

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1099–S1158

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2138–2144, and S. Res. 382–384. **Page S1147**

Measures Passed:

Read Across America Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 382, designating March 2, 2012, as “Read Across America Day”. **Page S1143**

Rare Disease Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 383, designating February 29, 2012, as “Rare Disease Day”. **Pages S1143–44**

Measures Considered:

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1106–42**

Pending:

Reid Amendment No. 1730, of a perfecting nature. **Pages S1106–42**

Reid (for Blunt) Amendment No. 1520 (to Amendment No. 1730), to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to protect rights of conscience with regard to requirements for coverage of specific items and services. **Pages S1106–42**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 1, 2012, with the time until 11 a.m. equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees; that at 11 a.m., Senate vote on or in relation to Reid (for Blunt) Amendment No. 1520 (listed above), and that all provisions under the order of Tuesday, February 28, 2012, remain in effect. **Page S1156**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

John E. Dowdell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

Brian J. Davis, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

25 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

1 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration nomination in the rank of admiral.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, and Navy. **Pages S1157–58**

Messages from the House: **Pages S1145–46**

Measures Referred: **Page S1146**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1146–47**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1147–48**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1148–51**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1144–45**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1151–55**

Notices of Intent: **Pages S1155–56**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1156**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1156**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:56 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 1, 2012. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S1156.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from Ken Salazar, Secretary, David Hayes, Deputy Secretary, and Pam K. Haze, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget, Finance, Performance, and Acquisition, all of the Department of the Interior.

PUTTING HEALTH CARE SPENDING ON A SUSTAINABLE PATH

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine putting health care spending on a sustainable path, after receiving testimony from David M. Cutler, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Len M. Nichols, George Mason University College of Health and Human Services, Fairfax, Virginia; and James C. Capretta, Ethics and Public Policy Center, Washington, D.C.

CRISIS IN SYRIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee received a closed briefing on the crisis in Syria from national security briefers.

DENTAL CRISIS IN AMERICA

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging concluded a hearing to examine dental crisis in America, focusing on the need to expand access, after receiving testimony from Burton Edelstein, Columbia University, New York, New York; Shelly Gehshan, Pew Center on the States Children's Dental Campaign, Washington, D.C.; Grant Whitmer, Community Health Centers of the Rutland Region, Rutland, Vermont; Gregory J. Folse, Outreach Dentistry, Lafayette, Louisiana; and Christy Jo Fogarty, Children's Dental Services, Farmington, Minnesota.

DUE PROCESS GUARANTEE ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the "Due Process Guarantee Act", focusing on banning indefinite detention of Americans, including S. 2003, to clarify that an authorization to use military force, a declaration of war, or any similar authority shall not authorize the detention without charge or trial of a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States, after receiving testimony from Representatives Landry and Garamendi; Lorraine K. Bannai, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, Washington; Stephen I.

Vladeck, American University Washington College of Law, and Steven G. Bradbury, former Acting Assistant Attorney General, and Principal Deputy, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice, both of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Richard Gary Taranto, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, who was introduced by Senator Franken, Gershwin A. Drain, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, who was introduced by Senator Levin, and Robin S. Rosenbaum, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, who was introduced by Senator Nelson (FL), after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGET

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for Veterans' Programs, after receiving testimony from Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary, Robert A. Petzel, Under Secretary for Health, Allison A. Hickey, Under Secretary for Benefits, Steve L. Muro, Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Roger W. Baker, Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, and W. Todd Grams, Executive in Charge for the Office of Management and Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Carl Blake, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Jeffrey C. Hall, Disabled American Veterans, Raymond Kelley, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Tom Tarantino, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and William F. Schrier, and Tim Tetz, both of the American Legion, all of Washington, D.C.; and Diane M. Zumatto, AMVETS, Lanham, Maryland.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 11 public bills, H.R. 4105–4115; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 105; H. Con. Res. 106; and H. Res. 567, were introduced.

Pages H1099–H1100

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H1100–01

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Woodall to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H1019

Recess: The House recessed at 11:13 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H1027