Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5551–S5714

Measures Introduced: Six bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1090–1095. **Page S5580**

Nomination Considered: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Priscilla Richman Owen, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit. **Pages S5551–78**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Tuesday, May 24, 2005. **Page S5578**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at 11:30 a.m., on Monday, May 23, 2005. **Page S5714**

Measures Referred: **Page S5579**

Measures Placed on Calendar: **Page S5579**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5579–80**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5580–81**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S5581–82**

Additional Statements: **Page S5579**

Text of H.R. 3 as Previously Passed: **Pages S5582–S5714**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:31 a.m. and adjourned at 2:23 p.m. until 11:30 a.m., on Monday, May 23, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5714.)

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. It will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, May 23 for Morning Hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

Committee Meetings

D.C. PUBLIC SCHOOLS—TOWARD A CULTURE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled "Declaration of Education: Toward a Culture of Achievement in D.C. Public Schools." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the District of Columbia: Robert C. Bobb, Deputy Mayor/City Administrator; Kathleen Patterson, Chairperson, Committee on Education, Libraries and Recreation, Council; Peggy Cooper Cafritz, President, Board of Education; Clifford B. Janey, Superintendent, Public Schools; Charles H. Ramsey, Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department; and Brenda Donald Walker, Director, Child and Family Services Agency; and public witnesses.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of May 23 through May 28, 2005

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 11:30 a.m., Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Priscilla Richman Owen, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit. Also, at 5:30 p.m., Senate will vote on a motion to instruct the Sergeant at Arms to request the attendance of absent Senators.

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Priscilla Richman Owen, of Texas,

to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture to occur thereon.

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

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: May 25, to hold hearings to examine the U.S. Grain Standards Act, 10 a.m., SR–328A.

Committee on Appropriations: May 24, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–192.

May 26, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Commerce, 2 p.m., S–146, Capitol.

May 26, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the U.S. Agency for International Development, 2:30 p.m., SD–138.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: May 24, to hold hearings to examine money laundering and terror financing issues in the Middle East, 3 p.m., SD–538.

May 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ben S. Bernanke, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers, and Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary of Housing, Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD–538.

May 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the report to Congress on international economic and exchange rate policies, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: May 24, to hold hearings to examine S. 529, to designate a United States Anti-Doping Agency and to examine the competitive pressures that lead amateur athletes to use drugs, the sources of such drugs, and the science of doping, 10 a.m., SR–253.

May 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine S. 360, to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act, 10 a.m., SR–253.

May 26, Subcommittee on Aviation, to hold hearings to examine aviation capacity and congestion challenges regarding summer 2005 and future demand, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: May 24, business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

May 25, Full Committee, business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

May 26, Full Committee, business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: May 25, to hold an oversight hearing to examine permitting of energy projects, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

May 26, Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: May 23, Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight, to hold hearings to examine exposing the individual alternative minimum tax (AMT), 2 p.m., SD–628.

May 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Alex Azar II, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, Timothy D. Adams, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs, Shara L. Aranoff, of Maryland, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, Suzanne C. DeFrancis, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Public Affairs, and Charles E. Johnson, of Utah, to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Budget, Technology, and Finance, 10 a.m., SD–628.

Committee on Foreign Relations: May 24, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Eduardo Aguirre, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to Spain and Andorra, Julie Finley, of the District of Columbia, to be U.S. Representative to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, with the rank of Ambassador, Victoria Nuland, of Connecticut, to be Permanent Representative of the United States of America on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and John F. Tefft, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Georgia, 9:30 a.m., SD–419.

May 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Horton Wilkins, of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to Canada, William Alan Eaton, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Panama, James M. Derham, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Guatemala, and Robert Johann Dieter, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to Belize, 9:30 a.m., SD–419.

May 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Sean Ian McCormack, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, and Dina Habib Powell, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs, 10:30 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: May 24, Subcommittee on Education and Early Childhood Development, to hold hearings to examine issues relating to American history, 2:30 p.m., SD–430.

