

Friday, March 6, 1998

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1481-S1543

Measures Introduced: Ten bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1721-1730. **Page S1508**

Measures Passed:

William Augustus Bootle Federal Building/Courthouse: Senate passed H.R. 595, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 475 Mulberry Street in Macon, Georgia, as the "William Augustus Bootle Federal Building and United States Courthouse", clearing the measure for the President. **Page S1539**

Year 2000 Computer Problems: Senate passed H.R. 3116, to address the Year 2000 computer problems with regard to financial institutions, and to extend examination parity to the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision and the National Credit Union Administration, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S1539-40**

ISTEA Authorization: Senate resumed consideration of S. 1173, to authorize funds for construction of highways, for highway safety programs, and for mass transit programs, with a modified committee amendment in the nature of a substitute (Amendment No. 1676), taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: **Pages S1481-S1505**

Adopted:

Baucus (for Kerrey) Amendment No. 1719 (to Amendment No. 1676), to include the enhancement of safety at at-grade railway-highway crossings and the achievement of national transportation safety goals in the purposes of the intelligent transportation system program. **Page S1499**

Baucus (for Kerrey) Amendment No. 1720 (to Amendment No. 1676), to include the development of techniques to eliminate at-grade railway-highway crossings in the goals of the innovative bridge research and construction program. **Pages S1499-S1500**

Baucus (for Wellstone) Amendment No. 1721 (to Amendment No. 1676), to ensure that there is adequate opportunity for public participation in the certification of transportation planning processes of metropolitan areas. **Page S1500**

Chafee (for Domenici) Amendment No. 1722 (to Amendment No. 1676), to add the projected increase in commercial traffic to the factors that the Secretary of Transportation is required to consider in selecting recipients of grants for trade corridors and border infrastructure safety and congestion relief. **Page S1500**

Chafee Amendment No. 1723 (to Amendment No. 1676), to make technical and clarifying corrections. **Pages S1501-02**

Chafee Amendment No. 1725 (to Amendment No. 1676), to make certain technical corrections. **Page S1502**

Rejected:

McConnell Amendment No. 1708 (to Amendment No. 1676), to require that Federal surface transportation funds be used to encourage development and outreach to emerging business enterprises, including those owned by minorities and women, and to prohibit discrimination and preferential treatment based on race, color, national origin, or sex, with respect to use of those funds, in compliance with the equal protection provisions of the fifth and 14th amendments to the Constitution. (By 58 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. 23), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S1481-98**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the modified committee amendment (Amendment No. 1676) and, by consent agreement, a vote on the cloture motion will occur on Monday, March 9, 1998. **Page S1497**

Senate will resume consideration of the bill on Monday, March 9, 1998.

Sam Nunn Federal Center: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House to S. 347, to designate the Federal building located at 61 Forsyth Street, S.W., in Atlanta, Georgia, as the "Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center", clearing the measure for the President. **Page S1539**

Intelligence Disclosure—Agreement: A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for the consideration of S. 1668, to encourage the disclosure to Congress of certain classified and related information, with a vote on passage of the bill to occur on Monday, March 9, 1998. **Page S1538**

Executive Report of a Committee: Senate received the following executive report of a committee:

Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on Accession of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic which were opened for signature at Brussels on December 16, 1997, and signed on behalf of the United States of America and other parties to the North Atlantic Treaty, with seven declarations and four conditions. (Ex. Rept. No. 105-15)

Pages S1506-08

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Robert T. Grey, Jr., of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as United States Representative to the Conference on Disarmament.

George McGovern, of South Dakota, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture.

Routine lists in the Foreign Service.

Pages S1540-41, S1543

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Joseph W. Westphal, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

Arthur Levitt, Jr., of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the term expiring June 5, 2003.

19 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

12 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army.

Pages S1541-43

Executive Reports of Committees: Pages S1506-08

Statements on Introduced Bills: Pages S1508-33

Additional Cosponsors: Page S1533

Amendments Submitted: Pages S1533-38

Authority for Committees: Page S1538

Additional Statements: Page S1538

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total-23) Page S1496

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 3:22 p.m., until 12 noon, on Monday, March 9, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1541.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS: BOSNIA AND IRAQ

Committee on Appropriations: Committee concluded hearings on proposed legislation making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 for contingency operations in Bosnia and Iraq, and for recovery from natural disasters in the Northeast, California and Guam, after receiving testimony from William S. Cohen, Secretary of Defense; and Gen. Hugh H. Shelton, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

TOBACCO SETTLEMENT: CIVIL LIABILITY

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee held hearings on the civil liability protection provisions of S. 1530, to resolve ongoing tobacco litigation, to reform the civil justice system responsible for adjudicating tort claims against companies that manufacture tobacco products, and establish a national tobacco policy for the United States that will decrease youth tobacco use and reduce the marketing of tobacco products to young Americans, receiving testimony from Senator Conrad, Mississippi Attorney General Mike Moore, Jackson; Stanley M. Chesley, Waite, Schneider, Bayless & Chesley Co., Cincinnati, Ohio; Richard D. Hailey, Indianapolis, Indiana, on behalf of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America; Colorado Attorney General Gale Norton, Denver; John R. Garrison, American Lung Association, Washington, D.C.; D. Scott Wise, Davis, Polk & Wardwell, New York, New York.

Hearings continue on Thursday, March 12.