

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.J. Res. 43, Debt Limit Increase.

Senate concurred in the amendments of the House to the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 976, Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages 12189–S12317*

**Measures Introduced:** Twelve bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2104–2115, and S. Res. 334–336. **Page S12287**

#### Measures Reported:

S. Res. 258, recognizing the historical and educational significance of the Atlantic Freedom Tour of the Freedom Schooner Amistad, and expressing the sense of the Senate that preserving the legacy of the Amistad story is important in promoting multicultural dialogue, education, and cooperation.

S.J. Res. 13, granting the consent of Congress to the International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding.

S. Con. Res. 45, commending the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work in aiding children and families affected by child abuse, and designating November 2007 as National Courage Month. **Page S12285**

#### Measures Passed:

**Debt Limit Increase:** By 53 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 354), Senate agreed to H.J. Res. 43, increasing the statutory limit on the public debt, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S12248–54, S12255**

**Continuing Appropriations:** By 94 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 355), Senate agreed to H.J. Res. 52, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S12255–58**

**President of George Washington University:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 210, honoring the accomplishments of Stephen Joel Trachtenberg as

president of the George Washington University in Washington, D.C., in recognition of his upcoming retirement in July 2007, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S12314**

**Librarian of Congress Dr. James Hadley Billington:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 336, recognizing and honoring the 20 years of service and contributions of Dr. James Hadley Billington as Librarian of Congress. **Pages S12314–15**

**Joshua Omvig Veterans Suicide Prevention Act:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 327, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop and implement a comprehensive program designed to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S12315–16**

Brown (for Harkin) Amendment No. 3111, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S12315–16**

**Secretary of Education Waiver Authority:** Senate passed H.R. 3625, to make permanent the waiver authority of the Secretary of Education with respect to student financial assistance during a war or other military operation or national emergency, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S12316**

**Transitional Medical Assistance Extension:** Senate passed H.R. 3668, to provide for the extension of transitional medical assistance (TMA), the abstinence education program, and the qualifying individuals (QI) program, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S12316**

**Measures Considered:**

**National Defense Authorization Act:** Senate continued consideration of H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S12189–S12206, S12258–78**

Adopted:

Reid (for Kennedy/Smith) Amendment No. 3035 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2064), to provide Federal assistance to States, local jurisdictions, and Indian tribes to prosecute hate crimes. **Pages S12205–06**

By 96 yeas and 3 nays (Vote No. 351), Casey (for Hatch) Amendment No. 3047 (to Amendment No. 2011), to require comprehensive study and support for criminal investigations and prosecutions by State and local law enforcement officials. **Pages S12189, S12206**

McCaskill (for Webb) Further Modified Amendment No. 2999 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide for the study and investigation of wartime contracts and contracting processes in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. **Pages S12189, S12258–60**

Levin (for Sanders) Amendment No. 2902 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide for an enhancement of the utility of the Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty of members of the Armed Forces. **Page S12261**

Levin (for Cardin/Mikulski) Amendment No. 3000 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide for the relocation of the Joint Spectrum Center in Annapolis, Maryland, to Fort Meade, Maryland and the termination of the existing lease for the Center. **Pages S12261–62**

Levin (for Kerry) Amendment No. 3041 (to Amendment No. 2011), to protect small high-tech firms. **Pages S12261–62**

Levin (for Reid/Obama) Amendment No. 3073 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide for transparency and accountability in military and security contracting. **Pages S12261–62**

Levin (for Webb) Modified Amendment No. 2127 (to Amendment No. 2011), to improve the provisions relating to contractors performing private security functions in areas of combat operations. **Pages S12261–62**

Levin (for McCain) Amendment No. 3088 (to Amendment No. 2011), to require a report on medical physical examinations of members of the Armed Forces before their deployment. **Pages S12261–62**

Levin (for Coleman/Collins) Amendment No. 2983 (to Amendment No. 2011), to modify authori-

ties relating to the Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. **Pages S12261–63**

