

Wednesday, May 13, 1998

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Protection Act.
Senate passed Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act.
The House passed H.R. 10, Financial Services Competition Act of 1997.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4749–S4843

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2071–2078 and S. Res. 230. **Page S4823**

Measures Passed:

Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Protection Act: By a unanimous vote of 100 yeas (Vote No. 132), Senate passed S. 1244, to amend title 11, United States Code, to protect certain charitable contributions, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S4769–72**

Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act: By 79 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. 135), Senate passed S. 1260, to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to limit the conduct of securities class actions under State law, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and taking action on amendments to be proposed thereto, as follows: **Pages S4778–S4816**

Adopted:

Sarbanes Amendment No. 2397, to preserve the right of a State or a political subdivision thereof or a State pension plan from bringing actions under the securities laws. **Page S4811**

Rejected:

Sarbanes/Bryan/Johnson Amendment No. 2395, to provide that the appropriate State statute of limitations shall apply to certain actions removed to Federal court. (By 69 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. 133), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S4802–07, S4810**

Sarbanes/Bryan/Johnson Amendment No. 2396, to define a class action. (By 72 yeas to 27 nays, one responding present, (Vote No. 134), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S4807–11**

Withdrawn:

Feingold Amendment No. 2394, to amend certain Federal civil rights statutes to prevent the involuntary application of arbitration to claims that arise from unlawful employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability. **Pages S4792–94**

Biden Amendment No. 2398, regarding fraud as a predicated offense. **Pages S4811–12**

Authorizing Use of Capitol Grounds: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 255, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. **Page S4842**

Authorizing Use of Capitol Grounds: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 262, authorizing the 1998 District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run to be run through the Capitol Grounds. **Page S4842**

Authorizing Use of Capitol Grounds: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 263, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the seventeenth annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service. **Page S4842**

Authorizing Production of Records: Senate agreed to S. Res. 230, authorizing the production of records by the Select Committee on Intelligence. **Page S4842**

Missile Defense System: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1873, to state the policy of the United States regarding the deployment of a missile defense system capable of defending the territory of the United States against limited ballistic missile attack. **Pages S4749–69**

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

By 59 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 131), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to

close further debate on the motion to proceed to the consideration of the bill. **Pages S4768–69**

Department of Defense Authorizations: Senate began consideration of S. 2057, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, and to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces. **Pages S4817–18**

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Thursday, May 14, 1998. **Page S4843**

IRS Reform—Conferees: Pursuant to the order of May 6, 1998, the Chair appointed conferees on H.R. 2676, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restructure and reform the Internal Revenue Service, as follows: from the Committee on Finance: Senators Roth, Chafee, Grassley, Hatch, Murkowski, Nickles, Gramm, Moynihan, Baucus, Graham, Breaux, and Kerrey; and from the Committee on Governmental Affairs: Senators Thompson, Brownback, Cochran, Durbin, and Cleland.

Page S4841

Removal of Injunction of Secrecy: The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaty:

Treaty with St. Vincent and the Grenadines on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (Treaty Doc. 105–44).

The treaty was transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and was ordered to be printed. **Pages S4841–42**

Messages From the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting the report concerning the Indian nuclear tests on May 11, 1998; referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM–125). **Page S4820**

Transmitting the report concerning the national emergency with respect to Iran; referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–126). **Page S4820**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Arthur J. Tarnow, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

George Caram Steeh, III, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan. **Page S4843**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nomination:

Jacob Joseph Lew, of New York, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget. **Page S4843**

Messages From the President: **Page S4820**

Messages From the House: **Pages S4820–21**

Measures Placed on Calendar: **Page S4821**

Petitions: **Pages S4821–23**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S4823–34**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4834–35**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S4835–36**

Authority for Committees: **Pages S4836–37**

Additional Statements: **Pages S4837–41**

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: **Pages S4818–19**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—135) **Pages S4768–69, S4772, S4810–11, S4815**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:37 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, May 14, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4843.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense, receiving testimony from William S. Cohen, Secretary of Defense.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, May 20.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Regulatory Relief concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1999 for the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund to expand access to credit and financial services in low income urban, rural, and Native American communities, after receiving testimony from former Representative Floyd Flake; John D. Hawke, Jr., Under Secretary for Domestic Finance, and Ellen W. Lazar, Director, CDFI Fund, both of the Department of the Treasury; Judy A. England-Joseph, Director, Housing and Community Development Issues, Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division, General Accounting Office; Martin Eakes, Self-Help, Durham, North Carolina; and Mark Pinsky, National Community Capital Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

WIRELESS BUREAU

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communications held oversight hearings on the Federal Communications Commission, focusing on activities of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, receiving testimony from Daniel B. Phythyon, Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, FCC.

Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, May 19.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following measures:

S. 1403, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and Administration of the General Services Administration to identify and convey historic light stations to appropriate Federal and non-Federal entities for historic preservation, recreation, park and cultural purposes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 1460, to allow for election of the Delegate from Guam by other than separate ballot, and to provide a five-year extension to the supplemental food assistance program for Enewetak and adjust the program to reflect population changes;

H.R. 1779, to make a minor adjustment in the exterior boundary of the Devils Backbone Wilderness in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, to exclude a small parcel of land containing improvements;

S. 1468, to provide for the conveyance of one acre of land from Santa Fe National Forest to the Village of Jemez Springs New Mexico, as the site of a fire sub-station, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1510, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain land known as the Old Coyote Administrative Site to the county of Rio Arriba, New Mexico, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1683, to transfer administrative jurisdiction over part of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Agriculture for inclusion in the Wenatchee National Forest in the State of Washington, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1807, to transfer administrative jurisdiction over certain parcels of public domain land in Lake County, Oregon, to facilitate management of the land, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 1439, to facilitate the sale of certain land in Tahoe National Forest in the State of California to Placer County, California;

S. 1752, to convey certain administrative sites and use the proceeds for the acquisition of office sites and the acquisition, construction, or improvement of offices and support buildings for the Coconino National Forest, Kaibab National Forest, Prescott National Forest, and Tonto National Forest in the State of Arizona, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S.J. Res. 41, to approve the location of a proposed memorial to Martin Luther King Jr., in the District of Columbia;

S. 638, to provide for the expeditious completion of the previously mandated Federal acquisition of private mineral and geothermal interests within Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument in the State of Washington, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 887, to establish the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program within the National Park Service to produce and designate educational materials and to enter into cooperative agreements to further the interpretation and understanding of the Underground Railroad.

TREATIES

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings on the Montreal Protocol No. 4 to Amend the Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air signed at Warsaw on October 12, 1929, as amended by the Protocol done at The Hague on September 8, 1955 (Treaty Doc. 95-2 B), the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961, as Revised at Geneva on November 10, 1972, on October 23, 1978, and on March 19, 1991, and signed by the United States on October 25, 1991 (Treaty Doc. 104-17), the Grains Trade Convention and Food Aid Convention Constituting the International Grains Agreement, 1995 signed by the United States on June 26, 1995 (Treaty Doc. 105-4), Convention on the International Maritime Organization signed at Geneva, March 6, 1948 (the IMO Convention) (Treaty Doc. 104-36), and Trademark Law Treaty done at Geneva on October 27, 1994, with Regulations and signed by the United States on October 28, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 105-35), after receiving testimony from Alan P. Larson, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs.

INDIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs held hearings to examine India's nuclear weapons potential, focusing on United States and India relations after India's recent series of underground nuclear weapons tests, including the President's proposed economic sanctions

against India for conducting these tests, receiving testimony from former Representative Stephen Solarz; Karl F. Inderfurth, Assistant Secretary for South Asian Affairs, and Robert J. Einhorn, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs, both of the Department of State; R. James Woolsey, former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; and Fred C. Ikle, former Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

RETIREMENT COVERAGE ERROR CORRECTION ACT

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services concluded hearings on S. 1710, to provide for the correction of certain Federal retirement coverage errors (with the exception of errors in effect for a period of less than three years of employee service after December 31, 1986) concerning: (1) Social Security-only covered employees who were erroneously CSRS (Civil Service Retirement System) covered or CSRS Offset covered; (2) Social Security-only covered employees not eligible to elect FERS (Federal Employees Retirement System) who were erroneously FERS covered; (3) CSRS covered, CSRS Offset covered, and FERS eligible Social Security-only covered employees who were erroneously FERS covered without an election; (4) FERS covered current and former employees who were erroneously CSRS covered or CSRS Offset covered; and (5) annuitants and survivors in cases where FERS covered employees were erroneously CSRS covered or CSRS Offset covered, after receiving testimony from William E. Flynn, III, Associate Director for Retirement and Insurance, Office of Personnel Management; Roger W. Mehle, Executive Director, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board; and Dallas L. Salisbury, Employee Benefit Research Institute, and Daniel F. Geisler, American Foreign Service Association, both of Washington, D.C.

