

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4813–S4882

Measures Introduced: Nine bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1732–1740. **Page S4851**

White House Travel Office/Former Employees: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 2937, for the reimbursement of legal expenses and related fees incurred by former employees of the White House Travel Office with respect to the termination of their employment in that office on May 19, 1993, taking action on the following amendments proposed there-to: **Pages S4813–37, S4846–48**

Pending:

(1) Dole Amendment No. 3952, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4814**

(2) Dole Amendment No. 3953 (to Amendment No. 3952), to provide for an effective date for the settlement of certain claims against the United States. **Page S4814**

(3) Dole Amendment No. 3954 (to Amendment No. 3953), to provide for an effective date for the settlement of certain claims against the United States. **Page S4814**

(4) Dole motion to refer the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report back forthwith. **Pages S4816–37, S4846–48**

(5) Dole Amendment No. 3955 (to the instructions to the motion to refer), to provide for an effective date for the settlement of certain claims against the United States. **Pages S4816–37, S4846–48**

(6) Dole Amendment No. 3960 (to Amendment No. 3955), to provide for the repeal of the 4.3 cent increase in fuel tax rates enacted by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, to clarify that an employer may establish and participate in worker-management cooperative organizations to address matters of mutual interest to employers and employees, and to provide for an increase in the minimum wage rate. **Pages S4816–37, S4846–48**

Withdrawn:

Dole Amendment No. 3956 (to Amendment No. 3955), to provide for an effective date for the settlement of certain claims against the United States. **Page S4816**

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

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 110), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate failed to agree to close further debate on the bill. **Page S4816**

A motion was entered to close further debate on Amendment No. 3956, listed above and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on the cloture motion will occur on Friday, May 10, 1996. **Page S4819**

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Thursday, May 9, 1996.

Messages From the House: **Page S4849**

Measures Placed on Calendar: **Page S4849**

Communications: **Pages S4849–51**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S4851–71**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4871–72**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S4872–73**

Notices of Hearings: **Pages S4873–74**

Authority for Committees: **Page S4874**

Additional Statements: **Pages S4874–76**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total–110) **Page S4816**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:07 p.m., until 9:15 a.m., on Thursday, May 9, 1996. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4882.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—COMMERCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Department of Commerce, receiving testimony from Michael Kantor, Secretary of Commerce.

Subcommittee will meet again tomorrow.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Department of Defense, receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from Robert M. Walker, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Logistics and Environment; Robert B. Pirie, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment; Rodney A. Coleman, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installation and Environment; Lt. Gen. Arthur Williams, Commander, United States Army Corps of Engineers; and Rear Adm. David Nash, Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, May 22.

APPROPRIATIONS—ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the National Endowment for the Arts, receiving testimony from Jane Alexander, Chairperson, National Endowment for the Arts.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, May 15.

APPROPRIATIONS—IRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Internal Revenue Service, receiving testimony from Margaret M. Richardson, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, May 15.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

H.R. 2853, to authorize the extension of non-discriminatory treatment (most-favored-nation treatment) to the products of Bulgaria;

H.R. 1642, to extend nondiscriminatory treatment (most-favored-nation treatment) to the products of Cambodia; and

H.R. 3074, to amend the United States-Israel Free Trade Area Implementation Act of 1985 to provide the President with additional proclamation authority with respect to articles of the West Bank or Gaza Strip or a qualifying industrial zone, with an amendment.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Dennis C. Jett, of New Mexico, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Peru, Dennis K. Hayes, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Suriname, and Donald J. Planty, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Mr. Jett was introduced by Senator Bingaman.

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Youth Violence concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, the implementation of Federal programs to prevent and control youth violence, and S. 1245, to identify violent and hard-core juvenile offenders and treat them as adults, after receiving testimony from Senator Ashcroft; Shay Bilchik, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Department of Justice; Laurie E. Ekstrand, Associate Director, Administration of Justice Issues, General Government Division, General Accounting Office; Marvin E. Wolfgang, Sellin Criminology Center, and Ira Schwartz, both of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Lavonda Taylor, Coalition for Juvenile Justice, West Memphis, Arkansas; Delbert S. Elliott, Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence/University of Colorado, Boulder; and Terence P. Thornberry, Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center, Albany, New York.

