

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2010

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM and will proceed to a period of Morning Business. There will be no Roll Call Votes during Friday's session of the Senate. On Monday, February 1 at 5:30 PM, the Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of M. Patricia Smith to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor.

The Senate convened and proceeded to a period of Morning Business.

S. Res. 402 (National Data Privacy Day). Agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

The Senate will convene at 2:00 PM on Monday, February 1, 2010 and will be in a period of Morning Business for one hour. Following Morning Business, the Senate will proceed to an Executive Session to consider the nomination of M. Patricia Smith to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor. At 5:30 PM, the Senate will proceed to a roll call vote on the Motion to Invoke Cloture on the nomination.

The Senate adjourned at 11:40 AM.

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2010

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM and will resume consideration of H. J. Res 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). All general debate time will be yielded back. At approximately 10:30 AM, the Senate will proceed to the following votes on the bill: Brownback amendment #3309 (Deficit Commission), Sessions amendment #3308 (reduce the deficit by establishing 5-year discretionary spending caps), Reid amendment #3305 (re-impose statutory "pay-as-you-go"), Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment) and final passage of H. J. Res. 45. All of the previous votes will require a 60 vote threshold. Upon conclusion of the vote on final passage, the Senate will proceed to an Executive Session to consider Cal. #641, the nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. There will be 60 minutes of debate, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination.

The Senate proceeded with Morning Business.

The Senate convened and proceeded with a Legislative Session.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt).

Brownback amendment #3309 (Deficit Commission). Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **51-49**. The amendment was withdrawn.

Sessions amendment #3308 (Reduce the deficit by establishing 5-year discretionary spending caps). Yeas and nays ordered. Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **56-44**. The amendment is withdrawn.

Reid amendment #3305 (re-impose statutory "pay-as-you-go"). Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **60-40**.

Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment). Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **60-40**.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt), as amended. The bill was read for a third time. Yeas and nays. **Final passage.** Under a previous order, the joint resolution requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The joint resolution, as amended, passed by a vote of **60-39**.

The Senate proceeded with an Executive Session.

Cal. #641, the nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Motion to invoke cloture. Under a Unanimous Consent agreement, if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time will be yielded back and the Senate will proceed to the Confirmation vote. The Motion to Invoke Cloture was agreed to by a vote of **77-23**.

Cal. #641, the nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. The nomination was confirmed by a vote **70-30**.

The Senate proceeded with a Legislative Session.

The Senate proceeded with a period of morning business.

S. 2799 (Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2009). The bill was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate proceeded to Executive Session.

Reid filed cloture on the nomination of M. Patricia Smith to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor. The vote on the motion to invoke cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, February 1.

Reid filed cloture on the nomination of Martha Johnson to be Administrator of the General Services Administration).

The Senate proceeded with a Legislative Session.

S. 2968 (A bill to make certain technical and conforming amendments). Agreed to by voice vote.

H.R. 4508 (An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the small business act and the small business investment act of 1958 and for other purposes). Agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM on Friday, January 29th and will be in a period of morning business. There will be no Roll Call Votes during Friday's session of the Senate. On Monday, February 1 at 5:30 PM, the Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of M. Patricia Smith to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor.

The Senate adjourned at 6:40 PM.

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2010

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM and will resume consideration of H. J. Res 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). All general debate time will be yielded back. At approximately 10:30 AM, the Senate will proceed to the following votes on the bill: Brownback amendment #3309 (Deficit Commission), Sessions amendment #3308 (reduce the deficit by establishing 5-year discretionary spending caps), Reid amendment #3305 (re-impose statutory "pay-as-you-go"), Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment) and final passage of H. J. Res. 45. All of the previous votes will require a 60 vote threshold. Upon conclusion of the vote on final passage, the Senate will proceed to an Executive Session to consider Cal. #641, the nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. There will be 60 minutes of debate, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination.

The Senate proceeded with Morning Business.

The Senate convened and proceeded with a Legislative Session.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt).

Brownback amendment #3309 (Deficit Commission). Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **51-49**. The amendment was withdrawn.

Sessions amendment #3308 (Reduce the deficit by establishing 5-year discretionary spending caps). Yeas and nays ordered. Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **56-44**. The amendment is withdrawn.

Reid amendment #3305 (re-impose statutory "pay-as-you-go"). Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **60-40**.

Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment). Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **60-40**.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt), as amended. The bill was read for a third time. Yeas and nays. **Final passage.** Under a previous order, the joint resolution requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The joint resolution, as amended, passed by a vote of **60-39**.

The Senate proceeded with an Executive Session.

