

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2881–S2977

Measures Introduced: Twelve bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 656–667, S.J. Res. 15, and S. Res. 69–70. **Pages S2934–35**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows: S. 334, to amend the Federal Power Act to remove the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to license projects on fresh waters in the State of Hawaii. (S. Rept. No. 106–26)

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Measures Passed:

Legal Representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 70, to authorize representation of Senate and Members of the Senate in the case of James E. Pietrangelo, II v. United States Senate, et al.

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Greek Independence Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 50, designating March 25, 1999, as “Greek Independence Day: A Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy”, and the resolution was then agreed to.

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National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 47, designating the week of March 21 through March 27, 1999, as “National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S2976–77**

Emergency Supplemental Appropriations: Senate continued consideration of S. 544, making emergency supplemental appropriations and rescissions for recovery from natural disasters, and foreign assistance, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, taking action on the following amendments:

Pages S2881–S2923, S2929–32

Adopted:

Stevens Amendment No. 80, to defer certain funds for use in connection with expiring or terminating section 8 contracts until October 1, 1999.

Pages S2898–99

Stevens (for McCain) Amendment No. 82, to extend the aviation insurance program through May 31, 1999. **Pages S2900–01**

Stevens (for Grassley) Amendment No. 83, to expedite adjudication of civil monetary penalties by the Department of Health and Human Services Appeals Board. **Pages S2900–01**

Stevens (for Shelby/Stevens) Amendment No. 84, to make a technical correction with regard to Title 49 Recodification. **Pages S2900–01**

Stevens (for Byrd) Amendment No. 85, to make a technical correction with regard to the Emergency Steel Loan Guarantee Program. **Pages S2900–01**

Stevens (for Frist/Thompson) Amendment No. 86, to increase, with a rescission, the supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 1999 for military construction for the Army National Guard. **Pages S2900–01**

Stevens Amendment No. 87, to provide that the taking of a Cook Inlet beluga whale under the exemption provided in section 101(b) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act between the date of the enactment of this Act and October 1, 2000 shall be considered a violation of such Act unless such taking occurs pursuant to a cooperative agreement between the National Marine Fisheries Service and Cook Inlet Marine Mammal Commission. **Pages S2900–01**

Stevens Amendment No. 88, to provide that funds provided in the Department of Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (P.L. 105–277, Division A, Section 101(b)) for the construction of a correctional facility in Barrow, Alaska shall be made available to the North Slope Borough. **Pages S2900–01**

Stevens (for Helms/McConnell) Amendment No. 93, relating to activities funded by the appropriations to the Central America and the Caribbean Emergency Disaster Recovery Fund. **Pages S2916–17**

Stevens (for Reid) Amendment No. 94, to make available certain funds for technical assistance related to shoreline erosion at Lake Tahoe, Nevada caused by high lake levels. **Pages S2916–17**

Stevens (for Kyl) Amendment No. 95, to make available certain funds for emergency repairs to the Headgate Rock Hydroelectric Project. **Pages S2916–17**

Stevens (for Domenici) Amendment No. 96, to rescind certain funds made available for the Lackawanna River, Scranton, Pennsylvania. **Pages S2916–17**

Stevens (for Jeffords/Bingaman) Amendment No. 97, to provide that the Agency for International Development should undertake efforts to promote reforestation, with careful attention to the choice, placement, and management of species of trees consistent with watershed management objectives designed to minimize future storm damage, and to promote energy conservation through the use of renewable energy and energy-efficient services and technologies. **Pages S2916–17**

Stevens (for Levin) Amendment No. 98, to authorize the disposal of the zirconium ore in the National Defense Stockpile. **Pages S2916–17**

Stevens (for Domenici) Amendment No. 100, to expand the jurisdiction of the State of New Mexico portion of the Southwest Border High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area to include Rio Arriba County, Santa Fe County, and San Juan County and to provide specific funding for these three counties. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens (for Roberts) Amendment No. 101, to provide relief from unfair interest and penalties on refunds retroactively ordered by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens Amendment No. 102, to exempt non-Indian Health Service and non-Bureau of Indian Affairs funds from section 328 of the Interior Department and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1999. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens (for Grams) Modified Amendment No. 103, to provide funding for annual contributions to public housing agencies for the operation of low-income housing projects. **Pages S2919–23**

