

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House and Senate met in a Joint Session to receive a message from the President of the United States.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2389–S2432

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 457–467, and S. Res. 53. **Page S2423**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees”. (S. Rept. No. 111–4) **Page S2423**

Measures Considered:

District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act: Senate began consideration of S. 160, to provide the District of Columbia a voting seat and the State of Utah an additional seat in the House of Representatives, after agreeing to the motion to proceed to consideration thereto. **Pages S2390–99**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 62 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. 65), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S2397–98**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, February 25, 2009. **Page S2432**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting an address by the President delivered to a Joint Session of Congress on February 24, 2009; which was ordered to lie on the table. (PM–8) **Pages S2419–23**

Cloture Motion—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the previously scheduled vote on the motion to invoke clo-

ture on the nomination of Hilda Solis, of California, to be Secretary of Labor, be vitiated. **Page S2390**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 80 yeas 17 nays (Vote No. 66), Hilda L. Solis, of California, to be Secretary of Labor.

Pages S2399–S2412

Messages from the House: **Page S2423**

Measures Referred: **Page S2423**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2423–24**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2424–31**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S2431**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2431**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S2432**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—66) **Pages S2397–98, S2412**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:18 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 25, 2009. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2432.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: On Monday, February 23, 2009, committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 111th Congress.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 111th Congress:

Subcommittee on AirLand: Senators Lieberman (Chair), Bayh, Webb, McCaskill, Hagan, Begich, Burr, Thune, Inhofe, Sessions, Chambliss, and Burr.

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities: Senators Reed (Chair), Kennedy, Byrd, Nelson (FL), Nelson (NE), Bayh, Udall (CO), Wicker, Graham, Martinez, Burr, and Collins.

Subcommittee on Personnel: Senators Nelson (NE) (Chair), Kennedy, Lieberman, Akaka, Webb, McCaskill, Hagan, Begich, Burr, Graham, Chambliss, Thune, Martinez, Wicker, Vitter, and Collins.

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support: Senators Bayh (Chair), Byrd, Akaka, McCaskill, Udall (CO), Burr, Burr, Inhofe, Chambliss, and Thune.

Subcommittee on Seapower: Senators Kennedy (Chair), Liebermann, Reed, Akaka, Nelson (FL), Webb, Hagan, Martinez, Sessions, Wicker, Vitter, and Collins.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces: Senators Nelson (FL) (Chair), Byrd, Reed, Nelson (NE), Udall (CO), Begich, Sessions, Inhofe, Graham, and Vitter.

MONETARY POLICY REPORT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the semiannual monetary policy report to the Congress, after receiving testimony from Ben Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 111th Congress.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SRI LANKA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Near East and South and Central Asian Affairs concluded a hearing to examine recent developments in Sri Lanka, after receiving testimony from Jeffrey J.

Lunstead, former United States Ambassador to Sri Lanka, Middlebury, Vermont; Anna Neistat, Human Rights Watch, Washington, D.C.; and Robert Dietz, Committee to Protect Journalists, New York, New York.

NATIONAL HEALTH REFORM

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine addressing underinsurance in national health reform, after receiving testimony from Cathy Schoen, The Commonwealth Fund, New York, New York; Gail Shearer, Consumers Union, and Diane Rowland, The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, both of Washington, D.C.; and Grace-Marie Turner, Galen Institute, Alexandria, Virginia.

MERGER

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine the Ticketmaster/Live Nation merger, focusing on consumers and the concert business, after receiving testimony from Irving Azoff, Ticketmaster Entertainment, Inc., West Hollywood, California; Michael Rapino, Live Nation, Beverly Hills, California; Jerry Mickelson, Jam Productions, Ltd., Chicago, Illinois; and David A. Balto, Center for American Progress Action Fund, and Seth Hurwitz, 9:30 Club/I.M.P., both of Washington, D.C.

DISABLED VETERANS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Disabled American Veterans, after receiving testimony from Raymond E. Dempsey, Disabled American Veterans, Chicago, Illinois.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 111th Congress.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 23 public bills, H.R.1142–1164; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 58–59; and H. Res. 185–187 were introduced.

