

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7055–S7107.

Measures Introduced: Fourteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2114–2127, and S. Res. 273–276. **Pages S7102–03**

Measures Reported:

S. 750, to achieve border security on certain Federal lands along the Southern border, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–150)

S. 991, to establish the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–151)

S. 481, to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to drug scheduling recommendations by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and with respect to registration of manufacturers and distributors seeking to conduct clinical testing, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 799, to combat the rise of prenatal opioid abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1893, to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

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Measures Passed:

Border Jobs for Veterans Act: Senate passed H.R. 2835, to actively recruit members of the Armed Forces who are separating from military service to serve as Customs and Border Protection officers.

Pages S7065–67

Protecting Affordable Coverage for Employees Act: Senate passed H.R. 1624, to amend title I of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to revise the definition of small employer. **Page S7084**

D1042

National Character Counts Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 276, designating the week beginning October 18, 2015, as “National Character Counts Week”. **Page S7107**

Measures Considered:

Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2029, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. **Pages S7062–65, S7067–75**

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

By 50 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 273), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S7074**

Conference Reports:

National Defense Authorization Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 1735, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year. **Pages S7075–84, S7084–90**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report to accompany the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Tuesday, October 6, 2015. **Page S7075**

Messages from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the designation of funding for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism, received during adjournment of the Senate on September 30,

2015; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget. (PM–26) **Page S7098**

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the notification of the President's designation of an emergency requirement in emergency funding for urgent wildland fire suppression activities, received during adjournment of the Senate on September 30, 2015; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget. (PM–27)

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Drozd Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 5 p.m., on Monday, October 5, 2015, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Dale A. Drozd, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California; that there be 30 minutes for debate on the nomination, equally divided in the usual form; and that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote, without intervening action or debate, on confirmation of the nomination.

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Messages from the House: **Page S7099**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S7099**

Executive Communications: **Pages S7099–7101**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S7101–02**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S7103**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S7103–06

Additional Statements: **Pages S7096–98**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S7106–07

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S7107**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—273) **Page S7074**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 5:54 p.m., until 4 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7107.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

GERALD R. FORD-CLASS AIRCRAFT CARRIER PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the procurement, acquisition, testing, and oversight of the Navy's *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carrier program, after receiving testimony from Sean J. Stackley, Assistant Secretary, Research, Development & Acquisition, Rear Admiral Donald E. Gaddis, USN, Program Executive Officer,

Tactical Aircraft, and Rear Admiral Thomas J. Moore, USN, Program Executive Officer, Aircraft Carriers, all of the Department of the Navy, Katrina G. McFarland, Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Rear Admiral Michael C. Manazir, USN, Director, Air Warfare (OPNAV), and J. Michael Gilmore, Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, all of the Department of Defense; and Paul L. Francis, Managing Director of Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill entitled, "American Crude Oil Export Equality Act".

NATURAL RESOURCES LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining concluded a hearing to examine S. 2031, to reduce temporarily the royalty required to be paid for sodium produced on Federal lands, after receiving testimony from Amanda Leiter, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Land and Minerals Management; Christopher B. Douville, American Natural Soda Ash Corporation, Westport, Connecticut; Rick Finn, Port of Portland, Portland, Oregon; and Fred von Ahrens, Tronox Alkali, Green River, Wyoming.

IMPROPER PAYMENTS IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine improper payments in Federal programs, after receiving testimony from Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Scott Allen, of Maryland, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Ann Calvaresi Barr, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, United States Agency for International Development, and Barbara Lee, of California, and Christopher H. Smith, of New Jersey, both to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Seventieth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Carolyn Patricia Alsup, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia, John L. Estrada, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, David R. Gilmour, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Togolese Republic, Jeffrey J. Hawkins, Jr., of California, to be Ambassador to the Central African Republic, Edwin Richard Nolan, Jr., of Massachusetts, to be