Stevens (for Lincoln) Amendment No. 104, to provide for watershed and flood prevention debris removal that would not be authorized under the Emergency Watershed Program. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens (for Gorton) Amendment No. 105, to prohibit the Secretary of Agriculture from assessing a premium adjustment for club wheat when calculating loan deficiency payments and to require the Secretary to compensate producers of club wheat for any previous premium adjustment. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens Amendment No. 106, relating to commercial fishing and compensation eligibility in Glacier Bay. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens (for Gorton) Amendment No. 107, to expand the eligibility of emergency funding to replacement and repair of power generation equipment. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens (for Landrieu) Amendment No. 108, to provide funds to expand the home building program

for Central American countries affected by Hurricane Mitch. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens (for Daschle) Amendment No. 109, to provide relief to the White River School District #47–1, White River, South Dakota. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens (for Daschle) Amendment No. 110, to provide for equal pay treatment of certain Federal firefighters. **Pages S2919–22**

Stevens (for Dorgan/Craig) Amendment No. 112, to express the sense of the Senate that a pending sale of wheat and other agricultural commodities to Iran be approved. **Pages S2922–23**

Stevens (for Gregg) Amendment No. 113, to provide for a limitation on certain fishing permits or authorizations. **Pages S2922–23**

Stevens (for Crapo) Amendment No. 114, to transfer funds from the environmental program and management account of the Environmental Protection Agency to the State and tribal assistance grant account. **Page S2929**

Stevens (for Kohl/Harkin/Durbin) Amendment No. 115, to provide funding for conservation technical assistance. **Pages S2929–31**

Stevens (for Bond) Amendment No. 116, to appropriate additional funds to the fund maintained for funds made available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935, and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to waive the limitation on the amount of such funds that may be devoted during fiscal year 1999 to 1 agricultural commodity or product thereof, with an offset. **Pages S2929–31**

Stevens (for Byrd/Stevens) Amendment No. 117, to provide funding for rural water infrastructure. **Pages S2929–31**

Stevens Amendment No. 118, to make available certain funds to any State determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to have been materially affected by the commercial fishery failure or failures declared by the Secretary of Commerce in September, 1998 under section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. **Pages S2929–31**

Stevens (for Feinstein/Boxer) Amendment No. 119, to increase emergency grants to assist low-income migrant and seasonal farmworkers under section 2281 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, and to provide for increase in the amount of rescissions and offsets for the Food Stamp Program. **Pages S2929–31**

Stevens (for DeWine) Amendment No. 120, to provide authority and appropriations for the Department of State to carry out certain counterdrug research and development activities. **Pages S2931–32**

Rejected:

Specter Amendment No. 77, to permit the Secretary of Health and Human Services to waive

recoupment of Federal government medicaid claims to tobacco-related State settlements if a State uses a portion of those funds for programs to reduce the use of tobacco products, to improve the public health, and to assist in the economic diversification of tobacco farming communities. (By 71 yeas to 29 nays (Vote No. 53), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2881-97

Hutchinson Amendment No. 89, to require prior congressional approval before the United States supports the admission of the People's Republic of China into the World Trade Organization. (By 69 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. 54), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2902-10, S2915

Toricelli Amendment No. 92, to terminate the funding and investigation of any independent counsel in existence more than 3 years, 6 months after the termination of the independent counsel statute. (By voice vote, Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2910-16

Pending:

Hutchison Amendment No. 81, to set forth restrictions on deployment of United States Armed Forces in Kosovo.

Pages S2899-S2900

Stevens (for Enzi) Amendment No. 111, to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from promulgating certain regulations relating to Indian gaming and to prohibit the Secretary from approving class III gaming without State approval.

Page S2922

Senate earlier adopted Amendment No. 111 (listed above) and by unanimous consent vitiated its adoption.

Page S2922

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the consideration of certain amendments to be proposed to the bill, and that following disposition of these amendments, the bill be advanced to third reading and passed, and that when the Senate receives the House companion bill, the House bill be passed, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of the Senate bill (S. 544), as amended. Further, that the Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House, the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate, and the Senate bill be placed back on the Calendar.