TOBACCO SETTLEMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded hearings to examine the constitutionality of proposed legislation to reform and restructure the process by which tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed, to prevent the use of tobacco prod-

ucts by minors, and to redress the adverse health effects of tobacco use, after receiving testimony from David W. Ogden, Counselor to the Attorney General, Department of Justice; Colorado Attorney General Gale Norton, Denver; David C. Vladeck, Public Citizen Litigation Group, Washington, D.C.; and Burt Neuborne, New York University School of Law, New York, New York, on behalf of the Association of National Advertisers, Inc.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

H.R. 2614, to improve the reading and literacy skills of children and families by improving in-service instructional practices for teachers who teach reading, to stimulate the development of more high-quality family literacy programs, to support extended learning-time opportunities for children, and to ensure that children can read well and independently not later than third grade, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Douglas S. Eakeley, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation, Robert H. Beatty, Jr., of West Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, Raymond L. Bramucci, of New Jersey, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training, Rita R. Colwell, of Maryland, to be Director of the National Science Foundation, Thomas Ehrlich, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service, Seth D. Harris, of New York, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, William James Ivey, of Tennessee, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts, Dorothy A. Johnson, of Michigan, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service, Cyril Kent McGuire, of New Jersey, to be Assistant Secretary of Education for Educational Research and Improvement, and Jeanne Hurley Simon, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 15 public bills, H.R. 3850–3864; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 276 and H. Res. 429, were introduced. Page H3246

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 3504, to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and to further define the criteria for capital repair and operation and maintenance, amended (H. Doc. 105–533); and

H. Res. 430, providing for consideration of H.R. 2431, to establish an Office of Religious Persecution Monitoring, to provide for the imposition of sanctions against countries engaged in a pattern of religious persecution (H. Doc. 105–534). Page H3246

Recess: The House recessed at 9:05 a.m. and reconvened at 10:36 a.m. Pages H3109–16

Former Members of Congress Association Annual Meeting: Agreed that the proceedings during the recess be printed in the Congressional Record and that all Members and former Members who spoke during the recess have the privilege of revising and extending their remarks. Page H3117

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 429, electing Representative Parker to the Committee on Education and the Workforce; Representative Lewis of Kentucky to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight; Representative Burr of North Carolina to the Committee on International Relations; and Representative Bono to the Committees on Judiciary and National Security. Pages H3116–17

Presidential Messages: Read the following messages from the President:

Imposition of Sanctions on India: Message wherein he transmitted his report concerning his actions to impose sanctions on India—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 105–250); and Page H3119

National Emergency Re Iran: Message wherein he transmitted his report concerning the National Emergency with respect to Iran—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 105–252); Pages H3222–23

Financial Services Competition Act of 1997: The House passed H.R. 10, to enhance competition in the financial services industry by providing a prudential framework for the affiliation of banks, securities firms, and other financial service providers by a

recorded vote of 214 ayes to 213 noes, Roll No. 151. Pages H3132–H3222

On demand for a separate vote, agreed to the Metcalf amendment that allows the retention of “Federal” in the name of a depository institution that is converted from a Federal savings association to a national bank or a State bank by a yeas and nays vote of 256 yeas to 166 nays, Roll No. 150. The amendment was agreed to earlier in the Committee of the Whole by a division vote of 14 to 7.

