CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

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was finally discovering his dream in Iraq. He told his parents that he was finally using his skills to help people.

Sgt. Michael Lalus leaves behind his parents, David and Rebecca Lalus.

Mr. President, we have lost two exceptional sons of Virginia. Their courage and unselfish service to our great country will not be forgotten. As we think of their families in mourning, let us not forget that these fine young men gave the ultimate sacrifice so that every American could continue to live in freedom.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is now closed.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO SUPPORT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OPERATIONS IN IRAQ FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 762, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 762) making supplemental appropriations to support Department of Defense operations in Iraq, Department of Homeland Security, and Related Efforts for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Stevens amendment No. 435, to increase the National Debt Ceiling of the United States.

Reid amendment No. 440, to provide critical funding to safeguard nuclear weapons and nuclear material in the United States and around the world.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska?

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I thank the Senator from California. It is our hope that we will be able to get all of the amendments that are in line now completed in time to start voting by 11:50, following the Democratic caucus. So I appreciate her courtesy. And whatever is possible to enter into a time agreement, I would like to explore that. I thank her for her courtesy.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank my friend. And, yes, as soon as we get word, I will ask for a quorum call, and then we will make an agreement on the time.

Whether we speak about this for a half hour or 2 days, this is a very important amendment. I think one of the things we learned after 911, tragically, is that we have to take warnings very seriously—our intelligence agencies, we, as a Congress, the administration, all of us working together.

We know now that there is a threat out there that is very real. We have constructed an amendment that does not add any money to this bill but merely says that out of the funds that have been allotted for homeland defense, that $30 million be made available immediately for research and development of countermeasures that could be taken should a shoulder-fired missile be aimed at a commercial aircraft.

I want to read to you the latest statement of the FBI. This is the FBI warning, which really must go unheeded if we are to do our job:

...given al-Qaeda's demonstrated objective to target the U.S. airline industry, its access to U.S. and Russian-made MANPAD systems...

MANPAD stands for shoulder fired missiles—and recent apparent targeting of U.S.-led military forces in Saudi Arabia, law enforcement agencies in the United States should remain alert to the potential use of MANPADs against U.S. aircraft.

How clear could this be? If this body turns its back on a threat that our commercial aircraft are facing right now, it would be a very sad day, indeed. And Senator Boxer took the floor. She has approached the floor. What I will do is ask that a quorum call be put in place so I might discuss with him a time-frame he will need on this amendment we have worked so hard on together.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispersed with. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from California, Mrs. BOXER. I would like to yield, without losing my right to return. My coauthor from Alaska.

Mr. STEVENS. After conferring with the Senator from California, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from California control the time until 10 minutes of 11 and that I control the time thereafter until 5 minutes after 11.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from California, Mrs. BOXER. I was a little person. They are very lightweight. They can be easily used. They have been used in the past. As I say, this $30 million is not new money. I hope therefore, it will not be opposed on the other side.

The chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee, a Republican, said just yesterday that the threat of these shoulder-fired missiles being aimed at a commercial aircraft in the United States or one of our assets abroad “keeps me up at night.” This is a Republican chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee who came into this debate, in his own words, not convinced that we needed to move on this threat. But after a secret briefing—and I was present—he said this threat “keeps me up at night.”

Shoulder-fired missiles, such as the SA-7 and stinger missile, are available on the black market for $25,000 to $90,000 each. Most can be used with very little training and they take just minutes to fire. As I said, I have held one of these missiles in my hand. Almost anybody could do the same and fire one.

Nearly 30 guerrilla and terrorist groups are in possession of these weapons, including al-Qaeda. We will show a chart of the terrorist groups, the guerrilla groups we believe have these...
Mr. BAYH. My colleague pointed out that if I do myself no injury by re-
viewing her amendment in that spirit. We are in the process of ap-
propriating, I believe, $3 billion for the civil aviation industry in this supple-
mental. Previously, following the 9/11 attacks, there were other billions of dol-
ars. If that industry is going to recover and be viable economically again, it is going to have to be in part because people feel safe getting on planes and traveling across the coun-
try. So the Senator's efforts to secure the traveling public are very much in
the spirit of stabilizing an industry and, in fact, being fiscally responsible so that further efforts to provide lar-
gess from the Federal Treasury won't be necessary.

Mrs. BOXER. My friend is right. We know that, right now—before we have even seen research and development in a robust fashion to bring down the cost of these countermeasures—they are about a million dollars per plane. I say to my friend that $20 million aircraft is not too much to ask.

We had a big breakthrough because Chairman McCa on the House side, yes-	terday, came on board on this amend-
ent and is working on the other side. I,...
Mr. BAYH. Or possibly from the sunroof of an SUV. It is difficult to secure the perimeter around an airport to the extent that we need. These countermeasures would be very warranted. I apologize for interrupting the Senator’s remarks. But this threat is real. We have done a great deal of good work in the military sphere combating just this kind of threat. Why not make it available to the civil population as well? We are spending billions of dollars to bail out an industry, but if people don’t feel safe flying in planes, the industry will never recover. I am in support of my colleague’s amendment. Again, I apologize for interrupting the flow of her argument.

Mrs. BOXER. The Senator hasn’t interrupted my argument; he has made it stronger and better. Also, we know that military transport and refueling aircraft—and you have mentioned this—such as the C-17, C-130, KC-135, and the KC-10 are some of the models that employ these countermeasure systems that we believe can be and must be used for civilian aircraft.

I just want to mention what Senator BAYH and I have spent time talking about this, as well as Senator SCHUMER, who has been a champion of this need. We also know there is a threat.

I think if you look at this amendment and all the parts of it, No. 1, it is a modest step because we are not adding new funding; we are simply taking out—there is more than a billion dollars in that particular section—it is $1.135 billion—and we are saving $30 million of that should go to support the research and development and getting these prototypes ready, so we know they are in development on aircraft.

Chairman MICA and I have spent time talking about this, as well as Senator SCHUMER. We have come to understand that as we do this research and development, and the price comes down, when the airlines in the future order new commercial aircraft—and they are spending up to $150 million a copy—to spend an extra million dollars on that is not going to be very much.

So we think this is a very responsible amendment. I think it would be foolish and foolhardy not to begin this work right now, because I can tell you, God forbid, if a terrorist was successful, or even unsuccessful but came close to hitting one of our commercial aircraft, everybody in this body would say: Oh, my God, we had our chance and we blew it. We didn’t do what we should have done.

Whether you look at the fact that these technologies are working on military planes that we need. These lessons and the fact that we have enormous warnings from the FBI, and we have seen this administration begin to move forward; if you put this all together, it speaks loudly and clearly in favor of this amendment.

This is a chart of recent incidents of attacks. In November 2002, an Israeli jetliner was fired upon seconds after takeoff in Mombasa, Kenya, and al-Qaida is believed to have been involved.

In May of 2002, an empty shoulder-launched missile tube was found outside Prince Sultan airbase in Saudi Arabia, and our military thinks that was from a shoulder-fired missile.

In October 1998, we had rebels down a civilian Boeing 727 over the Democratic Republic of the Congo in which 40 were killed. This is just recent incidents, but if we go back 25 years, we see this occurred.

I expect Senator SCHUMER is going to be coming to the Chamber. Until he does, I am going to continue to go over these charts. If we look at any of these charts, we get the picture.

This chart shows the groups we believe have access to shoulder-fired missiles. This would make anybody shudder because we know these groups are well funded and active, and we know many of them view the United States of America as their target:

Al-Qaida, Kurdistan Workers Party, Palestinian Authority, Popular Front for Liberation of Palestine, Taliban, Armed Islamic Group, Huta Militiamen, UNITA, Oromo Liberation Front, Somali National Alliance, Uteed, Hizballah, Hark al-Ull-Ansar, Hizbul-Majajideen, Khmer Rouge, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, United States Wa Army, Kosovo Liberation Army, National Liberation Army, and the IRA. We know these groups have access to shoulder-fired missiles. We know some groups, particularly some on the top part of this chart, would like to go after United States interests, given the past and given the present situation.

I want to read what Chairman MICA said after he came out of an intelligence briefing on this issue:

I went into the meeting somewhat skeptical. I came out convinced that this is probably one of the most serious challenges we face in combating terrorism. I think this is important.

Then he said: Since that hearing, I’ve lost some sleep and have great concern.

We are saying this is very important.
the Transportation Security Agency that the threat is real. The administration has deployed National Guard to various airports in our country to try to spot one of these individuals with a shoulder-fired missile. We know there are some who do not want to lose our airline industry, we need to take steps to protect it from further harm as well.

We have an amendment that ought to get bipartisan support. We have an amendment that is fiscally responsible. We are not adding more money. We are not saying this is a high priority and it ought to happen because if we can get the cost of these systems down below $1 million—right now they are about $1 million a plane. Even that is a small amount compared to the cost of an aircraft, the $100 million to $150 million a copy. If we can get it even lower than that, it becomes less and less of a burden to both the older planes, the 6,800 planes we have flying now, and make this a mandated safety measure on all future commercial aircraft.

There is a lot of support for this amendment. I just hope the Senate will put it in place. I think all of us will be able to sleep a little bit better at night because they will have this tool that we want to protect us. We know that. They look at civilians in a way we have never seen before. On 9/11 we saw that just because you are a civilian does not protect you from terrorists. It is our job to make sure we protect our people from terrorists.

I am hopeful Senator Schumer will join us shortly. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

Mr. SCHUMER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, Senator Schumer is working hard on a major amendment dealing with first responders. I thank the Senator from the bottom of my heart for all his work on this issue and this amendment. Senator Schumer and Senator Clinton had an experience that no other Senator had. Yes, we had horrific pain in this area with the Pentagon being hit. The Senators of New York, from California have demonstrated, we at the top of the list. As my colleague from Massachusetts, it is Senator Schumer. He is next in order. The Senator asked to extend the time by 5 minutes. That does extend the time when another amendment would be taken up until 11:15, that is correct.

Mr. STEVENS. We do not have a time agreement on Senator Bayh's amendment. He is next in order. The Senator asked to extend the time by 5 minutes. That does extend the time when another amendment would be taken up until 11:15, that is correct.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I say to the Senator from Massachusetts, it is not Senator Stevens asking for additional time, it is Senator Schumer.

Mr. SCHUMER. I will be brief. I withdraw my request to accommodate my colleague from Massachusetts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator withdraw the request?

Mr. SCHUMER. I withdraw the request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mr. SCHUMER. I commend my colleague from California. We all know she is a fighter. She finds issues, focuses on them with passion, is able to persuade so many others. The American people are lucky that Senator Boxer has taken such a leadership role in defending the homeland. I know the Senator from California has worked on this issue and this amendment. Senator Schumer and Senator Clinton had an experience that no other Senator had. Yes, we had horrific pain in this area with the Pentagon being hit. The Senators of New York, from California have demonstrated, we know they have them. We know al-Qaida, the most sinister right now of the terrorist organizations, has tried to use them. And there is an FBI statement that says in announcing that we have spent billions of dollars to protect our military planes, that we would not apply it to commercial airliners because in the post-September 11 world, those commercial airliners are just as much targets as our F-18s and F-16s and B-1s and B-2s.

Please, colleagues, let's not be in the "what if?" situation.

Let's not wake up one morning after the one of our jobs is to defend the troops. What if we had done this? I would plead with my colleagues to support this very important amendment.

I yield the floor.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time yielded the Senator from California has expired. The Senator from Alaska controls the next 15 minutes.

Mr. STEVENS. The Senator from Alaska controls time at 5 minutes of 11.

Mr. REID. Madam President, parliamentary inquiry: Has the time for the Senator from California been exhausted?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Yes, it has.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. STEVENS. I yield 8 minutes to the Senator from Arizona.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. McCAIN. Madam President, I rise to oppose this amendment because it is premature. The amendment is premature not only in my view but in the view that was held by the Senator from California on March 13 in the Commerce Committee when we marked up the cargo security bill. At that time, the Senator from California said, and I quote from the record of the hearing of the markup:

I have a bill which I am not moving today because I think that would require a hearing. But what I thought would be good is that since the TSA has said they are studying the best way to defend turbo and jet passenger aircraft from these shoulder-fired missiles.

So we adopted the amendment of the Senator from California on the cargo security bill that is before the Senate which will be passed by the Senate without any doubt whatsoever.

I do not know of any living American who does not want to protect our airliners. I do not know of any living American who does not want to protect all of America, including our borders.

The fact is that it is proposed to spend $30 million on R&D and deployment of technology on commercial airliners. I can assure my colleagues that it is not that easy. It is not that easy to transfer technology which is adopted for military aircraft and then immediately transfer it to civilian aircraft.

Obviously, we need some time for the TSA to look at the threat and put the threat in order of priority. Then the most effective and the best way may not be installing this equipment on airliners. It probably is. But we do not know for sure. All we know is that there is a threat, that there are missiles which could destroy our lives and our security, whether they are at reservoirs or nuclear powerplants or along our borders, or wherever they may be. And we do have the ability perhaps to adopt military technology. But that has to be studied, as the amendment indicates, before we put the bill after discussion in the markup.

What type of technology is it? How can we deploy technology immediately when we do not know what technology it is that is best executed if we believe that airliners need this protection immediately.

I am not going to take the entire 8 minutes the Senator from——

Mrs. BOXER. Will my colleague yield?

Mr. McCAIN. That the Senator from Alaska yielded, but I just say this is a premature amendment. This is an amendment to spend $30 million for deployment of technology when we do not even know if that technology exists, and if it does, if that is the best technology. So that is why I am in opposition to the amendment.

Mrs. BOXER. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. McCAIN. I will be glad to respond to a question from the Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank the Senator. I think the Senator makes a very important point that I absolutely supported a study in the committee. Since that has occurred, however, two things have happened. Chairman Mica on the other side invited me to a secret meeting.

Mr. McCAIN. Does the Senator have a question or does she want to use her own time?

Mrs. BOXER. I was hoping—I don’t have any time left.

Mr. McCAIN. If the Senator has a question, I would be glad to respond. Otherwise, I do not want to use the time of the Senator from Alaska.

Mrs. BOXER. I do have a question. I was just going to let the Senator know what had happened and then I was going to ask the question.

What happened at that time was this threat had been rising and the administration took action since the time of the study that said to all the big airports around the country, national guardsmen will protect against this threat. Chairman Mica changed his mind after those hearings and I became more concerned. That is the reason why I drafted this to be both a study and a deployment on just a couple of planes.

Mr. STEVENS. Regular order.

Mrs. BOXER. I just wanted to know if my rationale made any sense.

Mr. McCAIN. I thank the Senator for her question, and I appreciate the Senator from Alaska allowing that time. It is still premature and I think that to order a study of the background within a period of a couple of months would be most appropriate.

I yield back the remainder of my time to the Senator from Alaska.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I say to the Senate that as a pilot, almost every pilot I know shudders over the threat of the shoulder-fired heat-seeking missiles. I commend the Senator from Arizona for what he has done already on the commitment of trying to get a study. I do not want to leave the impression here—it is classified, but there are some commercial planes that are outfitted for some defenses against some weapons. But all you have to do is think of “Blackhawk Down” to know it is not that simple.

The Air Force has been working in research and development on a system. It is being tested on one plane so far. As a matter of fact, it is too large for most of our commercial aircraft. We don’t know how soon it will be before we will have a system that can be deployed for civil aviation. There are several systems available that can detect the shoulder-fired weapons. However, they are not effective on all of them, and the problem is, if we are going to say that our civilian airlines are safe, to find a system that can work.

