

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3243–S3294

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3196–3206, and S. Res. 466–467. **Page S3280**

Measures Reported:

S. 676, to amend the Act of June 18, 1934, to reaffirm the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for Indian tribes, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 112–166)

S. 2554, to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the authorization of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program through fiscal year 2017, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S3279**

Measures Passed:

Trooper Joshua D. Miller Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 2415, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11 Dock Street in Pittston, Pennsylvania, as the “Trooper Joshua D. Miller Post Office Building”.

Pages S3291–92

Master Sergeant Daniel L. Fedder Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3220, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 170 Evergreen Square SW in Pine City, Minnesota, as the “Master Sergeant Daniel L. Fedder Post Office”.

Pages S3291–92

Private Isaac T. Cortes Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3413, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1449 West Avenue in Bronx, New York, as the “Private Isaac T. Cortes Post Office”.

Pages S3291–92

Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence Administrative Absence Days: Senate passed H.R. 4045, to modify the Department of Defense Program Guidance relating to the award of Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence administrative absence days to members of the reserve components to exempt any member whose qualified mobilization commenced before October 1, 2011, and continued

on or after that date, from the changes to the program guidance that took effect on that date.

Page S3292

Border Tunnel Prevention Act: Senate passed H.R. 4119, to reduce the trafficking of drugs and to prevent human smuggling across the Southwest Border by deterring the construction and use of border tunnels.

Page S3292

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Backcountry Access Act: Senate passed H.R. 4849, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue commercial use authorizations to commercial stock operators for operations in designated wilderness within the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Page S3292

Reid (for Boxer/Feinstein) Amendment No. 2112, in the nature of a substitute.

Page S3292

Measures Considered:

FDA User Fee—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3187, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs and medical devices, to establish user-fee programs for generic drugs and biosimilars.

Pages S3243–48, S3252–71

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Paul J. Watford, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Page S3252

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

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997, with respect to Burma; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–49)

Pages S3277–78

Removal of Injunction of Secrecy: The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaties:

Protocol Amending the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (Treaty Doc. No. 112–5);

The Convention on the Law Applicable to Certain Rights in Respect of Securities Held with an Intermediary (Treaty Doc. No. 112–6);

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Treaty Doc. No. 112–7); and

Tax Convention with Chile (Treaty Doc. No. 112–8).

The treaties were transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed.

Pages S3292–93

Watford Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Paul J. Watford, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Page S3252

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, May 17, 2012, a vote on cloture will occur at approximately 5:30 on Monday, May 21, 2012.

Page S3293

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 4:30 p.m., on Monday, May 21, 2012, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, with one hour of debate equally divided and controlled in the usual form, and that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination; And that if cloture is not invoked, Senate resume legislative session and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3187, FDA User Fee.

Page S3293

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 70 yeas to 24 nays (Vote No. EX. 102), Jeremy C. Stein, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2004. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, May 16, 2012, the nomination having achieved 60 affirmative votes, was confirmed.)

Pages S3248–51

By 74 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. EX. 103), Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2000. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, May 16, 2012, the nomination having achieved 60 affirmative votes, was confirmed.)

Pages S3248–52

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Derek J. Mitchell, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Union of Burma.

Matthew W. Brann, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

Malachy Edward Mannion, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

Gary Blankinship, of Texas, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Texas for the term of four years.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

A routine list in the Navy.

Pages S3293–94

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

A routine list in the Air Force.

Pages S3293–94

Messages from the House:

Page S3278

Measures Referred:

Page S3278

Executive Communications:

Pages S3278–79

Executive Reports of Committees:

Pages S3279–80

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S3280–81

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S3281–88

Additional Statements:

Pages S3275–77

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S3288–91

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S3291

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S3291

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—103)

Pages S3251–52

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 4:47 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, May 21, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3253.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: EUROPEAN COMMAND AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense received a closed briefing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for European Command and Special Operations Command Programs from Admiral James G. Stavridis, USN, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and Commander, United States European Command, and Admiral William H. McRaven, Commander, United States Special Operations Command, both of the Department of Defense.