of Government credit cards, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–437)

S. 2166, to provide for greater responsibility in lending and expanded cancellation of debts owed to the United States and the international financial institutions by low-income countries, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 110–438)

S. 2449, to amend chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, relating to protective orders, sealing of cases, disclosures of discovery information in civil actions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–439)

S. 2840, to establish a liaison with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to expedite naturalization applications filed by members of the Armed Forces and to establish a deadline for processing such applications, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–440)

S. 3169, to authorize United States participation in, and appropriations for the United States contribution to, the eleventh replenishment of the resources of the African Development Fund. (S. Rept. No. 110–441)

S. 2533, to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–442)

S. 3445, to impose sanctions with respect to Iran, to provide for the divestment of assets in Iran by State and local governments and other entities, to identify locations of concern with respect to transshipment, reexportation, or diversion of certain sensitive items to Iran. (S. Rept. No. 110–443)

Report to accompany S.J. Res. 41, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003. (S. Rept. No. 110–444) **Page S8034**

#### Measures Passed:

**Animal Drug User Fee Amendments:** Senate passed H.R. 6432, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the animal drug user fee program, to establish a program of fees relating to generic new animal drugs, to make certain technical corrections to the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S7983**

**CeeCee Ross Lyles Post Office Building:** Senate passed S. 3241, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1717 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the “CeeCee Ross Lyles Post Office Building”. **Page S7984**

**Dock M. Brown Post Office Building:** Senate passed H.R. 4210, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 Washington Avenue in Weldon, North Carolina, as the “Dock M. Brown Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S7984**

**Chi Mui Post Office Building:** Senate passed H.R. 5477, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 South Del Mar Avenue in San Gabriel, California, as the “Chi Mui

Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S7984**

**Private First Class David H. Sharrett II Post Office Building:** Senate passed H.R. 5483, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10449 White Granite Drive in Oakton, Virginia, as the “Private First Class David H. Sharrett II Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S7984**

**Corporal Bradley T. Arms Post Office Building:** Senate passed H.R. 5631, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1155 Seminole Trail in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the “Corporal Bradley T. Arms Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S7984**

**Kenneth James Gray Post Office Building:** Senate passed H.R. 6061, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 219 East Main Street in West Frankfort, Illinois, as the “Kenneth James Gray Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S7984**

**Gerald R. Ford Post Office Building:** Senate passed H.R. 6085, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 42222 Rancho Las Palmas Drive in Rancho Mirage, California, as the “Gerald R. Ford Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S7984**

**John P. Gallagher Post Office Building:** Senate passed H.R. 6150, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14500 Lorain Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio, as the “John P. Gallagher Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S7984**

**Federal Railroad Safety Improvement Act:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2095, to amend title 49, United States Code, to prevent railroad fatalities, injuries, and hazardous materials releases, to authorize the Federal Railroad Safety Administration, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S8003**

Cantwell (for Lautenberg/Smith) Amendment No. 5259, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8003**

**Elwood “Bud” Link Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic:** Committee on Veterans’ Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2245, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Wenatchee, Washington, as the Elwood “Bud” Link Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S8003**

**SSI Extension for Elderly and Disabled Refugees Act:** Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2608, to amend section 402 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to provide, in fiscal years 2009 through 2011, extensions of supplemental security income for refugees, asylees, and certain other humanitarian immigrants, and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to collect unemployment compensation debts resulting from fraud, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S8003–04**

Cantwell (for Smith) Amendment No. 5260, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8004**

Cantwell (for Smith) Amendment No. 5261, to amend the title. **Page S8004**

**Bruce W. Carter Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center:** Committee on Veterans’ Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4918, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Miami, Florida, as the “Bruce W. Carter Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S8004**

**Charles L. Brieant, Jr., Federal Building and United States Courthouse:** Senate passed H.R. 6340, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 300 Quarropas Street in White Plains, New York, as the “Charles L. Brieant, Jr., Federal Building and United States Courthouse”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S8004**