Levin Amendment No. 3076 (to Amendment No. 2011), to require a report on family reunions between United States citizens and their relatives in North Korea. **Pages S12261, S12263**

Levin (for Cardin) Amendment No. 2991 (to Amendment No. 2011), to require the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense to prepare reports assessing capabilities to provide training and guidance to the command of an international intervention force that seeks to prevent mass atrocities. **Pages S12261, S12263**

Levin (for Dorgan/Dodd) Amendment No. 2989 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide accurate monitoring and tracking of weapons provided to the Government of Iraq and other individuals and groups in Iraq. **Pages S12261, S12263–64**

Levin (for Lautenberg) Amendment No. 3081 (to Amendment No. 2011), to establish the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction. **Pages S12261, S12264**

Levin (for Obama) Amendment No. 3078 (to Amendment No. 2011), relative to administrative separations of members of the Armed Forces for personality disorder. **Pages S12261, S12264**

Levin (for McCain) Amendment No. 3104 (to Amendment No. 2011), to express the sense of Congress on the Air Force strategy for the replacement of the aerial refueling tanker aircraft fleet. **Pages S12261, S12264**

Levin (for McCain) Amendment No. 2133 (to Amendment No. 2011), to modify the calculation of back pay for persons who were approved for promotion as members of the Navy and Marine Corps while interned as prisoners of war during World War II to take account changes in the Consumer Price Index. **Pages S12261, S12264–65**

Levin (for Kennedy/McCain) Amendment No. 3077 (to Amendment No. 2011), relative to the Littoral Combat Ship program. **Pages S12261, S12265**

Levin Modified Amendment No. 2265 (to Amendment No. 2011), to modify the authorities to lease military family housing, and to provide an offset. **Pages S12261, S12265**

Levin (for McCain) Amendment No. 3087 (to Amendment No. 2011), to require reports on the utilization of tuition assistance benefits by members of the Armed Forces. **Pages S12261, S12265**

Levin (for Warner) Amendment No. 2954 (to Amendment No. 2011), to increase the amount authorized to repair, restore, and preserve the Lafayette Escadrille Memorial in Marnes-la-Coquette, France. **Pages S12261, S12265**

Levin (for Chambliss/Pryor) Amendment No. 2049 (to Amendment No. 2011), to modify the effective date of applicability of the commencement or receipt of non-regular service retired pay.

**Pages S12261, S12265**

Levin (for Craig) Amendment No. 2101 (to Amendment No. 2011), to enhance education benefits for certain members of the reserve components.

**Pages S12261, S12265–67**

Levin (for Inhofe) Amendment No. 2261 (to Amendment No. 2011), to extend the period of entitlement to educational assistance for certain members of the Selected Reserve affected by force shaping initiatives.

**Pages S12261, S12267**

Levin (for Lincoln) Amendment No. 2074 (to Amendment No. 2011), to modify the time limit for use of entitlement to education assistance for reserve component members supporting contingency operations and other operations.

**Pages S12261, S12267**

Levin (for Nelson (FL)) Amendment No. 2000 (to Amendment No. 2011), to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency an indemnity compensation and to modify the date of paid-up coverage under the Survivor Benefit Plan.

**Pages S12261, S12267**

Levin (for Nelson (NE)/Graham) Amendment No. 2161 (to Amendment No. 2011), to repeal the annual limit on the number of Reserve Officers' Training Corps scholarships under the Army Reserve and Army National Guard financial assistance program.

**Pages S12261, S12267**

Levin (for Reid) Amendment No. 2925 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide that veterans with service-connected disabilities rated as total by virtue of unemployability shall be covered by the termination of the phase-in of concurrent receipt of retired pay and veterans disability compensation for military retirees.

**Pages S12261, S12267–68**

Levin (for Lautenberg) Amendment No. 2912 (to Amendment No. 2011), to increase in charges and fees for medical care.

**Pages S12261, S12268**

Levin (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 2066 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide for the retention of reimbursement for the provision of reciprocal fire protection services.