Currently, we have some. As I said, one of these systems is deployed on commercial aircraft to try to see how effective it might be. These systems currently that are being deployed cost about a million dollars a plane. I just do not see many commercial airlines that are ready to put out $1.5 million for each plane to try to defend it with a system that is not deemed to be effective by the Air Force so far.

The Boxer amendment earmarks $30 million from the counterterrorism fund for this project to equip our commercial airlines with a system to defeat heat-seeking missiles.

This will reduce the fund, the counterterrorism fund has been assumed to provide additional dollars for agencies within that department. One hundred and twenty million dollars is assumed in this bill to pay for the passenger screeners and other costs incurred at additionally secured airports.

We have tried to be very discrete about this fund. This is not a bill to deal with the problems of commercial airliners. This is a bill to deal with funding the war. Again, I want to say we have three wars going on, and this is not part of the war. We already have taken this up in Commerce. We have a study coming because of it. I hope that bill will pass.

I share the absolute fear that Senator Boxer reflects in terms of the problem of passenger aircraft having some defense against shoulder-fired missiles. Again, I wish we could all take a look at “Blackhawk Down.” There is no question they are out there and they are very much a fear in terms of terrorism. But that is what the Department of Homeland Security is for and that is why the research and development money that is in the defense bill that has already been passed this year, and that research is going on.

Madam President, I regret deeply that this is not the way to solve the problem. The problem is going to be solved with a study that we have asked for of what can be done and the funding that would follow that study. I hope it gets here in time to deal with it on the 2004 bill.

Again, I do not know anyone else who fears these as much as pilots. It is a great extension of the problem but you have to be a pilot to understand total consequences of having something that you cannot control from within the cockpit.
It is true we have these systems on high-performance airplanes. They are extremely heavy. As I said, they cost more than $1.5 million apiece.

Madam President, $1.5 million added to the cost of a high-performance airplane we are buying for war purposes, that is one thing. This does not affect that. Those systems have already been perfected under the Department of Defense, and they are adequate for our needs in defense.

I put out in the 12 years we have flown over Iraq on the so-called CAP's Program, we have not lost one plane to a heat-seeking missile to my knowledge.

That is military. We are trying to say can we put them into civilian airplanes? Can we put them into commuters? What size do we need?

It is a research program. I don't know how it would work. I was told at one time it would take up to 2 years to develop this system. But we should approach this action from the point of view of research and development first and not a mandate, and particularly not take money out of the bill as it is right now.

We do have, by the way, some of them that are applicable to the commercial system. It is dealing with a laser system. That system will be available for installation in commercial airplanes by fiscal year 2006, under the current system. As I said, we are trying to accelerate research and development and ability to defend small aircraft and helicopters. There just is none available today that can do that, that are available.

I reluctantly agree with the chairman of our committee. I believe the language in the Cargo Security Act that was the product of Senator Boxer's efforts on the Commerce Committee should be allowed to go forward. We should study this important issue. But we should not be taking money from homeland security efforts and trying to accelerate the installation in commuter projects for systems that have not yet been demonstrated to be effective.

We are monitoring this. I say in all sincerity, I think the Commerce Committee has Senators on both sides of the aisle who are committed to following this through, to finding the best way to defend passenger aircraft from shoulder-fired missiles.

This is not the way to do it. Reluctantly, I do move to table the amendment.

I ask unanimous consent the Boxer amendment, amendment No. 472, be set aside until the hour of 1:50, and at that time the Senate proceed to a vote in relation to the amendment with no second-degree amendments in order to the amendment prior to the vote. I further ask unanimous consent there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided immediately prior to that vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENGLISH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. I want to announce that will be the first vote in a sequence that will start at 1:50 p.m. this afternoon.

I now ask, if it is appropriate, and I believe it is, unanimous consent with regard to the amendment Senator BAYH will offer, that there be 20 minutes of debate on the control of the amendment prior to the vote. I further ask this amendment, when we are finished, and I shall make—I may not make a motion to table this—but a vote in favor of the amendment to be taken, if required, at the hour of 1:50, following the Boxer amendment.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I failed to tell the manager of the bill that Senator KENNEDY wants 10 minutes. So it would be 30 minutes and whatever time you want to respond to that.

Mr. STEVENS. I have no objection.

The Senator has been waiting to speak. I am pleased to amend my request that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is as follows:

The amendment is as follows:

The Senator from Indiana [Mr. BAYH], for himself, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. CLINTON, and Ms. MIKULSKI, proposes an amendment numbered 474.

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk. I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide funding for grants to States for smallpox and other bioterrorism inoculation activities)

On page 38, after line 24 add the following: SMALLPOX AND OTHER BIOTERRORISM INOCULATION ACTIVITIES

For additional expenses necessary to support grants to States for smallpox and other bioterrorism inoculation activities, $340,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2004: Provided, That this amount is transferred to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I offer this amendment on behalf of myself, Senator NELSON of Nebraska, Senator SCHUMER, Senator STABENOW, and my distinguished colleague, Senator MIKULSKI.

I offer this amendment because of my conviction that just as we spare no expense ensuring our military men and women in the field have the tools with which to defend themselves, have the tools with which to disarm rogue regimes that possess weapons of mass destruction so we can protect the American people, we also need to give those tools to the brave men and women working here at home who will defend the American people against biological attack. That is because it is the same fight. It is the same war.

Disarming rogue regimes of weapons of mass death, protecting American citizens with those weapons of mass death, is the same fight. We need to make sure that both overseas in the military and here at home, in terms of civilian defense, we do what it takes to defend America's national security interests.

So put that way this is the war we are fighting today, the war against global terrorism, rogue regimes, and failed states, the distance between the front lines and the home front is not that great. We must recognize this fact and aggressively defend both; otherwise, the American people may suffer.

We are now involved in a great conflict in Iraq. This conflict has, as its genesis, our desire to avoid another tragedy like September 11, only this time involving weapons of mass destruction and casualties and loss that could be far greater.

We suffered 3,000 fatalities on September 11, worse than the attack on Pearl Harbor, the greatest loss of life in our country since the Civil War.

But I rise today to say that, unfortunately, much worse can happen. Weapons of mass death—let us call them what they are because they seek to destroy not buildings or physical property, but people—weapons of mass death capable of inflicting losses of catastrophic, even Biblical proportion, now roam the international landscape.

Biological weapons in particular can unleash pathogens capable of slaughtering millions, rending civil society itself and spreading terror and fear, and perhaps starting a new Dark Age.

I do not overstate the case. Not so long ago, I tell my colleagues, there was something called Operation Dark Winter that was conducted by a variety of entities, including the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Operation Dark Winter sought to anticipate what might happen if smallpox were introduced into the ventilation systems of three shopping malls in different States across our country.

Within 13 days, the disease had spread to 25 States. After 60 days, 3 million cases of smallpox had been diagnosed and more than 1 million American citizens—one million American citizens—were anticipated to die from the outbreak. That is just how bad it can get.

Colleagues, the threat is not theoretical. As we saw in this very Chamber with the anthrax outbreak of a year ago, the threat of biological weapons is all too real, all too tangible. Our intelligence services estimate the chances of a nation such as Iraq possessing smallpox are about 50-50. Other nations have it, too.

Terrorists groups such as al-Qaeda and Ansai al-Islam and others are working feverishly to obtain chemical and biological weapons. Since smallpox is the worst case scenario when it comes to a...
biological outbreak, we have to assume that smallpox would be near the top of their list when it comes to obtaining a biological capability to attack the United States here at home or abroad. The administration itself has recognized the President in his address must move forward with expanding our lab capacity so we can analyze the cases as they come in so we know what we are dealing with. Is it a plague? Is it smallpox? Is it botulism? What is the pathogen that is killing Americans? How do we treat it? What should be our next steps?

Having a lab capacity is critically important. We have to improve the communications systems between the Federal level, the CDC, State laboratories, and local hospitals because if there is not an effective communication system, the response will break down and people will die as a result.

Finally, we need better health monitoring at the local level so we can judge the ebb and flow of systems and analyze exactly what it is we are dealing with so we know how to respond and save people’s lives.

The response to date ignores all these other pressing needs competing for scarce resources, leaving the very real possibility that either protecting the Nation against smallpox will be left wanting or that these other critical needs will be left wanting. That is a choice we should not be forced to make.

The response also ignores the very language of the emergency supplemental, which states explicitly that the funds can only be used for equipment that they can be used for inoculation—they cannot be used for inoculation. So even if enough money had been provided to help defend against smallpox, by the very wording of the supplemental, the funds cannot be used for the most pressing need, to ensure that first responders, who might be infected, are inoculated against smallpox, protecting them and others with whom they might have contact.

Thus, the response to date ignores the very real, pressing fiscal crises confronting our States. I just came from a meeting with my own Governor, Indiana, as other States, is facing a deficit. It is strapped for money. So States simply are not in a position to step in and provide resources to fill in the gaps.

If this need is going to be met, if this threat is going to be met, if our people are going to be protected at this hour of national crisis, at this hour of State fiscal crisis, it is the Federal Government that must step up and protect the national security interests, the health and well-being of the American people, because we are the only level of government that is in a position to do so.

Next, the response proposed by the administration fails short of past responses in similar cases. My colleagues might be interested to know that in 1947, responding to a single outbreak of smallpox in New York City, 6,350,000 citizens were inoculated, including 500,000 in a single day—in a single day. Yet there is nothing for smallpox inoculation in this bill. Clearly, based upon past response, the current steps are inadequate and, hence, the amendment is necessary to supplement our efforts.

Finally, along these lines, the House of Representatives—not known for responding overzealously to concerns and not for keeping a firm grip on the purse strings—has recognized that the emergency supplemental is inadequate and has proposed an additional $94 million to help address this need. While $94 million is itself inadequate, the $340 million we propose in our amendment is the correct response to inoculate 4 million people who the States have said are necessary to inoculate—at least the House of Representatives has taken a tentative initial step in recognizing the very real need.

If we are going to meet this threat, the response to date proposed by the administration, however well intended, is simply inadequate to meeting the very real potential threat, the disastrous potential threat facing the American people. That is why we have proposed action.

I will spend a couple of moments addressing what the potential arguments against our amendment might be. I know some might suggest this is simply more social spending. That is simply not the case. This money will save lives. We have been attacked, as we all know. As we all know, terrorists are abroad planning further attacks. We know they are desperately seeking weapons of mass death, including biological weapons. We know that smallpox is the worst case scenario, and that in all likelihood they are attempting to get it into the Nation.

This money is needed. It is not simply just more social spending. It is needed to save lives, and to save lives now. It would be irresponsible not to ensure that we are protecting against this threat because we know how real it can be.

Second, the argument that enough resources have already been provided is simply not accurate. Enough resources have not been provided to meet this threat, as the House of Representatives has recognized, as the Governors of the 50 States have recognized in their State plans, saying that inoculating 4 million first responders is what is necessary to truly protect the American people.

The administration has done precious little along these lines. Not enough in the way of resources has been provided. Regrettably, responding to this need is not inexpensive. The National Association of County & City Health Officials estimates that, at a bare minimum, it takes $85—and, in fact, recent experience suggests far more—it takes $85 per case to screen, inoculate, and monitor the results of the inoculation per individual inoculated. That is the least case scenario. So taking the lowest cost estimate, multiplying by the 4 million first responders that the Governors and States, regardless of party, indicated need to be inoculated, is a minimum of $340 million being the bare minimum needed to help protect the American people against this threat.

Finally, 58 percent of local officials indicate that smallpox inoculations are not in their other bioterrorism efforts. I would ask my colleagues, What do we leave the American people vulnerable to? If we emphasize smallpox, do we choose to leave them vulnerable to another bioterrorism threat? Do we choose to leave them vulnerable to another pathogen that is capable of killing millions of people? That is simply not the responsible course of action. Yet it is the course we are on if we do not adopt this amendment.

In closing, let me say that my position in this amendment, offered by myself, Senator Mikulski, and others, is not a partisan position. I have with me an article from the Washington Post of 2 days ago, indicating the very pressing need that States and cities have to inoculate their first responders—10 million—to ensure that first responders are inoculated. I have with me a letter from the Governor of New York, indicating that the first responders in New York City for an additional $94 million to help address this need.

It quotes several Governors, including Governor Pataki of New York, Governor Huckabee of Arkansas, and others, to the effect that States and cities are simply not being provided with the resources they need from the Federal Government. I quote:

[Governors and mayors of both parties declared] [the funding is] inadequate.

Our States and cities deserve better from us than that. I have letters that I will have printed in the Record from city and local health officials, indicating the American Nurses Association, who indicate that our exposure to the West Nile virus and the recently discovered SARS respiratory problem will be much, much worse because of the efforts to fight smallpox, if we don’t provide the additional funding so they don’t have to confront the dilemma they are confronting: Do they protect against smallpox or some other cause of death? We should not leave them in that lurch.

In conclusion, this is a pressing problem. It is a single war: The war abroad
to disarm rogue nations, to protect us from weapons of mass death, and the war here to protect America from those same sources of threats. They both deserve our attention and funding. That is the purpose of this amendment. I do offer it on behalf of myself and my colleagues today.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have relevant material printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the "Record" section of the Official Record.


Refunding for smallpox vaccination.

Hon. EVAN BAYH U.S. Senate.

Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR BAYH: The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is committed to preparing the nation to respond to an outbreak of smallpox, should such a terrible event ever occur. Therefore, we strongly support additional funding. Currently, the large, unanticipated costs that state and local public health agencies are incurring to implement the President's smallpox vaccination program. Nationwide, local public health agencies already report that they are diverting resources from overall bioterrorism preparedness to work on smallpox vaccination. This situation is unsustainable and threatens to undermine our nation's ability to improve public health preparedness for other acts of biological, chemical, or nuclear terrorism.

Existing federal funds for bioterrorism preparedness are neither available nor sufficient to pay for both smallpox vaccination and other bioterrorism planning and preparedness work that is already underway. Congress appropriated $940 million in FY 2002 and $940 for FY 2003 to help states and localities improve their capacities to respond to public health threats and emergencies. The Department of Health and Human Services made the first $938 million available to the states in June 2002. However, the funds occurred in a timely and responsible fashion and were directed to spend these funds in five different areas of public health preparedness. Further HHS stated that states and localities contemplated undertaking smallpox vaccination at that time and funds have been programmed and obligated to improve public health preparedness in multiple ways, pursuant to HHS' guidance to the states.

The Administration announced a smallpox vaccination program six months later and has expanded states and localities to pay the costs of this program from the FY 2002 bioterrorism funds they had received. This expectation is unrealistic for two reasons. First, states with any federal program, the sums that states have spent according to HHS records do not reflect plans and obligations that have already been undertaken and cannot be reversed either for legal or practical reasons. Second, the costs of smallpox vaccination are proving to be far higher than anticipated. Smallpox vaccination includes giving flu shots in the local mall. Extensive advance planning, training, and consultation in the community are necessary. Delivering the vaccine requires prescreening, counseling, and follow-up to assure a proper “take” and to prevent secondary transmission of vaccinia, which is essential, as are design and implementation of systems to track giving flu shots in the local mall. In addition, NACCHO has found that costs for smallpox vaccination being incurred now by local public health agencies smallpox vaccination range from $154 to $204 per person, with an average of $204 per person. These do not include costs to states or to other entities, such as hospitals or police or fire departments.

