

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to Coast Guard Authorizations Conference Report.
House passed Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act.
House agreed to DOD Appropriations Conference Report.
House passed Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act.
House agreed to National Securities Improvement Act Conference Report.
House passed Veterans Health Care Reform, Disability, and Benefits Acts.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S11611–S11813

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2153–2160, and S. Res. 303–305. Page S11720

Measures Passed:

Amos F. Longoria Post Office Building: Committee on Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2700, to designate the building located at 8302 FM 327, Elmendorf, Texas, which houses operations of the United States Postal Service, as the “Amos F. Longoria Post Office Building”, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Page S11612

Gregg (for Pryor) Amendment No. 5413, to clarify the provision of section 3626(b) of title 39, United States Code, defining an “institution of higher education”.

Page S11612

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Post Office Building: Senate passed S. 2153, to designate the United States Post Office building located in Brewer, Maine, as the “Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Post Office Building”. Pages S11612–13

United States-Cambodia Relations: Senate agreed to S. Res. 285, expressing the sense of the Senate that enforcement of the Cambodian Genocide Justice Act, improvements in Cambodia's record on human rights, the environment, narcotics trafficking

and the royal Government of Cambodia's conduct should be among the primary objectives of the United States in its relations with Cambodia, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. Pages S11638–40

Medicaid Enrollment Waiver: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3871, to waive temporarily the Medicaid enrollment composition rule for certain health maintenance organizations, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. Page S11640

Alaska Natives Study: Senate passed H.R. 3973, to provide for a study of the recommendations of the Joint Federal-State Commission on Policies and Programs Affecting Alaska Natives, clearing the measure for the President. Pages S11640–41

National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 300, to designate the week of November 3, 1996, as “National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week”, and the resolution was then agreed to. Page S11641

American Free Enterprise Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 291, to designate November 18, 1996, as “American Free Enterprise Day”, and the resolution was then agreed to. Pages S11641–42

CAA Labor-Management Relations: Senate agreed to S. Res. 304, approving certain regulations

to implement provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 relating to labor-management relations with respect to employing offices of the Senate and employees of the Senate. **Page S11642**

Congressional Accountability Act Provisions: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 207, approving certain regulations to implement provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 relating to labor-management relations with respect to covered employees, other than employees of the House of Representatives and employees of the Senate, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S11642**

Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act: Committee on Veterans Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3118, to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform eligibility for health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to authorize major medical facility construction projects of the Department, and to improve administration of health care by the Department, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S11642-58**

Nickles (for Simpson) Amendment No. 5414, in the nature of substitute. **Pages S11642-58**

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices: Senate passed S. 2130, to extend certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities to Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices. **Pages S11658-59**

Reclamation Recycling and Water Conservation Act: Senate passed H.R. 3660, to make amendments to the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act, clearing the bill for the President. **Page S11666**

Propane Education and Research Act: Senate passed H.R. 1514, to authorize and facilitate a program to enhance safety, training, research and development, and safety education in the propane gas industry for the benefit of propane consumers and the public, clearing the bill for the President. **Pages S11666-67**

Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Authorization: Senate passed H.R. 2967, to extend the authorization of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978, clearing the bill for the President. **Pages S11666-67**

Central Utah Project Completion Act: Senate passed H.R. 1823, to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow for prepayment of repayment contracts between the United States and the Central Utah Water Conservancy District dated December

28, 1965, and November 26, 1985, clearing the bill for the President. **Pages S11666-67**

Department of Energy Hydrogen Programs: Senate passed H.R. 4138, to authorize the hydrogen research, development, and demonstration programs of the Department of Energy, clearing the bill for the President. **Page S11667**

Irrigation Project Contract Extension Act: Senate passed S. 1649, to extend contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and irrigation districts in Kansas and Nebraska, after agreeing to committee amendments. **Pages S11667-68**

Marine Mineral Resources Research Act: Senate passed S. 1194, to promote the research, identification, assessment, and exploration of marine mineral resources, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S11668-69**

Helium Recovery/Disposal: Senate passed H.R. 4168, to amend the Helium Act to authorize the Secretary to enter into agreements with private parties for the recovery and disposal of helium on Federal lands, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S11669**

Energy Policy and Conservation Act Extension: Senate passed H.R. 3868, to extend certain programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act through September 30, 1996, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S11669-70**

Lott (for Murkowski) Amendment No. 5415, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S11669-70**

DOE Standardization Act: Senate passed S. 1874, to amend sections of the Department of Energy Organization Act that are obsolete or inconsistent with other statutes and to repeal a related section of the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974. **Page S11670**

Health Professions Education Consolidation and Reauthorization Act: Senate passed S. 555, to amend the Public Health Service Act to consolidate and reauthorize health professions and minority and disadvantaged health education programs, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S11670-95**

Lott (for Kassebaum) Amendment No. 5416, to make certain modifications. **Pages S11683-95**

Savings in Construction Act: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2779, to provide for soft-metric conversion, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S11704-07**

Lott (for Burns) Amendment No. 5417, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S11704–07**

Counting of Electoral Votes: Senate passed S. 2158, to set the time for counting electoral votes. **Page S11770**

Convening of the 105th Congress: Senate passed S. 2159, to set the time for the convening of the 105th Congress. **Pages S11770–71**

Private Relief: Senate passed H.R. 1031, for the relief of Oscar Salas-Velazquez, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S11771**

National Duck Calling Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 305, to designate Saturday, November 30, 1996, as “National Duck Calling Day”. **Page S11771**

