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United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 94th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 121

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1975

No. 157

SCHEDULE OF NONLEGISLATIVE PERIODS FOR 1976

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, while a liberal schedule of nonlegislative days was established for 1975, it is interesting to note that as of October 23 the Senate had been in session more hours than in the previous year on the same date. In 1974, the Senate was in session 146 days for 908 hours, whereas in 1975, we have also been in session 146 days for over 930 hours. This is even more noteworthy since Congress was in adjournment during the entire month of August which is required by law.

Senators have been better able to schedule visits to their home States as a result of early scheduling of brief breaks in the legislative activity throughout the year. At the same time, attendance for record votes has increased. As a matter of fact, during 1975, an average of only 10.6 percent of the membership was absent during voting. This is the best record since 1964. In the intervening years, absenteeism has been as high as 23.6 percent and averaged nearly 16 percent.

The joint leadership is pleased to announce the 1976 schedule at this time so that Senators can make their plans well in advance to insure maximum attendance in the Senate.

I ask unanimous consent that the schedule for next year be printed in the RECORD at this point.

There being no objection, the schedule was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Congress reconvenes Tuesday, January 6.

Lincoln's Birthday (Thursday, February 12)—From conclusion of business Friday, February 6, until Monday, February 16.

Easter (Sunday, April 18)—From conclusion of business Wednesday, April 14, until Monday, April 26.

Memorial Day (Monday, May 31)—From conclusion of business Friday, May 28, until Wednesday, June 2.

July 4 (Sunday) and Democratic Convention—From conclusion of business Friday, July 2, until Monday, July 19.

Republican Convention—From conclusion of business Wednesday, August 11, until Monday, August 23.

Labor Day (Monday, September 6)—From conclusion of business Wednesday, September 1, until Tuesday, September 7.

Expected Adjournment Sine Die—Saturday, October 2.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, it is anticipated that the Senate will try for an adjournment by December 12 of this year, and return next year on January 6. If, however, we cannot complete our work by December 12, for each day beyond that, a day would be added beyond January 6, so that it will be possible for the entire membership to have a 3-week interregnum between the end of the first session and the beginning of the second session of this Congress.