Page H3221

Agreed To:

The Bliley amendment that requires each financial regulatory authority to review consumer fee disclosures for accuracy, simplicity, and completeness; provides the SEC with backup authority to inspect any wholesale financial holding company; preserves the authority of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; allows Federal regulators to jointly preempt State law that afford less consumer protection than Federal regulations; clarifies language to preempt state laws which prevent or significantly interfere with national bank activities or affiliations to make it more consistent with current law and the Barnett Bank of Marion County Supreme Court case; preserves current legal standards governing bank insurance sales; provides for interagency consultation to encourage coordination and sharing of confidential information to improve the supervision of financial holding companies and affiliated institutions; permits banks to charge unlimited fees for services in their trust department including stock purchase plans as long as there are no brokerage commissions; preserves the authority of the FTC and Attorney General in antitrust regulation; clarifies the jurisdiction of the FTC and preserves the authority of Federal banking agencies; clarifies that certain acquisitions of insurance companies and securities firms are subject to the Hart-Scott-Rodino antitrust review; requires an annual GAO report on market concentration in the financial services industry and its impact on consumers; clarifies the type of derivative instruments that can be sold by banks; specifies that a qualified investor includes the government of any foreign country; requires a study by the Secretary of the Treasury, Federal banking agencies, and the SEC on the extent that services are being provided as intended by the Community Reinvestment Act; and requires an interim report from the FTC on its ongoing study on privacy issues (agreed to by a recorded vote of 407 ayes to 11 noes, Roll No. 143);

Pages H3173–82

The Leach substitute amendment to the Roukema amendment that eliminates the 5 percent commercial basket for financial holding companies and allows a 15 percent market basket to sunset after 10 years for certain grandfathered financial holding companies (agreed to by a recorded vote of 229 ayes to 193 noes, Roll No. 146); **Pages H3209–13, H3215**

The Roukema amendment, as amended, that eliminates the 5 percent commercial basket for financial holding companies and allows a 15 percent market basket to sunset after 10 years for certain grandfathered financial holding companies (agreed to by a recorded vote of 218 ayes to 204 noes, Roll No. 147); **Pages H3204–09, H3216**

The Kingston amendment that requires a GAO study of the economic impact that enactment will have on financial institutions with total assets of \$100 million or less (agreed to by a recorded vote of 404 ayes to 18 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 148); **Pages H3213–14, H3216–17**

The Roukema amendment that requires a study by the FDIC on the Bank Insurance Fund and the Savings Association Insurance Fund with respect to size, risk, concentration levels of funds by number and geographic area, and issues and findings related to the planned merger of the funds (agreed to by a recorded vote of 406 ayes to 13 noes, Roll No. 149); **Pages H3214–15, H3217–18**

The Sanders amendment that requires a GAO study regarding the efficacy and benefits of uniformly limiting the fees associated with acquiring financial products; **Page H3218**

The Metcalf amendment that allows the retention of “Federal” in the name of a depository institution that is converted from a Federal savings association to a national bank or a state bank (agreed to by a division vote of 14 to 7); and **Pages H3218–21**

The Moran amendment that provides a 5 year sunset on the requirement that a bank purchase an insurance agency in order to engage in new insurance activities in a new state. **Page H3220**

Rejected:

The LaFalce amendment that sought to authorize the subsidiaries of banks to engage in all financial activities, except for insurance underwriting and real estate development, through an operating subsidiary structure; ensures that consumer protection regulations accede to the stronger of state or Federal consumer protection laws; requires an annual GAO report on market concentration and its impact on consumer and interim reports from the FTC on its ongoing study on consumer privacy issues (rejected by a recorded vote of 115 ayes to 306 noes with Roll No. 144); and **Pages H3182–92**

The Baker amendment that sought to eliminate Community Reinvestment Act requirements for

FDIC insured depository institutions with total assets of less than \$100 million; establishes a three year sunset on the requirement that a bank acquire an insurance agency that is at least two years old and provides that state insurance commissioners can exempt a bank from this requirement; requires a study by the Comptroller of the Currency in conjunction with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners on the effectiveness of section 104(b)(2)(A) relating to the use of the Illinois law in establishing a safe harbor for the regulation of insurance sales and solicitation activity; prohibits the acquisition of a unitary thrift by an unregulated nonfinancial company; and authorizes subsidiaries of national banks to engage in certain financial activities (rejected by a recorded vote of 140 ayes to 281 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 145); **Pages H3192–H3203**

H. Res. 428, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a yea and nay vote of 311 yeas to 105 nays, Roll No. 142. Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part 1 of H. Rept. 105–531, the report accompanying the rule, was considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment. **Pages H3122–32**

Mandates Information Act of 1998: The House completed general debate and began consideration of amendments to H.R. 3534, to improve congressional deliberation on proposed Federal private sector mandates. Consideration of amendments will resume on Thursday, May 14. **Pages H3223–31**

Agreed to the Davis of Virginia amendment that clarifies the definition of Federal intergovernmental mandates to insure that the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act applies to Medicaid and other entitlement program mandates. **Pages H3229–31**

Earlier the House agreed to H. Res. 426, the rule that is providing for consideration of the bill by a voice vote. **Pages H3119–22**

Senate Messages: Message received today from the Senate appears on page H3116.

