

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3503–S3694

Measures Introduced: Six bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1682–1687, S.J. Rev. 51, and S. Res. 248. **Page S3626**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

S. 811, to authorize research into the desalinization and reclamation of water and authorize a program for States, cities, or qualifying agencies desiring to own and operate a water desalinization or reclamation facility to develop such facilities, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 104–254) **Page S3626**

Measures Passed:

Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act: Senate passed H.R. 3034, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to extend for two months the authority for promulgating regulations under the Act, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S3691**

Health Insurance Reform Act: Senate concluded consideration of S. 1028, to provide increased access to health care benefits, to provide increased portability of health care benefits, to provide increased security of health care benefits, and to increase the purchasing power of individuals and small employers, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

Pages S3503–75, S3578–S3613

Adopted:

(1) Kassebaum Amendment No. 3675, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S3552–75, S3578–83**

(2) By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 72), Kassebaum Amendment No. 3677 (to Amendment No. 3676), to strike medical savings accounts. **Pages S3557–68**

(3) By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas to (Vote No. 73), Dole Modified Amendment No. 3676 (to Amendment No. 3675), to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve health and long-term care coverage in the group and individual markets

by making health and long-term care insurance more accessible and affordable. **Pages S3552–70**

(4) Jeffords Amendment No. 3680 (to Amendment No. 3679), to reduce delinquencies and to improve debt-collection activities government-wide. (Subsequently, the amendment fell after having been incorporated into Amendment No. 3679, listed below, which was tabled.) **Page S3587**

(5) Domenici/Wellstone Amendment No. 3681, to ensure that parity is provided under health plans for severe mental illness services. (By 30 yeas to 68 nays (Vote No. 75), Senate failed to table the amendment.) **Pages S3588–92**

(6) Conrad Amendment No. 3684, to extend State requested waivers of the foreign country residence requirement with respect to international medical graduates. **Pages S3597–98**

(7) Coats Amendment No. 3685, to encourage the provision of medical services in medically underserved communities by extending Federal liability coverage to medical volunteers. (By 47 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 77), Senate failed to table the amendment.) **Pages S3598–S3600, S3605**

(8) Boxer Modified Amendment No. 3686, to express the sense of the Senate that Congress should examine treatments available to patients and if doctors receive bonuses for withholding treatment from patients. **Pages S3600–01, S3604, S3606**

(9) Simon Modified Amendment No. 3687, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the need to ensure adequate health care coverage for all children and pregnant women. **Pages S3601–02, S3605**

(10) Kennedy (for Dorgan/Frist) Amendment No. 3688, to encourage organ and tissue donation through the inclusion of an organ and tissue donation card with individual income refund payments. **Page S3602**

(11) Kennedy (for Wellstone) Amendment No. 3689, to prohibit the establishment of certain health plan requirements based on information relating to domestic violence. **Pages S3602–03**

(12) Kassebaum (for Helms) Amendment No. 3690, to provide for a three-part study on the evaluation of access and choice of health care providers. **Page S3603**

(13) Burns/Harkin Amendment No. 3691, to direct the Health Care Financing Administration to determine reimbursement rates for telemedicine services. **Pages S3603–04**

Rejected:

(1) Jeffords Amendment No. 3679, to establish a minimum amount that may be applied as an aggregate lifetime limit with respect to coverage under an employee health benefit plan or a group health plan. (By 56 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 74), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S3583–87**

(2) Harkin/Baucus Amendment No. 3683, to reduce health care fraud, waste and abuse. (By 62 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. 76), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S3593–97, S3604–05**

Withdrawn:

Brown Amendment No. 3678 (to Amendment No. 3675), to provide equitable relief for the generic drug industry. **Pages S3573–75, S3578–83**

Specter Amendment No. 3682, to reauthorize and expand the healthy start program to target areas in need and to implement community driven strategies to reduce infant mortality. **Pages S3592–93, S3604**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for a vote on final passage of H.R. 3103, House companion measure, to occur on Tuesday, April 23, 1996. **Page S3605**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Arthur Gajarsa, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit.

Lawrence E. Kahn, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

Walker D. Miller, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

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Messages From the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Communications:

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Executive Reports of Committees:

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Statements on Introduced Bills:

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Amendments Submitted:

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Notices of Hearings:

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Authority for Committees:

Pages S3679–80

Additional Statements:

Pages S3680–91

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—77) **Pages S3568, S3570, S3587, S3592, S3604–05**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 11:15 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Friday, April 19, 1996. (For Senate's program, see the re-

marks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3691.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997, receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from James Lyons, Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, Paul W. Johnson, Chief, Pearlie S. Reed, Associate Chief, Thomas A. Weber, Deputy Chief for Natural Resource Programs, Richard L. Duesterhaus, Deputy Chief for Soil Science and Resource Assessment, Sherman L. Lewis, Deputy Chief for Management and Strategic Planning, and Robert K. Reaves, Director, Budget Planning and Analysis Division, all of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Dennis L. Kaplan, Deputy Director for Budget, Legislative, and Regulatory Systems, all of the Department of Agriculture.

Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, April 23.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill to authorize multiyear contracting for the C-17 aircraft program.

Also, committee began consideration of S. 1635, to establish a United States policy for the deployment of a national missile defense system, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to call.

CBO ECONOMIC FORECAST

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded hearings to review the Congressional Budget Office economic and budget outlook for fiscal years 1997 through 2006, after receiving testimony from June E. O'Neill, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

SPECTRUM USE AND MANAGEMENT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee resumed hearings to examine Federal policies with regard to the use and management of the electromagnetic radio frequency spectrum, receiving testimony from George Gilder, Discovery Institute, Seattle, Washington; Nicholas Negroponte, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge; Peter Huber, Manhattan Institute, Bethesda, Maryland; Janice Obuchowski, Freedom Technologies, former Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director of the National Telecommunications and Information