Transportation Law: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2297, to codify without substantive change laws related to transportation and to improve the United States Code, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S11771**

Enrollment Correction: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 221, directing the Clerk of the House to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 3159. **Page S11771**

Travel and Tourism Partnership Act: Senate passed H.R. 2579, to establish the National Tourism Board and the National Tourism Organization to promote international travel and tourism to the United States, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S11771**

National Film Preservation Foundation Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1734, to reauthorize the National Film Preservation Board, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S11771–73**

Commending Hungary/Romania: Senate agreed to S. Res. 303, commending the Governments of Hungary and Romania on the occasion of the signing of a Treaty of Understanding, Cooperation and Good Neighborliness. **Page S11774**

International Broadcasting Technology: Senate passed H.R. 3916, to make available certain Voice of America and Radio Marti multilingual computer readable text and voice recordings, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S11774**

Commission on Service Members and Veterans Transition Assistance: Senate passed S. 1711, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and to provide for a study of the Federal programs for veterans, after agreeing to a

committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S11774–94**

Nickles (for Simpson) Amendment No. 5418, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S11779–85**

Enrollment Correction: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 229, directing the Secretary of the Senate to make corrections in the enrollment of S. 1004. **Page S11794**

United States-Estonia Fishery Agreement: Senate passed H.R. 543, to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Republic of Estonia, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S11803**

Trade Law Corrections: Senate passed H.R. 3815, to make technical corrections and miscellaneous amendments to trade laws, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S11805–13**

Nickles (for Roth) Amendment No. 5419, to add a table of contents and make technical corrections. **Pages S11812–13**

Coast Guard Authorizations Conference Report: Senate agreed to the conference report on S. 1004, to authorize appropriations for the United States Coast Guard, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S11794–S11803**

Fort Peck Rural County Water Supply System: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House to S. 1467, to authorize the construction of the Fort Peck Rural County Water Supply System, to authorize assistance to the Fort Peck Rural County Water District, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, and for the planning, design, and construction of the water supply system, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S11804–05**

Treaties Approved: The following treaties having passed through their various parliamentary stages, up to and including the presentation of the resolution of ratification, upon division, two-thirds of the Senators present and having voted in the affirmative, the resolutions of ratification were agreed to:

Income Tax Convention with Kazakstan, with a proviso. (Treaty Doc. No. 103–33)

Exchange of Notes Relating to the Tax Convention with Kazakstan, with a proviso. (Treaty Doc. No. 104–15)

Taxation Protocol Amending Convention with Indonesia. (Treaty Doc. No. 104–32)

Protocol Amending Article VIII of the 1948 Tax Convention with Respect to the Netherlands Antilles. (Treaty Doc. No. 104–23) **Page S11659**

Committee Authority: Committees were authorized to file special reports on non-legislative matters on Thursday, November 21, 1996, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Page S11804

Messages From the House: Pages S11719–20

Statements on Introduced Bills: Pages S11720–31

Additional Cosponsors: Page S11731

Amendments Submitted: Page S11732–53

Additional Statements:

Page S11754–64

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 7:08 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Monday, September 30, 1996. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Assistant Majority Leader in today's Record on page S11813.)

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 55 public bills, H.R. 4274–4328; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 197–198, H. Con. Res. 229–231, and H. Res. 551–552 were introduced.

Pages H12172–75

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 3307, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for a limitation on sanctions imposed by agencies, amended (H. Rept. 104–859);

H.R. 2392, to amend the Umatilla Basin Project Act to establish boundaries for irrigation districts within the Umatilla Basin, amended (H. Rept. 104–860);

Federal Government Management: Examining Government Performance As We Near The Next Century (H. Rept. 104–861);

Investigation into the White House and Department of Justice on Security of FBI Background Investigation Files (H. Rept. 104–862);

Conference report on H.R. 3610, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997 (H. Rept. 104–863);

Conference report on H.R. 3005, to amend the Federal securities laws in order to promote efficiency and capital formation in the financial markets, and to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to promote more efficient management of mutual funds, protect investors, and provide more effective and less burdensome regulation (H. Rept. 104–864); and

H.R. 2976, to prohibit health plans from interfering with health care provider communications with their patients, amended (H. Rept. 104–865 Part I).

Page H12172

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Hastert to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H11597

Order of Business: Pursuant to H. Res. 525, the rule providing for expedited procedures for the remainder of the 2nd Session of the 104th Congress:

Representative Walker announced the consideration today of H.R. 3487, H.R. 3163, H.R. 4165, and H.R. 4123.

Page H11603

Representative Lazio announced the consideration today of H.R. 543, H.R. 4236, H.R. 4264, H.R. 3633, and H.R. 2779.

Page H11603

Representative Saxton announced the consideration today of H.R. 3632.

Page H11626

Representative Pryce announced the consideration today of S. 3005 and S. 2003.

Page H11636

Recess: The House recessed at 9:25 a.m. and reconvened at 12:18 p.m.

Page H11603

Suspensions: The House voted to suspend the rules and take the following actions:

Metric Conversion: Passed H.R. 4233, to provide for appropriate implementation of the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 in Federal construction projects;

Pages H11599–H11602, H12032

Metric Conversion: Subsequently, agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2779, to provide for soft-metric conversion—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H12032–33

Stanislaus County, California Land Conveyance: Passed H.R. 4088, amended, to provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to Stanislaus County, California;

Page H11602

Native American Housing Assistance: Passed H.R. 3219, amended, to provide Federal assistance for Indian tribes in a manner that recognizes the right of tribal self-governance;

Pages H11603–22