

Monday, September 28, 1998

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House agreed to Defense Appropriations Conference Report.

The House agreed to Energy and Water Development Conference Report.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S11007-S11068

Measures Introduced: Four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2521-2524. **Page S11042**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

H.R. 700, to remove the restriction on the distribution of certain revenues from the Mineral Springs parcel to certain members of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 105-349)

S. 2351, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make corrections to a map relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 105-350)

S. 2469, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make technical corrections to a map relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 105-351)

S. 2470, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make technical corrections to a map relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 105-352)

S. 2474, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make corrections to certain maps relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 105-353)

S. 2505, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey title to the Tunnison Lab Hagerman Field Station in Gooding County, Idaho, to the University of Idaho, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 105-354)

H.R. 8, to amend the Clean Air Act to deny entry into the United States of certain foreign motor vehi-

cles that do not comply with State laws governing motor vehicles emissions. (S. Rept. No. 105-355)

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Measures Passed:

Year 2000 Information Disclosure Act: Senate passed S. 2392, to encourage the disclosure and exchange of information about computer processing problems, solutions, test practices and test results, and related matters in connection with the transition to the year 2000, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S11062-68**

Roberts (for Hatch/Leahy/Kyl) Amendment No. 3669, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S11064-65**

Roberts (for Thompson) Amendment No. 3670 (to Amendment No. 3669), to provide for the establishment of working groups as a part of the President's Year 2000 Council. **Pages S11064-65**

Convicted Persons Benefits: Senate passed H.R. 3096, to correct a provision relating to termination of benefits for convicted persons, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S11068**

Internet Tax Freedom Act: Senate considered the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 442, to establish a national policy against State and local government interference with interstate commerce on the Internet or interactive computer services, and to exercise Congressional jurisdiction over interstate commerce by establishing a moratorium on the imposition of exactions that would interfere with the free flow of commerce via the Internet. **Page S11039**

Senate will vote on the motion to close further debate on the bill on Tuesday, September 29, 1998.

Federal Vacancies Reform Act—Cloture Vote: By 53 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 289), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, Senate failed to agree to close further debate on S. 2176, to amend sections

3345 through 3349 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the "Vacancies Act") to clarify statutory requirements relating to vacancies in and appointments to certain Federal offices.

Pages S11021–39

Higher Education Authorizations Conference Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the conference report on H.R. 6, to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, on Tuesday, September 29, 1998, with a vote to occur thereon.

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Defense Appropriations Conference Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the conference report on H.R. 4103, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, on Tuesday, September 29, 1998, with a vote to occur thereon

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Treaty Approved: The following treaty having passed through its various parliamentary stages, up to and including the presentation of the resolution of ratification, upon division, two-thirds of the Senators present and having voted in the affirmative, the resolution of ratification was agreed to, with one declaration and two provisos:

Montreal Protocol No. 4 (formerly Treaty Doc. Ex. B, 95–1)

Pages S11059–62

Messages From the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting the annual report of the Railroad Retirement Board for fiscal year 1997; referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources. (PM–160).

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Carl J. Barbier, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Gerald Bruce Lee, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Patricia A. Seitz, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Steven Robert Mann, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkmenistan.

Elizabeth Davenport McKune, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the State of Qatar.

Melissa Foelsch Wells, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia.

Richard E. Hecklinger, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand.

Theodore H. Kattouf, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates.

William B. Traxler, Jr., of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit.

Robert M. Walker, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Pages S11059, S11068

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Alex R. Munson, of the Northern Mariana Islands, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands for a term of ten years.

Edward J. Damich, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Nancy B. Firestone, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Emily Clark Hewitt, of Massachusetts, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

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Messages From the President:

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Messages From the House:

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Measures Read First Time:

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Communications:

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Statements on Introduced Bills:

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Additional Cosponsors:

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Amendments Submitted:

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Notices of Hearings:

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Authority for Committees:

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Additional Statements:

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Record Votes: One record vote was taken today (Total—289)

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Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon, and adjourned at 6:49 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Tuesday, September 29, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S11068.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEFENSE FINANCE CONTROLS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts concluded oversight hearings to examine the effectiveness of financial controls at the Department of Defense, focusing on recent internal fraudulent activities, after receiving testimony from Sharon A. Brown, Joseph A. Wise, and Otas J. Horn, each a Systems Accountant, Air Force Material Command, Wendell L. Jones, Auditor, Air Force Audit Agency, Jeffrey C. Steinhoff, Director of Planning and Reporting, and