NACCHO is deeply concerned that it is dangerously short-sighted to devote our resources and preparedness to fighting a single potential agent. We cannot anticipate what agents might be used by a bioterrorist. Moreover, we remain highly vulnerable to other naturally occurring disease outbreaks, including West Nile virus and the newly-discovered Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, that have a potential to cause more illness and death than would bioterrorism scenarios. We believe that we must build our public health systems so that they are well-staffed, effective and adaptable. We should avoid building separate systems for specific diseases; they will tax our resources, and unless we use them day in and day out, they won't work when they are really needed. We must also achieve preparedness specifically for smallpox, which has the unique feature of requiring vaccination of a number of public health and medical personnel, but we cannot afford to sacrifice other improvement in that process.

We appreciate your leadership and concern for public health and look forward to working with you to ensure that the public health system is able to improve preparedness for all public health threats and emergencies. In addition to smallpox.

Sincerely,

PATRICK M. LIEBEN, Executive Director.


Dear Senator: On behalf of the American Nurses Association (ANA), I am writing to urge you to support the amendment offered by Senator Bayh to the supplemental appropriations bill. This amendment will provide resources so that state and local health departments can safely implement the smallpox vaccination program.

The ANA is the only full-service association representing the nation's RNs through its 54 state and territorial constituent member associations. Our members are well represented in this bill, which is expected to vaccinate 10.5 million health care workers and first responders.

Sufficient funds must be appropriated to the states to support related education, prescreening and surveillance of the potential recipients of the vaccine. The recent death of a Maryland nurse, a Florida nurse and a local guard. A National Guard member only understands the need for aggressive medical screening, monitoring and treatment. Nurses and other first responders will continue to feel uncomfortable until they receive the reliable information needed to make an informed decision.

ANA services have received personalized education and free and confidential prescreening prior to the administration of the vaccine. This process properly identifies and helps determine if the potential recipient is safe to receive the vaccine.

Unfortunately, existing Federal funds for states to conduct a proper vaccination program have been exhausted. The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) estimates that state and local health offices are incurring a cost of $204 per person vaccinated. These expenditures are in addition to other important bioterrorism and public health activities.

Once again, the ANA urges you to support the smallpox supplemental appropriations bill. These funds are critical to ensure state and local officials can actually implement the crucial education, prescreening and surveillance programs.

Sincerely,

ROSE GONZALEZ, MPS, RN,
Director, Government Affairs.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO, Washington, DC, April 1, 2003.

Dear Senator: On behalf of the 1.3 million members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), I am writing to urge you to support amendments to the supplemental appropriations bill that will help strengthen homeland security. In particular, we urge you to support an amendment to add $4.3 billion for funding the “first responders” that will be offered by Senator Schumers, Baucus, Clinton and Mikulski. We also urge you to support an amendment for $340 million for combating bioterrorism to be offered by Senator Bayh.

The cost of securing this nation's security needs has placed an enormous burden on state and local governments, particularly New York City, Los Angeles and other jurisdictions that face the greatest security threat. Reduced revenues from a slow economy, increased human needs and increased security needs have stretched state and local governments beyond their capacity. Today, states face their gravest fiscal crisis since World War II. If the nation is to be secure, it is imperative that its state and local governments improve security by providing more federal resources for first responders.

The amendment to be offered by Senator Bayh will provide resources so that state and local health departments can implement the President's smallpox program safely. Public health officials have estimated that the total cost of each vaccination will average $204. New resources are needed to carry out the smallpox program. Existing resources are being withdrawn from other bioterrorism preparedness and core public health activities. Since September 11, the nation has come to realize that numerous security vulnerabilities to terrorist attack. These vulnerabilities must be addressed through a national commitment to improve homeland security. Accordingly, we urge you to support amendments to increase funding for homeland security, and in particular the two amendments to be offered by Senators Schumer, Clinton and Mikulski and by Senator Bayh.

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CHARLES M. LOVELESS, Director of Legislation.


DEAR SENATOR: On behalf of the American Nurses Association Association (ANA), I am writing to urge you to support the amendment offered by Senator Bayh to the supplemental appropriations bill. This amendment will provide resources so that state and local health departments can safely implement the smallpox vaccination program.

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We enacted legislation even prior to 9/11 that was very helpful and important at that time. We have enacted legislation subsequently, and next week we are going to be enacting legislation which will support the President’s commitment to $6 billion. What we want will be used to develop vaccinations in anticipation of the threat we will be having overseas by these very dangerous pathogens that are being developed.

Now we have smallpox and anthrax that are dangerous to this country. People in this city have certainly witnessed the dangers. Families have been impacted and affected because loved ones have lost their lives because of the dangers of anthrax.

This amendment is meant to provide help to local communities to make sure they have an effective vaccination program, period. There are a number of different features in the war dealing with bioterrorism. One is to make sure we have the people on the ground who are trained, supported, who have the ability to screen, have the vaccines, and will do the followup work if we expect this program to take off.

Secondly, we have to have a compensation program that will be available to provide help to these individuals if there is an adverse reaction. Why this is so important is these first responders, when they signed up for their job, didn’t think they were taking on the additional responsibility of dealing with terrorism. Now we are asking them to do that. We are asking them to do something in addition.

In some instances, with some vaccines, they will be risking their lives, because we know a certain number of them are going to die and a certain amount of them will have serious disabilities as a result of taking the vaccine. That is the vaccination compensation program. That is not on this bill.

What we are talking about here is making sure individuals in local communities are going to have the resources to resist any bioterrorism that comes their way in the form of anthrax and smallpox. To do it, you have to give support to local communities. This legislation before us does not do it. There is no funding whatsoever. There are billions for our soldiers and our sailors, and all of us are for that, but it is not any resource.

I say that against this following background. Last year we cut support for our hospitals by $1.9 billion. Those were cuts in the Medicaid program and also in what we call graduate medical education. We provided $500 million for them under the battle of bioterrorism, but they still lost $1.4 billion in cuts to the hospitals. We say we have already provided sufficient funding for these hospitals. I will not take the time now, because I want to read this record, what the hospitals are saying, not just in my State but all over the country, the pressure they are under to try to get the programs started.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise as a proud cosponsor of this amendment that would provide $340 million to State governments to do important education, screening, and monitoring in the delivery of the smallpox vaccine program. I would like to share with my colleagues a story. One of my constituents, who lives on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, died last week from a heart attack 5 days after she received the smallpox vaccine. I am not doing this as a reason that the bill is bad. We will leave that to the appropriate medical and public health officials to decide. But let me tell you the story. She was 55 years old. She just got her nursing degree after having another degree. She wanted to get her nursing degree because the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland is an underserved health community in terms of doctors and nurses.

She is a Native American. She is a proud descendant of the Assateague tribe. Her name is Andrea Deerheart Cornither. She wanted to volunteer for the smallpox vaccine so she could serve her community, serve her country in the event of a smallpox attack. She was ready to do anything she needed to when she was called.

When I spoke to her husband, filled with grief and melancholy, I asked him what he wanted to tell me, and if he could come to the floor of the Senate, what would he tell us. He said: Senator, tell your colleagues, and if you have a chance to talk to the President, tell him, people are ready to volunteer, but they have to have a right to know what they are getting into. They have the right to know how safe the vaccine is. They have to know how safe they will be if they get the vaccine. We need education. We need screening. I might add, we need monitoring and surveillance, so that if you sign up to be part of the bioshield warriors, you will have ongoing monitoring and biosurveillance to make sure there are no physical or psychological repercussions.

That is what Mr. Glenn Standing Bear Mayo asked. He said, the way I want to honor my wife, the way we ought to protect America, is to make sure we protect the volunteers. The way we protect our warriors is through education, better, and more amplified screening, and ongoing monitoring and surveillance.

You cannot do this on the cheap. Public health departments are already stretched to the breaking point.

They are now foraging for funds to be able to meet a Federal mandate to recruit, screen, and do smallpox vaccinations for our first responders who are volunteering. This takes $85 per screening. They don’t have it. They are taking money from other funds—from maternal and child health, from the East Coast, from the West, from the Nile virus, or being prepared in case SARS comes to the United States.

This is a very modest amount to put into the Federal checkbook. It doesn’t
even deal with the larger issue of compensation that we will debate at another time, an appropriate time.

I salute the Senator from Indiana for addressing this. I advocated it in the authorizing committee just yesterday. It was not on the committee's agenda. The committee knows this is important. Now is the time to make it a reality by putting screening, testing, and monitoring into the Federal checkbook.

So I really ask my colleagues: If the voluntary nature of these vaccinations is our confidence to participate in the program, they need to know what they are getting into, and they need to be properly screened. They need to know that they will be monitored and that there will be surveillance to protect them as they line up to protect America. They also need to know that there is a safety net for an adequate and responsible compensation program. This amendment does not deal with compensation, but it deals with funding the usual and customary public health protections. It says that people have a right to know, they have a right to be heard about their concerns, and they have a right to be protected.

On behalf of Andrea Deerheart Cornitcher, I offer this amendment with my colleagues to the Senate. I yield the floor.

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the amendment of my good friend from Indiana that will allow States and local health departments to pay for the cost of administering the smallpox vaccine.

The threat of terrorism, both foreign and domestic, is real and should not be taken lightly. We prepare for these threats by preparing our first responders—including our health care professionals. Whenever and wherever disasters have struck, health care professionals have responded selflessly by lending their skills, time, and expertise to help in their families' hour of need. Now we are asking them to safeguard the health care infrastructure by being vaccinated against smallpox. The least we can do is make sure that the funds are available to provide the vaccinations.

The vaccinations are more expensive than anticipated. Vaccinating against smallpox is not like giving flu shots. Preparation and training is needed to administer the vaccine by trained professionals who must be able to carefully screen vaccine recipients for potential adverse reactions. Followup is also needed to check on health status. All of this takes time and resources. My State of Nebraska has already vaccinated 250 workers at a cost of about $140 per person for a total of $35,000.

The resources to pay for and administer these vaccinations have been diverted from other important bioterrorism preparedness activities. The fiscal year 2004 amendment will allow States to dually safeguard against smallpox without diverting funds “from other important bioterrorism preparation efforts. With this additional funding, vaccinating against smallpox is essentially an unfunded mandate to the States. As any biological attack would certainly be a Federal priority, it is both unfair and ineffective not to provide the necessary funding to prepare for this possibility. A virus will not stop at State lines. Our efforts to prevent the spread of a devastating illness should be national in scope, as should be the funding to pay for it.

I commend the Senator from Indiana for introducing this amendment. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time? There are 3 minutes 45 seconds remaining on the Democratic side.

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I want to make two or three brief points in conclusion. The emergency supplemental contains funding for fatalities that might result from vaccination. But there is no funding specifically targeted to preventing these fatalities through proper safeguards. I have heard this is an irony we should address and do something in this amendment—money for fatalities from vaccinations but not resources to prevent those fatalities.

Secondly, as my colleagues pointed out, money is being literally taken away from working against the West Nile virus, against SARS, and against other potential causes of fatalities. We could leave America vulnerable to other sources of sickness and death if this amendment is not adopted.

The goal here is to prevent fatalities abroad in our fighting men and women and here at home, directly or indirectly. Without the adoption of this amendment, fatalities will result either from smallpox or from other potential pathogens left wanting—West Nile, SARS, and others—because resources are being taken away from those for inoculations against smallpox because the resources are not available. That is why there is a pressing case for adopting this amendment. I thank my colleagues for their support, and I urge its immediate adoption.

Thank you. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. KENNEDY. How much time remains?

Mr. KENNEDY. We will reserve our time.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I can yield to the Senator from Massachusetts or proceed now, at his request.

Mr. KENNEDY. Is the Senator prepared to yield back, or is the Senator going to talk? I would like to respond.

Mr. STEVENS. All right. I yield myself such time as I may use. I don't think I have a request from anybody else on this side.

Mr. KENNEDY. What is the Senator from Indiana on this amendment? The House has $94 million in a smallpox vaccine fund. I have a little conflict of interest here because I am one of the few Members of the Senate who has taken the smallpox vaccination again. I have had it many times in my life. Going back, as a 19-year-old, I first got it when I was admitted to the Army.

There are some 4 million responders who could be vaccinated under this amendment, as I understand it. The figure that has been used by Senator BAYH is $85 per person. The current costs range somewhat from $20 to $284 a person, depending on who does the estimates. The administration's current estimate is that it would cost $13 per person to deal with 4 million responders. There are already funds allocated to health departments, and I believe we should take this up in the regular bill when we go to the 2004 bill.

I remind the Senate that this bill is for the period from now until September 30. We are not going to appropriate moneys beyond September 30 unless, on a bipartisan basis, we find it is necessary. So far, it has not been necessary. There are other health needs, such as TB, West Nile virus, and HIV. Now we have this terrible situation coming out of China.

There is no question that many people are interested in this subject, and I cannot speak without the assurance of our leader, Dr. FRIST—Senator Frist—is very interested in this subject. So I merely state that I wish to discuss the amount of this amendment with the Senator from Indiana. I do not believe we should put up more money than is necessary for this fiscal year. We should process the moneys for beyond this fiscal year in the normal bill. I will be very pleased to discuss that with him.

I have no request for Senators to speak on this side. I hope we will have a portion, at least, of Senator Bayh's amendment in this bill for fiscal year 2003, and I reserve a sufficient time to make a motion on or in relation to this amendment, if that is necessary. I hope it will not be necessary.

I am prepared to yield back the remainder of my time and listen to the Senator from Massachusetts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts is recognized. Mr. KENNEDY. How much time remains?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. One minute 40 seconds.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I have been referred by the Department of Defense. The cost for the military is about $28 or $29. They have done a very effective program. The National Association of State and County Officials estimates it is $150 to $284. Senator Bayh is down to $85. There is zero in the bill at the present time.

The first responders we are talking about are at the cutting edge of defending the country against a bioterror attack. I don't believe we ought to make the decision in Washington, DC, when we have seen Americans die as a result of anthrax. If you are going to have an effective program, you are going to have to support local communities to be
able to implement that program. That is what this amendment provides. It is a very modest amendment.

The President of the United States says he wants, initially, 400,000 immunized, and then he wants 10 million. There is a way to accomplish that in the supplemental. We believe there is a sense of urgency and we ought to do it now. That is what the Bay amendment does. That is why a very modest downpayment is called for in this amendment. I hope this will be accepted.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, for fiscal year 2004, this provides $3.7 billion for biodefense, and $940 million is included for grants to States and local health departments. Those departments already have funds to implement a vaccination strategy. There is no need to add more money here for State and local health departments.

I am willing to discuss the amounts necessary for the vaccine. Again, I reiterate, I reserve sufficient time that I might make a motion on or in relation to the amendment, if necessary, when the voting starts at 1:50.

I yield back the remainder of whatever time I have. I believe the Senator from Nevada is here to offer the next amendment, Mr. President.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, before the Senator from Florida takes the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. It is my understanding on this amendment there will be 30 minutes—20 minutes to the Senator from Florida and 10 minutes to the Senator from Alaska; is that right? Does Senator STEVENS want to look at the amendment first?

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I agree to the time, but I have not seen the amendment.

Mr. REID. We will withhold the request until the Senator reviews the amendment.

Mr. STEVENS. I do not think there will be a problem.

Mr. REID. We can renew that request after Senator STEVENS has had a chance to look at the amendment.

Mr. STEVENS. If the Senator is prepared to renew his request, I am prepared to agree.

Mr. REID. I renew that request, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask that the vote on or in relation to the amendment offered by the Senator from Florida occur third in line; that is, Boxer, Bay, and Graham.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. As per the other agreements, there will be no second-degree amendments in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Florida.

