

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S12947–S13027*

**Measures Introduced:** Eighteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2173–2190, and S. Res. 349–350. **Page S12988**

**Measures Passed:**

*National Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week:* Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 182, recognizing the need to pursue research into the causes, a treatment, and an eventual cure for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, supporting the goals and ideals of National Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week. **Page S13023**

*Honoring 2007 Nobel Peace Prize Winners:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 349, honoring Vice President Albert Gore, Jr., and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for receiving the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of their efforts to promote understanding of the threats posed by global warming. **Pages S13023–25**

*Honoring 2007 Nobel Prize Winners in Physiology and Medicine:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 350, honoring the achievements of Mario R. Capecchi, Sir Martin J. Evans, and Oliver Smithies, winners of the 2007 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. **Page S13025**

**Measures Considered:**

**Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Act:** Senate began consideration of H.R. 3043, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S12955–80**

**Adopted:**

Feinstein/Kyl Amendment No. 3336 (to Amendment No. 3325), to provide funding for a feasibility study on the child abuse and neglect registry. **Pages S12966–67**

Harkin (for Smith) Amendment No. 3339 (to Amendment No. 3325), to provide a technical cor-

D1370

rection to suicide prevention grants authorized under the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act. **Pages S12970–72**

McCaskill/DeMint Amendment No. 3332 (to Amendment No. 3325), to require the Departments to establish and maintain on their website home pages a direct link to the websites of their Inspectors General. **Page S12978**

**Pending:**

Harkin/Specter Amendment No. 3325, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S12955–62**

Vitter Amendment No. 3328 (to Amendment No. 3325), to provide a limitation on funds with respect to preventing the importation by individuals of prescription drugs from Canada. **Pages S12962–64**

Dorgan Amendment No. 3335 (to Amendment No. 3325), to increase funding for the State Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program of the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. **Pages S12965–66**

Thune Amendment No. 3333 (to Amendment No. 3325), to provide additional funding for the telehealth activities of the Health Resources and Services Administration. **Pages S12972–73**

Dorgan Amendment No. 3345 (to Amendment No. 3325), to require that the Secretary of Labor report to Congress regarding jobs lost and created as a result of the North American Free Trade Agreement. **Pages S12973–76, S12978–80**

Menendez Amendment No. 3347 (to Amendment No. 3325), to provide funding for the activities under the Patient Navigator Outreach and Chronic Disease Prevention Act of 2005. **Pages S12976–78**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, October 18, 2007. **Page S13027**

**Messages from the House:** **Pages S12984–85**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Page S12985**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Page S12985**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S12985–88**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S12988–90**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S12990–S13005**

**Additional Statements:** Pages S12983–84  
**Amendments Submitted:** Pages S13005–22  
**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** Page S13023  
**Privileges of the Floor:** Page S13023

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:21 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 18, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S13027.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

An original bill to authorize State and local governments to divest assets in companies conduct business operations in Sudan, to prohibit United States Government contracts with such companies;

An original bill entitled "Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007"; and

An original bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund.

### CONSUMER WIRELESS ISSUES

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine consumer wireless telephone issues, including S. 2033, to provide for greater disclosure to, and empowerment of, consumers who have entered into a contract for cellular telephone service, after receiving testimony from Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson, Saint Paul; Patrick Pearlman, West Virginia Public Service Commission, Charleston; Chris Murray, Consumers Union, on behalf of the Consumer Federation of America and Free Press, and Lowell C. McAdam, Verizon Wireless, both of Washington, D.C.; Michael Higgins, Jr., Central Texas Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Goldthwaite, Texas, on behalf of sundry organizations; and Jerry Ellig, George Mason University Mercatus Center, Arlington, Virginia.

### DIGITAL TELEVISION TRANSITION

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the digital television transition, focusing on government and industry perspectives, after receiving testimony from Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission; John M.R. Kneuer, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, National Telecommunications and Information Administration; and John

Gieselman, DIRECTV, Inc., John Lawson, Association of Public Television Stations, Kyle McSillarow, National Cable and Telecommunications Association, Marc A. Pearl, Consumer Electronics Retailers Coalition, and David K. Rehr, National Association of Broadcasters, all of Washington, D.C.

### FEDERAL SUPERFUND PROGRAM

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Subcommittee on Superfund and Environmental Health concluded an oversight to examine the federal Superfund Program and its activities to protect public health, after receiving testimony from Susan Parker Bodine, Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency; Lenny Siegel, Center for Public Environmental Oversight, Mountain View, California; Michael W. Steinberg, Morgan, Lewis and Bockius, LLP, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Superfund Settlements Project; Bradley M. Campbell, Bradley M. Campbell, LLC and Minotaur Consulting, LLC, Trenton, New Jersey; J. Winston Porter, Waste Policy Center (WPC), Leesburg, Virginia; and Rena Steinzor, University of Maryland School of Law, Baltimore.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Daniel V. Speckhard, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to Greece, who was introduced by Senator Feingold; Thomas F. Stephenson, of California, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic; and Vincent Obsitnik, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Slovak Republic, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### DHS CONTRACTORS

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security, focusing on contractors and the work of the government, the types of professional and management support services the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has contracted for and the circumstances that drove its contracting decisions, and DHS's consideration and management of risk when contracting for such services, including S. 680, to ensure proper oversight and accountability in Federal contracting, after receiving testimony from John P. Hutton, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; Elaine C. Duke, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security; and Steven L. Schooner, George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C.