Referral: S. Con. Res. 75, honoring the sesquicentennial of Wisconsin statehood, was referred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight. **Page H3244**

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H3247–58.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea and nay votes and eight recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H3131–32, H3181–82, H3192, H3203, H3215, H3216, H3216–17, H3217–18, H3221, and H3221–22. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 9:00 a.m. and adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

Committee Meetings

OVERSIGHT—EPA ACTIVITIES—ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Forestry, Resource Conservation, and Research and the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry held a joint oversight hearing on EPA activities related to concentrated animal feeding operations. Testimony was heard from Representative Miller of California; the following officials of the EPA: Michael Cook, Director, Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water; and Elaine Stanley, Director, Office of Compliance, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance; Pearlie Reed, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA; John Baker, Commissioner, Natural Resources Conservation Commission, State of Texas; and Peter Rooney, Secretary, Environmental Protection Agency, State of California.

OVERSIGHT—IS FHA LIMITING CHOICES FOR HOME FINANCE?

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development held an oversight hearing on Is FHA Limiting Choices for Home Finance? An Examination of Fair Housing Compliance. Testimony was heard from Representative Davis of Illinois; and public witnesses.

FUNDING SPECIAL EDUCATION—GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Held a hearing on First Things First: Review of the Federal Government's Commitment to Funding Special Education. Testimony was heard from Representatives Bass and McCarthy of New York; and public witnesses.

CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Failed to obtain two-thirds Committee majority to grant immunity to four individuals regarding campaign fundraising investigation.

KYOTO PROTOCOL

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on the Kyoto Protocol: Problems with U.S. Sovereignty and the Lack of Developing Country Participation. Testimony was heard from Representative Knollenberg; Janet Yellen, Chair, Council of Economic Advisors; Stuart Eizenstat, Under Secretary, Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere approved for full Committee action amended the following resolutions: H. Con. Res. 254, calling on the Government of Cuba to extradite to the United States convicted felon Joanne Chesimard and all other individuals who have fled the United States to avoid prosecution or confinement for criminal offenses and who are currently living freely in Cuba; and H. Res. 421, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives deploring the tragic and senseless murder of Bishop Juan Jose Gerardi, calling on the Government of Guatemala to expeditiously bring those responsible for the crime to justice, and calling on the people of Guatemala to reaffirm their commitment to continue to implement the peace accords without interruption.

BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Began markup of H.R. 3150, Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998. Will continue tomorrow.

OVERSIGHT—NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION

Committee on Resources: Held an oversight hearing on the National Forest Foundation. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Roger C. Viadero, Inspector General; and Michael Dombeck, Chief, Forest Service; and a public witness.

FREEDOM FROM RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a structured rule providing 1 hour of debate on H.R. 2431, Freedom From Religious Persecution Act. The rule makes in order as an original bill for amendment purposes an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 3806, as modified by the amendments printed in part 1 of the report of the Committee on Rules. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in part 2 of the report of the Committee on Rules. The rule provides that amendments will be considered only in the order specified in the report, may be offered only by the Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report, equally divided between a proponent and an opponent and are not subject to amendment or a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment printed in

the Rules Committee report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Gilman; Representatives Smith of New Jersey, Manzullo, Brady, Smith of Texas and Watt of North Carolina.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Committee on Science: Ordered reported amended the following bills: H.R. 2544, Technology Transfer Commercialization Act of 1997; H.R. 3007, Commission on the Advancement of Women in Science, Engineering, and Technology Development Act; H.R. 3332, Next Generation Internet Research Act of 1998; and H.R. 3824, amending the Fastener Quality Act to exempt from its coverage certain fasteners approved by the Federal Aviation Administration for use in aircraft.