Cal. #641, the nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Motion to invoke cloture. Under a Unanimous Consent agreement, if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time will be yielded back and the Senate will proceed to the Confirmation vote. The Motion to Invoke Cloture was agreed to by a vote of **77-23**.

Cal. #641, the nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. The nomination was confirmed by a vote **70-30**.

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2010

The Senate will convene at 8:20 PM. At 8:30 PM, the Senate will proceed to the House of Representatives for a Joint Session of Congress. The Senate will adjourn upon conclusion of the State of the Union Address. The Senate will then convene at 9:30 AM on Thursday, January 28, 2010 and will resume consideration of H. J. Res 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). All general debate time will be yielded back. At approximately 10:30 AM, the Senate will proceed to the following votes on the bill: Brownback amendment #3309 (Deficit Commission), Sessions amendment #3308 (reduce the deficit by establishing 5-year discretionary spending caps), Reid amendment #3305 (re-impose statutory "pay-as-you-go"), Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment) and final passage of H. J. Res. 45. All of the previous votes will require a 60 vote threshold. Upon conclusion of the vote on final passage, the Senate will proceed to an Executive Session to consider Cal. #641, the nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. There will be 60 minutes of debate, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination.

The Senate convened and proceeded to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear an address from the President of the United States.

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM on Thursday, January 28, 2010 and will resume consideration of H. J. Res 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). All general debate time will be yielded back. At approximately 10:30 AM, the Senate will proceed to the following votes on the bill: Brownback amendment #3309 (Deficit Commission), Sessions amendment #3308 (reduce the deficit by establishing 5-year discretionary spending caps), Reid amendment #3305 (re-impose statutory "pay-as-you-go"), Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment) and final passage of H. J. Res. 45. All of the previous votes will require a 60 vote threshold. Upon conclusion of the vote on final passage, the Senate will proceed to an Executive Session to consider Cal. #641, the nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. There will be 60 minutes of debate, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination.

The Senate adjourned at 10:20 PM.

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2010

The Senate will convene at 10:00 AM and will resume consideration of H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). At 11:30 AM, the Senate will proceed to votes on the Baucus amend #3300 (Protect Social Security) followed by Conrad amend #3302 (Establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action to assure the long-term fiscal stability and economic security of the Federal Government of the United States, and to expand future prosperity and growth for all Americans). The Senate will recess from 12:30-2:15 PM for weekly party caucus luncheons.

The Senate convened and proceeded to a Legislative Session.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt).

Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment).

Baucus amend #3300 (To protect Social Security), as modified. Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was agreed to by a vote of 97-0.

Conrad amend #3302 (Establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action to assure the long-term fiscal stability and economic security of the Federal Government of the United States, and to expand future prosperity and growth for all Americans). Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 53-46. Under a previous agreement, the amendment is withdrawn.

The Senate recessed at 12:30 for weekly party caucus luncheons.

The Senate reconvened at 2:15 PM.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt).

Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment). The amendment is considered original bill text for amendment purposes.

Sessions amend #3308 (To reduce the deficit by establishing 5-year discretionary spending caps). Laid aside.

Coburn amend #3303 (Rescind funds in Federal spending by consolidating duplicative government programs, cutting wasteful Washington spending, and returning billions of dollars of unspent money). By unanimous consent, the amendment will be separated into four division amendments listed below.

Coburn amend #3303 Division I (Section 1 of the original amendment regarding elimination of duplicative government programs). Yeas and nays ordered. The amendment division was agreed to by a vote of **94-0**.

Coburn amend #3303 Division II (Section 2 of the original amendment regarding repeal of increases of the office budgets of Members of Congress). Yeas and nays ordered. The amendment division was not agreed to by a vote of **46-48**. The amendment division was withdrawn.

Coburn amend #3303 Division III (Sections 3 to 15 of the original amendment regarding duplicative programs and wasteful spending at Departments of the Federal Government). Yeas and nays ordered. The amendment division was not agreed to by a vote of **33-61**. The amendment division was withdrawn.

Coburn amend #3303 Division IV (Sections 16 of the original amendment regarding rescission of unspent and uncommitted Federal funds). Yeas and nays ordered. The amendment division was not agreed to by a vote of **37-57**. The amendment division was withdrawn.

Brownback amend #3309 (Establish a Commission on Congressional Budgetary Accountability and Review of Federal Agencies). By a previous agreement, a vote on this amendment will occur on Thursday, January 28, 2010.

The Senate proceeded to Executive Session.

Cal. #641, Nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Sen. Durbin filed cloture on the nomination.

