

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

House agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S8693–S8743*

**Measures Introduced:** Nineteen bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2008–2026. **Pages S8733–34**

#### Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “The 2011 Joint Economic Report”. (S. Rept. No. 112–101)

S. 1134, to authorize the St. Croix River Crossing Project with appropriate mitigation measures to promote river values, with an amendment.

S. 1855, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize various programs under the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8733**

#### Measures Passed:

**Insular Areas Act:** Senate passed S. 2009, to improve the administration of programs in the insular areas. **Pages S8702–03**

**Further Continuing Appropriations:** Senate passed H.J. Res. 94, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012. **Page S8726**

**Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act, Omnibus Appropriations Bill, and Disaster Relief Appropriations Act—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 9 a.m., on Saturday, December 17, 2011, Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3630, to provide incentives for the creation of jobs; that the Majority Leader be recognized to offer a Reid-McConnell substitute amendment agreed to by both Leaders—a two month extension of the payroll tax reduction, doc fix and unemployment insurance; that following the reporting of the amendment, Senate vote on or in relation to the substitute amendment; that there be no amendments in order to the substitute or the bill prior to the vote; that the amendment be subject to a 60 vote threshold; that if the

substitute amendment is agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; if the Reid-McConnell substitute amendment is not agreed to, the Majority Leader be recognized; that upon the disposition of H.R. 3630, Senate proceed to consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012; that there be 15 minutes of debate—5 minutes each for Senators Inouye, Cochran and McCain; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the conference report be temporarily set aside and, notwithstanding the lack of receipt of the papers from the House of Representatives with respect to H.R. 3672, making appropriations for disaster relief requirements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, Senate proceed to the consideration, en bloc, of the following items: H.R. 3672, and H. Con. Res. 94, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 3672; that there be no amendments in order to the bill or the concurrent resolution prior to votes on or in relation to those measures; that following the reporting of the bill and the concurrent resolution, Senate vote on the measures in the following order: passage of H.R. 3672; adoption of H. Con. Res. 94; and adoption of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055; that there be two minutes equally divided prior to each vote; that each vote be subject to a 60 affirmative vote threshold; and no motions or points of order be in order prior to the votes other than budget points of order and the applicable motions to waive; provided further, the cloture motion with respect to the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3630 be withdrawn; and that the House of Representatives be immediately notified of the Senate’s action following the votes. **Pages S8742–43**

**Signing Authority—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that from Friday, December 16, 2011 through Monday, January 23, 2012, the Majority Leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

**Page S8743**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

John Thomas Fowlkes, Jr., of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee.

Kevin McNulty, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

Richard B. Berner, of Massachusetts, to be Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, for a term of six years.

Nancy J. Powell, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to India.

16 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

**Page S8743**

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

Richard Soriano, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, which was sent to the Senate on January 26, 2011. **Page S8743**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S8731**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:**  
**Pages S8693, S8731**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Page S8731**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S8731–33**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S8734–35**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**  
**Pages S8735–42**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S8730–31**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S8742**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S8742**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:38 p.m., until 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 17, 2011. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8743.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

No committee meetings were held.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 31 public bills, H.R. 3696–3726; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 94–95; and H. Con. Res. were introduced.

**Pages H9925–28**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page H9928**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Dold to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

**Page H9799**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

**Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012:** Concurred in the Senate amendment to H.R. 1892, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 396 yeas to 23 nays, Roll No. 939 and

**Pages H9801–10, H9821–22**

**United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2011:** Concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 2867, to reauthorize the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. **Pages H9810–12**

**Suspension:—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on December 14th:

**Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District Land Exchange Act of 2011:** S. 278, amended, to provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  recorded vote of 413 yeas with none voting "no", Roll No. 940. **Pages H9822–23**

**Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012—Conference Report:** The House agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, by a yea-and-nay vote of 296 yeas to 121 nays, Roll No. 941.