Pages H2631–32

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H2632

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 200, to amend title 11 of the United States Code with respect to modification of certain mortgages on principal residences, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–19) and

H. Res. 184, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1105) making omnibus appropriations for

the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009 (H. Rept. 111–20). **Page H2631**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:03 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H2608**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 242 yeas and 163 nays, Roll No. 75. **Pages H2609, H2620–21**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Honoring the life, achievements, and contributions of Paul Newman: H. Res. 18, to honor the life, achievements, and contributions of Paul Newman; **Pages H2612–15**

Recognizing the significance of Black History Month: H. Res. 83, to recognize the significance of Black History Month, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 420 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 78; and **Pages H2615–19, H2623–24**

Colonel John H. Wilson, Jr. Post Office Building Designation Act: S. 234, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2105 East Cook Street in Springfield, Illinois, as the "Colonel John H. Wilson, Jr. Post Office Building", by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 417 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 79. **Pages H2619–20, H2624**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Monday, February 23rd:

Captive Primate Safety Act: H.R. 80, to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to treat nonhuman primates as prohibited wildlife species under that Act and to make corrections in the provisions relating to captive wildlife offenses under that Act, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ recorded vote of 323 ayes to 95 noes, Roll No. 76 and **Pages H2606–07, H2622**

South Orange County Recycled Water Enhancement Act: H.R. 637, to authorize the Secretary, in cooperation with the City of San Juan Capistrano, California, to participate in the design, planning, and construction of an advanced water treatment plant facility and recycled water system, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 402 yeas to 16 nays, Roll No. 77. **Pages H2622–23**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:33 p.m. and reconvened at 4:45 p.m. **Page H2624**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:46 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 p.m. **Page H2625**

President Obama's Address to the Joint Session of Congress: President Barack H. Obama delivered a message to a joint session of Congress. He was escorted into the House Chamber by a committee

comprised of Representatives Hoyer, Clyburn, Larson (CT), Becerra, Van Hollen, George Miller (CA), DeLauro, Schakowsky, Boehner, Cantor, Pence, McCotter, McMorris Rodgers, Carter, Sessions, and McCarthy (CA) and Senators Reid, Durbin, Schumer, Murray, Menendez, Dorgan, Stabenow, Leahy, McConnell, Kyl, Alexander, Thune, Ensign, and Cornyn. The President's message was referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered printed (H. Doc. 111–1).

Pages H2625–29

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Solis (CA), wherein she resigned as Representative for the 32nd Congressional District of California, effective Tuesday, February 24, 2009.

Pages H2629–30

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentlewoman from California, Ms. Solis, the whole number of the House is adjusted to 432.

Page H2630

Quorum Calls Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2620–21, H2622, H2622–23, H2623–24 and H2624. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Committee Meetings

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Corps of Engineers Oversight. Testimony was heard from LTG Robert L. Van Antwerp, USA, Commanding General, Army Corps of Engineers and Chief of Engineers.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Possible Move of Forest Service to the Department of the Interior. Testimony was heard from Robin Nazzaro, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; Mike Dombeck, former Chief, Forest Service, USDA, and Acting Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Leah MacSwords, Forester, State of Kentucky; and public witnesses.

MILITARY LANDS ACQUISITION/DISPOSAL

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on Acquisition and Disposal of Military

Lands: Department of Defense's Real Property Management Challenges in the 21st Century. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Wayne Army, Deputy Under Secretary, Installations and Environment; Keith Eastin, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installations and Environment; and B. J. Penn, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Installations and Environment; and Kevin W. Billings, Acting Assistant Secretary, Air Force, Installations, Environment and Logistics.

WORKER RETIREMENT SECURITY

Committee on Education and Labor: Held a hearing on Strengthening Worker Retirement Security. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SATELLITE HOME VIEWER EXTENSION AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet held a hearing on Reauthorization of the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CLIMATE LEGISLATION—ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on Energy Efficiency: Complementary Policies for Climate Legislation. Testimony was heard from Philip Giudice, Commissioner, Department of Energy Resources, State of Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

MORTGAGE MODIFICATIONS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community held a hearing entitled "Loan Modifications: Are Mortgage Servicers Assisting Borrowers with Unaffordable Mortgages." Testimony was heard from Vance Morris, Director, Single Family Asset Management, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Grovetta Gardineer, Managing Director, Corporation and International Activities, Office of Thrift Supervision; and Joseph H. Evers, Deputy Comptroller, Large Bank Supervision, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, both with the Department of the Treasury; and Patrick J. Lawler, Chief Economist, Federal Housing Finance Agency; and public witnesses.

TARP OVERSIGHT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "A Review of TARP Oversight, Accountability and Transparency for U.S. Taxpayers." Testimony was heard from Neil M. Barofsky, Special Inspector General, Office of the Special Inspector General, Troubled Asset Relief Program, Department of the Treasury; Gene L. Dadaro, Acting Comptroller General,

GAO; and Elizabeth Warren, Chair, Congressional Oversight Panel.

