

MORE FROM THE SENATE FLOOR, THURSDAY, MAY 16

By Brandon Beard
Staff Writer

■(GIT) The Senate considered the following additional measures on Thursday, May 16, 1996:

SB699, by Sen. Gilmer Capps, D-Snyder, exempts taxation on sales to or by organizations with whom a church has entered into a contract. It also includes sales to Disabled American Veterans, the Department of Oklahoma, Inc. and subordinate chapters thereof.

The bill was laid over for questioning.

SB729, by Sen. Jerry Smith, R-Tulsa, modifies language relating to licensure of used motor vehicle dealers and manufactured home dealers.

After adopting the bill's second conference committee report, members passed the measure and its emergency clause with a vote of 46 to 0.

SB1106, by Sen. Dave Herbert, D-Midwest City, modifies sections of law pertaining to the Oklahoma State and Education

Employee Group Insurance Board (OSEGIB). It prohibits them from forming their own health maintenance organizations (HMOs).

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, members passed the measure and its emergency clause with a vote of 29 to 12.

SB1123, by Sen. Sam Helton, D-Lawton, modifies list of prescription and non-prescription drugs to be included under Section IV and Section II of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substance Act.

The bill was laid over for questioning.

Members also adopted **HCR1099**, by Sen. J.R. "Dick" Wilkerson, D-Atwood. The measure memorializes the service of Private First Class Vernon Sweat.

Also, **SBs 658 and 1200** had their conference committee reports rejected and further conference was requested.

The Senate is scheduled to re-convene at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, May 20, 1996.

NICKLES ANNOUNCES FOR LEADERSHIP POSITION

From U.S. Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla.

■(WASHINGTON) Oklahoma Senator Don Nickles announced Thursday he is seeking the Assistant Majority Leader position in the Senate Republican Leadership.

"This is a decision that I have been considering for quite some time," Nickles said. "Being a member of the Senate leadership is a real challenge and it provides the opportunity to be involved with all the issues that the Senate considers. I have enjoyed the role I have played with the Republican Policy Committee and hope to continue to help shape the Republican agenda in the Senate."

Nickles, 47, has served in the Senate leadership since 1988, first as Chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee and then in 1990 as Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, the post he now holds. Nickles was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1980.

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

From Okla. Dept. of Commerce

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) The Oklahoma Department of Commerce Thursday officially welcomed Guillermo Mondlak as its new trade representative in Mexico in ceremony in Mexico City.

Mondlak has been contracted through the International Division of the Commerce department to seek new markets, trade and investment for Oklahoma companies from Mexico interests, according to Kevin Chambers, director of the International Division.

As director of international and new business development of International Business Link, a major project and venture procurement firm, Mondlak has traveled extensively across Latin America. He also serves as a consultant to several international corporations. Educated as a chemical engineer, he holds additional degrees in cost engineering, international marketing and international commerce.

Chambers said Mondlak's contract is performance based and is a more efficient system. "This innovative program works more like business in the private sector and will save the state money. Costs will be spread among those using the services on a

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SENATE VETS COMMITTEE CONFIRMS EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS

By Brandon Beard
Staff Writer

■(GIT) The Senate Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs met Thursday, confirming five of Governor Frank Keating's executive nominations. Members also adopted two concurrent resolutions before adjourning.

Eldridge Colston, of Marietta, was confirmed to the War Veterans Commission of Oklahoma.

A World War II veteran, Colston was sponsored by Sen. Darryl Roberts, D-Ardmore. He will serve a three year term. He succeeds himself to the position.

Thomas Howell, of Duncan, was also confirmed to the commission. Sponsored by Sen. Bill Gustafson, R-El Reno, in place of the absent Sen. Carol Martin, R-Comanche, he will serve a three year term, succeeding Harold Pinney, who was also nominated to the commission.

Pinney, of Eufaula, will also serve a three year term. He was sponsored by Sen. Frank Shurden, D-Henryetta.

Bill Paxton, of Lookeba, also nominated to the commission, was sponsored by Sen. Bruce Price, D-Hinton. He too will serve a three year term.

Though not scheduled for confirmation until next week, James C. Morton was con-

firmed to the commission. Also sponsored by Gustafson, in place of Martin, he will serve a three year term.

All nominees were unanimously confirmed. Their terms all end on July 1, 1999.

Committee members also adopted **HCR1079**, presented by Roberts. It memorializes Congress to support the State Veterans Home Program. After all committee members were made co-authors, the measure passed with a vote of 6 to 0.

SCR57 was also adopted. It relates to atomic test veterans. It too passed with a vote of 6 to 0.

The committee is scheduled to meet again on Thursday May 23, 1996, after the legislature adjourns for the day.

"Every central government worships uniformity: uniformity relieves it from inquiry into an infinity of details, which must be attended to if rules have to be adapted to different men, instead of indiscriminately subjecting all men to the same rule."

*De Tocqueville
Democracy in America, 1835*