

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S12149–S12284

Measures Introduced: Five bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1951–1955, and S. Res. 294–297. **Pages S12237–38**

Measures Reported:

S. 1953, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to protect the retirement security of American workers by ensuring that pension benefits are funded and that pension assets are adequately diversified and by providing workers with adequate access to, and information about, their pension plans. (S. Rept. No. 109–174) **Page S12236**

Measures Passed:

Arrest of Sanjar Umarov: Senate agreed to S. Res. 295, expressing the sense of the Senate on the arrest of Sanjar Umarov in Uzbekistan. **Pages S12279–80**

Honoring Dr. Richard Errett Smalley: Senate agreed to S. Res. 296, honoring the life of and expressing the condolences of the Senate on the passing of Dr. Richard Errett Smalley. **Page S12280**

Gaylord Nelson Wilderness: Senate agreed to S. Res. 297, marking the dedication of the Gaylord Nelson Wilderness within the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. **Pages S12280–81**

Budget Reconciliation: Senate continued consideration of S. 1932, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202(a) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006 (H. Con. Res. 95), taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S12149–S12219**

Adopted:

Gregg Amendment No. 2392, to provide that the language on pages 41, beginning on line 3 through line 11, entitled Amendments to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, be stricken. **Pages S12210–11**

Pending:

Gregg (for Frist/Gregg) Amendment No. 2347, to provide amounts to address influenza and newly emerging pandemics. **Page S12149**

Conrad Amendment No. 2351, to fully reinstate the pay-as-you-go requirement through 2010. **Pages S12149, S12217–19**

Enzi Modified Amendment No. 2352, to provide elementary and secondary education assistance to students and schools impacted by Hurricane Katrina and to lower origination fees. **Pages S12149, S12212–17**

Lincoln Amendment No. 2356, to provide emergency health care and other relief for survivors of Hurricane Katrina. **Page S12149**

Inhofe/Chambliss Amendment No. 2355, to cap non-defense, non-trust-fund, discretionary spending at the previous fiscal year's level, beginning with fiscal year 2007. **Page S12149**

Nelson (FL) Amendment No. 2357, to hold Medicare beneficiaries harmless for the increase in the 2007 Medicare monthly part B premium that would otherwise occur because of the 2006 increase in payments under the physician fee schedule. **Page S12149**

Cantwell Amendment No. 2358, to strike the title relating to the establishment of an oil and gas leasing program in the Coastal Plain. **Pages S12150–72**

Wyden/Talent Amendment No. 2362 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2358), to enhance the energy security of the United States by prohibiting the exportation of oil and gas produced under leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. **Pages S12172–75**

Grassley Amendment No. 2359, to clarify certain payment limitations applicable to certain payments under title I of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 and section 1101 of the Agricultural Reconciliation Act of 2005 and to partially restore funding to programs reduced by sections 1101, 1201, and 1202 of the Agricultural Reconciliation Act of 2005. **Pages S12175–85**

Bingaman Amendment No. 2365, to prevent a severe reduction in the Federal medical assistance percentage determined for a State for fiscal year 2006 and to extend rebates for prescription drugs to enrollees in Medicaid managed care organizations. **Pages S12185–89**

Byrd Amendment No. 2367, to replace title VIII of the bill with an amendment to section 214(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to impose a fee on employers who hire certain nonimmigrants.

Pages S12189–93

Lott/Lautenberg Amendment No. 2360, to reauthorize Amtrak.

Pages S12193–97

McCain Amendment No. 2370, to move forward the date on which the transition to digital television is to occur.

Pages S12197–S12202

Murray Amendment No. 2372, to provide a 6-month transition period for coverage of prescription drugs under Medicaid for individuals whose drug coverage is to be moved to the Medicare prescription drug program.

Pages S12202–07

Ensign Amendment No. 2368, to cut \$2,000,000,000 from the convertor box subsidy program.

Pages S12207–10

Landrieu Amendment No. 2366, to provide funds for payments to producing States and coastal political subdivisions under the coastal impact assistance program.

Pages S12211–12

A unanimous consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill on Thursday, November 3, 2005, with votes to occur on or in relation to the pending amendments (listed above).

Page S12281

Agriculture Appropriations Conference Report: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006.

Pages S12219–28

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the conference report at 9 a.m., on Thursday, November 3, 2005, with a vote on adoption of the conference report to occur thereon.

Page S12281

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nomination:

Susan C. Schwab, of Maryland, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

Page S12284

Messages From the House:

Page S12235

Measures Referred:

Page S12235

Executive Communications:

Pages S12235–36

Executive Reports of Committees:

Pages S12236–37

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S12238–39

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S12239–53

Additional Statements:

Pages S12234–35

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S12235–79

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S12279

Privileges of the Floor: Page S12279

Adjournment: Senate convened at 8:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:56 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Thursday, November 3, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S12281.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PREPAREDNESS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine funding needs for pandemic influenza preparedness, focusing on vaccines, antivirals, and disease surveillance, public health infrastructure, and risk communication, after receiving testimony from Michael O. Leavitt, Secretary, Julie Gerberding, Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Anthony Fauci, Director, National Institute on Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, and Bruce Gellin, Director, National Vaccine Program Office, all of the Department of Health and Human Services; and John M. Barry, New Orleans, Louisiana.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1063, to promote and enhance public safety and to encourage the rapid deployment of IP-enabled voice services, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Shana L. Dale, of Georgia, to be Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and Mark V. Rosenker, of Maryland, and Kathryn Higgins, of South Dakota, each to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and nomination lists in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Coast Guard.

PUBLIC LANDS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests concluded a hearing to examine S. 1548, to provide for the conveyance of certain Forest Service land to the city of Coffman Cove, Alaska, S. 1541, to protect, conserve, and restore public land administered by the Department of the Interior or the Forest Service and adjacent land through cooperative cost-shared grants to control and mitigate the spread of invasive species, S. 1552, to amend Public Law 97–435 to extend the