May 25, Full Committee, business meeting to consider proposed Head Start Improvements for School Readiness Act, S. 518, to provide for the establishment of a controlled substance monitoring program in each State, and pending nominations, 9:50 a.m., SD–430.

May 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine issues relating to the 21st century workplace, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: May 24, Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold an

oversight hearing to examine a review of the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, focusing on safeguarding the merit system by protecting federal employees and applicants from prohibited personnel practices, especially reprisal for whistleblowing, 10 a.m., SD–562.

May 24, Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the competitive effects of specialty hospitals, 2 p.m., SD–562.

May 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine how counterfeit goods provide easy cash for criminals and terrorists, 9:30 a.m., SD–562.

May 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Linda Morrison Combs, of North Carolina, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget, 2:30 p.m., SD–562.

May 26, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine the container security initiative and the customs-trade partnership against terrorism, focusing on how Customs utilizes container security initiative and customs trade partnership against terrorism in connection with its other enforcement programs and review the requirements for and challenges involved in transitioning these from promising risk management concepts to effective and sustained enforcement operations, 9:30 a.m., SD–562.

May 26, Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security, to hold hearings to examine federal funding for private research and development, focusing on effectiveness of federal financing of private research and development, and whether some of these programs result in the development of new technologies or displace private investment, 2:30 p.m., SD–562.

Committee on Indian Affairs: May 25, to hold hearings to examine S.J. Res. 15, to acknowledge a long history of official depredations and ill-conceived policies by the United States Government regarding Indian tribes and offer an apology to all Native Peoples on behalf of the United States, 10 a.m., SR–485.

Committee on the Judiciary: May 24, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD–226.

May 25, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD–226.

May 25, Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine piracy of intellectual property, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

May 26, Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship, to hold hearings to examine the need for comprehensive immigration reform relating to the national economy, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: May 26, to hold hearings to examine challenges facing the VA claims adjudication and appeal process, 2 p.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: May 24, to resume hearings to examine the USA Patriot Act (P.L. 107–56), 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

May 25, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 9:30 a.m., SH–219.

May 26, Full Committee, closed business meeting to consider certain intelligence matters, 9 a.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, May 24, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, hearing to Review the U.S. Grain Standards Act, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

May 25, full Committee, hearing to Review National Forest Land Management Planning, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, May 23, on the House of Representatives, GAO, GPO, Library of Congress and Open World Leadership Program, 1 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, May 24, Subcommittee on Select Education, hearing entitled ''An Examination of the Older Americans Act,'' 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

May 26, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing on the following measures: the Improving Access to Workers' Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act; and H.R. 697, Federal Firefighters Fairness Act of 2005, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, May 26, Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, hearing on the Administration's Clear Skies Initiative, 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

May 26, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''The Threat of and Planning for Pandemic Flu,'' 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, May 24, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity and the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, joint hearing entitled ''Legislative Solutions to Abusive Mortgage Lending Practices,'' 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

May 25, full Committee, to consider H.R. 1461, Federal Housing Finance Reform Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

May 26, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''The First Line of Defense: The Role of Financial Institutions in Detecting Financial Crimes,'' 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, May 24, Subcommittee on Federalism and the Census, hearing entitled ''Bringing Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Spending into the 21st Century: Introducing Accountability and Meaningful Performance Measures into the Decades-Old CDBG Program,'' 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 25, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled ''Less is More: The Increasing Burden of Taxpayer Paperwork,'' 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 26, full Committee, hearing entitled ''Federal Student Loan Program: Are They Meeting the Needs of Students and Schools?'' 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, May 24, Subcommittee on Management, Integration, and Oversight, hearing entitled ''Training More Border Patrol Agents: How the Department of Homeland Security Can Increase Training Capacity Most Effectively,'' 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

May 25, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment, hearing entitled

''Evaluating the Threat of Agro-Terrorism,'' 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

May 26, Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack, hearing entitled ''Building a Nuclear Bomb: Identifying Early Indicators of Terrorist Activities,'' 1 p.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, March 26, to mark up H.R. 1316, 527 Fairness Act of 2005, 2 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on International Relations, May 25, Subcommittee on Europe and Emerging Threats, hearing on Northern Ireland: Prospects for the Peace Process, 1 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

