

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3167–S3346

Measures Introduced: Forty bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2556–2595, S.J. Res. 33, and S. Res. 434–437. **Pages S3211–12**

Measures Passed:

National Small Business Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 435, honoring the entrepreneurial spirit of America's small businesses during National Small Business Week, beginning April 9, 2006.

Pages S3343–44

Local Community Recovery Act: Senate passed H.R. 4979, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to clarify the preference for local firms in the award of certain contracts for disaster relief activities, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3344

Honoring and Congratulating the Minnesota National Guard: Committee on Armed Services was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 85, honoring and congratulating the Minnesota National Guard, on its 150th anniversary, for its spirit of dedication and service to the State of Minnesota and the Nation and recognizing that the role of the National Guard, the Nation's citizen-soldier based militia, which was formed before the U.S. Army, has been and still is extremely important to the security and freedom of the Nation, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Pages S3344–45

Honoring and Congratulating the Minnesota National Guard: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 371, honoring and congratulating the Minnesota National Guard, on its 150th anniversary, for its spirit of dedication and service to the State of Minnesota and the Nation and recognizing that the role of the National Guard, the Nation's citizen-soldier based militia, which was formed before the U.S. Army, has been and still is extremely important to the security and freedom of the Nation.

Page S3345

Year of the Museum: Senate agreed to S. Res. 437, supporting the goals and ideals of the Year of the Museum.

Pages S3345–46

National Peace Officers Memorial Service: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 360, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service. **Page S3346**

Securing America's Borders Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 2454, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for comprehensive reform, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S3167–99**

Pending:

Specter/Leahy Amendment No. 3192, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S3167**

Kyl/Cornyn Amendment No. 3206 (to Amendment No. 3192), to make certain aliens ineligible for conditional nonimmigrant work authorization and status. **Page S3167**

Cornyn Amendment No. 3207 (to Amendment No. 3206), to establish an enactment date. **Page S3167**

Page S3167

Isakson Amendment No. 3215 (to Amendment No. 3192), to demonstrate respect for legal immigration by prohibiting the implementation of a new alien guest worker program until the Secretary of Homeland Security certifies to the President and the Congress that the borders of the United States are reasonably sealed and secured. **Page S3167**

Dorgan Amendment No. 3223 (to Amendment No. 3192), to allow United States citizens under 18 years of age to travel to Canada without a passport, to develop a system to enable United States citizens to take 24-hour excursions to Canada without a passport, and to limit the cost of passport cards or similar alternatives to passports to \$20. **Page S3167**

Mikulski/Warner Amendment No. 3217 (to Amendment No. 3192), to extend the termination date for the exemption of returning workers from the numerical limitations for temporary workers. **Page S3167**

Page S3167

Santorum/Mikulski Amendment No. 3214 (to Amendment No. 3192), to designate Poland as a program country under the visa waiver program established under section 217 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. **Page S3167**

Page S3167

Nelson (FL) Amendment No. 3220 (to Amendment No. 3192), to use surveillance technology to protect the borders of the United States. **Page S3167**

Sessions Amendment No. 3420 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 3192), of a perfecting nature. **Page S3167**

Nelson (NE) Amendment No. 3421 (to Amendment No. 3420), of a perfecting nature. **Page S3167**

Frist Motion to Commit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment in the nature of a substitute (Frist Amendment No. 3424). **Page S3346**

Frist Amendment No. 3425 (to the instructions to the motion to commit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary), to establish an effective date. **Page S3346**

Frist Amendment No. 3426 (to Amendment No. 3425), of a technical nature. **Page S3346**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 39 yeas to 60 nays (Vote No. 88), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on Specter/Leahy Amendment No. 3192, in the nature of a substitute (listed above). **Page S3177**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 7, 2006; that there be 1 hour for debate equally divided between the Managers or their designees; that the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Frist Motion to Commit (listed above) at approximately 9:45 a.m.; provided further, that with respect to the cloture motions filed on the motion to commit and the underlying bill, the mandatory Quorum required under rule XXII be waived. **Page S3346**

Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached with respect to the motions to invoke cloture filed on Wednesday, April 5, 2006, on the nominations of Dorrance Smith, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, and Peter Cyril Wyche Flory, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

Executive Reports of Committees: Senate received the following executive report of a committee:

Report to accompany Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty with Japan (Treaty Doc. 108-12) and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty with Germany (Treaty Doc. 108-27) (Ex. Rept. 109-14). **Page S3211**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Gordon England, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Benjamin A. Powell, of Florida, to be General Counsel of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(Prior to the confirmation of the nominations (listed above), Senate vitiated the votes on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations, respectively.) **Page S3346**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

John Clint Williamson, of Louisiana, to be Ambassador at Large for War Crimes Issues.

