

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 3221, New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection act and the Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act

Senate passed H.R. 2739, Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2829–S2954

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2839–2849, S. Res. 510–512, and S. Con. Res. 75. **Pages S2944–45**

Measures Passed:

New Direction For Energy Independence, National Security, And Consumer Protection Act And The Renewable Energy And Energy Conservation Tax Act: By 84 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. 96), Senate passed H.R. 3221, to provide needed housing reform, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2836–61**

Adopted:

By 88 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. 95), Ensign Amendment No. 4419 (to Amendment No. 4387), to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the limited continuation of clean energy production incentives and incentives to improve energy efficiency in order to prevent a downturn in these sectors that would result from a lapse in the tax law. **Pages S2836–37, S2839**

Dodd/Shelby Amendment No. 4387, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S2836, S2844**

Dodd/Shelby Amendment No. 4523, to amend the title. **Pages S2859–61**

Rejected:

By 15 yeas to 79 nays (Vote No. 94), Alexander Amendment No. 4429 (to Amendment No. 4419), to provide a longer extension of the renewable energy production tax credit and to encourage all emerging renewable sources of electricity. **Pages S2837–39**

Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008: By 91 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. 101), Senate passed S. 2739, to authorize certain programs and activities in

the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, and the Department of Energy, to implement further the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S2861–S2919

Rejected:

By 30 yeas to 63 nays (Vote No. 97), Coburn/McCain Amendment No. 4522, to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to determine on an annual basis the quantity of land that is owned by the Federal Government and the cost to taxpayers of the ownership of the land. **Pages S2868–70, S2877**

By 19 yeas to 76 nays (Vote No. 98), Coburn/McCain Amendment No. 4521, to require approval prior to the assumption of control by the Federal Government of State property. **Pages S2870–72, S2877–78**

By 27 yeas to 67 nays (Vote No. 99), Coburn/McCain Amendment No. 4520, to ensure that all individuals who reside, or own property that is located, in a proposed National Heritage Area are informed of the designation of the National Heritage Area. **Pages S2872–74, S2878**

By 22 yeas to 73 nays (Vote No. 100), Coburn/McCain Amendment No. 4519, to require the transfer of certain finds to be used by the Director of the National Park Service to dispose of assets described in the candidate asset disposition list of the National Park Service. **Pages S2874, S2878**

Measures Considered:

Highway Technical Corrections—Cloture Motion: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 1195, to amend the

Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections. **Pages S2933–34**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, April 10, 2008, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2008. **Page S2933**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, April 14, 2008. **Page S2954**

House Messages:

Reauthorization of the Traumatic Brain Injury Act: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 793, to provide for the expansion and improvement of traumatic brain injury programs. **Pages S2952–54**

San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund Referral—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 123, to authorize appropriations for the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund, and the bill then be referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. **Page S2954**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By unanimous vote of 88 yeas (Vote No. EX. 102), Brian Stacy Miller, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

James Randal Hall, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Georgia.

Catharina Haynes, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Stanley Thomas Anderson, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee.

John A. Mendez, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California.

Pages S2919–33, S2954

Messages from the House: **Pages S2941–42**

Measures Referred: **Page S2942**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S2942**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S2942**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2942–43**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S2943–44**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2945–47**

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Additional Statements: **Pages S2940–41**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S2951**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Pages S2951–52**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2952**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S2952**

Record Votes: Nine record votes were taken today. (Total—102) **Pages S2839, S2844, S2877–78, S2883, S2933**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:55 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2008. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2954.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine the Federal Housing Administration’s role in addressing the housing crisis, after receiving testimony from Brian D. Montgomery, Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development; and Kenneth D. Wade, NeighborWorks America, and David G. Kittle, Mortgage Bankers Association, both of Washington, D.C.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Justice, after receiving testimony from Michael B. Mukasey, United States Attorney General, Department of Justice.

APPROPRIATIONS

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 the Army, Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, and the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, and Lieutenant General Robert Van Antwerp, Chief of Engineers, United States Army