May 25, Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, hearing on U.S. Security Policy in the Middle East, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

May 25, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, hearing on Transparency and Rule of Law in Latin America, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

May 26, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations, to mark up the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2006 and 2007, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

May 26, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing on the United States and Northeast Asia, 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, May 24, Subcommittee on the Constitution and the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, joint oversight hearing on Economic Development and the Dormant Commerce Clause: The Lessons of *Curo* v. *Daimler Chrysler* and Its Effect on State Taxation Affecting Interstate Commerce,'' 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

May 25, full Committee, to continue mark up of H.R. 800, Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act;'' and to mark up the following measures: H.R. 420, Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2005; H.R. 554, Personal Responsibility in Food Consumption Act; and H.J. Res. 10, Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

May 25, Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims, oversight hearing on the ''Diversity Visa Program,'' 2:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

May 26, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, oversight hearing on the Department of Justice: Reauthorization of Executive Office for United States Attorneys, Civil Division, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Office of the Solicitor General, and Executive Office for United States Trustees, 11:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

May 26, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, oversight hearing on the Implementation of the USA PATRIOT Act: Section 505 and 804. Section 505 of the Act Addresses National Security Letters; Section 804 of the Act Addresses Jurisdiction Over Crimes Committed at U.S. Facilities Abroad; and Material Witness Provisions of the Criminal Code, 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, May 24, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans, oversight hearing on the Federal Fish Hatchery System, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

May 24, Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, oversight hearing on Current Obstacles in Biomass Utilization: A GAO Report on Problems Agencies Face in the utilization of Woody Biomass, and the extent to which they are addressing these problems, 3:30 p.m.,1324 Longworth.

May 24, Subcommittee on Water and Power, hearing on H.R. 1071, Desalination Drought Protection Act of 2005, and a hearing entitled ''Reducing Power and other Costs of the Desalination Process,'' 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth..

May 25, full Committee, and the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific of the Committee on International Relations, joint oversight hearing entitled ''The United States Nuclear Legacy in the Marshall Islands: Consideration of Issues Relating to the Changes Circumstances Petition,'' 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

May 26, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans, oversight hearing on Public Access within the National Wildlife Refuge System, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, May 23, to consider H.R. 2419, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

May 24, to consider H.R. 1815, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, 2:30 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Small Business, May 24, Subcommittee on Workforce, Empowerment, and Government Programs and the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, joint hearing on recent legislation enacted into law to assist veterans, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

May 26, Subcommittee on Rural Enterprises, Agriculture and Technology and the Subcommittee on Tax, Finance and Exports, joint hearing on Does China Enact Barriers to Fair Trade? 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, May 25, Subcommittee on Aviation, oversight hearing entitled ''The U.S. Jet Transport Industry: Global Market Factors Affecting U.S. Producers,'' 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, May 25, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 717, To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the scope of programs of education for which accelerated payments of educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill may be used; H.R. 745, Veterans Self-Employment Act of 2005; and H.R. 1207, Department of Veterans Affairs Work-Study Act of 2005, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, May 24, to mark up H.J. Res. 27, Withdrawing the approval of the United States from the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

May 24, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing on Tax Credits for Electricity Production from Renewable Sources, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

May 24 and 26, Subcommittee on Social Security, to continue hearings on Protecting and Strengthening Social Security, 2 p.m., B–318 Rayburn.

May 26, full Committee, hearing on the Tax-Exempt Hospital Sector, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, May 24, executive, to mark up the Intelligence Authorization, 12:30 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

March 25, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence Analysis and Counter-Intelligence, executive, Briefing on Iran, 2 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

May 25, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence Analysis and Counter-Intelligence, executive, Briefing on CIA Humint Training Needs, 4 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

May 26, full Committee, executive, Briefing on Global Updates, 9 a.m., H–405 Capitol.