

Monday, March 15, 1999

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2613–S2693

Measures Introduced: Eighteen bills were introduced, as follows: S. 604–621. **Page S2648**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 557, to provide guidance for the designation of emergencies as a part of the budget process. (S. Rept. No. 106–14) **Page S2648**

Measures Passed:

Nursing Home Resident Protection Amendments: Senate passed H.R. 540, to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit transfers or discharges of residents of nursing facilities as a result of a voluntary withdrawal from participation in the Medicaid Program. **Pages S2692–93**

National Missile Defense Act: Senate resumed consideration of S. 257, to state the policy of the United States regarding the deployment of a missile defense capable of defending the territory of the United States against limited ballistic missile attack, taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S2625–46**

Pending:

Cochran Amendment No. 69, to clarify that the deployment funding is subject to the annual authorization and appropriation process. **Pages S2625–26**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill and Amendment No. 69 (listed above) with a vote to occur on the pending amendment at 2:15 p.m., on Tuesday, March 16, 1999. **Page S2646**

Commending Senator Kerrey—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for the consideration of a resolution commending Honorable J. Robert Kerrey, United States Senator from Nebraska, on the 30th Anniversary of the events giving rise to his receiving the Medal of Honor. **Page S2693**

Appointment:

Congressional Budget Office: The Chair, pursuant to section 201(a)(2) of Public Law 93–344, announced on behalf of the President pro tempore of

the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives the joint appointment of Mr. Dan L. Crippen as Director of the Congressional Budget Office, effective February 3, 1999, for the term of office expiring on January 3, 2003. **Page S2692**

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

Transmitting a report concerning the national emergency with respect to Iran; referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–16). **Page S2646**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Raymond C. Fisher, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Adalberto Jose Jordan, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida. **Page S2693**

Messages From the President: **Page S2646**

Communications: **Page S2646**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S2648–78**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2678–79**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2679–80**

Notices of Hearings: **Page S2680**

Authority for Committees: **Page S2680**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2680–84**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon, and adjourned at 6:33 p.m., until 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, March 16, 1999. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2693.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

TOBACCO AND MEDICAID SETTLEMENTS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies concluded hearings to examine the Health Care Financing Administration's obligation under

current law to recoup Federal taxpayers' share of Medicaid funds from State tobacco settlements, after receiving testimony from Michael Hash, Deputy Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Kentucky Governor Paul E. Patton, Frankfort, on behalf of the National Governors' Association; Pennsylvania Attorney General Mike Fisher, Harrisburg, on behalf of the National Association of Attorney's General; Texas Attorney General John Cornyn, Austin; Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller, Des Moines; and Matthew Myers, National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids, Washington, D.C.

FOREST SERVICE BUDGET

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: On Friday, March 12, Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management held oversight hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, receiving testimony from Mike Dombeck, Chief, and Ronald E. Stewart, Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation, both of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Hearings continue on Tuesday, March 16.

INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on International Trade held hearings on the status of agricultural

trade issues and negotiations with the People's Republic of China and the European Union, focusing on market access, China's negotiations with the World Trade Organization, pork import restrictions, the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy, biotechnology issues, and approval process, beef import restrictions, the oilseed industry trade, and labeling, receiving testimony from Stuart E. Eizenstat, Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs; Peter L. Scher, Special Trade Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative; August Schumacher, Jr., Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; John Hardin, Jr., Danville, Indiana, on behalf of the National Pork Producers Council; and Allen F. Johnson, National Oilseed Processors Association, and Greg Mastel, Economic Strategy Institute, both of Washington, D.C.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

JUSTICE BUDGET

Committee on the Judiciary: On Friday, March 12, Committee concluded hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Justice, after receiving testimony from Janet Reno, Attorney General, Department of Justice.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 2 public bills, H.R. 1108–1109; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 55, and H. Res. 112 were introduced. Page H1267

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 975, to provide for a reduction in the volume of steel imports, and to establish a steel import notification and monitoring program, adversely (H. Rept. 106–51). Page H1267

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Pease to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H1261

Quorum Calls—Votes: No quorum calls or votes developed during the proceedings of the House today.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

Committee Meetings

NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT

Committee on Commerce: On March 12, the Subcommittee on Energy and Power continued hearings on H.R. 45, Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1999. Testimony was heard from Bill Richardson, Secretary of Energy.

DOT AND FAA—WILL THEY BE READY FOR YEAR 2000?

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology and the Subcommittee on Technology of the Committee on Science held a joint hearing on "Will the Department of Transportation and the FAA be Ready for the Year 2000?" Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Mortimer L. Downey, Deputy Secretary; Jane F. Garvey, Administrator, FAA; and Kenneth M. Mead, Inspector General; and Joel C.