EC–5041. A communication from the Assistant Bureau Chief, Enforcement Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “The Review of the Emergency Alarms Program” (EB Docket Nos. 04–296, FCC 05–191) received on December 12, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5042. A communication from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band” (FCC 05–176) received on December 12, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5043. A communication from the Assistant Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, Lifeline and Link-up Order” (CC Docket Nos. 96–45, 02–6, WC Docket Nos. 02–60, 03–109) (FCC 05–178) received on December 12, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5044. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Waivers Pursuant to Program State of Iowa” (FRL8010–9) received on December 16, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5045. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “List of Hazardous Air Pollutants, Petition Process, Lesser Quantity Designations, Source Category List” (FRL8009–9) received on December 16, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5047. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “NESHAP: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Hazardous Waste Combustors” (FRL8008–9) received on December 16, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5048. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “TSCA Inventory Update Reporting Partially Exempted Chemicals List Addition of Certain Aluminum Alkyl Chemicals” (FRL7743–9) received on December 16, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5049. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Reasonableness Payment Policy to Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ‘Medicare Program: Inherent Reasonableness Payment Policy to Medicare Part B Services (Other Than Physician Services)’” (RIN0938–AN81) received on December 16, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.


INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred, as indicated:

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER)

S. 2141, to make improvements to the Federal Insurance Deposit Act; considered and passed.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 2082

At the request of Mr. Baucus, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2082, a bill to amend the USA PATRIOT Act to extend the sunset of certain provisions of that Act and the lone wolf provision of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 to March 31, 2006.

AMENDMENT NO. 281

At the request of Mr. Kennedy, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 281 proposed to H.R. 3402, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and for other purposes.

MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2006

Mr. Frist. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to H.J. Res. 75, the continuing resolution, which is at the desk; provided further that the resolution be read three times and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (H.J. Res. 75) was read the third time and passed.

AUTHORITY TO SIGN

Mr. Frist. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that during the adjournment of the Senate, the majority leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. Frist. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on today’s Executive Calendar:

- Calendar No. 213, 365, 374, 383, 423, 426, 442, 465, 466, 467, 468, 470, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482; provided further that the Committee of the Whole be discharged from further consideration of the following nominations and the Senate proceed to these en bloc: PN1119, PN120, PN1121, PN1122. I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

- Environmental Protection Agency
  - Susan P. Bodine, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, Environmental Protection Agency.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Santanu K. Baruah, of Oregon, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
John O. Agwunobi, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
John O. Agwunobi, of Florida, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to the qualifications therefore as provided by law and regulations.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Mark V. Rosenker, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2010. (Reappointment)

Kathryn Higgins, of South Dakota, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2009.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Jeffrey D. Jarrett, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Fossil Energy).

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Catherine Lucille Hanaway, of Missouri, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri for the term of four years.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Dale W. Meyerrose, of Indiana, to be Chief Information Officer, Office of the Director of National Intelligence. (New Position)

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
William E. Kovacic, of Virginia, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for a term of seven years expiring December 31, 2009.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES
Bruce Cole, of Indiana, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Humanities for a term of four years. (Reappointment)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Stephanie Johnson Monroe, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Donald A. Gambatesa, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, United States Agency for International Development.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Marilyn Ware, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Finland.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD
Mary M. Rose, of North Carolina, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board for a term of seven years expiring March 1, 2011.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
George W. Foresman, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Preparedness, Department of Homeland Security.

IN THE COAST GUARD
The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard Reserve to the grade indicated under Title 10, U.S.C., section 12203(a):

To be captain
James R. Montgomery, 0000

To be commander
Richard E. Petherbridge, 0000

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Coast Guard under title 14, U.S.C., section 276:

To be commander
Benes Z. Aldana, 0000
Robert J. Bacchus, 0000
Robert E Bailey, 0000
Christopher A. Bartz, 0000
Emile R. Benard, 0000
David C. Bilkirg, 0000
Elizabeth D. Blow, 0000
Francis T. Borosse, 0000
James M. Boyer, 0000
Michael C. Brady, 0000
Craig S. Breitung, 0000
Jeffrey M. Brockus, 0000
Jacob E. Brown, 0000
Scott A. Budka, 0000
Matthew C. Callan, 0000
Nicholas D. Caron, 0000
Jeffrey T. Carter, 0000
David K. Chareonsupphat, 0000
Joseph A. Chop, 0000
Richard S. Craig, 0000
David H. Cronk, 0000
Mark T. Cunningham, 0000
Anthony C. Curry, 0000
Kenneth D. Dahir, 0000
John M. Danaher, 0000
Christopher L. Daw, 0000
Ronald R. Dewitt, JR, 0000
Jeffrey F. Dixon, 0000
Brian J. Downey, 0000
David A. Drake, 0000
Darren A. Drury, 0000
Kevin P. Dunn, 0000
Andrew G. Dutton, 0000
James L. Duval, 0000
David W. Edwards, 0000
Eric S. Ensign, 0000
Brad J. Ervin, 0000
David M. Flaherty, 0000
Eric J. Ford, 0000
Theodore B. Gangsel, 0000
Timothy J. Gilbride, 0000
Brian S. Gilda, 0000
Joseph J. Gleason, 0000
Thomas J. Gunn, 0000
Mark E. Hammond, 0000
David C. Hartley, 0000
Charles A. Hattfield, 0000

The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Coast Guard under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be lieutenant commander
Stephen Adler, 0000
Kristina M. Ahmann, 0000
Michael W. Albert, 0000
Ryan D. Allain, 0000
Brian R. Anderson, 0000
Jeff M. Aparicio, 0000
David L. Arritt, 0000
Reginlad I. Baird, 0000
Jonathan D. Baker, 0000
Alain V. Balmaceda, 0000
Gifford F. Bambach, 0000
Timothy J. Barelli, 0000
Michelle C. Bas, 0000
Lamont S. Bazemore, 0000
Carolyn M. Beatty, 0000
Jason L. Beatty, 0000
Anne M. Becker, 0000
Eric M. Bellemque, 0000
Kathie J. Benson, 0000
Scott D. Benson, 0000
John Berry, 0000
Robert H. Bickerstaff, 0000
Jeffrey B. Bippert, 0000
Chad E. Bland, 0000
Christopher L. Boes, 0000
Elizabeth A. Booker, 0000
Curtis E. Boriand, 0000
Mark A. Bottiglieri, 0000
Joseph R. Bowes, 0000
Russel E. Bowman, 0000
Carolyn L. Boyles, 0000
Sean T. Brady, 0000
Rachael R. Bralliar, 0000
Lance J. Brant, 0000
Paul Brooks, 0000
Andy S. Brown, 0000
Heath M. Brown, 0000
Thomas R. Brown, 0000
Timothy R. Brown, 0000
William A. Budovec, 0000
Marc A. Burred, 0000
Richard J. Burke, 0000
Travis L. Burns, 0000
Victor G. Buskirk, 0000
Colin E. Campbell, 0000
Donald B. Campbell, 0000
Clinton S. Carlson, 0000

LEGISLAGIVE SESSION
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE ACT AMENDMENTS
Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2141 introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2141) to make improvements to the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statement related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2141) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 2141

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,