AMENDMENT NO. 499

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. I call up amendment No. 499.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendments are set aside. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant bill clerk reads as follows:

The Senator from Florida [Mr. GRAHAM], for himself, Mr. KERRY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MURRAY, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DODD, and Mr. RYAN of Florida, proposes an amendment numbered 499:

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To appropriate an additional $375,000,000 for the Department of Veterans Affairs for Medical Care for costs of medical care for certain veterans of the current conflict in Iraq.)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MEDICAL CARE

For necessary expenses for the maintenance and operation of hospitals, nursing homes, and domiciliary facilities; for furnishing, as authorized by law, inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including care and treatment in facilities not under the jurisdiction of the department; for institutional facilities, supplies, and equipment incident to the provision of hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care authorized by section 1720(e)(1)(D) of title 38, United States Code; $375,000,000. Provided, That such amount shall remain available until expended.

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, on behalf of a large number of our colleagues—Senators KERRY, MIKULSKI, MURRAY, DORGAN, DAYTON, DASCHLE, JOHNSON, LANDRIEU, LAUTENBERG, BINGAMAN, CLINTON, BIDEN, EDWARDS, ROCKEFELLER, AKAKA, and my colleague Senator NELSON of Florida—I offer an amendment to address the cost of providing health care to troops serving in the war in Iraq. This amendment would provide to the Veterans Administration the additional funds it will require to meet the needs of returning service men and women.

There is a history behind this amendment. Following the 1991 Gulf war, returning servicemen began to report unexplained illnesses and ailments that many linked to their service. Under the law that existed and controlled at that time, only those who had been granted a claim for a service-connected disability or demonstrated financial need could turn to the VA for health care. The effect was to leave many of the returning veterans without medical coverage. Reservists were particularly vulnerable as they lost their military health care benefits shortly after returning. In 1998, Congress acted to ensure that no combat veteran endures such a delay again.

This chart indicates the evolution of the process with the gaps that were identified after the first Gulf war being filled by Public Law 105–368 which assured that combat veterans are eligible for VA care 2 years after discharge or separation from active duty, and it also extended this coverage to include reservists and National Guard personnel, so that today any servicemember who participates in a theater of combat is eligible for free VA health care for 2 years after separation or release from active duty.

The President of the United States committed itself and our sons and daughters to a second Gulf war, this time in the country of Iraq. The Senate supported this second war. Now the Senate must provide support for them. We owe it to them to make certain they have the proper equipment to win the war, and we also must take care of these men and women when they have completed their duty to our Nation.

This is why I rise today to offer an amendment to provide to the Veterans Administration $375 million in funding to provide for the care that we are obligated through the VA to make available to returning troops. This is a downpayment on the cost of paying for these returning servicemen, a cost of war that has thus far been overlooked.

The estimated cost of $375 million is based on the percentage of veterans who sought VA health care and benefits following the 1991 Gulf war multiplied by the current VA average per patient cost of care.

Briefly, to look at the math, in the 1991 Gulf war, there were 582,136 persons who were subsequently separated from the military. That represents 82 percent of the force that was committed in the first Gulf war. Of that number, 166,717 were able to establish that they had service-connected disability and those who used the VA for nonservice-connected disability would equal one-third of those who were deployed into the field. That would result in a number of 29 percent of the total of now veteran, former combat personnel in the first Gulf war. In addition to that, 287,848, or half of those veterans who were combat service personnel in the first Gulf war, used the VA for outpatient health care services.

We use these numbers times the $3,300 of estimated annual cost as the basis for the amendment we are offering. We assumed that the blend between those who had a service-connected disability and those who used the VA for nonservice-connected disability would equal one-third of those who were deployed into the field. That would result in a number of 29 percent of the total of now veteran, former combat personnel in the first Gulf war.
disability claims, and we can assume there will be a minimum of a similar number of veterans who will come from this second Gulf War. I indicate to my colleagues that this is a downpayment because as additional service personnel, including reservists and National Guard, either by the end of their term or other voluntary action, are separated from service, they will become eligible for this 2 years of VA health care.

There is an issue raised: Can the VA absorb this cost within its current budget? It has been stated that it could because on January 17, 2003, the VA cut off the future enrollment into the VA Health Care System for moderate and higher income veterans. At that time, the VA cited rising costs, long waiting times, and focusing on core constituencies as the rationale for limiting services. There was no reference in January of 2003 that the Veterans Administration was doing this in order to prepare financially to meet the obligation it was going to have on returning troops.

In a press release on January 17, Secretary of the VA Principi said:

VA is maintaining its focus on the health care needs of those veterans, those with service-connected disabilities, the indigent, and those with special health care needs.

Again, no reference to the new obligation the VA was going to have as a result of a war which was still almost 2 months prior to commencement.

In the article in the Gainesville Sun on March 30, Secretary Principi tried to justify ending access to VA health care services for moderate and higher income veterans because of the war. He said at that time:

It’s very important at this time, when you’ve got men and women in combat, that we assure capability on time, and we ask them, that we’re not trying to care for everybody at the expense of those who take a bullet.

Some 10 weeks later, the rationale for the cutoff of moderate and high-income veterans was because of the war, whereas at the time it was done it was because the VA needed to be able to maintain its focus on its current responsibility. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record the Gainesville Sun article and the VA press release.

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

[DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS NEWS RELEASE, JAN. 17, 2003]

VA ANNOUNCES RECORD BUDGET, HEALTH CARE CHANGES

WASHINGTON.—Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi today announced a record increase in the budget for Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical care, the annual decision required by law (PL 104-262) on health care enrollment and a new plan between VA and the Department of Health and Human Services for a program that will allow eligible veterans to use their Medicare benefits for VA care.

The President’s FY 2004 Budget includes a total of $63.6 billion for VA—$30.2 billion in discretionary funding (mostly for health care) and $33.4 billion for VA-administered entitlement programs (mostly disability compensation and pensions). The budget includes $225 million for construction fundings, setting for VA’s nationwide infrastructure initiative (CARES) to ensure that VA can put services where veterans live.

VA is making a strong focus on the health care needs of its core group of veterans—those with service-connected disabilities, the indigent and those with special health care needs.

“We’re able to do so because of the generous budget proposed by President Bush for fiscal year 2003, which was enacted Oct. 1, 2002. It will be 7.7 percent more for health care than the expected FY 2003 budget. This would be the largest requested increase in VA history,” he said.

In order to ensure VA has capacity to care for veterans for whom our Nation has the greatest obligation—military-related disabilities, lower-income veterans or those needing specialized care like veterans who are blind or have spinal cord injuries—Principi has suspended additional enrollments for veterans with Selective Priorities.

This category includes veterans who are not being compensated for a military-related disability and who have higher incomes.

The suspension affects only veterans in Priority Group 8, the lowest group in VA’s eight-level system for setting health care priorities, who have not enrolled in VA’s health care system since January 17.

Priority Group 8 veterans already enrolled will be “grandfathered” and allowed to continue in VA’s health care system.

Work is underway with the Department of Health and Human Services to determine how to give Priority Group 8 veterans aged 65 or older who enroll in VA’s health care system access to the “VA+Choice Medicare” plan. The plan calls for VA to participate as a Medicare+Choice provider. Eligible veterans would be able to use their Medicare benefits to obtain care from VA.

In return, VA would receive payments from a private health plan contracting with Medicare that would cover costs. The “VA+Choice Medicare” plan would become effective later this year as details are finalized between VA and the Department of Health and Human Services.

“HHS is happy to join the Department of Veterans Affairs in developing this new option for veterans who might otherwise be unable to obtain through VA health care that would cover costs. The ‘VA+Choice Medicare’ plan would become effective later this year as details are finalized between VA and the Department of Health and Human Services.”

VA has been unable to provide all enrolled veterans with timely access to health care services because of the tremendous growth in the number of veterans seeking VA health care.

More than half of all new enrollees have been in Priority Group 8. This demand for VA health care is expected to continue in the future.

Between October 2001 and September 2002, VA enrolled 830,000 additional veterans.

Since 1996, VA enrollment has increased from 2.9 million to 6.8 million today. Non-service disabled, higher income veterans accounted for the majority of the rapid enrollment growth, hindering the ability of VA to care for the service-disabled, the indigent and those with special needs. Even with the suspension of new enrollments for Priority Groups 8 veterans, their request in Priority Groups 1 through 7 are projected to enroll by the end of FY 2003.

“Last year, VA treated 1.4 million more veterans than in 1995,” said Principi. “Nonetheless, VA leads the nation in many important areas like patient safety, computerized patient records, telemedicine, rehabilitation and research. I not only want to see this standard continue, I intend to see it get even better.”

Vets are seen as ‘grandfathered’ if they were previously eligible and able to continue in the VA health care system and sought disability benefits for everything from bullet wounds to chronic backaches.

The VA excluded from health care this year hundreds of thousands of higher income veterans who don’t have service-connected disabilities. It also proposes new fees and higher drug co-payments designed to force 1.25 million others out of the system. Principi, who had argued the moves were intended to end long waiting lists at VA hospitals and clinics, said last week they also will make room for new combat veterans.

He told House members in a hearing last week that refocusing the VA’s mission on lower-income and combat veterans is especially important now. The spin on a series of decisions that began in January tangles the politics of the Iraq war with recent disputes about the administration’s treatment of veterans.

“If we have enough casualties that that’s going to be the rationale for withholding services, this is going to be a hell of a war,” said Sen. Bob Graham, a presidential candidate from Florida who is the ranking Democrat on the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. “If there are, then there has really been an underestimate of the degree of resistance.”

Graham is a critic of Principi’s plans to exclude veterans and of the administration’s predictions of a quick victory in Iraq.

The debate is timely. The VA needs to tally its cost of the Iraq war. Tens of thousands of veterans of the 1991 Gulf War joined the VA health care system and sought disability benefits for everything from bullet wounds to chronic backaches.

Principal’s strategies are focused on the Department’s proposals for rollbacks, that concern isn’t reflected in the president’s 2004 budget. Nor, several lawmakers complained, was it a factor in President’s budget request for an initial $75 billion to cover war costs.

If the 1991 Gulf War is any guide, the VA can expect soldiers to seek care. Indeed, Congress in 1996 authorized that all combat veterans free for two years after they leave active duty. That alone could
prompt waves of new patients as active military, reservists and members of the National Guard return home.

The possibility that Saddam Hussein might employ weapons of mass destruction, warns many people hedging their predictions.

"We don't know yet whether there's going to be chemical or biological warfare," said Rep. Bob Graham, a Florida congressman on the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

The VA so far has granted disability claims to about 70,000 of the 350,000 troops who fought in the first Gulf War and have since left the service, or nearly 30 percent. About 250,000 Gulf War veterans received health care from VA hospitals last year, part of an upward trend in which 10,000 to 20,000 more Persian Gulf veterans sought health care each year since 1993, according to VA data.

The force deployed to Iraq is smaller this time—about 250,000 with more on the way compared to 700,000 in 1991—but many lawmakers are concerned about the impact on the VA could be significant.

Taxpayers for Common Sense, a budget watchdog group, estimated the war could require $100 billion to $200 billion in VA medical care and health care during the next 10 years. The wide range is based on the last Gulf War's aftermath but reflects the current uncertainties.

Bush's 2004 budget includes a $2.1 billion increase for VA health care, which is intended to deal with existing shortcomings. Prince said two-thirds of the war will bring additional costs as soldiers require care for physical and psychological wounds.

Mr. Graham of Florida. Mr. President, there is no linkage between the January action of cutting off veterans timely access to VA's quality health care and the costs which the VA is legally obligated to assume for service personnel who will be returning from the second Gulf war. We gave the VA the duty to care for service members after numerous troops returned from the first Gulf war. This duty stretches not only to injuries in combat but also to those who suffered mysterious illnesses, the cause of which, in many instances, still remains undetermined.

The use of this war will not end with the war itself and will not be confined to the borders of Iraq. Veterans will continue to pay those costs for years to come. We must be prepared for thus far neglected costs of war by assuring the VA will be prepared when the newly created veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom seek their health care. It is our responsibility to assure the VA has adequate resources to fulfill this promise. It is a promise which we, the Congress, as your representatives, made to the Senate, in 1998, unanimously passed the statutory right of veterans to have VA health care for 2 years after they separated from service for those veterans who were actually in combat in this and possible future engagements.

I urge my colleagues to join in this effort to see our veterans are provided the care they are currently earning by their service.

I seek unanimous consent to have printed the letters of several national veterans' organizations in support of my amendment from the American Legion, from Disabled American Veterans and Paralyzed Veterans of America, organizations which, together, represent more than 2 million Americans.

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

The American Legion, Washington, DC, April 1, 2003.
Hon. BOB GRAHAM, Ranking Member, Committee on Veterans Affairs, U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

Dear Senator Graham: On behalf of the 2.8 million members of The American Legion, I would like to express full support for your amendment to increase for VA health care, which is intended to deal with existing shortcomings.

The current conflict with Iraq will regrettably create a new generation of service-connected disabled veterans. Due to the experiences from the first Gulf War, President Clinton enacted of Public Law 105–368, the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act of 1998, which extended essential health care benefits for service members returning from combat duty. This law provides a two-year period of care for service members, combat-va-

Currently, VA is struggling to provide services for the current veterans' population and this supplemental funding will be essential to anticipate the needs of returning service members from Operation Iraqi Freedom. While this Nation gives its full support to the war fighters, it must equally match its support for those returning from war. The American Legion urges you and your colleagues to provide the necessary funding to meet the health care needs and benefits for veterans—past, present, and future.

The American Legion applauds your efforts and your continued support of the men and women who serve and have served in uniform.

Sincerely,
STEVE ROBERTSON, Director, National Legislative Commission.

Hon. BOB GRAHAM, Ranking Minority Member, Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

Dear Senator Graham: I would like to thank you for your proposed amendment to the Fiscal Year 2003 Supplemental Appropriations Bill that would increase Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care funding by $375 million.

As you know, sick and disabled veterans suffer because of insufficient funding in VA's health care. It would ensure that the government is capable of meeting the needs of not only veterans currently using the system, but also those returning from the war and future veterans only.

The Disabled American Veterans fully supports this effort. Thank you for your advocacy on behalf of our nation's sick and disabled veterans.

Sincerely,
EDWARD R. HEATH, SR., National Commander.

Hon. BOB GRAHAM, Ranking Minority Member, Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

Dear Senator Graham: On behalf of the members of Paralyzed Veterans of America I would like to express our strong support for your amendment to provide $375 million in funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system in the War-time Supplemental Appropriations bill.

In approving legislation, now Public Law 105–368, the Congress extended essential health care benefits for service members returning from combat duty after the first Gulf War. This law provided access to VA health care for newly disabled veterans for a two-year period following their return to civilian life. The Department of Veterans Affairs must be prepared and adequately funded to meet the challenges placed upon it by a new generation of returning veterans as well, undoubtedly, health care demand from increasing numbers of veterans will arise. Service-connected disabilities sustained as a result of this new war in Iraq. Thank you for your continuing care and concern for those who serve and have served in defense of this Nation.

Sincerely,
RICHARD B. FULLER, National Legislative Director.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. I yield.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. I join my colleagues from Florida in supporting his amendment. The Senator clearly has examples all over the country but we, especially, have examples in our State of Florida of backlogs of 6 months before a veteran can get an appointment. One of the clinics has enrollment backlogs of up to 2 years just to get into the system. There are 44,000 veterans in Florida who are backlogged, waiting 6 months for appointments. Nationwide, there are 230,000 veterans waiting to get an appointment and have to wait 6 months. That is unconscionable.

