

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 1828, Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S14379–S14462*

**Measures Introduced:** Five bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1845–1849, and S. Res. 264–265. **Page S14451**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 1824, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to reauthorize the Overseas Private Investment Corporation. (S. Rept. No. 108–194).

S. 950, to allow travel between the United States and Cuba, with an amendment. **Page S14451**

#### Measures Passed:

***Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act:*** By 89 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. 445), Senate passed H.R. 1828, to halt Syrian support for terrorism, end its occupation of Lebanon, stop its development of weapons of mass destruction, cease its illegal importation of Iraqi oil and illegal shipments of weapons and other military items to Iraq, and by so doing hold Syria accountable for the serious international security problems it has caused in the Middle East, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S14403–17**

Lugar/Boxer/Santorum Amendment No. 2148, to make technical and other corrections. **Page S14407**

***Veterans Day, 2003:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 264, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding Veterans Day 2003. **Pages S14458–59**

***Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities Prevention Act:*** Senate passed S. 286, to revise and extend the Birth Defects Prevention Act of 1998, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S14459–61**

Frist (for Bond) Amendment No. 2149, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S14461**

***Recognizing Southern California Firefighters:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 265, recognizing and honoring the firefighters and other public servants who responded to the devastating outbreak of wildfires in southern California in October 2003. **Pages S14456, S14461–62**

***District of Columbia Military Retirement Equity Act:*** Committee on Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3054, to amend the Policemen and Firemen's Retirement and Disability Act to permit military service previously performed by members and former members of the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, the Fire Department of the District of Columbia, the United States Park Police, and the United States Secret Service to count as creditable service for purposes of calculating retirement annuities payable to such members upon payment of a contribution by such members, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S14462**

***VA–HUD Appropriations Act:*** Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2861, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and then began consideration of the bill. **Page S14458**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, November 12, 2003. **Page S14462**

***National Defense Authorization Act—Conference Report:*** Senate began consideration of the conference report on H.R. 1588, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2004 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 S14417–41**

Prior to this action, by 87 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 446), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the conference report. **Page S14417**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the conference report at 2:15 p.m., on Wednesday, November 12, 2003, with 20 minutes of debate prior to a vote on adoption of the conference report. **Page S14458**

**Military Construction Appropriations—Conference Report:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that following the vote on adoption of the conference report on H.R. 1588, National Defense Authorization Act (listed above), on Wednesday, November 12, 2003, Senate will then vote on adoption of the conference report on H.R. 2559, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004. **Page S14458**

**Measures Returned to the Calendar** (pursuant to the motion to proceed to H.R. 2861 being agreed to): **Page S14458**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S14451–52**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S14452–56**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S14450–51**

**Privilege of the Floor:** **Page S14458**

**Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—446) **Pages S14416, S14417**

**Adjournment:** Senate met at 10:46 a.m., and adjourned at 9:03 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, November 12, 2003. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S14462.)

## Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. It will meet at 2 p.m. Wednesday, November 12 in pro forma session.

## Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2003

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### Senate

*Committee on Armed Services:* to hold a closed briefing to examine ongoing military operations and areas of key concern around the world, 4 p.m., SR–222.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Subcommittee on Securities and Investment, to hold hearings to examine the Financial Accounting Standards Board and small business growth, 2 p.m., SD–538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* business meeting to consider pending Calendar business, time to be announced, S–216, Capitol.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine state use of tobacco settlement funds, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* business meeting to consider S. 1072, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and the nomination of Rixio Enrique Medina, of Oklahoma, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

*Committee on Governmental Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Scott J. Bloch, of Kansas, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel; to be immediately followed by a hearing on S. 1358, to amend chapter 23 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the disclosure of information protected from prohibited personnel practices, require a statement in non-disclosure policies, forms, and agreements that such policies, forms, and agreements conform with certain disclosure protections, provide certain authority for the Special Counsel, 2 p.m., SD–342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine judicial and executive nominations, 10 a.m., SD–226.

#### House

No committee meetings are scheduled.

#### Joint Meetings

*Conference:* meeting of conferees on H.R. 2989, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, 5 p.m., HC–5, Capitol.