The Committee also considered pending Committee business.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads concluded hearings on the Surface Transportation Board Reauthorization: Rates, Access and Remedies. Testimony was heard from Linda J. Morgan, Chairwoman, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D460)

H.J. Res. 102, expressing the sense of the Congress on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel and reaffirming the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the United States and Israel. Signed May 11, 1998. (P.L. 105-175)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1998

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, to hold hearings on the Department of Agriculture's Year 2000 compliance, 9 a.m., SR-332.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, to hold hearings to examine the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Gang Resistance, Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) program, 9:30 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, to hold hearings to examine the Employee Retirement Income Security Act's (ERISA) preemption, focusing on remedies for denied or delayed health claims, 12:30 p.m., SD-138.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation, to hold hearings on titles IX and X of S. 1693, to renew, reform, reinvigorate, and protect the National Park System, and S. 1614, to require a permit for the making of motion picture, television program, or other forms of commercial visual depiction in a unit of the National Park System or National Wildlife Refuge System, 2 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance, business meeting, to mark up S. 1415, 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, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations, to hold hearings to review the United States interest at the June 1998 U.S.-China Summit, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, to hold hearings to examine United States policy toward Iran, 1:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Governmental Affairs, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine the safety of food imports, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Full Committee, business meeting, to consider pending calendar business, 2 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary, business meeting, to consider pending calendar business, 10:15 a.m., SD-226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings on pending nominations, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business, to hold hearings on the nomination of Fred P. Hochberg, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 9:30 a.m., SR-428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence, to hold closed hearings on intelligence matters, 3:30 p.m., SH-219.

NOTICE

For a listing of Senate committee meetings scheduled ahead, see page E856 in today's Record.

House

Committee on Commerce, to mark up the following measures: H. Con. Res. 171, declaring the memorial service sponsored by the National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Memorial Service Board of Directors to honor emergency medical services personnel to be the "National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service"; H.R. 2202, National Bone Marrow Registry Reauthorization Act of 1998; and H.R. 3849, Internet Tax Freedom Act, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing on China Trade Policy, 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, to mark up the following bills:

H.R. 2869, to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to exempt safety and health assessments, audits, and reviews conducted by or for an employer from enforcement action under such Act; H.R. 2873, to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970; H.R. 2661, Sound Scientific Practices Act; and H.R. 3725, Postal Service Health and Safety Promotion Act, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on the Status of Efforts to Identify Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses: Tumor Data, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, to mark up the following resolutions: H. Res. 392, relating to the importance of Japanese-American relations and the urgent need for Japan to more effectively address its economic and financial problems and open its markets by eliminating informal barriers to trade and investment, thereby making a more effective contribution to leading the Asian region out of its current financial crisis, insuring against a global recession, and reinforcing regional stability and security; and H. Res. 404, commemorating 100 years of relations between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines; 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, to continue markup of H.R. 3150, Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998, and to mark up the following bills: H.R. 2604, Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Protection Act of 1997; and H.R. 3736, Workforce Improvement and Protection Act of 1998, 10:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, oversight hearing on Congressional Recognition for Acts of Exceptional Valor by Public Safety Officers, 9 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, to consider H.R. 3616, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999, 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing on Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, hearing on H.R. 2760, Disabled Sportsmen's Access Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, oversight hearing on Forest Health in the Rocky Mountain West, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Science, oversight hearing on Communicating Science and Engineering in a Sound-Bite World, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technology and the Subcommittee on Management, Information, and Technology of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, joint oversight hearing on Millennium Short Circuit: The Y2K Effect on Energy Utilities, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Empowerment, hearing on how to best obtain drug-free work places, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on the Status of Aviation Security efforts with a focus on the National Safe Skies Alliance and Passenger Profiling Criteria, 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing on Criminal Liability for Oil Pollution, 10 a.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on the GAO report of the Inspector General investigation of an alleged cover-up of deaths at the Columbia, Missouri VA Medical Center in 1992, and an examination of VA's Development of a quality assurance/risk management reporting system, 9:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 3828, Veterans Medicare Access Improvement Act of 1998; and H.R. 3809, Drug Free Borders Act of 1998, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 14

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, May 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the recognition of three Senators for speeches and the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 10:30 a.m.), Senate will consider S. 2057, Department of Defense Authorizations.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete Consideration of H.R. 3534, Mandates Information Act of 1998 (Open Rule, 1 hour of general debate); and
Consideration of H.R. 2431, Freedom From Religious Persecution Act of 1998 (Structured Rule, 1 hour of general debate).

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