

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House agreed to the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 3199, USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005.

The House agreed to the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 3010, Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S13517–S13597

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2096–2104, S. Res. 331–333, and S. Con. Res. 69. **Page S13570**

Measures Passed:

Honoring Former Governor Carroll A. Campbell: Senate agreed to S. Res. 332, honoring the life of former Governor Carroll A. Campbell and expressing the deepest condolences of the Senate to his family. **Page S13593**

Recognizing the Philippines: Senate agreed to S. Res. 333, recognizing the centennial of sustained immigration from the Philippines to the United States and acknowledging the contributions of our Filipino-American community to our country over the last century. **Pages S13593–94**

Settlement Common Stock: Senate passed S. 449, to facilitate shareholder consideration of proposals to make Settlement Common Stock under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act available to missed enrollees, eligible elders, and eligible persons born after December 18, 1971. **Page S13594**

Indian Land Contracts: Senate passed H.R. 327, to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting land within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S13594**

Deficit Reduction Act—Motions to Instruct Conferees: Senate began consideration of the message from the House of Representatives to accompany 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), disagreeing to the amendment of the House, requesting a conference with the House thereon, and taking action on the following motions to instruct Conferees proposed thereto: **Pages S13521–31**

Adopted:

By 64 yeas to 27 nays (Vote No. 351), Senate agreed to Carper Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that any conference report shall not include the provision in the House amendment relating to the reauthorization of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, and insist that Congress enact free standing legislation that builds on the bipartisan Senate Committee on Finance's reported version of the Personal Responsibility and Individual Development for Everyone Act (the PRIDE Act, S. 667) to reauthorize the Nation's welfare-to-work laws. **Pages S13528–29**

By 75 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 352), Senate agreed to Baucus Motion to Instruct Conferees not report a conference report that would impair access to, undermine eligibility for, make unaffordable by increasing beneficiary cost-sharing, adversely affect Medicaid services, or in any way undermine Medicaid's Federal guarantee of health insurance coverage. **Pages S13527–28, S13529–30**

By 66 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. 353), Senate agreed to Harkin Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that any conference report does not contain any cuts to Federal food assistance programs, including the food stamp program established under the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.). **Pages S13527, S13530–31**

Pending:

DeWine Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that any conference report shall not include the provisions contained in section 8701 of the House amendment relating to the repeal of section 754 of the Tariff Act of 1930. **Pages S13522–23**

Kohl Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that any conference report shall not include any of the provisions in the House amendment that reduce funding for the child support program established under part D of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 651 et seq.), and to insist that the conference report shall not include any restrictions on

the ability of States to use Federal child support incentive payments for child support program expenditures that are eligible for Federal matching payments. **Pages S13523–24**

Kennedy Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the Senate provisions increasing need based financial aid in the bill S. 1932, which were fully offset by savings in the bill S. 1932, be included in the final conference report and that the House provisions in the bill H.R. 4241 that impose new fees and costs on students in school and in repayment be rejected in the final conference report. **Pages S13536–37**

Reed Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist on a provision that makes available \$2,920,000,000 for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8621 et seq.), in addition to the \$2,183,000,000 made available for such Act in the Departments of Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006. **Pages S13544–46**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the message from the House to accompany S. 1932 (listed above) at 3:30 p.m., on Thursday, December 15, 2005, with a series of votes to occur on the pending motions to instruct Conferees. **Page S13594**

USA PATRIOT Act—Conference Report: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3199, to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism. **Pages S13546–61**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, December 16, 2005. **Page S13546**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the conference report on Thursday, December 15, 2005, with 2 hours equally divided between the two Leaders or their designees. **Page S13594**

Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Conference Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3010, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, at 9 a.m., on Thursday, December 15, 2005; that following all debate time, the conference report be set aside with the vote on adoption to occur at a time to be determined. **Page S13593**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Patrick Joseph Schiltz, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota.

Jack Zouhary, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, Navy.

Pages S13595–97

Nominations Discharged: The following nominations were discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Stephanie Johnson Monroe, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education, which was sent to the Senate on June 23, 2005, from the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Donald A. Gambatesa, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, United States Agency for International Development, which was sent to the Senate on September 13, 2005, from the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Marilyn Ware, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to Finland, which was sent to the Senate on October 26, 2005, from the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. **Pages S13569–70, S13593**

Messages From the House: **Pages S13567–68**

Measures Referred: **Page S13568**

Executive Communications: **Pages S13568–69**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S13570–72**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S13572–92**

Additional Statements: **Pages S13566–67**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S13592**

Privileges of the Floor: **Pages S13592–93**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—353) **Pages S13529, S13530, S13531**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:45 a.m., and adjourned at 7:59 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Thursday, December 15, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S13594–95.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SPILL PREVENTION CONTROL

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's spill prevention control and countermeasure program, focusing on methods and equipment requirements for non-transportation-related onshore and offshore facilities with a specified aboveground storage capacity, after receiving testimony from Thomas M. Sullivan, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration; Thomas P. Dunne, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency; Brent Cummings, Cummings Oil Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; James Coyne, National Air Transportation Association, Alexandria, Virginia; Richard G. Owen, Geraldine, Montana, on behalf of the Agriculture