

Tuesday, March 17, 1998

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2083–S2146

Measures Introduced: Twenty-two bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1768–1789, S. Res. 196 and 197, and S. Con. Res. 84. **Pages S2113–14**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

S. 1768, making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters, and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. (S. Rept. No. 105–168)

S. 1769, making supplemental appropriations for the International Monetary Fund for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. (S. Rept. No. 105–169)

Page S2113

Measures Passed:

Honoring Senator McCain/Vietnam POW's: Senate agreed to S. Res. 196, recognizing, and calling on all Americans to recognize, the courage and sacrifice of Senator John McCain and the members of the Armed Forces held as prisoners of war during the Vietnam conflict and stating that the American people will not forget that more than 2,000 members of the Armed Forces remain unaccounted for from the Vietnam conflict and will continue to press for the fullest possible accounting for all such members whose whereabouts are unknown. **Pages S2109–11**

Education Savings Act for Public and Private Schools—Cloture Vote: By 74 yeas to 24 nays (Vote No. 34), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2646, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, and to increase the maximum annual amount of contributions to such accounts. **Page S2094**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for consideration of the bill on Wednesday, March 18, 1998. **Page S2106**

NATO Enlargement: Senate began consideration of Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on

Accession of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic (Treaty Doc. 105–36), with seven declarations and four conditions. **Pages S2106–09, S2111–12**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination: By unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 35 EX), Susan Graber, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Pages S2095–96, S2146

Messages From the House: **Page S2113**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S2114–35**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2135–36**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2138–40**

Notices of Hearings: **Page S2140**

Authority for Committees: **Pages S2140–41**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2141–44**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—35) **Pages S2094–95**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 6:44 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Wednesday, March 18, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record, on pages S2144–45.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

AUTHORIZATION—CHILD NUTRITION

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for child nutrition programs, focusing on the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), after receiving testimony from Shirley R. Watkins, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services; Robert A. Robinson, Director, Food and Agricultural Issues, Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division, General Accounting Office; Denise Ferris, National Association of WIC Directors, and Robert Greenstein, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, both of Washington, D.C.; Joan Trendall, Marion County Health

Department, Indianapolis, Indiana, on behalf of the American Dietetic Association; Joseph Terrance Williams, Wyoming State Electronic Benefits Transfer Program and Western Governor's Association Health Passport Project, Cheyenne; and A.K. Hawley Botchford, Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida, Fort Myers.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

An original bill (S. 1768) making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters, and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998; and

An original bill (S. 1769) making supplemental appropriations for the International Monetary Fund for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.

APPROPRIATIONS—AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999, receiving testimony in behalf of their respective activities from Catherine Woteki, Under Secretary, and Thomas J. Billy, Administrator, both of the Food Safety and Inspection Service, Michael V. Dunn, Assistant Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, and Terry L. Medley, Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, all of the Department of Agriculture.

Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, March 24.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of David R. Oliver, of Idaho, to be Deputy Under Secretary for Acquisition and Technology, Sue Bailey, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, and Paul J. Hooper, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research, Development and Acquisition, all of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Seapower held hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on ship acquisition, receiving testimony from Jerry M. Hultin, Under Secretary of the Navy; John W. Douglass, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition; Vice Adm. Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Resources; Lt.

Gen. John E. Rhodes, USMC, Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

1999 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee began mark up of a proposed concurrent resolution setting forth the fiscal year 1999 budget for the Federal Government, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again tomorrow.

GLOBAL TOBACCO SETTLEMENT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee resumed hearings on proposed legislation to reform and restructure the processes by which tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed, to prevent the use of tobacco products by minors, and to redress the adverse health effects of tobacco use, receiving testimony from Senator Jeffords; William B. Schultz, Deputy Commissioner for Policy, and Mitchell Zeller, Associate Commissioner, both of the Food and Drug Administration, and Michael Eriksen, Director, Office on Smoking and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; Joe Garagiola, Romano and Associates Inc., Columbia, Maryland, on behalf of Oral Health America; Gregory N. Connolly, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Boston; and Richard H. Verheij, UST Inc., Washington, D.C., on behalf of United States Tobacco Company.