S. Res. 397 (Relative to the death of Charles McCurdy Mathias, Jr, Former U. S. Senator from Maryland). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 398 (Authorize representation by the Senate Legal Counsel). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 399 (Honoring the heroic actions of Court Security Officer Stanley Cooper, Deputy United States Marshal Richard J. Gardner, the Law Enforcement Officers of the United States

Marshal Service and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and the Court Security Officers in responding to the armed assault at the Lloyd D. George Federal Courthouse on January 4, 2010). Agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate will convene at 8:20 PM on Wednesday, January 27, 2010. At 8:30 PM, the Senate will proceed to the House of Representatives for a Joint Session of Congress. The Senate will adjourn upon conclusion of the State of the Union Address. The Senate will then convene at 9:30 AM on Thursday, January 28, 2010 and will resume consideration of H. J. Res 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). All general debate time will be yielded back. At approximately 10:30 AM, the Senate will proceed to the following votes on the bill: Brownback amendment #3309 (Deficit Commission), Sessions amendment #3308 (reduce the deficit by establishing 5-year discretionary spending caps), Reid amendment #3305 (re-impose statutory "pay-as-you-go"), Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment) and final passage of H. J. Res. 45. All of the previous votes will require a 60 vote threshold. Upon conclusion of the vote on final passage, the Senate will proceed to an Executive Session to consider Cal. #641, the nomination of Ben Bernanke to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. There will be 60 minutes of debate, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination.

The Senate adjourned at 9:03 PM.

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010

The Senate will convene at 2:00 PM and will proceed to a period of Morning Business. At 3:00 PM, the Senate will resume consideration of H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt limit). At 5:30 PM, the Senate will proceed to Executive Session to consider Cal. #608, Rosanna M. Peterson to be U. S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington. There will be a vote on the nomination at 6:00 PM. On Tuesday, January 26, 2010, when the Senate resumes consideration of H. J. Res. 45, the time until 11:30 AM will be reserved for debate only. At 11:30 AM, the Senate will proceed to votes on the Baucus amend #3300 (Protect Social Security) followed by Conrad amend #3302 (Establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action to assure the long-term fiscal stability and economic security of the Federal Government of the United States, and to expand future prosperity and growth for all Americans).

The Senate convened and proceeded with Morning Business.

The Senate proceeded to a Legislative Session.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt).

Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment).

Reid Motion to Invoke Cloture on Reid amend #3305 (To reimpose statutory pay-as-you-go).

Reid Motion to Invoke Cloture on Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment).

Reid Motion to Invoke Cloture on H.J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt).

Baucus amend #3306 (To establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action).

The Senate proceeded to an Executive Session.

Cal. #608 (Rosanna M. Peterson to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington). Yeas and nays ordered. The nomination was confirmed by a vote of **89-0**.

The Senate proceeded to a Legislative Session.

The Senate proceeded to a period of Morning Business.

S. 2949 (Amends Section 1113 of the Social Security Act). Agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

S. 2950 (Extends the pilot program for volunteer groups to obtain criminal background checks). Agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

S. Res. 373 (National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month). Agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

S. Res. 395 (150th Anniversary of the founding of the Colorado National Guard). Agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

The Senate will convene at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 and will resume consideration of H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). At 11:30 AM, the Senate will proceed to votes on the Baucus amend #3300 (Protect Social Security) followed by Conrad amend #3302 (Establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action to assure the long-term fiscal stability and economic security of the Federal Government of the United States, and to expand future prosperity and growth for all Americans). The Senate will recess from 12:30-2:15 PM for weekly party caucus luncheons.

The Senate adjourned at 8:29 PM.

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2010

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM on Friday, January 22 and will resume consideration of H.J. Res 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). There will be no Roll Call Votes during Friday's session.

The Senate convened and proceeded to a Legislative Session.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt).

Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment). Laid aside.

Reid 2nd degree amend #3305 () to Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment). Laid aside.

S. Res. 381 (Designating the week February 1, 2010 as "National School Counseling Week"). Agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate will convene at 2:00 PM on Monday, January 25, 2010. The Senate will proceed to a period of Morning Business. At 3:00 PM, the Senate will resume consideration of H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt limit). At 5:30 PM, the Senate will proceed to Executive Session to consider Cal. #608, Rosanna M. Peterson to be U. S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington. There will be a vote on the nomination at 6:00 PM. On Tuesday, January 26, 2010, when the Senate resumes consideration of H. J. Res. 45, the time until 11:30 AM will be reserved for debate only. At 11:30 AM, the Senate will proceed to votes on the Baucus amend #3300 (Protect Social Security) followed by Conrad amend #3302 (establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action to assure the long-term fiscal stability and economic security of the Federal Government of the United States, and to expand future prosperity and growth for all Americans).

