

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 23, Patent Reform Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1335–S1414

Measures Introduced: Fifteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 501–515, and S. Res. 94–95. **Page S1406**

Measures Passed:

Patent Reform Act: By 95 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. 35), Senate passed S. 23, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1348–52, S1360–94**

Adopted:

Reid/Ensign Modified Amendment No. 143, to include public institutions of higher education in the definition of a micro entity. **Page S1362**

Withdrawn:

Reid Amendment No. 152 (to Reid Amendment No. 143), to provide an effective date. **Page S1362**

Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act—

Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 12 noon, on Wednesday, March 9, 2011, Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 1, making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011; that there be three hours of debate on the bill and the Democratic alternative—Inouye Amendment No. 149, with the time equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees, prior to a vote on passage of the bill; that the vote on passage of the bill be subject to a 60 vote threshold; that if the bill achieves 60 affirmative votes, the bill be read a third time and passed; that if the bill does not achieve 60 affirmative votes, the Majority Leader be recognized to offer Inouye Amendment No. 149; the Senate then proceed to a vote on or in relation to the substitute amendment; that the substitute amendment be subject to a 60 vote threshold; if the substitute amendment achieves

60 affirmative votes, the substitute amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; if the substitute amendment does not achieve 60 affirmative votes, H.R. 1, be returned to the calendar; that no motions or amendments be in order to the substitute amendments, or to the bill prior to the votes; provided further, that all of the above occur with no intervening action or debate.

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A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the cloture vote with respect to the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 1, be vitiated. **Page S1362**

Joint Meeting—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 10:40 a.m., on Wednesday, March 9, 2011, Senate recess until 12 noon for a Joint Meeting with the Honorable Julia Gillard, Prime Minister of Australia; that following the Joint Meeting, the Senate reconvene at 12 noon, and proceed to consideration of H.R. 1, as provided for under the previous order. **Pages S1413–14**

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

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12957 on March 15, 1995; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM—7) **Page S1405**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1405–06**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1406–07**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1407–12**

Additional Statements: **Page S1405**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S1413**

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Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1413**