

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 6156, Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7643–S7689

Measures Introduced: Four bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3663–3666, S. Res. 611, and S. Con. Res. 61–62. **Page S7686**

Measures Passed:

Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal Act: By 92 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. 223), Senate passed H.R. 6156, to authorize the extension of non-discriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to products of the Russian Federation and Moldova and to require reports on the compliance of the Russian Federation with its obligations as a member of the World Trade Organization. **Pages S7660–63**

Financial Disclosure Forms: Senate passed H.R. 6634, to change the effective date for the Internet publication of certain financial disclosure forms. **Page S7672**

American Energy Manufacturing Technical Corrections Act: Senate passed H.R. 6582, to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals, and to make technical corrections to existing Federal energy efficiency laws to allow American manufacturers to remain competitive. **Page S7688**

Animal Welfare Act: Senate passed S. 3666, to amend the Animal Welfare Act to modify the definition of “exhibitor”. **Page S7688**

Wreaths Across America Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 611, designating December 15, 2012, as “Wreaths Across America Day”. **Page S7688**

Measures Considered:

Transaction Account Guarantee Program—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3637, to temporarily extend the transaction account guarantee program. **Page S7664**

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, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, December 6, 2012, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2012. **Pages S7664–72, S7688**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at 5 p.m., on Monday, December 10, 2012. **Page S7688**

Signing Authorities—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that from Thursday, December 6, 2012, through Monday, December 10, 2012, the Majority Leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions. **Page S7688**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By unanimous vote of 94 yeas (Vote No. EX. 224), Mark E. Walker, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Florida. **Pages S7656–60, S7663–64, S7689**

Terrence G. Berg, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan. **Pages S7656–60, S7664, S7689**

Messages from the House: **Page S7683**

Measures Referred: **Page S7683**

Measures Read the First Time: **Page S7683**

Executive Communications: **Pages S7683–86**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S7686**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S7686**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S7686–87**

Additional Statements: **Pages S7682–83**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S7687–88**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—224) **Pages S7663, S7663–64**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 4:52 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S7688–89.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Federal Housing Administration, focusing on Housing and Urban Development's response to fiscal challenges, after receiving testimony from Shaun Donovan, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

SUPERSTORM SANDY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine superstorm Sandy, focusing on the devastating impact on the nation's largest trans-

portation systems, after receiving testimony from Senators Schumer, Menendez, and Gillibrand; Joseph H. Boardman, Amtrak, Washington, D.C.; Joseph J. Lhota, New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and Patrick J. Foye, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, both of New York, New York; and James Weinstein, New Jersey Transit Corporation, Newark.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Katherine Polk Failla, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Troy L. Nunley, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, Sheri Polster Chappell, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, Pamela Ki Mai Chen, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Mark A. Barnett, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade, and Louise W. Kelton, to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of Tennessee, and Patrick J. Wilkerson, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, both of the Department of Justice.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 11 a.m. on Friday, December 7, 2012 in pro forma session.

Committee Meetings

UPDATE OF THE HIGH SPEED AND INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL PROGRAM: MISTAKES MADE AND LESSONS LEARNED

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "An Update of the High Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Program: Mistakes Made and Lessons Learned". Testimony was heard from Ray LaHood, Secretary, Department of Transportation; Representatives McCarthy (CA) and Hahn; Mitchell Behm, Assistant Inspector General for Rail, Maritime and Economic Analysis, Department of Transportation; Susan Fleming, Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office; Paula J. Hammond, Secretary of Transportation, Washington State; Ann L. Schneider, Secretary of Transportation, State of Illinois; and a public witness.

Joint Meetings

FISCAL CLIFF

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the fiscal cliff, focusing on how to protect the middle class, sustain long-term economic growth, and reduce the Federal deficit, after receiving testimony from Mark Zandi, Moody's Analytics, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Kevin A. Hassett, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.