

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3630, Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act.

House agreed to the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 3630, Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S879–1023

Measures Introduced: Eight bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2123–2130. **Page S909**

Measures Passed:

World Choir Games Month: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 325, recognizing the 2012 World Choir Games in Cincinnati, Ohio, as a global event of cultural significance to the United States and expressing support for designation of July 2012 as World Choir Games Month in the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S1019–20**

Condemning Violence against the Syrian People: Senate agreed to S. Res. 379, condemning violence by the Government of Syria against the Syrian people. **Pages S1020–21**

Measures Considered:

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century: Senate continued consideration of S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S885–86, S892**

Pending:

Reid Amendment No. 1730, of a perfecting nature. **Page S892**

Withdrawn:

Reid Motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 1635, to change the enactment date. **Page S885**

Reid Amendment No. 1633, of a perfecting nature. **Page S885**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 20), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on Reid Amendment No. 1633 (listed above). **Page S886**

Reid Amendment No. 1636 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1635), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 1635, was withdrawn. **Page S885**

Reid Amendment No. 1637 (to Amendment No. 1636), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 1636 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1635), fell. **Page S885**

Reid Amendment No. 1634 (to Amendment No. 1633), to change the enactment date, fell when Reid Amendment No. 1633, was withdrawn. **Page S885**

Conference Reports:

Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act: By 60 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. 22), Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3630, to extend the payroll tax holiday, unemployment compensation, Medicare physician payment, provide for the consideration of the Keystone XL pipeline. **Pages S888–92**

Authorizing Leadership To Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S1020**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that from Friday, February 17, 2012 through Monday, February 27, 2012, the Majority Leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

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Pro Forma—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate adjourn until 12 p.m., on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 and convene for a pro forma session only with no business conducted and that following the pro forma session, Senate adjourn until 11 a.m., on Friday, February 24, 2012 and convene for a pro forma session only with no business conducted and that following the pro forma session, Senate adjourn until 2 p.m., on Monday, February 27, 2012.

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Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the Economic Report of the President dated February 2012 with the Annual Report of the Council of Economic Advisers for 2012; which was referred to the Joint Economic Committee. (PM-41)

Pages S906-07

Brodie Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 4:30 p.m., on Monday, February 27, 2012, Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Margo Kitsy Brodie, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York; that there be 60 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote without intervening action or debate on confirmation of the nomination; and that no further motions be in order.

Page S1019

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 62 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. EX. 21), Jesse M. Furman, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

pages S886-88

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the previously scheduled vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination, be withdrawn.

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- 34 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.
- 85 Army nominations in the rank of general.
- 7 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.
- 6 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S1021-23**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Major General John Peabody, United States Army, to be a Member and President of the Mississippi River Commission.

C. Peter Mahurin, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2016.

Mark A. Pekala, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia.

Richard B. Norland, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to Georgia.

Jeffrey D. Levine, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia.

Makila James, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Swaziland.

Carlos Pascual, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Energy Resources).

Erica Lynn Groshen, of New York, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, for a term of four years.

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Messages from the House:

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Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S879, S907**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S907-09**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S909-10**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S910-12

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S912-1019

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—22)

Page S886, S888, S892

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 2:27 p.m., until 12 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1021.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Mark William Lippert, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, and 2,432 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.