

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4225–S4313

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills were introduced, as follows: S. 681–691. **Page S4275**

Congressional Budget Resolution: Senate continued consideration of S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Adopted:

By a unanimous vote of 97 yeas (Vote No. 66), Cochran Amendment No. 369, to make additional funds available for certain homeland security needs. **Page S4230**

By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 67), Conrad (for Feingold/Corzine) Amendment No. 270, to set aside a reserve fund for possible military action and reconstruction in Iraq. **Page S4230**

Crapo (and Sarbanes) Amendment No. 317, to increase funding for the EPA for Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. **Pages S4233–35**

By 89 yeas to 10 nays (Vote No. 71), Gregg Amendment No. 377, to increase funding for Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act by reducing spending on other government programs by a commensurate amount. **Pages S4236–37**

Nickles (for Wyden) Amendment No. 328, to increase investments in implementation of the National Fire Plan to benefit national forests, the environment, local communities and local economies. **Pages S4242–4243**

Brownback Amendment No. 282, to express the sense of the Senate that a commission be established to review the efficiency of Federal agencies. **Pages S4242–43**

By 51 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 77), Byrd Amendment No. 387, to provide adequate funds for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). **Page S4249**

Kennedy Modified Amendment No. 311, to increase the maximum Pell Grant from \$4,050 to

\$4,500 at a cost of \$1.8 billion and reduce the public debt by an additional \$1.8 billion, both paid for by a reduction in the non-reconciliation tax cut. **Pages S4249–51**

Hollings Modified Amendment No. 343, to increase funding for port security. **Pages S4253–54**

By 79 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. 79), Bond Amendment No. 358, to make available funds for certain transportation programs. **Page S4256**

Stevens/Nickles Amendment No. 391, to express the Sense of the Senate regarding highway spending. **Page S4256**

Nickles (for Smith/Clinton) Amendment No. 353, to express the sense of the Senate concerning the expansion of health care coverage.

Conrad (for Feinstein) Amendment No. 283, to express the sense of the Senate that the States and localities should be reimbursed through the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program for the fiscal burdens undocumented criminal aliens place on their criminal justice systems.

Nickles Amendment No. 390, to make a technical correction. **Pages S4256–68**

Nickles (for Voinovich) Amendment No. 388, to require annual reports on the liabilities and future costs of the Federal Government and its programs. **Pages S4256–68**

Nickles (for Hutchison) Amendment No. 389, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the urgent need for increased funding for the Corps of Engineers. **Pages S4256–68**

Conrad (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 309, to provide the Committee on Finance of the Senate with additional options to reform and improve Medicaid without the need to resort to block grant allotments with predetermined growth rates, which fail to adjust for economic recessions, demographic changes, or disasters. **Pages S4256–68**

Conrad (for Rockefeller) Modified Amendment No. 296, to express the sense of the Senate that the Attorney General should conduct a study on the need and cost to establish radio interoperability between law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and emergency medical services, and that Congress should authorize and appropriate \$20,000,000 for

grants to local governments to assist fire departments and emergency medical services agencies to establish radio interoperability. **Pages S4256–68**

Rejected:

By 45 yeas to 54 nays (Vote No. 65), Schumer Amendment No. 299, to provide immediate assistance to meet pressing homeland security needs by providing funding in 2003 for first responders, port security, bioterrorism preparedness and prevention, border security and transit security, the FBI; to restore the elimination of funding of the COPS program, firefighter equipment grants, Byrne Grants and Local Law enforcement grants; to provide a sustained commitment of resources for homeland security needs without reducing funding to other key domestic law enforcement and public safety priorities; and to reduce the deficit. **Page S4228**

By 46 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 68), Lautenberg Amendment No. 300, to restore national security funding. **Pages S4230–32**

By 22 yeas to 77 nays (Vote No. 69), Hollings Amendment No. 265, to eliminate tax cuts. **Pages S4232–33**

By 47 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 70) Conrad Amendment No. 376, to provide full funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) part B grants over ten years by reducing tax breaks for the wealthiest taxpayers. **Pages S4235–36**

