

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3849–S3949

Measures Introduced: Two bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3382–3383, and S. Con. Res. 63. **Page S3908**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 3250, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1210 West Main Street in Riverhead, New York, as the “Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn Post Office Building”.

H.R. 3634, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 109 Main Street in Swifton, Arkansas, as the “George Kell Post Office”.

H.R. 3892, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Highway 64 Bypass in Roper, North Carolina, as the “E.V. Wilkins Post Office”.

H.R. 3951, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Louisiana Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the “Roy Rondeno, Sr. Post Office Building”.

H.R. 4017, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 43 Maple Avenue in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, as the “Ann Marie Blute Post Office”.

H.R. 4095, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9727 Antioch Road in Overland Park, Kansas, as the “Congresswoman Jan Meyers Post Office Building”.

H.R. 4139, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7464 Highway 503 in Hickory, Mississippi, as the “Sergeant Matthew L. Ingram Post Office”.

H.R. 4214, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 45300 Portola Avenue in Palm Desert, California, as the “Roy Wilson Post Office”.

H.R. 4238, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 930 39th Avenue in Greeley, Colorado, as the “W.D. Farr Post Office Building”.

H.R. 4425, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2-116th Street in

North Troy, New York, as the “Martin G. ‘Marty’ Mahar Post Office”.

H.R. 4547, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119 Station Road in Cheyney, Pennsylvania, as the “Captain Luther H. Smith, U.S. Army Air Forces Post Office”.

H.R. 4624, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 125 Kerr Avenue in Rome City, Indiana, as the “SPC Nicholas Scott Hartge Post Office”.

H.R. 4628, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 216 Westwood Avenue in Westwood, New Jersey, as the “Sergeant Christopher R. Hrbek Post Office Building”.

H.R. 4840, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1979 Cleveland Avenue in Columbus, Ohio, as the “Clarence D. Lumpkin Post Office”, with an amendment.

S. 2874, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Louisiana Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the “Roy Rondeno, Sr. Post Office Building”.

S. 2945, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1210 West Main Street in Riverhead, New York, as the “Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn Post Office Building”.

S. 3012, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2-116th Street in North Troy, New York, as the “Martin G. ‘Marty’ Mahar Post Office”.

S. 3013, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 216 Westwood Avenue in Westwood, New Jersey, as the “Sergeant Christopher R. Hrbek Post Office Building”.

S. 3200, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 23 Genesee Street in Hornell, New York, as the “Zachary Smith Post Office Building”. **Pages S3907–08**

Measures Passed:

Veterans Affairs Health Care Minimum Essential Coverage: Senate passed H.R. 5014, to clarify the health care provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that constitutes minimum essential coverage, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S3946–47**

Federal Hiring Process Improvement Act: Senate passed S. 736, to provide for improvements in the Federal hiring process, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S3947–48

Measures Considered:

Restoring American Financial Stability Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of S. 3217, to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S3856–64, S3864–3902

Adopted:

Brownback Amendment No. 3997 (to Amendment No. 3739), to require annual disclosure by certain persons to the Securities and Exchange Commission if columbitetantalite, cassiterite, gold, or wolframite from the Democratic Republic of Congo are necessary to the functionality or production of a product manufactured by the person. Pages S3865–66

By 80 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. 155), Carper Amendment No. 4071 (to Amendment No. 3739), to address the applicability and preservation of certain State authorities. Pages S3868–72, S3872–73

Bingaman Further Modified Amendment No. 3892 (to Amendment No. 3739), to preserve the authority of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to ensure just and reasonable electric and natural gas rates and to protect the public interest. Pages S3879–81, S3890–94

By 75 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. 157), Grassley/McCaskill Amendment No. 4072 (to Amendment No. 3739), to provide for the independence of Inspectors General of certain designated Federal entities. Pages S3881–84, S3894–95

Rejected:

By 43 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 154), Corker Amendment No. 4034 (to Amendment No. 3739), to address the applicability of certain State authorities with respect to national banks. Pages S3866–68, S3872

Dorgan Amendment No. 4114 (to Amendment No. 4072), to ban naked credit default swaps. (By 57 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 156) Senate tabled the amendment.) Pages S3884, S3894