Then, the administration, in trying to deal with the shortage of money, has denied enrollment of what is called category 8 veterans which are not service connected and have an income of over $24,000 a year. They cannot even get into the system. Nationwide, that is 350,000 veterans.

I think my colleague from Florida has made the case most pointedly and I certainly will support the distinguished senior Senator from Florida.

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, I express my appreciation for the comments by my good friend and colleague, Senator NELSON. What the VA seems to want to do is to use the money saved by denying services to hundreds of thousands of veterans. They want to use it twice.

In January, the rationale was they could not meet their core responsibilities, for instance, for veterans who had a service-connected disability. In March, they want to use the same $375 million to pay for the veterans who will be coming out of the gulf war and will, by statute enacted by this Congress in 1998, be eligible, be guaranteed, access for 2 years to VA health care services.

They cannot have it both ways. The reason they want to do is to recognize this as a cost of war. But for the fact we have men and women, including reservists and National Guard personnel at risk in combat, we would not be
talking about an additional $375 million. However, the fact is, they are in combat and they at some point, like the 82 percent from the first Gulf war, will be separated from the service and therefore become eligible.

We also have a problem of the large number of veterans who are otherwise eligible because of their previous service for VA benefits who have been cut off. We need to deal with both of these problems. At least by adopting this amendment we will deal with the most current group which are the combat veterans from the war which is currently underway.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, this amendment would provide an additional $375 million for VA medical care to address the medical needs of returning veterans from the war in Iraq.

This funding would be used to meet the funding requirements of the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act of 1998 which entitles, for 2 years following the return in combat, that any active duty service member is immediately eligible to receive VA health care upon release or separation from service.

These funds will be needed at some point in the future but this amendment does not meet the requirements of this supplemental as funding that is needed immediately to address concerns related to homeland security or the war in Iraq.

And while I agree with my colleagues that VA medical care is not meeting the medical needs of veterans in a timely manner and there is much to be improved, the problem is as much systemic as it is funding. However, this funding is not needed now on the heels of the fiscal year 2003 Omnibus Appropriations bill in which we appropriated some $23.9 billion for VA medical care. This funding level was an increase of some $2.6 billion over the fiscal year 2002 level and $1 billion over the fiscal year 2003 Budget Request. The VA medical system has all the funds that it can absorb this year and will be able to meet the medical needs of any returning veterans from the war in Iraq.

We will need additional funding for VA medical care in the future but that is the job of the fiscal year 2004 and fiscal year 2005 appropriations bills.

I also do not want to leave my colleagues with the false impression that VA medical care can’t be improved. Yes, there are problems with patient backlog, but I can assure you that Secretary Principi has made a commitment to fix VA medical care and has made significant strides in addressing veteran concerns, reducing patient backlog and improving VA medical care.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of the Graham amendment to increase funding for VA medical care.

I am proud to cosponsor the Graham amendment. Our men and women in uniform have my steadfast support. We must support the brave men and women who are fighting for our country. Our troops need to know that America is with them, and we owe them a debt of gratitude. We need to remember our troops in the Federal checkbook.

That is why I am proud to cosponsor the Graham amendment. The amendment is simple and straightforward. It would provide $375 million more for VA medical care, so that when our troops return from war, the VA can give them the medical care they deserve.

Under the law we passed after the Persian Gulf War, the VA must give priority to returning troops for immediate medical care. But the VA medical care system is strained. Nationally, there are 236,000 veterans waiting longer than 6 months to get their first appointment with a VA doctor. In January, the VA health care system stopped accepting Priority 8 veterans.

These are veterans who are not service disabled, and whose income is higher than about $29,000 per year. The VA estimated that there are 33,000 veterans in this category. In May, the VA finally issues a memo instructing VA facilities that any active duty service member is immediately eligible to receive VA health care upon release or separation from service.

As the ranking member on the VA—HUD Appropriations Subcommittee, my guiding principle for the VA budget is that we keep the promises we made to our veterans. In the last four years, the VA—HUD Appropriations Committees have provided large increases for medical care, including $1.7 billion in 2000, $1.3 billion in 2001, $1 billion in 2002, and $2.4 billion in 2003. We provided these increases because we know that the failure of private health insurance companies and high prescription drug costs are really straining our veterans on fixed incomes. At the same time, our veterans population is growing and getting older.

Today, the VA treats 2 million more veterans than in 1996. And I am very concerned that the administration’s VA budget for next year does not keep promises to our veterans, and will not support the needs of our troops. The VA’s budget puts new toll charges and means tests on our veterans. Specifically, the budget proposes four things. First, the budget proposes to keep the VA closed to Priority 8 veterans.

Second, the budget proposes a new $250 entrance fee for veterans. Third, the budget proposes to increase outpatient primary care copayments from $15 to $20. Fourth, the budget proposes to increase prescription drug co-payments from $7 to $15.

I raised my concerns about these proposals with Secretary Principi during the VA—HUD Subcommittee budget hearing last month. We have great respect for Secretary Principi. He is a Vietnam Veteran who continues to serve his country. Now he’s battling OMB against a skimpy and spartan budget. I don’t understand that the budget gives OMB more than it did ever to us.

I urge my colleagues to support our troops and our veterans in the Federal checkbook by supporting the Graham amendment.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, the full attention of the Senate is focused on the current legiti—ongoing military campaign in Iraq. The newspapers this morning were focused on our latest military feats, including the apparent destruction of two important Republican Guard divisions and threats that leave us very near the outskirts of Baghdad.

Senator Bob GRAHAM, the ranking member of our Veterans’ Affairs Committee, has asked us to look ahead and begin planning for the future to ensure that our veterans receive the counseling, health care, and other services we know they will need after the last battles are fought.

The Graham amendment, of which I am a proud cosponsor, would provide $375 million to the Department of Veterans Affairs so the VA can provide adequate care for returning troops.

I cannot stress enough how vital this amendment is.

During my career, I have been involved in dealing with the aftermath of two major wars, Vietnam and Operation Desert Storm. In both cases, there was enormous confusion, frustration, and pain—much of it unnecessary, in my view—because our government assumed that veterans would come back and pick up their lives where they left off before the war.

It didn’t work that way, and it probably never will. I learned this the hard way, from talking to hundreds of veterans about post-traumatic stress disorder, Agent Orange, readjustment counseling, and Gulf War illnesses. A fascinating literature review, published in 1996, found that war syndromes, many of them poorly understood, have been associated with armed conflicts at least since the Civil War.

Today’s amendment would prepare us to assist veterans for the long term, 12 years after the 1991 Gulf War, allowing us to avoid repeating the mistakes of the past. It is not the complete answer, but it begins to move us in the right direction, by adjusting VA funding levels to reflect the number of veterans who will be returning from Iraq.

The funding level in this amendment has a very logical basis. We know that about one-third of veterans from the 1991 Gulf War and two-thirds of veterans from Operation Desert Storm will be separated from the service between now and the year 2011. We know that this population will be suffering from many different illnesses, including $1.7 billion in 2000, $1.3 billion in 2001, $1 billion in 2002, and $2.4 billion in 2003. We provided these increases because we know that the failure of private health insurance companies and high prescription drug costs are really straining our veterans on fixed incomes. At the same time, our veterans population is growing and getting older.

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Remarkably, the Administration claims the VA already has sufficient resources to accommodate returning veterans. To that surprising claim, I would respond that the VA’s wait list in the upper Midwest now forces 23,000 veterans to wait 14 months for health treatment. For next year, the Administration has told us that it needs to charge veterans $250 million in new fees and higher copayments, not to raise money, but to drive away 1.2 million veterans from VA hospitals and clinics. Senator Grahams reportedly claims that the VA can take care of returning troops because it blocked access to VA health care for thousands of middle-income veterans. But in January, when the regrettable eligibility decision occurred, the Secretary said this move was necessary just to begin working down the atrocious backlog at VA hospitals and clinics.

Sadly, this is just another chapter of an old story with this administration. It comes to the VA, their budget claims long ago ceased to be credible. The ranking member of the Veterans’ Affairs Committee, Senator Graham, deserves our thanks for stepping into the leadership void and proposing a constructive solution.

We are all proud of the spirit, valor, and selflessness exhibited by our troops. Now is the time to show our understanding, our recognition, of the personal cost associated with wartime service. I urge all senators to join this effort to prepare the VA to meet the needs of these men and women after they return home.

The Honorable Gerald B. Ford of Florida. Mr. President, I do not believe there are any Senators requesting to speak under my time, so I reserve my time for final remarks until Senator Stevens has completed his comments.

Mr. STEVENS. The time is 5 minutes, Senator.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I have to agree with my colleague from Florida that additional funds will be needed in the VA medical care account in the future. That, again, is a job for the 2004/2005 bill. Those people are coming out of the service and are cared for a period of time after they leave the service and the VA picks them up at the end of that time. This $365 million is strictly for the medical needs of returning veterans from the war in Iraq. Those are systemic problems that need to be addressed. The VA medical care for fiscal year 2003. That was $2.6 billion over the amount made available in 2002 and $1.5 billion more than the President request. The VA medical system was adjusted for what we believe will be the demands on the VA for returning veterans during the period of this fiscal year.

Again, there is no question there will be additional funds to meet medical needs of returning veterans and they will be defined, I am sure, as we get into the fiscal year 2004 bill. I do know that there are some problems in the VA, but they are not in medical funding. Those problems that need to be addressed. I have every confidence in the current Secretary of the Veterans’ Administration, Secretary Principi. He has visited with me personally. As a matter of fact, he worked here in the Senate. We know him well. He was a staff member to the Senate committee. I do believe he is sincere in telling us these funds are not needed at this juncture.

The funds that may be needed in the future must be addressed on the basis of the magnitude of the conflict in Iraq, the war in Afghanistan and the war on terrorism.

I state categorically to the Senate I do not oppose additional funds to meet the medical needs for returning veterans. But in my proper process now to deal with returning veterans’ needs from the VA that might exceed funds already available for fiscal year 2003.

I hope to work with the Senator from Florida. I assure him, obviously, there are many of us here on the floor of the Senate who are veterans. We would not in any way take action to deny the funds that are necessary to meet their needs, particularly these gallant people who are on the front line now.

No one on the floor of the Senate yet has mentioned the stories on the front pages of all papers in America today about the gallant young lady who fought the fight in Iraq, almost to her own death, and after the death of several of her colleagues. She was trained as a supply clerk. She is one of the veterans, now, that will have needs. I assure the Senate we are going to see those needs are met. Jessica Lynch is an example for all Americans, and particularly for young women. I have had several comments about her gallantry and we are all inspired by her gallantry. But the subject now is what is her need?

There is available, for this fiscal year, the balance of the $23.9 billion that this Department already has. When the time comes, I am confident that Secretary Principi will request additional funds for fiscal year 2004 as necessary and we have to give that to the VA. Mr. President, I now move to table the amendment of the Senate from Florida. I ask unanimous consent that it be set aside to occur in the sequence that being on at 10 minutes on the floor. Mr. Grahams of Florida. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the motion to table.
Mr. STEVENS. I am not prepared to agree to the yeas and nays at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair needs to inform the Senator from Alaska the motion to table is not in order because there remains to the Senator from Florida.

Mr. STEVENS. I apologize. I thought the Senator used his time.

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. The Senator from Alaska is correct. I have used my time and am prepared to yield it back. Let me make a parliamentary inquiry. The Senator from Alaska is now requesting a motion to table my amendment, which will be voted on later today. I want to be clear I am not foregoing my right to ask that there be a recorded rollcall vote on that motion to table.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I have no intention to deny that. I may wish to ask the Senator to modify his amendment at a later date, so I would like to not get the yeas and nays yet, but I will agree to them when the time comes, if necessary.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has not lost the right to request the yeas as a matter of procedure.

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. I yield the remainder of my time.

Mr. STEVENS. I thank the Senator. I do make the motion to table and reserve the right to decide what to do.

Under our understanding, we will have Senators from our side of the aisle offer amendments now. I see the Senator from Nevada here. He has an amendment.

Before that, if he doesn't mind, I ask unanimous consent that we return to the amendment of Senator BAYH and have it put before the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT AS MODIFIED

Mr. STEVENS. I send to the desk a modification of that amendment on behalf of Senator BAYH and his cosponsors and myself.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is modified.

The amendment (No. 474), as modified, is as follows:

On page 38, after line 24 add the following:

SEC. (a) No funds made available in this Act for purposes of reconstruction in Iraq may be provided, to a person who is a citizen or is organized under the laws of France or Germany unless physically located in the United States.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, has it been read? Was the amendment read in full?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator asked consent to have the reading of the amendment called off.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will read the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

At an appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. 4. (a) No funds made available in this Act for purposes of reconstruction in Iraq may be provided, to a person who is a citizen or is organized under the laws of France or Germany unless physically located in the United States.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent there be 30 minutes on each side for this amendment. I do not know how much time Senators might request, but I have been informed there may be several Senators who wish to discuss the matter, and 30 minutes on a side would be sufficient.

Does the Senator from Nevada wish to be recognized?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to the manager of the bill, I am going to talk to Senator Biden. He has called the cloakroom. I will see how he feels about this. He is at a Foreign Relations matter.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I withdraw the request for the unanimous consent, but I do believe there is going to be substantial need for time on this one.

I thank the Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I have a very simple amendment.

As we have seen leading up to this time of war, the United States and our President attempted many diplomatic means to try to make us not go to war. And many people, including myself, feel those diplomatic means were thwarted by some of our traditionally closest allies. And what I mean by thwarted is that the stronger of a hand our President would have had in the negotiations, I believe the better chance we would have had of not going to war.

Gerhard Schroeder, in his election bid, I believe, shamelessly used some anti-American sentiments to narrowly gain his reelection. Now, that may have been a shrewd political move for him to make, but it was certainly not statesmanship. He started many in the world against the United States in this diplomatic effort that we were engaged in in trying to avoid war with Iraq by going to them to dissemble our resolve.

After Germany started leading this battle, France joined the battle and has taken it to a new level, much to the dismay of, I believe, most Americans.

We now are engaged in a conflict to change the regime in Iraq. That regime, by all accounts, is a brutal regime and needs to be changed. And we need to disarm that country from weapons of mass destruction, which, as Americans—and I think the rest of the world looking on—we can see what a fabulous job our military is doing in accomplishing their mission.

My amendment today says when the conflict is over and we are going to rebuild Iraq, American taxpayer dollars are not to go, in the rebuilding of Iraq, to French or German companies, to French or German citizens, because of what their governments did in opposition to the United States. It was not just that they voted against us at the United Nations. They led—especially France led—the world against the United States and, I believe, because of that, made it more difficult in Turkey. If we could have had our ground troops available in Turkey, we could end this war much sooner than when it will be ended.

So this amendment says American tax dollars, in the rebuilding of Iraq, are not to be used for going to any companies and/or citizens from the countries of France or Germany.

Now, if a company from France actually has a subsidiary in the United States that employs people, our amendment allows that subsidiary to bid on the contracts. But in no case can the company that is located in France or located in Germany bid on these contracts and win the contracts from the United States.

As we have seen, the situation is not to the United Nations and other countries decide to put together a coalition and fund that coalition with international dollars or...
their own dollars, our President, the State Department, and everybody else in the United Nations concerned can give the contracts to whomever they want. But I believe, as an American—and I believe the American people—would support, our foreign policy and say it would be wrong to have our tax dollars going to companies and individuals within France and within Germany because I believe their behavior leading up to this was really quite despicable.