By 45 yeas to 54 nays (Vote No. 72), Mikulski Amendment No. 349, to revise the resolution to accommodate in reconciliation legislation a partially refundable tax credit of up to \$5,000 for eligible expenses for individuals with long-term or chronic care needs or their family caregivers who pay these expenses; in which “eligible expenses” shall include prescription drugs, medical bills, durable medical equipment, home health care, custodial care, respite care, adult day care, transportation to chronic care or medical facilities, specialized therapy (including occupational therapy, physical therapy, or rehabilitational therapy), other specialized services for children (including day care for children with special needs), and other long term care related expenses as defined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and in which “individuals with long term or chronic care needs” shall mean individuals with multiple chronic conditions, individuals unable to perform activities of daily living, individuals with severe cognitive impairment, individuals with complex medical conditions, and other individuals with similar levels of disability or need for care. **Pages S4237–38**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 73), Clinton Amendment No. 381, to raise the 2003 caps by \$3.5 billion for homeland security funding through a Domestic Defense Fund at the Department of

Homeland Security’s Office of Domestic Preparedness in FY 2003 and to reduce the size of newly proposed tax cuts in the amount of \$7 billion to pay for this amendment and for the cost of previously passed homeland security funding. **Pages S4239–40**

By 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 74), Dorgan Amendment No. 385, to increase FY 2004 funding for the discretionary programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs by \$1,019,000,000, so it matches the level proposed by a coalition of veterans groups in the Independent Budget; to decrease the deficit by a similar amount; and to use the unreconciled tax cut to pay for it. **Pages S4240–42**

Harkin Amendment No. 386 (to Amendment No. 339), to reduce the reconciliation instruction by \$375 billion, reduce the size of tax cuts allowed by \$980 billion and to reduce deficits by \$1.1 Trillion. (By 58 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 75), Senate tabled the Amendment.) **Pages S4247–48**

By 38 yeas to 62 nays (Vote No. 76), Breaux Modified Amendment No. 339, to reduce tax cuts to \$350 billion. **Pages S4248–49**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 78), Biden Modified Amendment No. 278, to make available funds for the COPS program. **Page S4253**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that no later than 4 p.m., on Monday, March 24, 2003, the Ranking Member of the Committee on the Budget provide to the Chairman a list of 40 amendments, and the Chairman provide to the Ranking Member a list of no more than 40 amendments, which would then be in order to be offered to the budget resolution; also, that the Senate then resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 23, Budget Resolution, at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 25, 2003, and it be in order for the Majority Leader or Democratic Leader, or their designees, to offer amendments from the respective lists, with votes on or in relation to the amendments as provided for under the Budget Act; provided that no later than 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2003, Senate proceed to a vote on adoption of S. Con. Res. 23, and that immediately upon adoption of the resolution, Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 95, House companion measure, and that all after the resolving clause be stricken and the text of S. Con. Res. 23, as amended, be inserted in lieu thereof, the resolution be adopted, the Senate then insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate. **Page S4313**

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

Transmitting, pursuant to Executive Order 13224, the six month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-29)

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Kenneth M. Ford, of Florida, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008.

Dario Fernandez-Morera, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008.

Mary Costa, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2006.

Makoto Fujimura, of New York, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2008.

Jerry Pinkney, of New York, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2008.

Karen Lias Wolff, of Michigan, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2008.

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Messages From the House: Page S4274

Measures Placed on Calendar: Page S4274

Executive Communications: Pages S4274-75

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S4275-77

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S4277-95

Additional Statements: Pages S4273-74

Amendments Submitted: Pages S4295-S4312

Privilege of the Floor: Pages S4312-13

Record Vote: Fifteen record votes were taken today. (Total—79) Pages S4228, S4230, S4232, S4233, S4236, S4237, S4238, S4240, S4242, S4248-49, S4253, S4256

Adjournment: Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:32 p.m., until 2 p.m., on Monday, March 24, 2003. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S.4313)

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House will next meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 24, 2003.

Committee Meetings

No Committee meetings were held.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of March 24 through March 29, 2003

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 2 p.m., Senate will be in a period of morning business until 5 p.m.

On *Tuesday*, at 9:30 a.m., Senate will resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 23, Budget Resolution, with a series of roll call votes to occur on certain amendments thereto.

On *Wednesday*, Senate will continue consideration of S. Con. Res. 23, Budget Resolution, with a vote

on final passage of the resolution to occur no later than 4 p.m., including the adoption of H. Con. Res. 95, House companion measure.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any other cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: March 26, to hold hearings to examine the reauthorization of child nutrition programs, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: March 25, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the Department of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD-106.

March 25, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management, and Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, 10 a.m., SD-192.

March 25, Subcommittee on District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for