

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S10587–10653

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1819–1834, and S. Res. 315–319. **Page S10635**

Measures Reported:

S. 668, to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 111–90) **Page S10634**

Measures Passed:

Honoring Former Senator Clifford Peter Hansen: Senate agreed to S. Res. 315, relative to the death of Clifford Peter Hansen, former United States Senator for the State of Wyoming. **Pages S10648–50**

Boy Scouts of America Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 112, designating February 8, 2010, as “Boy Scouts of America Day”, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the largest youth scouting organization in the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S10650–51**

Lights On Afterschool: Senate agreed to S. Res. 318, supporting “Lights On Afterschool”, a national celebration of afterschool programs. **Page S10651**

Women in National FFA Organization: Senate agreed to S. Res. 319, commemorating 40 years of membership by women in the National FFA Organization and celebrating the achievements and contributions of female members of the National FFA Organization. **Pages S10651–52**

Measures Considered:

Medicare Physicians Fairness Act: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1776, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the update under the Medicare physician fee schedule for years beginning with 2010 and to sunset the application of the sustainable growth rate formula. **Pages S10613–14**

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

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 325), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S10614**

Unemployment Compensation Extension Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3548, to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation. **Page S10653**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, October 23, 2009.

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Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn. **Page S10653**

Conference Reports:

Department of Defense Authorization Act Conference Report—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2647, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, to provide special pays and allowances to certain members of the Armed Forces, expand concurrent receipt of military retirement and VA disability benefits to disabled military retirees. **Pages S10614–32**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the conference report at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, October 22, 2009, and that there be one hour for debate equally divided and controlled between Senators Levin and McCain, or their designees, prior to the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the conference report. **Page S10653**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By unanimous vote of 100 yeas (Vote No. EX. 324), Roberto A. Lange, of South Dakota, to be

United States District Judge for the District of South Dakota. **Pages S10601–11**

William K. Sessions III, of Vermont, to be Chair of the United States Sentencing Commission.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the previously scheduled vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination, be withdrawn.

William E. Spriggs, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Joseph A. Main, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health.

Jose Antonio Garcia, of Florida, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Department of Energy.

Marcia K. McNutt, of California, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey.

Arun Majumdar, of California, to be Director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, Department of Energy. **Pages S10652–53**

Messages from the House: Pages S10633–34

Measures Referred: Page S10634

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Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—325) **Pages S10611, S10614**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned, in accordance with S. Res. 315, at 7:50 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 22, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on Page S10653.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

VALUE OF SPACE

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Science and Space concluded a hearing to examine space, focusing on the value, after receiving testimony from Stephen I. Katz, Director, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services; Scott Pace,

The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs, and Lennard A. Fisk, University of Michigan, both of Washington, DC; Jeanne L. Becker, National Space Biomedical Research Institute, Houston, Texas; and Helen Greiner, The Droid Works, Framingham, Massachusetts.

ENERGY CONSUMERS AND ENERGY PRICES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the costs and benefits for energy consumers and energy prices associated with the allocation of greenhouse gas emission allowances, after receiving testimony from Gilbert E. Metcalf, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts; Darius Gaskins, Resources for the Future, and Chad Stone, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, both of Washington, DC; and Alfred Denny Ellerman, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

NATIONAL RESPONSE TO THE H1N1 FLU

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine H1N1 flu, focusing on monitoring the nation's response, after receiving testimony from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security; Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services; and Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Craig Becker, of Illinois, Mark Gaston Pearce, of New York, and Brian Hayes, of Massachusetts, all to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, Rolena Klahn Adorno, of Connecticut, and Marvin Krislov, of Ohio, both to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities, and Gloria Valencia-Weber, of New Mexico, Julie A. Reiskin, of Colorado, Martha L. Minow, of Illinois, John Gerson Levi, of Illinois, and Robert James Grey, Jr., of Virginia, all to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jane Branstetter Stranch, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Alexander and Corker, and Benjamin B. Tucker, of New York, to be Deputy Director for State, Local, and Tribal Affairs, Office of National Drug Control Policy, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

HEALTH AND BENEFITS LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing on pending legislation related to veterans