So, Mr. President, I offer this amendment to the Senate today. I hope it is supported widely across this body. I believe it is the right thing to do. I believe it will send a strong message in the future that when countries are trying to do the right thing, and rid the world of a brutal dictator, they should be supported, and you should not expect a reward afterward, as we are seeing countries now around the world trying to jump on board as the war looks like it is going well. We should not reward those countries who, the first place, had opposed us.

So, Mr. President, I reserve the remainder of my time and look forward to hearing other Senators speak on this subject.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to oppose this amendment. I very much respect the distinguished Senator from Nevada. However, I think this amendment is enormously destructive. If America is going to become an arrogant nation, do things only our way, this is a good way to begin. I believe it would be a tragic and a terrible mistake.

The amendment is couched in such words that no one would know exactly what it means. It reads:

No funds made available in this Act for purposes of reconstruction in Iraq may be provided to a person who is a citizen of or is organized under the laws of France or Germany, unless such person is a resident of or organized under the laws of the United States.

I just want to know how this would affect an employee of a given company, an officer of a given company, or anyone else, I think creates a whole mass of very real problems. I think to use the word “despicable” perhaps is hyperbole. I think there is a legitimate point of difference between European nations and the United States with respect to how to handle Iraq. Culturally there are differences. Diplomatically there are differences. But to pass a piece of legislation that puts America’s No. 1 allies in a position of being an absolute enemy of this country, I think is a terrible thing to do. I hope we would vote down this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina). The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I believe we will have relationships with France and Germany. We have had many good relationships with both of those countries in the past. I believe we need to have good relations with both of them in the future. But I just think it would be patently wrong for us to use money from this supplemental bill we are doing today in providing for the rebuilding of Iraq, it would be absolutely wrong to provide money to a country that actively tried to get the rest of the world to oppose us in doing what the United States believed was right in the world: To disarm a brutal dictator, to rid his own country of weapons of mass destruction, and with the support of all of our allies, to use force. It is the right thing to do.

The United States during World War II was the leader with our allies in getting rid of a brutal dictator back then. Today the United States is attempting to do the same thing. Some countries tried to appease Adolf Hitler during World War II. We were hearing up until this a lot of the same arguments, especially from the French, about Saddam Hussein. Well, we will just deal with him. We could just appease him, just keep him going along.

I believe brutal dictators understand force. They understand countries that will stand up to them. The more you try to appease them, the more it will embolden them that what the French were trying to do is lead the rest of the world to do, to make Saddam Hussein more dangerous in the future.

President Bush is leading a coalition to disarm Saddam Hussein and to disarm him from weapons of mass destruction. It is the right thing to do. When we are done with it, when we rebuild that country, liberating the Iraqi people is going to take some reconstruction. It always has to happen. I believe that is what France was trying to lead the rest of the world to do, to make Saddam Hussein more dangerous in the future.

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Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, the bill actually reflects sort of the sentiments we are talking about here today, but it is only a sense of the Senate. We actually want to put it in legislative language. Section 506, page 35 says:

It is the sense of the Senate—[Clause cut off by rising of Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina.]

The unilateral approach of this country is subject to some concern by other countries. That is not necessarily a bad thing. This is the first time in America’s history we have unilaterally, with Great Britain, with the help of a couple of friends, and with some tacit support of other countries, in different ways, some public, some not public, essentially invaded another sovereign nation. There is a difference of opinion as to whether we should have stayed at the United Nations. I think we should share the burden. I think we should have worked to have made this more multilateral. I believe we should have taken the time to do so. But we chose not to do that. The administration chose not to do it.

For the Senate to pass this amendment—millions as well might as well include a whole host of other countries in this—sets us upon a very bad course of action. I think we would want everyone’s help in the rebuilding of Iraq. I think we do not want every- one’s help in the establishment of a secure and open and free and, perhaps one day, democratic, new Iraqi government. To place two of America’s staunchest allies, France and Ger- many, who have shown their solidarity with us over the years from the time—certainly the French from the time our country was founded, the Germans certainly subsequent to World War II, and not to understand that there are strong antiwar feelings in both of these countries is shortsighted.

What this Senate should try to do is bring people together, bring our allies together, to reduce America’s unilateral courses in the world, to work with our friends. This does not help.

I hope there will be an overwhelming vote against this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, the bill actually reflects sort of the sentiments we are talking about here today, but it is only a sense of the Senate. We actually want to put it in legislative language. Section 506, page 35 says:

It is the sense of the Senate that, to the maximum extent practicable, contracts (including subcontracts) and grants for relief and reconstruction in Iraq from funds appropriated under this chapter should be awarded to United States companies (particularly small and medium sized businesses) and or- ganizations, to companies and organizations in the Near East region, and to those from countries which have provided assistance to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Our amendment narrows it. It was said there are countries that have been opposing America around the world, not just France and Germany. I agree. But it is France and Germany that have been leading the fight. That is the reason we targeted those two countries. In World War II, European security was threatened. America came to Europe. In Korea, European security was threatened. America came to the rescue. With Iraq, American security is threatened and Germany and France are AWOL. It would be entirely
Inappropriate for the money from an emergency supplemental bill to pay for the war and pay for reconstruction of Iraq, for those monies to go to countries that have attempted to lead the world against us in protecting our own security, and, in ridding the Middle East of one of the most brutal dictators it has ever seen.

It is highly appropriate to have this amendment. I hope we have a very strong vote from this body that shows the American people when countries come against us, we are not going to reward them. We will not reward them by giving them money to help rebuild something.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I am very aware of the role that Germany has played there. We defended Germany, and now we are using those bases, obviously, with their permission.

Second, is he aware that there are already contracts out from our Department of Defense with firms that would be nullified under this bill? Also, I would like to ask the question, if he does know, to what extent would those contracts be nullified by this legislation?

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I am very aware of the role that Germany is playing there. We defended Germany, with those bases, from the Soviet threat during the entire cold war. It is the reason that Germany hasn't had to spend hardly any money on their national defense—because America has been providing that umbrella of defense, and now we are using those bases, obviously, with their permission.

That is something we appreciate, but it doesn't take away the fact of the role they played in trying to turn world opinion against the United States. I still think it is inappropriate to have these funds going toward these other countries. If this nullifies those other contracts, as far as I am concerned, the purse strings are controlled by the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate. That is the role they are supposed to have. We should be able to at least direct—when we feel strongly—where some of those funds could go. I think it would be highly inappropriate for those funds to be going toward companies and persons from Germany and from France.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, if I might, I would like to read an editorial that was published in the Los Angeles Times. I think it is pertinent. It was published on the 30th of last month, a few days ago. It is entitled, “Move Past the Grudges.”

The United States should act to review tattered alliances that will be needed in the fight against terrorism. It goes on to point out:

Blair visited Bush at Camp David last week and readily acknowledged the bruisings left by the rancorous United Nations debate before the war. When Bush was asked about the many nations that declined to join the war alliance, he replied only that the United States and Britain had plenty of Western allies that continue to stand with us. Blair, however, frankly conceded that many countries disagree with what we are doing. How that divide is handled now and after the war will affect global relationships for years to come.

Mr. President, I could not agree more. I don’t know why we have any need to be small, to be rancorous, and to be bitter. Right now, we have our men and women in harm’s way, and the battle is turning and it is favoring our side. The question is, how can we put this conflict to an end, that we can mend the wounds, that we can rebuild the country, that we can show to the entire Muslim/Arab world that America is indeed an open, fair, democratic country, and we care about the Muslim people.

I don’t believe any purpose is served by this amendment. I don’t believe the world is going to be a better place because we pass this amendment. I don’t believe there is a way to go on to replace or bind any wounds with this amendment. I believe we will drive deeper the scars into the psyche of America with this amendment. I believe we will spread apart our alliances with this amendment. I hope this amendment is not a harbinger of things to come on the floor of the U.S. Senate because I believe it does disrespect to a strong, able, competent, and compassionate United States of America.

I urge its defeat.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. ENSIGN. It has been asked, What should the United States do to repair our relationship with France? My question is, May we go to the Senate and ask them to repair their relationship with the United States? The United States is attempting to defend itself, to rid the world of a brutal dictator. September 11 changed everything. We all know that.

America is vulnerable. America is the only superpower left in the world, which makes us a target. France is taking advantage of the fact that we are the only superpower and, because of that, there are natural sentiments against one country having the superpower, so France often would like to curry favor with the Saddam Hussein regime, to continue the trade relations they have. I believe has done something that is very wrong. So I believe France has an obligation to America to try to repair the relationship they have with us. I believe it is up to them to make the first step, and they certainly have not done that—at least up to this point.

So we are open to having them do that? Absolutely. But they have not done it up to this point. At least Germany is making some strides, but France—France is really even made strides. If you look at this historically, over the last many years, France has done just the opposite. France didn’t even want Turkey to be able to defend itself against weapons or missiles coming in. They use NATO to protect Turkey from missiles coming in from Iraq. That is how much France has wanted to keep favorable relations with Saddam Hussein and his brutal regime.

What is the motivation for this? I don’t believe it is because France and Jacques Chirac helped them build a nuclear reactor that would lead to nuclear bombs, and then once Israel took out their nuclear reactor, he offered to rebuild it. There seems to be some interest that France has with Saddam Hussein that leads to ulterior motives and this whole idea of getting the world against the United States.

So for France to have taken this idea that the United States is a superpower, and they want to get into the only superpower, come over here and join us, I think to take advantage of those kinds of natural sentiments in the world has been very wrong, when the United States is trying to do something that I believe is on the moral high ground. All you have to do is look at how this brutal regime treats prisoners of war—they torture them—or how they treat their own people, who either are afraid to fight—I mean, if you had bombs coming in night after night after night and see people getting blown up in their tank, you would think that that might be a little unnerving.

When those people try to go back to their homes, they say: You know what? This regime is not worth giving my life for. What do they do? They have checkpoints, and as those people try to leave, they are shooting them. That is the kind of regime with which we are dealing, and that is the kind of regime France was trying to curry favor with. It is long past time to improve with Germany and improve with France? Yes, but they have
to come to the table with something for those relations to improve. The United States gives and gives and gives, and it is time for the United States to hold countries accountable that come against us. That is all I believe that is doing. It is saying tax—payers dollars that are earned by the American people and sent to Washington, DC, are not going to be sent to companies and citizens of France and Germany.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Ensign amendment be temporarily set aside so we might consider an amendment offered by the Senator from Arizona.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. RUD. Reserving the right to object, as I have explained to the managers of the bill, we have been waiting now for some time for the Senator from Delaware. He will be here and he will now speak after the Senator from Arizona. It is my understanding on the managers of the bill there are others who wish to speak so Senator BIDEN would not be the last.

I have no objection.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I understand there may be several Senators who wish to speak on the amendment of Senator ENSIGN. It would be my desire that we accommodate those people but then go back to the McCain amendment that has finished. The Ensign amendment will be with us for a little while this afternoon.

Does the Senator from Arizona wish to enter into a time agreement?

Mr. MCCAIN. I am sure it will not be long, but since my colleague Senator KYL wants to speak on it, I would like to wait before entering a time agreement.

Mr. STEVENS. For the interest of Senators, could we have some timeframe?

Mr. McCAIN. It should not be more than 15 or 20 minutes.

Mr. STEVENS. I thank the Senator.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To remove unauthorized and earmarked appropriations)

At the end of the bill, add the following:

LIMITATIONS ON OTHER PROVISIONS

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act:

(1) Amounts made available under sections 310, 312, and 313 of title I shall not be made available for the purposes stated in those sections.

(2) Amounts made available for each of the following items elsewhere in this Act for fiscal year 2003 shall not be made available as provided in this Act:

(A) $300,000,000 for the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to be used for sea lamprey control in Lake Champlain within the Procurement, Acquisition and Construction Account of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the Department of Commerce as provided for under chapter 2 of title II.

(B) $225,000 for the Mental Health Association of Tarrant County, Ft. Worth, Texas, to provide school-based mental health education to schools in Tarrant County; $200,000 for the AIDS Research Institute at the University of California, San Francisco, for Development of Medical Program to facilitate travel between the United States and developing countries; and $1,000,000 for the Geisinger Health System, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to establish centers of excellence for the treatment of autism, as provided for under paragraph (5) under the amendments to Public Law 108-7 for matter under the heading “Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Resources and Services, and the Department of Labor as provided for under chapter 5 of title II.

(3) Amounts appropriated for each of the following items for fiscal year 2003 shall be zero instead of the following amounts appropriated elsewhere in this Act:

(A) $98,000,000 for Buildings and Facilities under the Agricultural Research Service of the Agricultural Department as provided for under chapter 1 of title I.

(B) $50,000,000 for the cost of guaranteed loans under the Maritime Guaranteed Loan (title XI) Program Account of the Maritime Administration as provided for under chapter 10 of title I.

(C) $1,000,000 for the jumps for America’s Graduates (JAG) school-to-work program for at-risk young people for Training and Employment Services under the Employment and Training Administration of the Department of Labor as provided for under chapter 5 of title II.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, as I said yesterday during the debate on the supplemental, I hope we can consider the bill that did not include a host of add-ons that were not requested by the administration. Today, with many of our young men and women in harm’s way, we should be considering a measure to support the ongoing war efforts and our Nation’s homeland security needs, not a bill that was free of unnecessary provisions in wasteful earmarks. I hope we could do it just once.

The amendment offered by Senator KYL and myself is intended to improve the bill to achieve that goal. This amendment would not provide funding for a number of items in the bill that are not associated with the stated purpose of the bill. If there is discussion by other Members, I make it fully understood this amendment is proposed in order to ensure the new bill which I may repeat several times, which is: Making supplemental appropriations to support Department of Defense operations in Iraq, Department of Homeland Security, and related efforts for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

Clearly, this legislation is to pay for the war in Iraq and other homeland security needs. It is not here to pay for agricultural facilities, for loan guarantees, for sea lamprey control in Lake Champlain, for the Mental Health Association in Tarrant County, Fort Worth, TX, or AIDS research at the University of California, for the study of treatment of autism at the Geisinger Health System, Harrisburg, PA. None of those, even in one’s wildest imagination, relates to the title of this legislation.

What Senator KYL and I have done is propose an amendment, rather than drag the Senate through each individual measure and forcing votes on it—which we could have done—but lump them all together and find out whether the Senate is going to continue its porkbarreling ways, which has become, to me, a national scandal, or we are going to draw the line somewhere.

Let me go specifically through what our amendment would not fund. It would not fund $98 million for buildings and facilities under the Agricultural Research Service to continue construction for USDA research facilities. Of course, it is designated in Ames, IA, but we have favorable attention from the appropriators previously when a $50 million was also earmarked in the fiscal year 2003 omnibus appropriations bill.

The very first lines in the emergency supplemental bill include $98 million in funds that are intended to be used to continue modernization work on the animal and inspection services facility near Ames, IA. I note this facility received favorable attention from the appropriators previously when a $50 million earmark for the same facility was included in last year’s supplemental bill that was intended to fight the war against terrorism. An additional $33 million was also earmarked in the fiscal year 2003 omnibus appropriations bill.

The administration has previously stated additional funding as suggested in last year’s supplemental bill was not an essential priority at that time. As a further demonstration of the non-emergency nature of this project, the administration’s 2004 budget does not request any funding to supplement this effort.