**Pages S12261, S12268**

Levin (for Hutchison) Modified Amendment No. 2984 (to Amendment No. 2011), to designate a scientific institute at the Texas Medical Center as the National Center for Human Performance.

**Pages S1261, S12268**

Levin (for Biden) Modified Amendment No. 3075 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide funds for improvised explosive device protection for military vehicles.

**Pages S12261, S12268**

Levin (for McCain) Modified Amendment No. 3089 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide for a continuation of transitional health benefits for members of the Armed Forces pending a resolution of their service-related medical conditions.

**Pages S12261, S12268**

Levin (for McCain) Amendment No. 3090 (to Amendment No. 2011), to enhance the computation of years of service for purposes of retirees pay for non-regular service.

**Pages S12261, S12268**

Levin (for Landrieu) Modified Amendment No. 2993 (to Amendment No. 2011), relative to the capture of Osama bin Laden and the al Qaeda leadership.

**Pages S12261, S12268**

Levin (for Kennedy) Modified Amendment No. 2872 (to Amendment No. 2011), to assist certain Iraqis who have worked directly with, or are threatened by their association with, the United States.

**Pages S12261, S12268–70**

Levin (for Lott) Modified Amendment No. 2214 (to Amendment No. 2011), to express the sense of Congress on the need of the Department of Defense to rapidly field innovative logistics systems such as the Associate Intermodal Platform pallet system.

**Pages S12261, S12270**

Levin (for Salazar) Modified Amendment No. 2942 (to Amendment No. 2011), to require a report on the relocation of the North American Aerospace Defense command center and related functions from Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, Colorado, to Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, and to require a master infrastructure recapitalization plan for Cheyenne Mountain Air Station.

**Pages S12261, S12270**

Rejected:

By 26 yeas and 69 nays (Vote No. 356), Coburn Amendment No. 2196 (to Amendment No. 2011), to eliminate wasteful spending and improve the management of counter-drug intelligence.

**Pages S12189, S12260–61**

Pending:

Nelson (NE) (for Levin) Amendment No. 2011, in the nature of a substitute.

**Page S12189**

Reid (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 3058 (to Amendment No. 2011), to provide for certain public-private competition requirements.

**Pages S12189, S12271**

Reid (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 3109 (to Amendment No. 3058), to provide for certain public-private competition requirements.

**Pages S12271–73**

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

By 60 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 350), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the Reid (for Kennedy/

Smith) Amendment No. 3035 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2064), to provide Federal assistance to States, local jurisdictions, and Indian tribes to prosecute hate crimes.

**Page S12205**

The following motion and amendments fell when cloture was invoked on Reid (for Kennedy/Smith) Amendment No. 3035 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2064):

Motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions to report back forthwith, with Reid Amendment No. 3038, to change the enactment date. **Pages S12189, S12258**

Reid Amendment No. 3039 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit), of a technical nature.

**Pages S12189, S12258**

Reid Amendment No. 3040 (to Amendment No. 3039), of a technical nature. **Pages S12189, S12258**

Warner (for Graham/Kyl) Amendment No. 2064 (to Amendment No. 2011), to strike section 1023, relating to the granting of civil rights to terror suspects. **Pages S12189, S12258**

By 89 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. 357), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the Nelson (NE) (for Levin) Amendment No. 2011, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S12270–71**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, October 1, 2007, upon adoption of Nelson (NE) (for Levin) Amendment No. 2011, Senate vote on passage of the bill. **Page S12254**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Friday, September 28, 2007. **Page S12316**

### House Messages:

**Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act:** By 67 yeas and 29 nays (Vote No. 353), Senate concurred in the amendments of the House to the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 976, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for small businesses, after taking action on the following amendments proposed there-to, clearing the measure for the President:

**Pages S12206–S12248, S12254–55**

Withdrawn:

Reid Amendment No. 3071 (to the House amendments to Senate amendments to the text of H.R. 976), to change the enactment date.

**Page S12255**

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

By 69 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. 352), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the motion to concur in the House amendments to the Senate amendments to the bill.