**Pages H9812–21, H9823–H9902, H9905–06**

H. Res. 500, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2055), the bill (H.R. 3672), and the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 94), was agreed to by a yeand-nay vote of 252 yeas to 164 nays, Roll No. 938, after the previous question was ordered by a yeand-nay vote of 239 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 937.

Pages H9820–21

**Directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 3672:** The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 94, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 3672, by a yeand-nay vote of 255 yeas to 165 nays, Roll No. 942.

Pages H9812–21, H9902–03, H9906

H. Res. 500, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2055), the bill (H.R. 3672), and the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 94), was agreed to by a yeand-nay vote of 252 yeas to 164 nays, Roll No. 938, after the previous question was ordered by a yeand-nay vote of 239 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 937.

Pages H9820–21

**Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2012:** The House passed H.R. 3672, making appropriations for disaster relief requirements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, by a yeand-nay vote of 351 yeas to 67 nays, Roll No. 943.

Pages H9903–05, H9907

H. Res. 500, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2055), the bill (H.R. 3672), and the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 94), was agreed to by a yeand-nay vote of 252 yeas to 164 nays, Roll No. 938, after the previous question was ordered by a yeand-nay vote of 239 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 937.

Pages H9820–21

**Moment of Silence:** The House observed a moment of silence in honor of the men and women in uniform who have given their lives in the service of our Nation in Iraq and Afghanistan, their families, and all who serve in the armed forces and their families.

Page H9906

**Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012:** The House agreed to H.J. Res. 94, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012.

Page H9908

**Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012:** The House agreed to H.J. Res. 95, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012.

Page H9908

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Monday, December 19th.

Page H9923

**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H9821 and H9914.

**Senate Referrals:** S. 1612 was referred to the Committees on the Judiciary and Energy and Commerce and S. 2009 was referred to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, and Education and the Workforce.

Page H9923

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Six yeand-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9820, H9821, H9821–22, H9822–23, H9905, H9906 and H9907. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### CHANGING ENERGY MARKETS

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled “Changing Energy Markets and Their Geopolitical Implications.” Testimony was heard from Neelesh Nerurkar, Specialist in Energy Policy, Congressional Research Service; and public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on House Administration:* Full Committee held a markup of H. Res. 496, adjusting the amount provided for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Twelfth Congress. The resolution was ordered reported without amendment.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee continued markup of H.R. 3261, the “Stop Online Piracy Act.”

### WHAT THE EURO CRISIS MEANS FOR TAXPAYERS AND THE U.S. ECONOMY

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on TARP, Financial Services and Bailouts of Public and Private Programs held a hearing entitled “What the Euro Crisis Means for Taxpayers and the U.S. Economy, Pt. II.” Testimony was heard from Steven B. Kamin, Acting Director, Division of International Finance, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Mark Sobel, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Monetary and Financial Policy, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

## *Joint Meetings*

### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT

On Thursday, December 15, 2011, *Conferees* agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2055, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2011

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Finance:* Business meeting to consider the nominations of Mary John Miller, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary, and Alastair M. Fitzpayne, of Maryland, to be a Deputy Under Secretary, both of the Department of the Treasury, Kathleen Kerrigan, of Massachusetts, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, and Henry

J. Aaron, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board, Social Security Administration, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

#### House

No hearings are scheduled.

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### CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 19 through December 24, 2011

#### Senate Chamber

The Senate is not expected to be in session.

#### Senate Committees

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### House Committees

*Committee on the Judiciary,* December 21, full Committee, continue markup of H.R. 3261, the "Stop Online Piracy Act" 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9 a.m., Saturday, December 17

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Monday, December 19

Senate Chamber

**Program for Saturday:** Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3630, Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act, with a vote on or in relation to the Reid-McConnell substitute amendment, and if the substitute amendment is agreed to, the bill as amended, be read a third time and passed; to be followed by a series of votes on passage of H.R. 3672, Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, adoption of H. Con. Res. 94, Enrolling Correction, and adoption of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, Omnibus Appropriations bill.

House Chamber

**Program for Monday:** To be announced.

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