

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S4901–S4992*

**Measures Introduced:** Three bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3076–3078, S.J. Res. 37, S. Res. 581, and S. Con. Res. 86.

**Page S4969**

#### Measures Passed:

**Veterans Mental Health Improvements Act:** Senate passed S. 2162, to improve the treatment and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and substance use disorders, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

**Pages S4983–86**

Boxer (for Akaka/Burr) Amendment No. 4824, in the nature of a substitute.

**Page S4986**

**Senate Restaurants Employees:** Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S. 2967, to provide for certain Federal employee benefits to be continued for certain employees of the Senate Restaurants after operations of the Senate Restaurants are contracted to be performed by a private business concern, and the bill was then passed.

**Pages S4986–88**

**Republic of Georgia:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 550, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding provocative and dangerous statements made by the Government of the Russian Federation that undermine the territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia.

**Pages S4988–89**

**Use of Capitol Grounds:** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 309, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

**Page S4989**

**National Huntington's Disease Awareness Day:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 581, designating June 6, 2008, as "National Huntington's Disease Awareness Day".

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#### Measures Considered:

**Climate Security Act:** Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S.

3036, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases.

**Pages S4910–59**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that time during any adjournment or morning business count against cloture.

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Senate expects to begin consideration of the bill following the vote on the adoption of the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 70, Budget Resolution.

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#### Budget Resolution Conference Report—Agreement:

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that the previous order of Thursday, May 22, 2008, with respect to the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 70, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013, be modified to provide that Senate may utilize the available debate time, notwithstanding the absence of the official papers on the conference report filed in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, and printed in the Congressional Record beginning on page H4217, and Senate being in possession of the Senate official copy of the conference report; that Senate proceed to utilize the debate time on Wednesday, June 4, 2008, at 11:30 a.m., following a period of morning business, and upon the use of the time specified in the previous order, Senate vote on adoption of the conference report at 11:45 a.m.; provided further, that if Senate fails to receive a message that the House of Representatives has adopted the conference report by Tuesday, June 17, 2008, Senate adoption of the conference report be vitiated, further that if the vote is vitiated, then the previous order modified by this request remain in effect.

**Page S4951**

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

Cheryl Feldman Halpern, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2014.

David H. Pryor, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2014.

Bruce M. Ramer, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2012.

Elizabeth Sembler, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2014.

Loretta Cheryl Sutliff, of Nevada, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2012.

James Culbertson, of North Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

W. Stuart Symington, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda.

Alan W. Eastham, Jr., of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Congo.

Kenneth L. Peel, of Maryland, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Dennis Michael Klein, of Kentucky, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Kentucky for the term of four years.

3 Army nominations in the rank of general.  
Routine lists in the Air Force, Navy.

Pages S4991–92

Messages from the House: Page S4966

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Page S4966

Executive Communications: Pages S4966–69

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S4969–71

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:  
Pages S4971–74

Additional Statements: Pages S4963–66

Amendments Submitted: Pages S4974–82

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S4982

Privileges of the Floor: Pages S4982–83

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 8:54 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4989.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### MAJOR WEAPONS SYSTEMS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the acquisition of major weapons

systems by the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from John J. Young, Jr., Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics; and Katherine V. Schinasi, Managing Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Neel T. Kashkari, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Christopher R. Wall, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Michael E. Fryzel, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board, Donald B. Marron, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers, Sheila McNamara Greenwood, of Louisiana, and Susan D. Peppler, of California, both to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Joseph J. Murin, of Pennsylvania, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association, and Luis Aguilar, of Georgia, Troy A. Paredes, of Missouri, and Elisse Walter, of Maryland, each to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, after each nominee testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### ENERGY MARKET MANIPULATION

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine energy market manipulation and federal enforcement regimes, after receiving testimony from Lee Ann Watson, Deputy Director, Division of Investigations, Office of Enforcement, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; George Soros, Soros Fund Management, New York, New York; Michael Greenberger, University of Maryland School of Law, Baltimore; Gerry Ramm, Inland Oil Company, Ephrata, Washington, on behalf of the Petroleum Marketers Association of America; and Mark Cooper, Consumer Federation of America, Washington, D.C.

### HEALTH CARE REFORM

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine rising costs and low quality in health care, focusing on the necessity for reform, after receiving testimony from Paul B. Ginsburg, Center for Studying Health System Change, and Arlene Holt Baker, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL–CIO), both of Washington, D.C.; Elizabeth A. McGlynn, RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, California; and Felicia J. Fields, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Michigan.