

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1549–S1660*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2703–2722, S.J. Res. 28, and S. Res. 473–474. **Pages S1596–97**

#### Measures Passed:

*Calling for Peace in Darfur:* Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 455, calling for peace in Darfur, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1653**

*National Association for the Advancement of Colored People 99th Anniversary:* Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 289, honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 99th anniversary, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S1653–54**

*National Asbestos Awareness Week:* Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 462, designating the first week of April 2008 as “National Asbestos Awareness Week”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1654**

*National Support the Troops and Their Families Day:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 473, designating March 26, 2008, as “National Support the Troops and Their Families Day” and encouraging the people of the United States to participate in a moment of silence to reflect upon the service and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces both at home and abroad, as well as the sacrifices of their families. **Page S1654**

*National School Breakfast Program:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 474, expressing the sense of the Senate that providing breakfast in schools through the National School Breakfast Program has a positive impact on the lives and classroom performance of low-income children. **Pages S1654–55**

#### Measures Considered:

**Consumer Product Safety Commission Reform Act:** Senate continued consideration of S. 2663, to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission to

provide greater protection for children’s products, to improve the screening of noncompliant consumer products, to improve the effectiveness of consumer product recall programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1556–93**

#### Adopted:

By a unanimous vote of 96 yeas (Vote No. 38), Klobuchar/Menendez Modified Amendment No. 4105, to authorize appropriations for necessary or appropriate travel, subsistence, and related expenses. **Pages S1560–68, S1576**

#### Rejected:

Cornyn Further Modified Amendment No. 4094, to prohibit State attorneys general from entering into contingency fee agreements for legal or expert witness services in certain civil actions relating to Federal consumer product safety rules, regulations, standards, certification or labeling requirements, or orders. (By 51 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 39), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S1556–81, S1585–86**

#### Withdrawn:

DeMint Amendment No. 4096, to strike section 21, relating to whistleblower protections. **Pages S1556, S1574–75, S1586–93**

#### Pending:

Pryor Amendment No. 4090, of a technical nature. **Page S1556**

Feinstein Amendment No. 4104, to prohibit the manufacture, sale, or distribution in commerce of certain children’s products and child care articles that contain specified phthalates. **Page S1556**

Cornyn Amendment No. 4108, to provide appropriate procedures for individual actions by whistleblowers, to provide for the appropriate assessment of costs and expenses in whistleblower cases. **Pages S1557–60**

Vitter Amendment No. 4097, to allow the prevailing party in certain civil actions related to consumer product safety rules to recover attorney fees. **Pages S1568–69**

Casey Amendment No. 4109, to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study the use of formaldehyde in the manufacturing of textiles and apparel articles and to prescribe consumer product safety standards with respect to such articles. **Pages S1570–71**

Dorgan Amendment No. 4122, to strike the provision allowing the Commission to certify a proprietary laboratory for third party testing.

**Pages S1571, S1573–74**

Dorgan Amendment No. 4098, to ban the importation of toys made by companies that have a persistent pattern of violating consumer product safety standards.

**Pages S1571–73**

Cardin Amendment No. 4103, to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to develop training standards for product safety inspectors.

**Pages S1575–76**

DeMint Amendment No. 4124, to strike section 31, relating to garage door opener standards.

**Pages S1576, S1581–85**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, March 7, 2008.

**Page S1593**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, March 6, 2008, and that Senate resume consideration of Vitter Amendment No. 4097 (listed above), with 15 minutes of debate prior to a vote on or in relation to the amendment, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators Pryor and Vitter, or their designees; provided further, that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on or in relation to the amendment, with no amendments in order to the amendment prior to the vote.

**Page S1656**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Neil Suryakant Patel, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

James B. Cunningham, of New York, to be Ambassador to Israel.

Donald Gene Teitelbaum, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ghana.

Frank Charles Urbancic, Jr., of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus.

Nancy M. Zirkin, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term expiring January 19, 2011.

J. Robinson West, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term expiring January 19, 2011.

Kerry Kennedy, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term expiring January 19, 2011.

Ikram U. Khan, of Nevada, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term expiring January 19, 2009.

Stephen D. Krasner, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term expiring January 19, 2011.

Alexander Passantino, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

Routine lists in the Foreign Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Public Health Service.

**Pages S1658–60**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S1595**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S1595**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Pages S1595, S1655–56**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S1595–96**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S1596**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1597–99**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S1599–S1600**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S1594–95**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S1600–06**

**Notices of Hearings/Meetings:** **Pages S1606–07**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S1607**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S1607**

**Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—39) **Pages S1576, S1585–86**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:16 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 6, 2008. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S1656.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony from Kevin M. Kolevar, Assistant Secretary for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, Dennis R. Spurgeon, Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, and James Slutz, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, all of the Department of Energy.