Certainly, the study of farm animal diseases and controlling known and unknown animal diseases are clearly important to national public health
issues. As part of the Government's effort to improve its knowledge of defense agents and mechanisms, this research facility and other related facilities do serve an important purpose. However, this work is already underway. In fact, the $98 million loan as part of this essential war spending measure is simply not required or necessary.

Finally, this ongoing project will clearly be the subject of additional appropriations in future years through the routine appropriations process. These particular renovations are not scheduled to be completed for at least a few more years. I find it difficult to believe removing this $98 million earmark at a time when it is not needed will jeopardize its continued planning and construction.

We will not fund $50 million for the Maritime Administration's title XI loan guarantee program. Chapter 10 of title I provides $50 million in funding to the Maritime Administration for the XI guaranteed loan program for shipbuilders and shipyards. As I said yesterday, this funding is not justified as part of an emergency supplemental to fund the ongoing war. Not only is the program riddled with problems, but the administration did not propose funding it, either in its 2004 or 2003 budget. The Title XI program does not serve any defense or homeland security purpose. It should not receive funding under the guise of a wartime need.

The title XI program is without question one of the most wasteful and mismanaged guarantee programs in the Federal Government. Since 1998, loan defaults have totaled $460 million. On Monday of this week, the Department of Transportation's Office of Inspector General released a report that details the multiple problems with the program's administration. Moreover, how can this provision be aimed at supporting the current war when vessels take years to be built? It simply cannot.

I take a moment to respond to some of the comments made by my colleagues yesterday on the floor in defense of the title XI Maritime Loan Guarantee Program that warrant clarification to ensure there is no misconception about the program.

First, it was asserted that this program is a critical need for the auxiliary maritime industrial base in support of our defense needs. This argument has been used time and time again in an attempt to justify this pork barrel program. Appraisers have claimed for years that commercial ship construction keeps shipyards open and reduces the costs associated with defense ship construction.

I cannot argue against the claim that providing subsidies helps to keep shipyards open. If any evidence that commercial ship construction reduces the costs associated with defense ship construction. In fact, recent evidence shows just the opposite.

In February, the Department of Justice filed suit against Newport News Shipbuilding for knowingly mischarging the U.S. Navy for more than $72 million of costs related to the design and development of commercial plaques. This funding was passed through as a matter of record. Since then, $350 million has been awarded to the shipbuilders to support these claims. So we are not talking about small amounts of money.

Mr. President, $500,000 for another program that will not be funded is $500,000 for the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. Title 11, Chapter 2 of the bill earmarks $500,000 for the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to be used for sea lamprey control in Lake Champlain. This funding was requested by the administration and the sea lamprey does not, in my opinion, pose a clear and present danger to our national security. I hope my colleagues will agree that a wartime supplemental is not an appropriate vehicle to fund an item of this nature, which has absolutely nothing to do with fighting the war in Iraq or meeting our homeland security needs.

One million dollars for the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) school-to-work program for at-risk young people for Training and Employment Services under the Employment and Training Administration of the Department of Labor.

The supplemental appropriations bill provides $1 million for the Department of Labor's JAG, school-to-work program for at-risk youth people. This program is a school-to-career program implemented in 1,000 high schools, alternative schools, community colleges, and middle schools across the country and United Kingdom. Its mission is to keep young people in school through graduation and to provide education experiences that will lead to career advancement opportunities or to enroll in a post-secondary institution that leads to a rewarding career.

No one disputes that the goals of this program are worthwhile and that this may be a valuable and effective program. But what is it doing in an appropriations bill whose purpose, by its stated title, is to 'support Department of Defense Operations Iraq, Department of Homeland Security, and Related Efforts' . . . ? Can someone tell me how this program is so related to our war effort and homeland security that we must provide funding for it today in this bill? If it is so urgent, then why was it not included in the President's supplemental appropriations request?

When we consider the Labor/HHS appropriations bill for the next fiscal year, we should debate funding for this program at that time. The Labor/HHS appropriations bill is the proper legislative vehicle for debate about this program—not this war supplemental. We are doing a disservice to our young men and women fighting the war in Iraq by attaching this unrelated program to a bill designed to support their efforts.

Mr. President, there is $225,000 for the Mental Health Association of Tarrant County, Ft. Worth, TX to provide school-based mental health education to schools in Tarrant County, $200,000 for the IDS Research Institute at the University of California, San Francisco for Developing County Medical Program to facilitate clinician exchange between the United States and developing countries, and $1,000,000 for the Geisinger Health System, Harrisburg, PA to establish centers for excellence for the treatment of autism.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) portion of the emergency supplemental spending bill to fund the war in Iraq includes several initiatives. Such funding may be for worthy health endeavors. However, these provisions are earmarks and they do not belong within the text of an emergency bill devoted to funding the war. These earmarks are funded from monies allocated by the fiscal year 2003 omnibus appropriations bill which I understand were earmarked in the accompanying report. But now, the appropriators are seeking to earmark them in statute.

There is directive language that would allow West Point cadets to receive flight training during the summer at The University of North Dakota.

Last year's appropriations Senate Report—-I emphasize "report," which does not have the effect of law—earmarked $2 million in Army Operation and Maintenance account for the University of North Dakota ROTC program, known as "Air Battle Captain." On this supplemental bill, there is directive language which would authorize the first time a program to teach flight training to West Point cadets during summer training at the University of North Dakota. This sounds like a good program, but
shouldn't this aviation training program be competitively bid? Perhaps cadets could be better trained at the Army aviation school at Fort Rucker in Alabama. Arizona also has a very good aviation school in Prescott, AZ—Emory Riddle University. These schools should be afforded the same opportunity to train West Point cadets. At the very least, there should be competition, to determine the most cost-effective means to provide this type of initial pilot training to West Point cadets. Otherwise, I fear the Senate may be back in the same old business as usual, sending its cadets to some other university, but without consideration of other pilot training capabilities. That is wrong. That is wrong.

In the Senate report—not in bill language—there is an earmark for $12 million from Defense-Wide Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation for airfield improvements in Alaska that may be included with the Department of Defense-based mid-course missile defense program. Because this is report language, I can not strike it in my amendment, however it is equally as appalling.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the Department of Defense Operations and Budget: “Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation covers the costs of developing and testing new systems and subsystems.” My staff advises me that, this may have been included in the Appropriations bill language in some form—but I could not find it. However, I question the merit of this earmark. If this was a valid program, why would we take critical dollars from research, development, testing, and evaluation funding—which Republicans and Democrats alike, understand is underfunded according to defense budget experts—to pay for airfield improvements in Alaska? Why are we robbing critical defense Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation funds to pay for Air Force Construction money? Mr. President, $12 million is a lot money for airfield improvements.

The Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee provides Airport Improvement Program funding for airports in the United States for planned maintenance and construction. This is a lot of money to refurbish the airfield. Because it is report language—it is a Senate Appropriations Committee recommendation only—the Department of Defense does not need to pay the $12 million in this way, so it could simply ignore the Senate recommendation as it does not have the force of law.

Similarly, there are two other earmarks in my amendment that I will explain are not new earmarks. In fact, they were included in the Senate Appropriations Report language last year. We have a new kind of routine that is going on here by the appropriations committees that certainly is a testimony to imagination, but I think it is something that is a new opening for pork barrel spending.

In an appropriations bill, you put in money for a general fund and it is in the report language, not having the force of law, so, therefore, those of us who want to eliminate it cannot do so because it is in the report language. Then in the following appropriations bill, they earmark from that report language that is in the pork barrel project. It is wrong. It is wrong.

In any case, there is no doubt this year—the war supplemental to support Department of Defense operations in Iraq—includes bill language specifically to provide $6.8 million from Air Force Operation and Maintenance accounts to build and install fiber optic and power upgrades at the 11th Air Force Range in Eielmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska. Furthermore, there is $3 million earmarked in the Operation and Maintenance accounts directing the Army to build a rifle range for the South Carolina National Guard. Why not use Military Construction funding, if this was a worthwhile project. Why hide it in Operation and Maintenance funding?

For the benefit of my colleagues, operations and maintenance money is used to train people. This is what we could use to provide spare parts. This is so that we have the movement and readiness of our military. So we are, in report language, saying they should take money from operation and maintenance accounts to build fiber optic and power upgrades at Eielmendorf Air Force Base and to build a rifle range for the South Carolina National Guard.

The one thing many of us have worried about, and worried about for years and years, is operation and maintenance. We always shortchange them because they are nonsexy items. There is no contract let, generally speaking, for operation and maintenance—to provide the spare parts, the maintenance of the high-tech equipment, the fuel, all of these things. Where is the redirected money coming from for fiber optic upgrades, for building a rifle range? Out of operation and maintenance.

Again, according to the Congressional Budget Office and the Office of Management and Budget: “Operation and Maintenance (O&M) includes spending on fuel, spare parts, and overhauls of military equipment. O&M also includes spending on such items as health care, environmental programs, training and repair of buildings, roadways, runways, and base operating support including telephone systems and computers.”

Report language does not have the force of law. The war supplemental bill language does however. There will now be no doubt in any Pentagon general counsel’s mind because the Iraq war supplemental says: Spend the money or you will be breaking the law.

Mr. President, let me express my deep concern about a pattern that must be halted. I hope we can vote in favor of this amendment. It is not a huge amount of money when we are talking about the size of this overall bill. I believe all of these provisions from which we are trying to eliminate the money would probably be restored in a normal appropriations process—whether I happen to agree with it or not. But how do we tell our constituents, who are paying their taxes and are currently experiencing difficult times now with unemployment high, with cutbacks, and people being laid off—that we are going to take their tax dollars, in the name of funding the war on Iraq and homeland security, and spend it on these projects? I do not think we should be doing this.

I hope my colleagues will consider voting in favor of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if I could direct a question to the Senator from Arizona, it is my understanding there are others who wish to speak on your amendment. The reason I mention that is because what we would like to do is arrange a vote on your amendment in the order that has been set to begin at 1:50.

Prior to that, the ranking member of the Foreign Relations Committee is here to speak on the preceding amendment. When the Senator from Arizona knows, we took the Senator from Arizona out of order.

How long does the Senator from Idaho wish to speak?

Mr. CRAIG. No more than 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCAIN. I object. From my colleagues, I tried to get a handle on it. My colleagues from Arizona, Senator KYL, I know wants to speak on it, but I am not sure there is a lot of other significant debate on the amendment.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senator from Idaho finishes his remarks, the Senator from Delaware be recognized and we would return temporarily back to the Ensign amendment.

Mr. MCCAIN. I object.

Mr. REID. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. McCAIN. After that, return to the Ensign amendment or return to the McCain amendment.

Mr. REID. He is going to speak on the Ensign amendment. Then we would immediately go back to the McCain amendment.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the Senator repeat the request?

Mr. REID. I am happy to. I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Idaho, Mr. CRAIG, be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes on the pending amendment. Mr. MCAFEE has the floor, and that following his statement, the Senator from Delaware, Mr. BIDEN, be recognized to speak on the Ensign amendment; and that following the statement of the Senator from Delaware, we will go back to the McCain amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I come to the floor to speak in support of S. 762, but in doing so, I have been seated here for the last few minutes listening to the senior Senator from Arizona. I must tell you, what he speaks about in relation to the objectives of the appropriations bill makes a good deal of sense.

I think all of us are looking at debt and deficit at this moment and recognizing the tremendous importance of supporting our men and women in uniform and people who are currently out of work. It is wise to fund defense, funding our war effort, making sure we hold our spending down so the deficit does not become unmanageable, getting this economy turned on, and getting the men and women of America back to work. That is really what we all ought to be about at this moment.

I do understand the importance of the airline industry. I do question whether it has reorganized, restructured, asked its employees, asked its executives, asked its pilots to reshape their salaries to get them in line with other industries in our country, and, as a result of that, get their act back together instead of asking the American taxpayers to continually bail them out.

I do not, in any way, underestimate the value of the flow of commerce and the benefit of tourism and recreation, and business men and women flying around our country, and certainly the average person who just wishes to travel for whatever purpose.

I understand the importance of the airline industry. I will vote for this legislation, but I am struggling mightily at this moment in an industry that just has not faced the reality of the day, the reality of years and years of building a commitment to its employees that it may now not well be able to finance and, therefore, to ask the American taxpayer to bail them out in absence of significant reform.

Some airlines are doing that. Some have already announced major cutbacks, major adjustments in salary, and they are struggling to hang on. Others have not done so. I hope they will follow suit. We have put some provisions in the legislation that I trust will allow for a revamping of the industry.

Lastly, let me say, because I have not had the opportunity in the last several days—busy in briefings on the war, busy in committees—to come to the floor and, as one of Idaho’s Senators, and 1 of 100 Senators here, tell the men and women in uniform who are currently in harm’s way in Iraq how proud I am of them, how proud I am of their leadership and the tremendous work they are doing there on behalf of our country and the civilian population of Iraq, who for decades have only known the iron fist, the bullet, or the poison of a dictator who has brought that country to phenomenal despair—a country that has lost almost a quarter of a million people in the last decade through starvation or from fleeing their homeland just for the sake of their families and themselves and their well-being.

We are there for a purpose. Yes, it is self-serving in the sense of the stability of our country and the wiping out of terrorism around the world and those who might feed it and those who might cause it to flourish, but it says something about this great country when we are willing to put ourselves, our men and women and our resources, at risk to save others, to free others, to provide them with a better opportunity.

That is what we are doing in the nation of Iraq at this very moment.

The war, on the whole, goes well, and I am extremely proud of those who execute it and those brave souls who stand in harm’s way on behalf of our country and on behalf of the citizens of Iraq.

The supplemental appropriations bill is about that. And it should be about that and not about a lot of other things that can appropriately come before the Appropriations Committee, on which I serve, and/or the authorizing committees that should be setting the necessary budgets, holding the necessary hearings as it relates to how the public resources of this country get allocated.

So I trust that my colleagues will review this critically, can, in the whole, support S. 762, and recognize its importance as we fight our deficits, work to turn on an economy, work to put the men and women of America back to work, and at the same time assure those who stand in Iraq at this very moment that they have the support of a country, an appreciative country, and they have the resources of this country to assure them the material necessary to not only execute their mission but to keep them safe.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise in support of the amendment by the Senator from Arizona to the amendment of which I am a cosponsor.

This amendment, if accepted, will require the Department of State to produce a report within 60 days following the termination of offensive military operations in Iraq detailing everything that is known about that country’s weapons of mass destruction programs, as well as about its ability to field conventional forces after a decade of sanctions. Finally, it will require that the report in question provide a thorough description of the means by which Iraq acquired the designs, technologies, components, and systems with which to develop and construct weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery.

Finally, the report required by this amendment will include a discussion of the effectiveness of the unilateral and multilateral agreements designed to prevent Iraq’s acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. This is not intended as an indictment of these agreements. On the contrary, they were an essential component of the structure needed to try to prevent Iraq’s ability to acquire such weapons. Rather, it is intended to educate us as to the ways in which rogue governments seek to manipulate and undermine sanctions regimes and, in some instances, exploit them within mercantilist tendencies of some nations to look the other way when logic otherwise dictates caution.
American blood is being shed in the deserts and in the towns and villages of Iraq for the principal purpose of ensuring that a brutal dictator is denied the ability to use chemical, biological or nuclear weapons against his neighbors, again in that land, and against us, and our American homeland. The reasons that we arrived at this point in time are many and are varied. Sufficient to say, however, that vitally important lessons will be drawn from this conflict, and without them leading up to it. Among those lessons will be ways in which Iraq was able to amass the capabilities that it possessed at the time of Operation Desert Storm, and that it was able to retain and accumulate in the decade since. We know, for instance, that it succeeded in exploiting oil-for-food income for illicit purposes. What we need to better understand and to illuminate for the public, however, is the extent to which others facilitated those transactions.