The Senate adjourned at 5:50 PM.

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2010

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM and will be in a period of Morning Business for one hour. Following Morning Business, the Senate will resume consideration of H.J. Res 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). Votes are expected at some point today.

The Senate convened and proceeded with a period of Morning Business.

S. 2939 (Amends Title 31, US Code, to require an audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Reserve Banks). The bill was read for a second time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

The Senate proceeded with a Legislative Session.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt).

Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment).

Conrad amend #3302 (Establishes a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action). Laid aside.

Thune amend #3301 (To terminate authority under the Troubled Asset Relief Program). Yeas and nays ordered. Under a previous order, the amendment requires 60 affirmative votes for passage. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 53-45. Under a previous agreement, the amendment is withdrawn.

H.R. 4462 (To accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of victims of the earthquake in Haiti.). The bill was passed by voice vote.

The Senate proceeded with a period of morning business.

S. J. Res. 25 (DC Transit Compact). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 391 (25th Anniversary of the Victims Crime Act). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 392 (Sense of the Senate on the Haiti Earthquake). Agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM on Friday, January 22 and will resume consideration of H.J. Res 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). There will be no Roll Call Votes during Friday's session.

The Senate adjourned at 7:10 PM.

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2010

The Senate will convene at 10:00 AM and will be in a period of Morning Business. At 11:00 AM, the Senate will proceed to Executive Session to consider Executive Calendar #421, the nomination of Beverly Martin to be a U. S. Circuit Judge for the 11th Circuit, that there be 60 minutes of debate on the nomination, followed by a vote on confirmation. The Senate will recess from 12:30 to 2:15 PM for the party lunches.

Under a previous unanimous consent agreement, at a time to be determined, Senate will proceed to the consideration of H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit on the public debt). The following amendments will be the only ones in order to the bill; Reid substitute amendment, Thune amendment on TARP, Murkowski amendment on Endangerment EPA Regulations, Coburn amendment on recessions package, Sessions amendment on spending caps, McConnell amendment on relevant issues, Reid amendment on relevant issues, Reid amendment on pay-go, Baucus amendments on relevant issues and a Conrad-Gregg amendment on a fiscal taskforce. Each of the previously mentioned amendments are subject to a 60 vote threshold. If they fail to achieve the 60 vote threshold, the amendment will be withdrawn. Upon disposition of all amendments, the resolution will be read for a third time and a vote on final passage will occur, also, with a 60 vote threshold.

H.R. 3961 (An act to Amend Title 18 of the Social Security Act to reform the Medicare S.G.R. payment system for physicians). The bill was read for the second time. Further consideration was objected to.

H.R. 4154 (An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the new carryover basis rules in order to prevent tax increases and so forth). The bill was read for the second time. Further consideration was objected to.

The Senate proceeded with a period of Morning Business.

The Senate proceeded to an Executive Session.

Cal. #421 (Beverly Martin to be a U. S. Circuit Judge for the 11th Circuit). Yeas and nays ordered. The nomination was approved by a vote of 97-0.

The Senate recessed for party caucuses.

The Senate convened at 2:15 PM and proceeded with a period of Morning Business.

The Senate proceeded to a Legislative Session.

H. J. Res. 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt).

Reid amend #3299 (Substitute amendment).

Baucus amend #3300 (To protect Social Security). Laid aside.

Thune amend #3301 (To terminate authority under the Troubled Asset Relief Program). Laid aside.

H. Con. Res. 228 (Providing for a Joint Session of Congress to receive a message from the President). Agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

S. 2939 (Amends Title 31, US Code, to require an audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Reserve Banks). First reading. Second reading was objected to and the bill is placed on the calendar.

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM on Thursday, January 21, 2010 and will be in a period of Morning Business for one hour. Following Morning Business, the Senate will resume consideration of H.J. Res 45 (Increasing the statutory limit of the public debt). Votes are expected at some point tomorrow.

The Senate adjourned at 5:51 PM.

SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010

The Senate will convene at 11:00 AM, for a Pro Forma session. The Senate will then adjourn until Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at 10:00 AM and will be in a period of Morning Business. At 11:00 AM, the Senate will proceed to Executive Session to consider Executive Calendar #421, the nomination of Beverly Martin to be a U. S. Circuit Judge for the 11th Circuit, that there be 60 minutes of debate on the nomination, followed by a vote on confirmation. The Senate will recess from 12:30 to 2:15 PM for the party lunches.