

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1945–S2003*

**Measures Introduced:** Nineteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 674–692, and S. Res. 115–118. **Pages S1976–77**

#### Measures Passed:

**Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 112, congratulating the Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (“THON”) on its continued success in support of the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S1999–S2000**

**National 9–1–1 Education Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 118, designating April 2011 as “National 9–1–1 Education Month”. **Page S2000**

#### Measures Considered:

**SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act:** Senate continued consideration of S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1962–66**

#### Pending:

McConnell Amendment No. 183, to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from promulgating any regulation concerning, taking action relating to, or taking into consideration the emission of a greenhouse gas to address climate change. **Page S1962**

Vitter Amendment No. 178, to require the Federal Government to sell off unused Federal real property. **Page S1962**

Inhofe (for Johanns) Amendment No. 161, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements to payments made to corporations, payments for property and other gross proceeds, and rental property expense payments. **Page S1962**

Cornyn Amendment No. 186, to establish a bipartisan commission for the purpose of improving oversight and eliminating wasteful government spending. **Page S1962**

Paul Amendment No. 199, to cut \$200,000,000,000 in spending in fiscal year 2011. **Page S1962**

Sanders Amendment No. 207, to establish a point of order against any efforts to reduce benefits paid to Social Security recipients, raise the retirement age, or create private retirement accounts under title II of the Social Security Act. **Page S1962**

Hutchison Amendment No. 197, to delay the implementation of the health reform law in the United States until there is final resolution in pending lawsuits. **Page S1962**

Coburn Amendment No. 184, to provide a list of programs administered by every Federal department and agency. **Page S1962**

Pryor Amendment No. 229, to establish the Patriot Express Loan Program under which the Small Business Administration may make loans to members of the military community wanting to start or expand small business concerns. **Page S1962**

Landrieu Amendment No. 244 (to Amendment No. 183), to change the enactment date. **Page S1962**

Paul motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Foreign Relations with instructions to report the same back to the Senate forthwith with Paul Amendment No. 276 (to the instructions on Paul motion to commit the bill), of a perfecting nature. **Pages S1962–64**

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

Henry S. Ensher, of California, to be Ambassador to the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria.

Kenneth J. Fairfax, of Kentucky, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Deepa Gupta, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2016.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S2001–03**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S1974**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S1974**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S1974–76**

**Petitions and Memorials:** **Page S1976**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1977–78**

## Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S1978–95

## Additional Statements:

Pages S1971–74

## Amendments Submitted:

Pages S1995–99

## Notices of Hearings/Meetings:

Page S1999

## Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S1999

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:43 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 31, 2011. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2001.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### FARMING AND GAS PRICES

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine fundamentals and farming, focusing on evaluating high gas prices and how new rules and innovative farming can help, after receiving testimony from Richard G. Newell, Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; Dan M. Berkovitz, General Counsel, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; Stanley R. Townsend, Kansas Farm Bureau, Weskan; Jeff Broin, Poet, LLC, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and Bruce E. Dale, Michigan State University, Lansing.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Health and Human Services, after receiving testimony from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

### REVIEW OF NUCLEAR SAFETY AND IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine nuclear safety in light of the impact of natural disasters on Japanese nuclear facilities, after receiving testimony from Gregory B. Jaczko, Chairman, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Peter Lyons, Acting Assistant Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Energy; Ernest J. Moniz, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and David Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists, both of Cambridge, Massachusetts; and William Levis, PSEG Power LLC, Newark, New Jersey.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of the Air Force, after receiving testimony from Michael B. Donley, Secretary of the Air Force, and General Norton A. Schwartz, Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force, both of the Department of Defense.

### NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine strategic forces programs of the National Nuclear Security Administration in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Thomas P. D'Agostino, Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, and Administrator, Donald L. Cook, Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, Admiral Kirkland H. Donald, USN, Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors, and Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion, all of the National Nuclear Security Administration, Michael R. Anastasio, Director, Los Alamos National Laboratory, George H. Miller, Director, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Paul J. Hommert, Director, Sandia National Laboratories, all of the Department of Energy.

### MOTORCOACH PASSENGER SAFETY

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine ensuring the safety of our nation's motorcoach passengers, after receiving testimony from Senator Brown (OH); Deborah A.P. Hersman, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; Anne S. Ferro, Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and Ronald Medford, Deputy Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, both of the Department of Transportation; and Peter J. Pantuso, American Bus Association, and Joan Claybrook, Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, both of Washington, D.C.

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BUDGET

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on National Parks concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the National Park Service, after receiving testimony from Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director, and Bruce Sheaffer, Comptroller, both of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.