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No. 182

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, at 11 a.m.

## Senate

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2008

(Legislative day of Thursday, November 20, 2008)

The Senate met at 11 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, December 5, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. CARDIN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECESS UNTIL MONDAY,  
DECEMBER 8, 2008, AT 3 P.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 3 p.m., on Monday, December 8, 2008.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 11 and 28 seconds a.m., recessed until Monday, December 8, 2008, at 3 p.m.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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Friday, December 5, 2008

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

Senate met at 11:00:00 a.m. in pro forma session, and recessed at 11:00:28 a.m. until 3 p.m., on Monday, December 8, 2008.

### Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

#### DOMESTIC AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* On Thursday, December 4, Committee continued hear-

ings to examine the state of the domestic automobile industry, after receiving testimony from Gene L. Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; G. Richard Wagoner, Jr., General Motors Corporation, and Ron Gettelfinger, both of Detroit, Michigan; Robert Nardelli, Chrysler LLC, Auburn Hills, Michigan; Alan R. Mulally, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Michigan; James Fleming, Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association, Simsbury, Connecticut; Keith Wandell, Johnson Controls, Inc., Glendale, Wisconsin; and Mark Zandi, Moody's Economy.com, West Chester, Pennsylvania.

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, pursuant to section 2 of H. Con. Res. 440.

### Committee Meetings

#### INDUSTRY PLANS TO STABILIZE THE AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

*Committee on Financial Services:* Held a hearing entitled "Review Industry Plans to Stabilize the Financial Condition of the American Automobile Industry." Testimony was heard from G. Richard Wagoner, Jr., Chairman and CEO, General Motors Corporation; Robert Nardelli, CEO, Chrysler; Alan Mulally, President and CEO, Ford Motor Company; Ron Gettelfinger, President, United Auto Workers; Gene Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General, GAO; and public witnesses.

#### 2009 BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD BENEFIT: WHAT IT MEANS FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* On December 3, the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia held a

hearing entitled "2009 Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Benefit: What it means for Federal employees." Testimony was heard from Nancy H. Kichak, Associate Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy, OPM; Stephen W. Gammarino, Senior Vice President, National Programs, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association; and public witnesses.

### Joint Meetings

#### EMPLOYMENT

*Joint Economic Committee:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for November 2008, after receiving testimony from Keith Hall, Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor.

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#### CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 8 through December 13, 2008

Senate Chamber

To be announced.

**Senate Committees**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

To be announced.

**House Committees**

*Committee on Agriculture*, December 8, hearing to review the role of credit derivatives in the U.S. economy, 1 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Appropriations*, December 11, hearing on the Impact of Recession on States and Local Communities, 9:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, December 10, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing entitled "Implementation of the CPSIA: Urgent Questions about Application Dates, Testing and Certification, and Protecting Children," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services*, December 10, hearing entitled "Oversight Concerns Regarding Treasury Department Conduct of the Troubled Assets Relief Program," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Oversight and Government*, December 9, hearing on The Role of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in the Financial Crisis, followed by a markup of a committee report regarding President Bush assertion of executive privilege in response to the committee subpoena to Attorney General Mukasey, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, December 8, executive, briefing on Mumbai/Cyber Update, 2 p.m., H-405 Capitol.

*Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming*, December 11, hearing entitled "Approaching Midnight: Oversight of the Bush Administration's Last-Minute Rulemakings," 10 a.m., room to be announced.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

3 p.m., Monday, December 8

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

11 a.m., Tuesday, December 9

Senate Chamber

House Chamber

**Program for Monday:** Senate will be in a period of morning business.

**Program for Tuesday:** To be announced.



## Congressional Record

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