

Wednesday, April 26, 1995

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5683–S5737

Measures Introduced: One bill and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 726, S. Res. 111, and S. Con. Res. 11. **Page S5726**

Measures Passed:

Navajo-Hopi Authorization: Senate passed S. 349, to reauthorize appropriations for the Navajo-Hopi Relocation Housing Program. **Page S5734**

Aquaculture Inspections: Senate passed S. 268, to authorize the collection of fees for expenses for triploid grass carp certification inspections. **Page S5734**

Indian Child Protection Authorization: Senate passed S. 441, to reauthorize appropriations for certain programs under the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act. **Page S5734**

Death of Senator Stennis: Senate agreed to S. Res. 111, relative to the death of the Honorable John C. Stennis, late a Senator from the State of Mississippi. **Page S5734**

Product Liability Fairness Act: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 956, to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: **Pages S5683–85, S5689–S5725**

Adopted:

Abraham Modified Amendment No. 597 (to Amendment No. 596), to provide for equity in legal fees. (By 45 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 135), Senate earlier failed to table the amendment.) **Pages S5683, S5710–17**

By 56 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. 136), Gorton (for Brown) Amendment No. 599 (to Amendment No. 596), to restore to rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure the restrictions on frivolous legal actions that existed prior to 1994. **Pages S5683, S5689–92, S5717–25**

Rejected:

Hollings Amendment No. 598 (to Amendment No. 597), to establish a limitation on attorneys' fees in all civil actions to \$50 per hour. (By 94 yeas to

3 nays (Vote No. 134), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S5683, S5716**

Pending:

Gorton Amendment No. 596, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5683**

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Thursday, April 27, 1995.

Communications:

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Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S5726–28**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5728–30**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5730–32**

Authority for Committees: **Page S5732**

Additional Statements: **Pages S5732–33**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—136) **Pages S5716, S5717, S5725**

Recess: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m., and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Senator John C. Stennis, of Mississippi, in accordance with S. Res. 111, recessed at 9:10 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 27, 1995. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's RECORD on pages S5736–37.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—ENERGY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Energy, focusing on energy conservation programs, receiving testimony from Christine A. Irvin, Assistant Secretary of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Subcommittee will meet again tomorrow.

FEDERAL FOREST MANAGEMENT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management resumed oversight hearings to review Federal forest management issues, focusing on the coordination of and conflicts between Federal forest management and general environmental statutes, receiving testimony

from Jack Ward Thomas, Chief, and Gray Reynolds, Deputy Chief, both of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; George T. Frampton, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; Rolland Schmitt, Director, National Marine Fisheries Service; Dinah Bear, General Counsel, Council on Environmental Quality; Robert H. Wayland, III, Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, Environmental Protection Agency; William R. Murray, American Forest and Paper Association, and Mike Pieti, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, both of Washington, D.C.; Tom Geary, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, Burley, on behalf of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Nathaniel Lawrence, Natural Resources Defense Council, San Francisco, California; Douglas L. Honnold, Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, Inc., Bozeman, Montana; Glen Spain, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, Eugene, Oregon; Olivia Falconer James, The River Company, Sun Valley, Idaho; Sue Kupillas, Jackson County, Oregon; and Jerry Rust, Lane County, Oregon.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

Committee on Finance: Committee held hearings on the implementation of the Child Welfare and Adoption Assistance Act (P.L. 96-272), and related provisions of H.R. 4, Personal Responsibility Act of 1995, receiving testimony from Peter M. DiBari, Child and Family Services of Newport County, Newport, Rhode Island; Peter Digre, Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, Los Angeles, California; Wade F. Horn, National Fatherhood Initiative, Gaithersburg, Maryland; and Ernestine Moore, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan.

Committee will meet again tomorrow.

NOMINATION

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded hearings, in open and closed session, on the nomination of John M. Deutch, of Massachusetts, to be Director of Central Intelligence, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Domenici, Kerry, and Kennedy, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.