AUTHORIZATION—OLDER AMERICANS ACT

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported, with amendments, S. 1643, authorizing funds for fiscal years 1997 through 2001 for programs of the Older Americans Act of 1965.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee held hearings on proposals to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for a voluntary system of spending limits and partial public financing of Senate primary and general election campaigns, to limit contributions by multicandidate political committees, and to reform the financing of Federal elections and Senate campaigns, receiving testimony from Larry J. Sabato and Lillian R. BeVier, both of the University of Virginia, Charlottesville; Herbert E. Alexander, University of Southern California, Los Angeles; Norman J. Ornstein, American Enterprise Institute for Public

Policy Research, and Candice J. Nelson, American University, both of Washington, D.C.; and Frederick Schauer, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Hearings continue on Wednesday, May 15.

VA HEALTH CARE ELIGIBILITY REFORM

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded hearings on proposals to reform eligibility rules for Department of Veterans Affairs' health care benefits, focusing on the effects of veterans' health care eligibility priorities which govern all veterans' access to VA care and programs, including related measures S. 1345, S. 1359, S. 1563, and provisions of H.R. 1385, after receiving testimony from Kenneth W. Kizer, Under Secretary for Health, and Mary Lou Keener, General Counsel, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and Michael A. Miller, Unit Chief, Defense, International Affairs, and Veterans' Affairs

Cost Estimates Unit, Budget Analysis Division, Congressional Budget Office.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider certain intelligence matters.

Committee will meet again on Friday, May 10.

WHITEWATER

Special Committee to Investigate the Whitewater Development Corporation and Related Matters: Committee resumed hearings to examine certain matters relative to the Whitewater Development Corporation, receiving testimony from Ron Proctor, Vernon Dewey, Don Denton, Robert Ritter, James Patterson, and Frank Burge, all of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 11 public bills, H.R. 3411–3421, were introduced. **Page H4646**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 1129, to amend the National Trails Systems Act to designate the route from Selma to Montgomery as a National Historic Trail, amended (H. Rept. 104–567); and

H.R. 2982, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Carbon Hill National Fish Hatchery to the State of Alabama (H. Rept. 104–568). **Page H4646**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designates Representative Hansen to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H4533**

Permission to Sit: The following committees and their subcommittees received permission to sit today during proceedings of the House under the 5-minute rule: Committees on Agriculture, Commerce, Economic and Educational Opportunities, Government Reform and Oversight, International Relations, Resources, Science, Small Business, and Veterans' Affairs. **Page H4536**

Iranian Arms Transfers: By a recorded vote of 224 ayes to 187 noes, Roll No. 151, the House agreed to H. Res. 416, establishing a select subcommittee of the Committee on International Relations to investigate the United States Role in Iranian Arms

Transfers to Croatia and Bosnia. Agreed to order the previous question on the resolution by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 187 nays, Roll No. 150. **Pages H4536–50**

Expenses of Select Subcommittee: By a yea-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 203 nays, Roll No. 152, the House agreed to H. Res. 417, providing amounts for the expenses of the Select Subcommittee on the United States Role in Iranian Arms Transfers to Croatia and Bosnia of the Committee on International Relations in the Second Session of the One Hundred Fourth Congress. **Pages H4550–59**

Agreed to the Dreier amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Housing Act: The House completed all general debate and began consideration of amendments on H.R. 2406, to repeal the United States Housing Act of 1937, deregulate the public housing program and the program for rental housing assistance for low-income families, and increase community control over such programs. Consideration of amendments will resume on Thursday, May 9. **Pages H4569–H4643**

H. Res. 426, the rule under which the bill is being considered, was agreed to earlier by a voice vote. Earlier, agreed to order the previous question on the rule by a yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 208 nays, Roll No. 153. **Pages H4559–69**

Agreed To:

The Lazio amendment that includes technical and clarifying changes; replaces the single block grant for