**Hubbard Act:** Senate passed H.R. 6580, to ensure the fair treatment of a member of the Armed Forces who is discharged from the Armed Forces, at the request of the member, pursuant to the Department of Defense policy permitting the early discharge of a member who is the only surviving child in a family in which the father or mother, or one or more siblings, served in the Armed Forces and, because of hazards incident to such service, was killed, died as a result of wounds, accident, or disease, is in a captured or missing in action status, or is permanently disabled, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the dollar limitation on contributions to funeral trusts, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S8004–05**

**DTV Border Fix Act:** Senate passed S. 2507, to address the digital television transition in border states, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8005–06**

Cantwell (for Hutchison) Amendment No. 5262, of a perfecting nature. **Page S8005**

**Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 45, expressing the consent and approval of Congress to an inter-state compact regarding water resources in the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin, and the resolution was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8006–14**

Cantwell (for Levin) Amendment No. 5263, to clarify the authority of Congress. **Page S8007**

**Kenya and Tanzania United States Embassy Bombings 10th Anniversary:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 618, recognizing the tenth anniversary of the bombings of the United States embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and memorializing the citizens of the United States, Kenya, and Tanzania whose lives were claimed as a result of the al Qaeda led terrorist attacks. **Pages S8014–15**

**U.S. Hostages in Colombia:** Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 627, welcoming home Keith Stansell, Thomas Howes, and Marc Gonsalves, three citizens of the United States who were held hostage for over five years by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) after their plane crashed on February 13, 2003, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S8015**

**National Truancy Prevention Month:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 624, designating August 2008 as “National Truancy Prevention Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S8015–16**

**National Airborne Day:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 625, designating August 16, 2008, as National Airborne Day, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S8016**

**International Year of Sanitation:** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 318, supporting the goals and ideals of the International Year of Sanitation. **Page S8016**

**Government Accountability Office Act:** Senate passed H.R. 5683, to make certain reforms with respect to the Government Accountability Office, after withdrawing the committee amendments, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8070–73**

Reid (for Lieberman) Amendment No. 5264, to make certain reforms with respect to the Government Accountability Office. **Page S8073**

#### Measures Considered:

**National Defense Authorization Act:** Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3001, to authorize appropriations

for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year. **Pages S7983–87**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, September 8, 2008, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S8077**

**Acting President Pro Tempore—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senator Pryor be designated as acting President Pro Tempore for the purpose of signing the conference report to accompany H.R. 4040, Consumer Product Safety Modernization Act. **Page S7984**

**Authority for Committees—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that during the adjournment of the Senate, that Senate committees may file committee-reported legislative and executive calendar business on Friday, August 22, 2008, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. **Page S8077**

**Authorizing Leadership to Make Appointments—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or inter-parliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S8077**

**Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on the following days Senate convene for pro forma sessions with no business conducted, that following each pro forma session Senate recess until the next pro forma session, and that when Senate completes its pro forma session on Friday, September 5, 2008, Senate be adjourned until 3:00 p.m. on Monday, September 8, and resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3001, National Defense Authorization Act:

Tuesday, August 5 at 10:00 a.m.;  
 Friday, August 8 at 11:00 a.m.;  
 Tuesday, August 12 at 2:00 p.m.;  
 Friday, August 15 at 10:00 a.m.;  
 Tuesday, August 19 at 9:00 a.m.;  
 Friday, August 22 at 10:00 a.m.;  
 Tuesday, August 26 at 2:00 p.m.;  
 Friday, August 29 at 2:00 p.m.;  
 Tuesday, September 2 at 12:00 p.m.;  
 Friday, September 5 at 9:30 a.m.

**Page S8077**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Anthony C. Epstein, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Carol A. Dalton, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Heidi M. Pasichow, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Eric M. Thorson, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of the Treasury.

D. Kathleen Stephens, of Montana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Korea.

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

Miguel R. San Juan, of Texas, to be United States Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank for a term of three years.