Pages S2917-18

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill on Friday, March 19, 1999.

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Cuban Human Rights: Senate began consideration of S. Res. 57, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the human rights situation in Cuba, after the Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.

Pages S2923-29

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the Committee on Foreign Relations to be discharged from further consideration of the resolution, and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

Pages S2923-24

Education Flexibility Partnership Act—Conferees: By unanimous consent, the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees to H.R. 800, to provide for education flexibility partnerships: Senators Jeffords, Gregg, Frist, DeWine, Enzi, Hutchinson, Collins, Brownback, Hagel, Sessions, Kennedy, Dodd, Harkin, Mikulski, Bingaman, Wellstone, Murray, and Reed.

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

Transmitting the annual report of the National Endowment for Democracy for fiscal year 1998; referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM-17).

Page S2934

Transmitting the report of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (PM-18).

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Brian E. Sheridan, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy.

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Messages From the President:

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Messages From the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Measures Read First Time:

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Statements on Introduced Bills:

Pages S2934-61

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S2961-62

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S2962-68

Notices of Hearings:

Pages S2968-69

Authority for Committees:

Page S2969

Additional Statements:

Pages S2969-76

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—54)

Pages S2897, S2915

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:33 p.m., until 9:45 a.m., on Friday, March 19, 1999. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2977.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE/ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from Lake H. Barrett, Acting Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management; and James M. Owendoff, Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, both of the Department of Energy.

APPROPRIATIONS—NASA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, after receiving testimony from Daniel S. Goldin, Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—ENERGY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the Interior and Related Agencies concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Energy, focusing on energy conservation, fossil energy research and development, and other related programs, after receiving testimony from Bill Richardson, Secretary of Energy.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, and the future years defense program, after receiving testimony from Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, USA, Chief of Staff of the Army; Adm. Jay L. Johnson, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; Gen. Charles C. Krulak, USMC, Commandant of the Marine Corps; and Gen. Michael E. Ryan, USAF, Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

AIR FORCE AND ARMY READINESS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded hearings to examine the readiness of the United States Air Force and Army operating forces, after receiving testimony from Gen. Richard E. Hawley, USAF, Commanding General, Air Combat Command; Gen. Charles T. Robertson, USAF, Commanding General, Air Mobility Command; Lt. Gen. George A. Crocker, USA,

Commanding General, I Corps and Fort Lewis; Lt. Gen. William F. Kernan, USA, Commanding General, XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg; Lt. Gen. Leon J. LaPorte, USA, Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood; Maj. Gen. Roger C. Schultz, ARNG, Director, Army National Guard; and Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes, USAR, Chief, Army Reserve.

2000 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee ordered favorably reported an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal years 2000 through 2009.

OPEN SPACE AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded hearings to examine the loss of open space and environmental quality, focusing on sprawl and development, and related proposals, after receiving testimony from Senators Landrieu, Feinstein, and Leahy; David Hayes, Counselor to the Secretary of the Interior; Maryland Governor Parris N. Glendening, Annapolis; Andrew Falender, Appalachian Mountain Club, Boston, Massachusetts; Chris Montague, Montana Land Reliance, Billings; and R. Max Peterson, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Roy Kienitz, Surface Transportation Policy Project, and Ralph Grossi, American Farmland Trust, all of Washington, D.C.

MEDICARE FINANCIAL STATUS

Committee on Finance: Committee continued hearings to examine spending and enrollment patterns in the Medicare program, the impact on those patterns of Medicare savings in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, the Medicare+Choice Program, and the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for Medicare, including issues associated with expanding coverage, fee-for-service spending reductions, trust fund proposal, and prescription drug benefits, after receiving testimony from Dan L. Crippen, Director, Congressional Budget Office; and David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, General Accounting Office.

INDONESIA ELECTIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs held hearings to examine recent developments in Indonesia, focusing on new election laws, the election schedule, disproportionate government control, economic reform, and political stability, after receiving testimony from Stanley O. Roth, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs; and Edward E. Masters, United States-Indonesia Society, Sidney Jones, Asia Division