John A. Cloud, Jr., of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania.

Lurita Alexis Doan, of Virginia, to be Administrator of General Services.

R. David Paulison, of Florida, to be Under Secretary for Federal Emergency Management, Department of Homeland Security. **Page S3346**

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Robert M. Duncan, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term expiring June 10, 2009, which was sent to the Senate on April 4, 2005.

Messages From the House: **Page S3209**

Measures Referred: **Page S3209**

Measures Placed on Calendar: **Page S3209**

Executive Communications: **Pages S3209-11**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S3211**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3212-13**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3213-49**

Additional Statements: **Pages S3207-09**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3249-S3342**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S3342-43**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—88) **Page S3177**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 10:18 p.m., until 8:30 a.m., on Friday, April 7, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3346.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: EPA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Environmental Protection Agency, after receiving testimony from Stephen L. Johnson, Administrator, Marcus Peacock, Deputy Administrator, and Benjamin Grumbles, Assistant Administrator, Office of Water, all of the Environmental Protection Agency.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, the Judiciary, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of the Treasury, after receiving testimony from John Snow, Secretary, Stuart Levey, Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, and Janice B. Gardner, Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, all of the Department of the Treasury.

BORDER SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine the United States Coast Guard's role in border and maritime security, focusing on port infrastructure and ports of entry in the United States, and terrorist targets including ferries, cruise ships, and fuel vessels, after receiving testimony from Vice Admiral Thad Allen, Chief of Staff, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HEALTHCARE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine healthcare in the District of Columbia, focusing on access to primary care and affordable health insurance, after receiving testimony from Brenda Donald Walker, Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth, Families and Elders, Government of the District of Columbia; Randall R. Bovbjerg, Urban Institute, Sharon A. Baskerville, District of Columbia Primary Care Association, Maria Gomez, Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care, Lawrence H. Mirel, Wiley Rein and Fielding, LLP, Edmund F. Haislmaier, Heritage Foundation, and Christine Reesor, DC Spanish-Catholic Center Medical Clinic of Catholic Community Services, all of Washington, D.C.

APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, after receiving testimony from Linton F. Brooks, Under Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Security and Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower concluded a hearing to examine the proposed defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007, focusing on navy shipbuilding, after receiving testimony from Delores M. Etter, Assistant Secretary for Research, Development, and Acquisition, Rear Admiral Mark J. Edwards, USN, Director for Warfare Integration, N8F, and Rear Admiral Samuel J. Locklear, III, USN, Director for Programming Division, N80, both of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, all of the Department of the Navy; Damien Bloor, First Marine International Limited, United Kingdom; and John F. Schank, RAND Corporation, Arlington, Virginia.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine the proposed defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007, focusing on military space programs, after receiving testimony from Ronald M. Sega, Under Secretary of the Air Force; Rear Admiral Kenneth W. Deutsch, USN, Director, Net-Centric Warfare Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations; Lieutenant General Kevin P. Chilton, USAF, Joint Functional Component Commander for Space and Global Strike, U.S. Strategic Command; Lieutenant General Michael A. Hamel, USAF, Commander, Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Space Command; and Cristina T. Chaplain, Acting Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management Team, Government Accountability Office.

OFFSHORE AQUACULTURE

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on National Ocean Policy Study concluded a hearing to examine offshore aquaculture, focusing on current proposals to regulate offshore aquaculture operations, discuss research in this field being conducted off the coasts of New England and Hawaii, and the impacts that expanded aquaculture operations would have on fishermen, seafood processors, and consumers, after receiving testimony from Bill Hogarth, Director, National Marine Fisheries