

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendments of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 2029, Consolidated Appropriations Act.

The House and Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 104, providing for the sine die adjournment of the first session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress.

First Session of the 114th Congress adjourned sine die.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8837–S8913.

Measures Introduced: Fifteen bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2422–2436, and S. Res. 338–342. **Page S8883**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal Year 2016”. (S. Rept. No. 114–197)

Report to accompany S. 571, to amend the Pilot’s Bill of Rights to facilitate appeals and to apply to other certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, to require the revision of the third class medical certification regulations issued by the Federal Aviation Administration. (S. Rept. No. 114–198)

S. 152, to prohibit gaming activities on certain Indian land in Arizona until the expiration of certain gaming compacts. (S. Rept. No. 114–199)

Pages S8882–83

Measures Passed:

Patient Access and Medicare Protection Act: Senate passed S. 2425, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to improve payments for complex rehabilitation technology and certain radiation therapy services, to ensure flexibility in applying the hardship exception for meaningful use for the 2015 EHR reporting period for 2017 payment adjustments. **Pages S8859–61**

Microbead Free Waters Act: Senate passed H.R. 1321, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prohibit the manufacture and introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate com-

merce of rinse off cosmetics containing intentionally added plastic microbeads. **Page S8861**

Electrify Africa Act: Senate passed S. 2152, to establish a comprehensive United States Government policy to encourage the efforts of countries in sub-Saharan Africa to develop an appropriate mix of power solutions, including renewable energy, for more broadly distributed electricity access in order to support poverty reduction, promote development outcomes, and drive economic growth, after agreeing to the committee amendments, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8861–65**

McConnell (for Corker) Amendment No. 2939, relating to policy to encourage the efforts of countries in sub-Saharan Africa to develop power solutions. **Page S8863**

Congratulating Towson University: Senate agreed to S. Res. 338, congratulating Towson University on the 150th anniversary of the founding of the university. **Page S8865**

Congratulating the University of Iowa College of Law: Senate agreed to S. Res. 339, congratulating the University of Iowa College of Law for 150 years of outstanding service to the State of Iowa, the United States, and the world. **Pages S8865–66**

GONE Act: Senate passed S. 1115, to close out expired grants, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8906–07**

Perdue (for Fischer) Amendment No. 2940, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8907**

Congratulating the Women’s Volleyball Team of Wheeling Jesuit University: Senate agreed to S. Res. 342, congratulating the women’s volleyball

team of Wheeling Jesuit University on winning the Division II National Championship. **Page S8907**

Adjournment Resolution: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 104, providing for the sine die adjournment of the first session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress. **Pages S8907–08**

Coast Guard Authorization Act: Senate passed H.R. 4188, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S8908**

Perdue (for Thune) Amendment No. 2941, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8908**

Mental Health Awareness and Improvement Act: Senate passed S. 1893, to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S8908–13**

Perdue (for Murkowski) Amendment No. 2942, to increase amounts authorized to be appropriated for youth suicide early intervention and prevention strategies grants. **Page S8910**

Perdue (for Lee) Amendment No. 2943, to provide for improved reporting. **Page S8910**

Measures Considered:

Federal Reserve Transparency Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2232, to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States. **Page S8875**

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, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Friday, December 18, 2015, a vote on cloture will occur at 2:30 p.m., on Tuesday, January 12, 2016. **Page S8875**

House Messages:

Consolidated Appropriations Act: By 65 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. 339), Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendments of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 2029, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, after taking action on the following motions proposed thereto: **Pages S8844–59**

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

By 72 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. 336), 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 concur in the House amendments to the Senate amendment to the bill. **Page S8858**

By 31 yeas to 67 nays (Vote No. 337), Senate failed to table the first House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill. **Page S8858**

By 73 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. 338), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to waive all applicable sections of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and applicable budget resolutions, with respect to the House message to accompany the bill. Subsequently, the point of order that the motion to concur was in violation of section 311(a)(2)(B) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, was not sustained, and thus the point of order fell. **Page S8859**

Appointments:

United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106–398, as amended by Public Law 108–7, and in consultation with the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the re-appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: James M. Talent of Missouri for a term expiring December 31, 2017. **Page S8908**

International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding passage of H.R. 515, to protect children and others from sexual abuse and exploitation, including sex trafficking and sex tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known sex offender is seeking to enter the United States, the committee reported title amendment be agreed to. **Page S8838**

Appointments Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S8908**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the junior Senator from Arkansas and the junior Senator from West Virginia be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Friday, December 18, 2015 through Monday, January 11, 2016. **Page S8908**

Pro Forma—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate stand

adjourned pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 104 until Monday, January 4, 2016, and pursuant to the terms of H. J. Res. 76, that on January 4, 2016, Senate convene at 12 noon for a pro forma session only with no business conducted; provided further, when Senate adjourns on January 4, 2016, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 104, it stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m., on Monday, January 11, 2016.

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Nominations Status Quo—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all the nominations received by the Senate during the 114th Congress, first session, remain in status quo, notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXXI, paragraph 6, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, with the exception of the nominations of Stuart F. Delery, of the District of Columbia, to be Associate Attorney General, and Cono R. Namorato, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

David Malcolm Robinson, of Connecticut, to be Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization.

David Malcolm Robinson, of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Conflict and Stabilization Operations).

Suzette M. Kimball, of West Virginia, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey.

Carlos J. Torres, of Virginia, to be Deputy Director of the Peace Corps.

Shoshana Miriam Lew, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Transportation.

Patrick Joseph Murphy, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of the Army.

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Morton H. Halperin, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation for a term of two years.

Michael O. Johanns, of Nebraska, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation for a term of three years.

Adam H. Sterling, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Slovak Republic.

Dain Borges, of Puerto Rico, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2020.

Thavolia Glymph, of North Carolina, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2020.

Deborah Wong, of California, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2020.

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Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Adewale Adeyemo, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, which was sent to the Senate on January 16, 2015.

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Nominations Returned to the President: The following nominations were returned to the President failing of confirmation under Senate rule XXXI at the time of the sine die adjournment of the 114th Congress:

Stuart F. Delery, of the District of Columbia, to be Associate Attorney General.

Cono R. Namorato, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

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Messages from the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Measures Read the First Time:

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Enrolled Bills Presented:

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Executive Communications:

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Executive Reports of Committees:

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Additional Cosponsors:

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Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S8885–89

Additional Statements:

Pages S8879–81

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S8889–S8906

Privileges of the Floor:

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Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—339)

Pages S8858 and S8859

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned sine die, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 104, at 4:25 p.m., until 12 noon on Monday, January 4, 2016. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8913.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.