

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 4152, Ukraine Loan Guarantees, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1781–S1837

Measures Introduced: Twenty bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2164–2183, S.J. Res. 35, and S. Res. 400–404. **Pages S1818–19**

Measures Reported:

S. 994, to expand the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to increase accountability and transparency in Federal spending, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–139) **Page S1818**

Measures Passed:

Ukraine Loan Guarantees: Senate passed H.R. 4152, to provide for the costs of loan guarantees for Ukraine, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S1785–92**

Adopted:

By 98 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 88), Reid (for Menendez/Corker) Amendment No. 2867, to provide a complete substitute. **Pages S1785–92**

50th Anniversary of the Great Alaska Earthquake: Senate agreed to S. Res. 400, recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Great Alaska Earthquake, which struck the State of Alaska at 5:36 p.m. on Good Friday, March 27, 1964, honoring those who lost their lives in the Great Alaska Earthquake and associated tsunamis, and expressing continued support for research on earthquake and tsunami prediction and mitigation strategies. **Pages S1800–03**

United States International Programming to Ukraine and Neighboring Regions: Senate passed S. 2183, entitled “United States International Programming to Ukraine and Neighboring Regions”. **Pages S1834–35**

Military and Veterans Caregiver Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 395, designating the month

of April 2014 as “Military and Veterans Caregiver Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to.

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Measures Considered:

Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. **Pages S1781–84, S1793, S1799, S1800, S1803**

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

By 65 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. 90), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S1799–S1800**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that following disposition of H.R. 4302, to amend the Social Security Act to extend Medicare payments to physicians and other provisions of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and when all post-cloture time has expired, Senate vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S1809**

Appointments:

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, upon the recommendation of the Republican Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105–292, as amended by Public Law 106–55, Public Law 107–228, and Public Law 112–75, appointed the following individuals to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom: Mary Ann Glendon of Massachusetts, and M. Zuhdi Jasser of Arizona. **Page S1835**

Protecting Access to Medicare Act—Agreement:

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that following Leader remarks on Monday, March 31, 2014, Senate begin consideration of H.R. 4302, to amend the Social Security Act to extend Medicare payments to physicians and other provisions of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which was received from the House of Representatives and is at the desk; that there be no amendments, or motions in order to the bill with the exception of budget points of order and the applicable motions to waive; that the time until 5 p.m., be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees, for debate on the bill; that notwithstanding the previous order, following the vote on confirmation of the nomination of John B. Owens, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, on Monday, March 31, 2014, Senate vote on passage of the bill; that the bill be subject to a 60 affirmative vote threshold; and that upon disposition of the bill, Senate vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as provided under the previous order.

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Owens Nomination—Cloture: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of John B. Owens, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Page S1799

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

By 54 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 89), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Page S1799

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 31, 2014, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, all post-cloture time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m., and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination.

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Maria Contreras-Sweet, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Pages S1792–93, S1837

Matthew H. Tueller, of Utah, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Yemen.

Pages S1800, S1837

Kathryn B. Thomson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Transportation.

Pages S1834, S1837

Messages from the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Executive Communications: **Pages S1817–18**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1818**

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Notices of Intent: **Page S1833**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S1833**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1833–34**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1834**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—90) **Pages S1791–92, S1799–S1800**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:19 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, March 31, 2014. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on Page S1835.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2015 for the Federal Communications Commission, after receiving testimony from Tom Wheeler, Chairman, and Ajit Pai, Commissioner, both of the Federal Communications Commission.

APPROPRIATIONS: FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies concluded open and closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, after receiving testimony from James B. Comey, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the posture of the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Ray Mabus, Secretary, Admiral Jonathan Greenert, Chief