**Pages S12206–07**

Reid Amendment No. 3072 (to Amendment No. 3071), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 3071 (listed above) was withdrawn.

**Page S12255**

**Message from the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement; which was referred to the Committee on Finance. (PM–27)

**Page S12284**

**Myers Nomination—Agreement:** A unanimous consent agreement was reached providing that when the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs reports the nomination of Julie L. Myers, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, it be sequentially referred to the Committee on the Judiciary for up to 30 calendar days and that if the nomination is not reported by the completion of that time the nomination be automatically discharged and placed on the executive calendar. **Page S12316**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Javid Anwar, of Nevada, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2007.

Javid Anwar, of Nevada, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2013.

Madonna Cynthia Douglass, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring April 27, 2013.

Douglas W. Webster, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Labor.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps. **Pages S12316–17**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S12284**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S12284**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Page S12284**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Page S12284**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S12284–85**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S12285–87**  
 Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S12287–89**  
 Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:  
**Pages S12289–94**  
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 Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S12312**  
 Authorities for Committees to Meet:  
**Pages S12312–14**  
 Privileges of the Floor: **Page S12314**  
 Record Votes: Eight record votes were taken today.  
 (Total—357) **Pages S12205, S12206, S12206–07, S12255,**  
**S12257–58, S12261, S12271**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 9:57 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Friday, September 28, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S12316.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Admiral Gary Roughead, United States Navy, for reappointment of the grade of Admiral and to be Chief of Naval Operations, General William E. Ward, United States Army, for reappointment to the grade of General and to be Commander, United States Africa Command, General Kevin P. Chilton, United States Air Force, for reappointment to the grade of General and to be Commander, United States Strategic Command, Lt. General James N. Mattis, United States Marine Corps, to be General and Commander, United States Joint Forces Command and Supreme Allied Commander for Transformation, and a promotion list of 4,970 in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

Prior to this action, Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Gen. William E. Ward, United States Army, for reappointment to the grade of General and to be Commander, United States Africa Command, Gen. Kevin P. Chilton, to be General, United States Air Force, for reappointment to the grade of General and to be Commander, United States Strategic Command, Lt. Gen. James N. Mattis, United States Marine Corps, to be General and to be Commander, United States Joint Forces Command and Supreme Allied Commander for Transformation, and Admiral Gary Roughead, United States Navy, for reappointment to the grade

of Admiral and to be Chief of Naval Operations, who was introduced by Senator Inouye, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### AIRLINE DELAYS AND CONSUMER ISSUES

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine congestion and delays impacting travelers, focusing on possible solutions, after receiving testimony from Robert A. Sturgell, Acting Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, D.J. Gribbin, General Counsel, and Calvin L. Scovel, III, Inspector General, all of the Department of Transportation; Bob Reding, American Airlines, Fort Worth, Texas; Joe Kolshak, Delta Airlines, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia; and Zane Rowe, Continental Airlines, Houston, Texas.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

S. 1578, to amend the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to establish vessel ballast water management requirements, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1889, to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve railroad safety by reducing accidents and to prevent railroad fatalities, injuries, and hazardous materials releases, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1965, to protect children from cybercrimes, including crimes by online predators, to enhance efforts to identify and eliminate child pornography, and to help parents shield their children from material that is inappropriate for minors, with amendments;

S.J. Res. 17, directing the United States to initiate international discussions and take necessary steps with other Nations to negotiate an agreement for managing migratory and transboundary fish stocks in the Arctic Ocean;

S. Con. Res. 39, supporting the goals and ideals of a world day of remembrance for road crash victims; and

Sundry promotion lists in the United States Coast Guard.

### HARD-ROCK MINING

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine hard-rock mining on federal lands, after receiving testimony from Jim Butler, Parsons, Behle, and Latimer, Salt Lake City, Utah; Dusty Horwitt, Environmental Working Group, Washington, D.C.; Timothy R. Snider, Freeport, McMoran, Cooper and Gold, Phoenix, Arizona,