Withdrawn:

By 47 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 153), Gregg Modified Amendment No. 4051 (to Amendment No. 3739), to prohibit taxpayer bailouts of fiscally irresponsible State and local governments. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that

the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, be withdrawn). Pages S3856–61, S3862

Pending:

Reid (for Dodd/Lincoln) Amendment No. 3739, in the nature of a substitute. Page S3856

Brownback Further Modified Amendment No. 3789 (to Amendment No. 3739), to provide for an exclusion from the authority of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection for certain automobile manufacturers. Page S3856

Brownback (for Snow/Pryor) Amendment No. 3883 (to Amendment No. 3739), to ensure small business fairness and regulatory transparency. Pages S3856, S3884–90

Specter Modified Amendment No. 3776 (to Amendment No. 3739), to amend section 20 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to allow for a private civil action against a person that provides substantial assistance in violation of such Act. Page S3856

Dodd (for Leahy) Amendment No. 3823 (to Amendment No. 3739), to restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers. Page S3856

Whitehouse Modified Amendment No. 3746 (to Amendment No. 3739), to restore to the States the right to protect consumers from usurious lenders. Page S3856

Dodd (for Cantwell) Modified Amendment No. 3884 (to Amendment No. 3739), to impose appropriate limitations on affiliations with certain member banks. Pages S3856, S3861–62

Cardin Amendment No. 4050 (to Amendment No. 3739), to require the disclosure of payments by resource extraction issuers. Page S3856

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, May 19, 2010; provided further, that the cloture vote on Reid (for Dodd/Lincoln) Amendment No. 3739 (listed above), occur at 2 p.m.; and that members have until 1 p.m., to file germane second-degree amendments. Page S3948

Appointments:

Public Interest Declassification Board: The Chair, on behalf of the Minority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 106–567, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Interest Declassification Board: William A. Burck, of the District of Columbia. Page S3948

Pistole Nomination—Referral: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the nomination of John S. Pistole, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary, Department of Homeland Security

(Transportation Security Administration), received by the Senate on Monday, May 17, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; that upon the reporting out or discharge of the nomination, the nomination then be referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs for a period not to exceed 30 calendar days; after which the nomination, if still in the committee, be discharged and placed on the Executive Calendar. **Page S3948**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Helen Patricia Reed-Rowe, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Palau.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army, and Navy.

Pages S3948–49

Executive Communications: **Pages S3906–07**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3908–10**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Page S3910

Additional Statements: **Pages S3905–06**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3910–46**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S3946**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S3946**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—157) **Pages S3862, S3872, S3894, S3894–95**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:40 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 19, 2010. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S3849.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

PACIFIC COMMAND AND EUROPEAN COMMAND BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense received a closed briefing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Pacific Command and European Command programs from Admiral James G. Stavridis, USN, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and Commander, United States European Command, and Admiral Robert F. Willard, USN, Commander, Pacific Command, both of the Department of Defense.

GULF COAST OIL SPILL

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine response efforts to the Gulf Coast oil spill, after receiving testimony from Admiral Thad Allen, National Incident Commander, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; Lamar McKay, BP America, and Steven Newman, Transocean, Ltd., both of Houston, Texas; and Deborah French McCay, Applied Science Associates, Inc., South Kingstown, Rhode Island.

OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine issues related to offshore oil and gas exploration including the accident involving the Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico, after receiving testimony from Ken Salazar, Secretary, Elizabeth Birnbaum, Director, Minerals Management Service, Wilma Lewis, Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, and David J. Hayes, Deputy Secretary, all of the Department of the Interior.

OIL SPILL IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Federal response to the recent oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, after receiving testimony from Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior; Nancy H. Sutley, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality, Executive Office of the President; Rear Admiral Peter Neffenger, Deputy National Incident Commander, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Department of Defense; and John R. Fernandez, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development.

THE NEW STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), after receiving testimony from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State; and Robert M. Gates, Secretary, and Admiral Michael G. Mullen, USN, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, both of the Department of Defense.