

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senator-Elect Al Franken, of Minnesota, was administered the oath of office by the Vice President.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7153–S7216

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1400–1407, and S. Res. 208–209. **Pages S7192–93**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 2996, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 111–38)

S. 1406, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010. (S. Rept. No. 111–39)

S. 1407, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010. (S. Rept. No. 111–40) **Page S7192**

Measures Passed:

Majority Party Committee Membership: Senate agreed to S. Res. 208, to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Eleventh Congress, or until their successors are chosen. **Page S7168**

Decade of Vision: Senate agreed to S. Res. 209, recognizing the 40th anniversary of the National Eye Institute and expressing support for designation of the years 2011 through 2020 as the "Decade of Vision". **Pages S7214–15**

Measures Considered:

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act: Senate began consideration of H.R. 2892, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S7164–67, S7168–82**

Rejected:

By 47 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 218), McCain Amendment No. 1400 (to Amendment No. 1373), to eliminate the appropriation for the Over-the-Road Bus Security Assistance, as recommended by the Administration. **Pages S7172–74, S7178**

Pending:

Reid (for Byrd/Inouye) Amendment No. 1373, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7164–67, S7168–82**

Sessions Amendment No. 1371 (to Amendment No. 1373), to make the pilot program for employment eligibility confirmation for aliens permanent and to improve verification of immigration status of employees. **Pages S7166–67, S7168–72**

DeMint Amendment No. 1399 (to Amendment No. 1373), to require the completion of at least 700 miles of reinforced fencing along the southwest border by December 31, 2010. **Page S7172**

Feingold Amendment No. 1402 (to Amendment No. 1373), to require grants for Emergency Operations Centers and financial assistance for the predisaster mitigation program to be awarded without regard to earmarks. **Pages S7179–82**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 8, 2009, and that there be 5 minutes for debate prior to a vote on or in relation to Sessions Amendment No. 1371 (listed above), with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators Schumer and Sessions, or their designees; provided that upon disposition of Sessions Amendment No. 1371 (listed above), Senate resume consideration of DeMint Amendment No. 1399 (listed above), with two minutes of debate prior to a vote on or in relation thereto, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators Murray and DeMint, or their designees; provided further, that no amendment be in order to any of the amendments covered in this agreement prior to a vote on or in relation to the amendments. **Page S7177**

Announcements:

Committee Assignments: The Majority Leader announced, in accordance with S. Res. 18, that the following Democratic member has been assigned to the following committees:

Committee on Indian Affairs: Senator Franken.
Select Committee on Aging: Senator Franken.

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Susan L. Kurland, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

Matthew Winthrop Barzun, of Kentucky, to be Ambassador to Sweden.

William Carlton Eacho III, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Austria.

Fay Hartog-Levin, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Patricia Newton Moller, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea.

Michael H. Posner, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.

Stephen J. Rapp, of Iowa, to be Ambassador at Large for War Crimes Issues.

Alexa E. Posny, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

Alexander G. Garza, of Missouri, to be Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs and Chief Medical Officer, Department of Homeland Security.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Pages S7215–16

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Page S7190

Executive Communications: Pages S7190–92

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S7192

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S7193–94

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S7195–S7200

Additional Statements: Pages S7189–90

Amendments Submitted: Pages S7200–13

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: Pages S7213–14

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S7214

Privileges of the Floor: Page S7214

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—218) Page S7178

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:06 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7215.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jonathan Steven Adelstein, of South Dakota, to be Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, who was introduced by Senators Johnson and Thune, Kevin W. Concannon, of Maine, to be Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, who was introduced by Representative Pingree, and Evan J. Segal, of Pennsylvania, to be Chief Financial Officer, who was introduced by Senator Casey, all of the Department of Agriculture, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 1406, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2010, with amendments; and

S. 1407, making appropriations for Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2010, with amendments.

MILITARY COMMISSIONS AND TRIALS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine legal issues regarding military commissions and the trial of detainees for violations of the law of war, after receiving testimony from Jeh C. Johnson, General Counsel, Vice Admiral Bruce E. MacDonald, USN, Judge Advocate General, and Rear Admiral John D. Hutson, USN (Ret.), former Judge Advocate General, both of the United States Navy, and Major General John D. Altenburg, Jr., USA (Ret.), former Appointing Authority for Military Commissions, all of the Department of Defense; David S. Kris, Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, Department of Justice; and Daniel Marcus, American University Washington College, Washington, DC.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CLIMATE POLICY

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development concluded a hearing to examine public transportation, focusing on a core climate solution, after receiving testimony from Ernest Tollerson, Director, New York State Metropolitan Transportation Authority Policy and Media Relations, New York; Michael A. Replogle, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, and Randal