OFFSHORE DRILLING

Committee on Natural Resources: Continued oversight hearings entitled "Offshore Drilling: State Perspectives. Testimony was heard from Representatives Farr and Rohrabacher; Frank W. Wagner, State Senator, Virginia; Mike Chrisman, Secretary, Natural Resources Agency, California; Robert G. Marvinney, Geologist and Director, Geological Survey, State of Maine; Garrett Graves, Director, Office of Coastal Activities, Governor's Office, State of Louisiana; and a public witness.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

Committee on Rules: Committee granted, by a non-record vote, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1105, the "Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009". The rule provides one hour of general debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules shall be considered as adopted and that the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the resolution lays on the table House Resolution 158. Testimony was heard from Chairman Obey, Representatives Lincoln Diaz-Balart of Florida, Smith of New Jersey, Castle, Pence, Dent, Schmidt, Lance and Paulsen.

MONITORING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on How Do We Know What We Are Emitting? Monitoring, Reporting and Verifying Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Testimony was heard from John Stephenson, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; and public witnesses.

U.S. AIRWAYS FLIGHT 1549 ACCIDENT

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing on U.S. Airways Flight 1549 Accident. Testimony was heard from Robert L. Sumwalt, III, member, National Transportation Safety Board; Margaret Gilligan, Associate Administrator, Aviation Safety; and Patrick F. Harten, Air Traffic Control Specialist, New York Terminal Radar Approach Control, both with the

FAA, Department of Transportation; the following members of the crew of Airways Flight 1549: CAPT Chesley B. Sullenberger, III; First Officer Jeffrey B. Skiles; Sheila Dail; Donna Dent and Doreen Welsh, all Flight Attendants; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures met for organizational purposes.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be Chairman and Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold closed hearings on Afghanistan and Pakistan, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community, 9:30 a.m., SVC-217.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine an update on the latest global warming science, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine scoring health care reform, focusing on Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) budget options, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine ensuring television carriage in the digital age, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David S. Kris, of Maryland, and Dawn Elizabeth Johnsen, of Indiana, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Special Committee on Aging: business meeting to consider committee's rules of procedure for the 111th Congress; to be followed by a hearing to examine securing retirement in a volatile economy, 10:30 a.m., SD-106.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, hearing on Building a 21st Century Workforce, 9:30 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces and the Subcommittee on Seapower and Expeditionary Forces, joint hearing on U.S. Transportation Command's (USTRANSCOM) airlift, sealift, and surface lift programs, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on beneficiary and advocacy overview, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing on the future of missile defense testing, 1 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, hearing on Renewing America through National Service and Volunteerism, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, hearing on monetary policy and the state of the economy, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, hearing on From Competition to Collaboration: Strengthening the U.S.-Russia Relationship, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, hearing entitled "DHS: The Path Forward," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, to continue hearings on Committee Funding for the 111th Congress, 1 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, hearing on Copyright Licensing in a Digital Age: Competition, Compensation and the Need to Update the Cable and Satellite TV Licenses, 10 a.m.; and to mark up the following bills: H.R. 157, District of Columbia Voting Rights Act of 2009; H.R. 1110, Preventing Harassment through Outbound Number Enforcement Act of 2009; H.R. 628, To establish a pilot program in certain United States district courts to encourage enhancement of expertise in patent cases among district judges; and H.R. 1107, To enact certain laws relating to public contracts as title 41, United States Code, "Public Contracts," 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, to continue oversight hearings entitled "Offshore Drilling: Industrial Perspectives," 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, to hold a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 860, Coral Reef Conservation Act Reauthorization and Enhancement Amendments of 2009; and H.R. 934, To convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa in their submerged lands, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, to consider H.R. 1106, Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009, 4 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, hearing on Impacts of U.S. Export Control Policies on Science and Technology and Competitiveness, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, hearing entitled "Drop in Retirement Savings: The Challenges Small Businesses Face Funding and Maintaining Retirement Plans in a Struggling Economy," 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing on Post-Katrina Disaster Response and Recovery: Evaluating FEMA's Continuing Efforts in the Gulf Coast and Response to Recent Disasters, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, to continue hearings on climate change, with emphasis on Scientific Objectives for Climate Change legislation, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, hearing on World Wide Threats, 9 a.m., 304 HVC.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, hearing entitled “Get Smart on the Smart Grid: How

Technology Can Revolutionize Efficiency and Renewable Solutions,” 9:30 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 25

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 25

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 160, District Of Columbia House Voting Rights Act.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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