Hearings continue on Thursday, March 19.

PRIVACY IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights concluded hearings to examine the use of encryption and mandatory access in digital communications, focusing on proposals to balance privacy rights with law enforcement concerns, after receiving testimony from Representative Goodlatte; Robert S. Litt, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice; James J. Fotis, Law Enforcement Alliance of America, Falls Church, Virginia; Thomas Parenty, SyBase, Inc., Emeryville, California; Kathleen M. Sullivan, Stanford Law School, Stanford, California, and Richard A. Epstein, University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, Illinois, all on behalf of Americans for Computer Privacy; Bill Weidemann, RedCreek Communications, Newark, California; Cindy A. Cohn, McGlashan and Sarrail, San Mateo, California; and Tim D. Casey, MCI Communications, Washington, D.C.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information resumed hearings to examine the need for a national strategy and policies to protect the critical infrastructures of the United States, receiving testimony from former Senator Nunn and Jamie S. Gorelick, each a Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee to the President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection; and Lt. Gen. David J. Kelley, Director, and Brig. Gen. James Hylton, Director of Operations, both of the Defense Information Systems Agency, Department of Defense.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

RETIREMENT SECURITY

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee held hearings to examine retirement security and the need for defined pension plans for American workers, focusing on S. 957, to establish a Pension ProSave system which improves the retirement income security of millions of American workers by encouraging employers to make pension contributions on behalf of employees, by facilitating pension portability, by preserving and increasing retirement savings, and by simplifying pension law, receiving testimony from Representative Pomeroy; David M. Strauss, Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation; Ron E. Merolli, National Life of Vermont, Montpelier; James E. Turpin, Turpin and Associates, Albuquerque, New Mexico, on behalf of the American

Society of Pension Actuaries; John M. Kimpel, Fidelity Investments, Boston, Massachusetts, on behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Joseph S. Perkins, American Association of Retired Persons, Danvers, Massachusetts; Michael Calabrese, Center for National Policy, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Pensions 2000 Committee; and Michael Garretson, Milwaukee, Oregon, on behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-USA.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine the medical, chemical, and biological warfare preparedness program of the Department of Defense, focusing on lessons learned from Persian Gulf War illnesses, after receiving testimony from Bernard Rostker, Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary for Gulf War Illnesses, and Gary A. Christopherson, Acting Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, both of the Department of Defense; Rear Adm. Michael L. Cowan, Deputy Director for Medical Readiness, Joint Staff; Randolph F. Wykoff, Associate Commissioner for Operations, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Mark E. Gebicke, Director, Military Operations and Capabilities Issues, National Security and International Affairs Division, General Accounting Office; and Melissa A. McDiarmid, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 3467–3482; 1 private bill, H.R. 3483; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 244–246 and H. Res. 386–387, were introduced.

Pages H1235–36

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 2864, to require the Secretary of Labor to establish a program under which employers may consult with State officials respecting compliance with occupational safety and health requirements, amended (H. Rept. 105–444);

H.R. 2877, to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, amended (H. Rept. 105–445);

H.R. 3096, to correct a provision relating to termination of benefits for convicted persons, amended (H. Rept. 105–446);

H.R. 3039, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to guarantee loans to provide multifamily transitional housing for homeless veterans, and, amended (H. Rept. 105–447);

H.R. 3213, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify enforcement of veterans' employment rights with respect to a State as an employer or a private employer, to extend veterans' employment and reemployment rights to members of the uniformed services employed abroad by United States companies, amended (H. Rept. 105–448);

H. Res. 388 providing for consideration of H.R. 2870, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to facilitate protection of tropical forests through debt reduction with developing countries with tropical forests (H. Rept. 105–449); and