

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

- Senate passed H.R. 3630, Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act, as amended.
- Senate passed H.R. 3672, Disaster Relief Appropriations Act.
- Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, Omnibus Appropriations Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8745–S8785

Measures Introduced: Five bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2027–2031, and S. Res. 349–351. **Page S8775**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2012”. (S. Rept. No. 112–102) **Page S8775**

Measures Passed:

Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act: Senate passed H.R. 3630, to extend the payroll tax holiday, unemployment compensation, Medicare physician payment, provide for the consideration of the Keystone XL pipeline, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S8748–53**

Adopted:

By 89 yeas to 10 nays (Vote No. 232), Reid/McConnell Amendment No. 1465, in the nature of a substitute. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having achieved 60 affirmatives votes, be agreed to.)

Pages S8748–49

Reid Amendment No. 1466, to amend the title.

Pages S8752–53

Disaster Relief Appropriations Act: By 72 yeas to 27 nays (Vote No. 233), Senate passed H.R. 3672, making appropriations for disaster relief requirements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the bill, having achieved 60 affirmatives votes, pass). **Page S8759**

Combat Mission in Iraq: Senate agreed to S. Res. 349, commemorating and honoring the service and sacrifice of members of the United States Armed Forces and their families as the official combat mission in Iraq draws to a close. **Pages S8759–60**

Further Continuing Appropriations: Senate passed H.J. Res. 95, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012. **Page S8780**

HUBZone Qualified Census Tract Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 1874, to require the timely identification of qualified census tracts for purposes of the HUBZone program, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S8780–81**

Haqqani Network Terrorist Designation Act: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. 1959, to require a report on the designation of the Haqqani Network as a foreign terrorist organization, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8781–82**

Reid (for Burr) Amendment No. 1467, to provide that the Act may not be construed to infringe upon the sovereignty of Pakistan to combat militant or terrorist groups operating inside the boundaries of Pakistan. **Pages S8781–82**

James M. Fitzgerald United States Courthouse: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of S. 1710, to designate the United States courthouse located at 222 West 7th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska, as the James M. Fitzgerald United States Courthouse, and the bill was then passed. **Page S8782**

M.D. Anderson Plaza: Senate passed H.R. 1264, to designate the property between the United States

Federal Courthouse and the Ed Jones Building located at 109 South Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee, as the “M.D. Anderson Plaza” and to authorize the placement of a historical/identification marker on the grounds recognizing the achievements and philanthropy of M.D. Anderson. **Page S8782**

Sergeant Matthew J. Fenton Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 789, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Main Street in Little Ferry, New Jersey, as the “Sergeant Matthew J. Fenton Post Office”. **Page S8782**

Sergeant Angel Mendez Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 2422, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 45 Bay Street, Suite 2, in Staten Island, New York, as the “Sergeant Angel Mendez Post Office”. **Page S8782**

Recognizing the Accomplishments of the Alaska Native People: Senate agreed to S. Res. 351, recognizing the accomplishments and commemorating the numerous achievements and contributions of the Alaska Native people over the past 40 years. **Page S8782**

Measures Failed:

Offset for Disaster Funding: By 43 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 234), Senate failed to agree to H. Con. Res. 94, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 3672. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the concurrent resolution, having failed to achieve 60 affirmatives votes, was not agreed to). **Page S8759**

Measures Considered:

Protect IP Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 968, to prevent online threats to economic creativity and theft of intellectual property. **Page S8783**

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 Saturday, December 17, 2011, a vote on cloture will occur at 2:15 p.m., on Tuesday, January 24, 2012. **Page S8783**

Conference Reports:

Omnibus Appropriations Act Conference Report: By 67 yeas to 32 nays (Vote No. 235), Senate 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. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing

that the conference report having achieved 60 affirmatives votes, be agreed to.)

Pages S8753–59, S8760

House Messages:

Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District Land Exchange Act: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 278, to provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado. **Page S8780**

Appointments:

United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 106–398, as amended by Public Law 108–7, and upon the recommendation of the Republican Leader, in consultation with the Ranking Members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, reappointed the following individual to the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission:

Daniel Blumenthal of Maryland for a term beginning January 1, 2012 and expiring December 31, 2013. **Page S8783**

Authority for Committees—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the recess of the Senate, committees be authorized to report legislative and executive matters on Friday, January 13th, 2012, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. **Page S8783**

Authorizing Leadership to Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the upcoming recess, or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S8783**

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only with no business conducted on the following dates and times and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the following pro forma session: Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at 11 a.m., Friday, December 23, 2011 at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 27, 2011 at 12 p.m., Friday, December 30, 2011 at 11 a.m.; and that the 2nd session of the 112th Congress convene on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 12 p.m., for a pro forma session only with no business conducted

and that following the pro forma session, the Senate adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only with no business conducted on the following dates and times and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the following pro forma session: Friday, January 6, 2012 at 11 a.m., Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 11 a.m., Friday, January 13, 2012 at 12 p.m., Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 10:15 a.m., Friday, January 20, 2012 at 2 p.m.; and that the Senate adjourn on Friday, January 20, 2012 until 2 p.m. on Monday, January 23, 2012. **Pages S8783–84**

Gerrard Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 4 p.m., on Monday, January 23, 2012, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of John M. Gerrard, of Nebraska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nebraska; that there be 90 minutes for debate; 60 minutes divided in the usual form, and 30 minutes under the control of Senator Sessions; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote, without intervening action or debate, on confirmation of the nomination; and that no further motions be in order. **Page S8769**

Nominations in Status Quo—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all the nominations received by the Senate during the 112th Congress, first session, remain in status quo, notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXX1, paragraph 6, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, with the following exceptions:

Victoria Frances Nourse, of Wisconsin, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

Caitlin Joan Halligan, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Louis B. Butler, Jr., of Wisconsin, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Wisconsin.

Michael Charles Green, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York.

V. Natasha Perdew Silas, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

Linda T. Walker, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

Philip E. Coyle III, of California, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

William J. Boorman, of Maryland, to be Public Printer (Recess Appointment).

Arvo Mikkanen, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

Steve Six, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

Rebecca R. Wodder, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife.

Richard Cordray, of Ohio, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection for a term of five years. **Page S8769**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Joyce A. Barr, of Washington, to be Assistant Secretary of State (Administration).

Michael Anthony McFaul, of California, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation.

Brad Carson, of Oklahoma, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army.

Michael A. Sheehan, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

39 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

36 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Navy, and Public Health Service.

Pages S8769–73, S8784–85

Messages from the House: **Page S8774**

Measures Referred: **Page S8774**

Measures Read the First Time:
Pages S8774–75, S8782–83

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S8775**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S8775**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S8775–76

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S8776–80**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—235) **Pages S8748–49, S8759–60**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 3:33 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Tuesday, December 20, 2011. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8784.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported 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.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet on Monday, December 19, 2011 at 10 a.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2011

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Tuesday, December 20

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Monday, December 19

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 10 a.m.



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