Philip Thomas Reeker, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia.

Marie L. Yovanovitch, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia.

Tatiana C. Gfoeller-Volkoff, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic.

Patrick J. Durkin, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation for a term expiring December 17, 2009.

W. Stuart Symington, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda.

Alan W. Eastham, Jr., of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Congo.

Kenneth L. Peel, of Maryland, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

John W. Leslie, Jr., of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 22, 2013.

John O. Agwunobi, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring February 9, 2014.

Julius E. Coles, of Georgia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 22, 2011.

Morgan W. Davis, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring November 13, 2013.

James Christopher Swan, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Djibouti.

Michele Jeanne Sison, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon.

Richard G. Olson, Jr., of New Mexico, to be Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates.

David D. Pearce, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

Holly A. Kuzmich, of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education. (Prior to this action, Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration.)

Christopher M. Marston, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Management, Department of Education. (Prior to this action, Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration.)

In the Coast Guard:

Coast Guard nomination of Stephen E. West, to be Lieutenant.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration.)

Coast Guard nomination of Elisa M. Garrity, to be Lieutenant.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration.)

Thomas J. Madison, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration. (Prior to this action, Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration.)

John A. Simon, of Maryland, to be Representative of the United States of America to the African Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador.

27 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

66 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

9 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, and Navy.

Routine list in the Public Health Service.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration.)

**Pages S8073–79**

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

Michael W. Hager, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management for a term of four years.

Gregori Lebedev, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador.

Gregori Lebedev, of Virginia, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform.

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Messages from the House: Pages S8032–33

Measures Referred: Page S8033

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Pages S7983, S8033

Measures Read the First Time: Pages S8017, S8033

Executive Communications: Pages S8033–34

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S8036–37

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S8037–51

Additional Statements: Pages S8025–32

Amendments Submitted: Pages S8051–70

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 2:49 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, August 5, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8077.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* On Wednesday, July 30, 2008, Committee announced the following committee membership: Senators Inouye, Rockefeller, Kerry, Dorgan, Boxer, Nelson (FL), Cantwell, Lautenberg, Pryor, Carper, McCaskill, Klobuchar, Hutchison, Stevens, McCain, Snowe, Smith, Ensign, Sununu, DeMint, Vitter, Thune, and Wicker.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 59 public bills, H.R.6772–6831; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 1409–1413 were introduced. Pages H7805–08

**Additional Cosponsors:** Pages H7808–09

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows: H.R. 1527, to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow highly rural veterans enrolled in the health system of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive covered health services through providers other than those of the Department, with amendments (H.Rept. 110–817).

H.R. 2343, to expand quality programs of early childhood home visitation that increase school readiness, child abuse and neglect prevention, and early identification of developmental and health delays, including potential mental health concerns, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept 110–818, Part I):

H.R. 1717, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a National Bio and Agro-defense Facility, with an amendment Rept. 110–819 Pt. 1);

H.R. 1746, to require disclosure of Holocaust-era policies by insurers and establish a federal cause of action for claims arising out of a covered policy, with an amendment (H.Rept. 110–820 Pt. 1);

H.R. 2352, to enhance the safety of elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education, with an amendment (H.Rept. 110–821 Pt. 1); and

H.R. 5350, to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell or exchange certain National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration property located in Norfolk, Virginia, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H.Rept. 110–822 Pt. 1). Page H7805

**Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2009:** The House passed H.R. 6599, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 409 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 563. Pages H7793–H7802

Agreed to table the appeal of the ruling of the chair on a point of order sustained against the Lewis (CA) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 230 yeas to 184 noes, Roll No. 562. Pages H7799–H7801

Accepted:

McCaul (TX) amendment (No. 6 printed in the Congressional Record of July 29, 2008) that was debated on July 31st that prohibits the use of funds for a project or program named for an individual