As the remains of Americans killed in combat and in combat-related accidents return home for burial, and as the images of innocent Iraqi victims fills our television screens, a reckoning will increasingly be in order. This war is a terrible necessity. I fully support the President of the United States in his decision to bring a decade-long problem that threatens our national interest to a definitive conclusion. As the elected representatives of the American public, however, it is incumbent upon us to prepare our attention on the history that brought us to where we are today. Only through a thorough examination of the ways in which Saddam Hussein was able to reach the stage where we were compelled to bring the full weight of our national power to bear upon him can we hope to prevent a recurrence elsewhere in the world.

I urge support for this amendment. It is about knowledge. It is about learning from the past. It is about helping to avoid traveling the road to war again in the future because we failed to keep our attention on the history that brought us to where we are today. Only through a thorough examination of the ways in which Saddam Hussein was able to reach the stage where we were compelled to bring the full weight of our national power to bear upon him can we hope to prevent a recurrence elsewhere in the world.

Mr. BIDEN. I rise to speak against the amendment of a good friend of mine, Senator ENSIGN from Nevada. I introduced an amendment that maybe I should have been aware of but was unaware of until just a few minutes ago that reads:

No funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act for purposes of reconstruction of Iraq may be obligated or expended to pay any person who is a citizen of a country named in subsection (a).

It goes on to name in the subsection France and Germany.

I don't want to speak for the Senator, but the world's television screens, the frustration of an awful lot of Americans and some anger at the failure of the Germans and the French to support our effort to disarm Saddam Hussein.

I begin by saying, I have just spoken with the White House and the State Department. They are adamantly opposed to this amendment. France and Germany are providing support for our effort to disarm Saddam that exceeds that of many countries who were formally members of the coalition. They are, in fact, members of the coalition. There are still few and basing rights, and many of our wounded are being flown first to Germany before they come here, not to mention their absolutely critical support in the war on terrorism.

Again, I understand the motivation and the frustration and the anger that may be behind some who want to support the amendment. Our decision to use force in Iraq has created deep divisions within the Security Council. Nonetheless, America need not and cannot take sole responsibility for the challenges of postwar Iraq. That is exactly what this would produce. We cannot allow the Security Council and our Atlantic alliances to become casualties of this war.

Mr. McCAIN. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. BIDEN. I am happy to.

Mr. McCAIN. The Senator is aware there are German military and civilians working right now, helping in the reconstruction and peacekeeping in Bosnia, Kosovo, and Afghanistan?

Mr. BIDEN. I am.

Mr. McCAIN. And have these Germans perhaps been associated with some firm that may also be in the work of reconstruction and peacekeeping in Bosnia and Kosovo and Afghanistan? Does my friend from Delaware believe somehow we should prevent any company, corporation, or individual who may have a contract in those three parts of the world from doing so?

Mr. BIDEN. Absolutely not. Any more than they should be in Iraq. This amendment is a disaster. I understand the thinking on this. One is, if we don't have the Iraqis as part of the solution, say, we don't need you in there helping us, we are going to yield him some time to speak to this directly as well.

We are both saying this, this is a fool's errand. This is a foolish undertaking. I am not going to lay it out, if I may. And then I will be delighted to save some time for my friend from Arizona, who is not only a good personal friend, but a person for whom I have great respect on all matters, particularly foreign policy.

The first reason this would be such a profound mistake is that rebuilding Iraq an Iraq that is secure and self-sufficient, whole and free is going to require tens of billions of dollars over many years. While Iraq's long-term economic promise is good, its short-term prospects are bleak.

This is something we don't focus on. Iraq's annual oil revenues in the first 5 years after Saddam is out—God willing—will be projected to be more than $15 billion. Iraq is saddled, as they should be, with U.N. sanctions, an estimated $61 billion in foreign debt, and $200 billion in reparations claims through the U.N. Compensation Committee. So the idea that we canthumb our noses at the rest of the world and say, we don't need you in there helping us, is profoundly mistaken.

Many Senators think that what happens once Saddam is down, once the war is over, is that the oil is going to flow and there will be plenty of money for the Iraqis to move toward democracy, reconstruct their country, all from their oil revenues.

The fact is, the estimates are, if all goes well, there will be no more than $1 billion a year for the next 10 years, with obligations that exceed $61 billion in foreign debt and $200 billion in claims.

Experts who have testified before the Foreign Relations Committee put the price tag at post-conflict security—a fancy phrase for saying after the war is over—humanitarian assistance and reconstruction to be between $20 and $25 billion per year for the next 10 years.

My point is, the United States should not ride on that one alone. Yet if we bar the companies of friendly countries who did not support us in the war from taking part in the peace, what incentive will there be for their governments to help pick up the tab? I respectfully suggest it would be zero.

Secondly, as restated out a me by the State Department and my staff—and it is self-evident when you think about it—this is going to require the so-called "iflies," the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the International Monetary Fund, and other international banking institutions, to be part of this reconstruction.

We are taking a country that has been decimated by a guy named Saddam for
the past several decades, and we are going to try to make it a member of the family of nations on the road to democracy. We know how hard that is, even where there has been no war. We know how important it is to have institutions as part of the process of helping fledgling democracies come into being.

Now, what prospect do you think there is that the World Bank will get involved, or the IMF, if in fact the two leading members who make decisions on behalf of Germany and France they are prohibited, in an almost simplistic way, from having any German or French individuals, let alone any companies, participating in anything having to do with the reconstruction of Iraq?

Third, we need military forces of those countries to be in on the peace. That is what the Secretary of State is doing right now. He is meeting with NATO. The Associated Press published an article entitled: "Powell Says U.S. Will Lead Postwar Effort in Iraq."

I want someone else in the deal besides the United States. I don't want it merely to be for the next year or 2, 3, 4, 5 years that there is a young American soldier standing at every checkpoint, guarding every border crossing, guarding every oil field, and becoming the target of every malcontent and terrorist in the world.

I want the world to take on this responsibility with us. That is what the Secretary of State is trying to do. An international community to help government. We should work with the international community to help achieve that. Who is going to be involved with us? In fact, we take these punitive measures because they disagreed about the course of action to begin with?

Fifth, many around the world, even long-time allies, question our motives in Iraq. They believe, wrongly, that the President was driven by a quest for oil, driven by commercial interests, or imperial designs. They are dead wrong. But barring foreign companies in the industrialized world—particularly from France and Germany—from taking part in the peace, would only go a step further to confirm the misconception that we are in this for economic gain. We are not. That is not why the President moved. If we allow that to happen, I believe we risk further erosion of those alliances and institutions that have been essential to American security and global cooperation for more than 50 years. It would undermine our interests because we cannot contend with all the threats around the world, including the unfinished war on terrorism, the dangerous nuclear programs in North Korea and Iran, and the spread of infectious diseases, such as SARS, without the cooperation of other nations. Making friends and allies who oppose the war our partners in Iraq's peace can go a long way to repair the hard feelings that have been emerging in recent months.

Six, if we were to bar their companies, we better be prepared for retaliation against the many American companies operating in France, Germany, and other countries. These American companies bring in billions of dollars that support tens of thousands of jobs in the United States of America. If we were to blacklist those who disagreed with us, including France and Germany, from participating in any way in the reconstruction of Iraq, I believe you would see retaliatory action which will have impacts beyond anything I am sure my friend from Nevada, Mr. Ensign, intended. This amendment would put a lot in jeopardy.

Let me conclude—because I see the chairman on the floor—by reiterating what I said at the outset, which is that the Ensign amendment is opposed by the White House. I spoke to Dr. Rice, and I am authorized to say the White House opposes this amendment because it would deny the President of the United States the flexibility he needs. I spoke to the State Department, the Deputy Secretary of State, who pointed out that this would significantly undermine the other projects, the other issues we are trying to negotiate with our allies.

The last point I will make is this: Some will say, why do we have to reconvene Iraq at all? If we fail to secure the peace in Iraq, then we will fail to honor those young American soldiers and Navy pilots who have been killed in Iraq. The purpose of this endeavor is not only to deny Saddam Hussein those weapons of mass destruction, but to begin the process of stabilizing in that region so we don't have to send, in the future, our children—young American men and women—to Iraq to give their lives to secure our freedom.

I am going to try suggesting the motive of my friend from Nevada, Senator Ensign, is not a pure one. I am suggesting that it is dangerously misguided.

I am prepared to yield the floor. I am looking to the leadership here to determine whether or not I should suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. Reid, I object. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The clerk will continue with the call of the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk continued to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I wish to speak against the McCain amendment. I assume that is in order. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator may proceed.

AMENDMENT NO. 481

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support funding for the construction of the Ames, IA, animal health laboratories. That is the National Animal Disease Laboratory—a national facility, not an Iowa facility—in Ames, IA. I heard my colleagues question the relevance of this provision. I am here now to explain to all my colleagues the importance of this facility to America's national security.

In the event of an animal disease outbreak, this facility in Iowa will play a very crucial role. Whether the issue is bioterrorism or a new or emerging disease, this facility will be centrally involved. Modernization of this facility that was built three or four decades ago is a paramount priority to ensure America's agricultural biosecurity and the safeguard of our food supply. Both the Department of Agriculture in Washington, as well as this Congress, have recognized the importance of moving forward with this modernization project as quickly as possible.

I quote from a May 2001 report which was issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

The Agricultural Research Service and Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service partnership in Ames represents an unmatched team of scientific and response personnel providing expertise and skill to address known and emerging domestic animal disease threats.
Our current national threat level demonstrates that we need to be aware of our environment and prepared for realistic threats. Animal disease is a realistic threat to all Americans because it affects our food safety and supply.

Bioterrorism is, as Senator McCain correctly notes, a real threat. We know what mad cow disease, for instance, has done to agriculture and to the people of England, as one example; and that carried over to Europe a year later and it has recently scared the consumer. That is an effective form of bioterrorism; that is just a natural course of animal disease and, in fact, how that in turn impacts upon whether humans live.

The Ames lab is very important as we talk about the safety of our food. This lab is the best large research and diagnostic facility in the United States. Unfortunately, after all these decades, it is obsolete. It does not even meet international standards. Nearly every other livestock trading nation has superior facilities. They understand the importance of effective and expedient diagnostic competency. The Ames lab is a surveillance hub for animal health with the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, GA. Doesn't it seem unbelievable that the Ames facility does not have the electrical capacity to handle new computers necessary to update the facility, let alone a complex array of essential electronic diagnostic equipment? This is more than an embarrassment; it is a national security risk.

We have worked through many different scenarios to improve this facility. We have evaluated leaving the current facility in place and renovating the existing facility. Nearly the entire facility in place and renovating is a national security risk.

The first is the point. I will not waste time except to say it is more than an embarrassment to me to tell my constituents that we are funding an aging, deteriorating facility in the United States when young Americans are fighting and dying and badly need the equipment and material and the help that is in this bill that we are going to try to stuff in a $98 million proposal for an agricultural research facility with which is already more than adequately funded, rather than put it into an emergency supplemental. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have a great deal of respect for Senator McCain. He is very consistent. I want to only argue with one point. This is a reasonable amendment. It was located decades ago in my State for reasons that I believe are closely related to Iowa State University being a very good land grant and research institution.

Second, the issue of whether this is legitimate at this point is best justified by the fact that this renovation has already been reauthorized, and this is just one more step by the Congress in carrying out a decision that Congress previously made that this facility that is now decades old should be renovated for the good of the safety of food in the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I support the McCain amendment.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. KYL. Certainly.

Mr. REID. If the senior Senator from Arizona said the junior Senator wanted to speak, we would have no objection. He wants 2 minutes.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I was about to say there is no more honest Member of this body than the Senator from Iowa, who spoke a moment ago. When he lays out the case for this particular facility in Ames, IA, I do not think any of us can quibble with that. That is not the point.

The point of this amendment is literally to make it just a little easier of the Appropriations Committee resist the very persuasive cases that every one of us can make that some great project that needs to be completed or started needs to be part of this very special supplemental appropriations bill. We are hoping to make his job a little easier in the future so he can say: No, these bills are going to be clean.

This is a bill to fund the war. It is not to complete a research facility and do other activities that may be good ideas but have no place in this bill to fund the war. Let them go the regular process. I can make the case there is something that relates to our ability as first responders to deal with an emergency from a terrorist threat in the State of Arizona. We are trying to get some money to prevent our hospital emergency rooms from closing down because we are having to treat illegal immigrants with health care under a Federal mandate, a Federal law, which we are happy to comply with, but which costs our hospitals hundreds of millions of dollars every year. We would like reimbursement for that so those emergency rooms will not close down, as they had to, but can stay open. We will not ask for that in this bill.

Instead, we think the best approach is to go through the regular process. That is why I hope my colleagues will support the amendment.

Mr. STEVENS. Parliamentary inquiry. It is my understanding there are two amendments that will be voted on consecutively now, is that correct? The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent the McCain amendment be added as the third amendment to be voted on in that queue.

Mr. REID. And that there be no second-degree amendments in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Parliamentary inquiry. Is my friend intending to move to table my amendment or will it be a straight up-or-down vote? Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, it is my understanding I have already moved to table the amendment of the Senator from California.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. Mr. STEVENS. I am trying to work out the sequence. What is the second amendment in the queue?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Graham amendment.

AMENDMENT NO. 472

Mr. STEVENS. I ask for the yeas and nays on the Graham amendment. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The second amendment in the queue is the Graham amendment.
The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are now two minutes equally divided on the Boxer amendment.

The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, we have worked to protect aircraft by making sure pilots are equipped to defend the airplane. We need to go an extra step today. The FBI warned us that terrorists with shoulder-fired missiles are a threat to our commercial aircraft. The administration has determined airports are vulnerable to shoulder-fired missiles and they have deployed the National Guard. But we need to do more. We need to adapt countermeasures now installed in our military aircraft for commercial use. It is possible to do this. El Al is doing this.

Opponents argue, and we will hear this, we should wait until a study provision I wrote into another bill becomes law. We should not wait because things have moved on since that study. This amendment is not even inconsistent with it. It will, in fact, make the money available for that study. This is about fighting a war on terrorism. I hope we will vote in favor of my amendment and not to table this amendment.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, this amendment takes money from the Transportation Security Administration allocation for passenger screening and other costs to be incurred for additional security at airports. There is no current technology that can fulfill this need. The systems are too heavy for most commercial aircraft. We do have underway research and development in the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security to try to develop the kind of devices that provide this protection.

This is not a wartime request. This bill is a wartime request. We do not want. The Senate vote amendments that would earmark the homeland security moneys in this bill. I opposed them before and the Senator from Florida, Mr. GRAHAM.

Mr. McCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) would vote "yes."

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) would vote "yes."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) is necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays were ordered. The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 117 Leg.]

**YEA-S—50**

Alexander
Allard
Allen
Bennett
Brownback
Bunning
Burns
Campbell
Chafee
Chambliss
Cooper
Coleman
Collins
Cornyn
Craig
Crappo
McCain

**NAYS—47**

Akaka
Baucus
Biden
Bingaman
Boxer
Breaux
Byrd
Campbell
Carper
Clinton
Conrad
Corzine
Daschle
Dayton
Dodd
Dole

Mr. McCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) is necessarily absent.

Mr. LOTT. I move to lay that motion on the table.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MCCAIN. I will take ten seconds.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I move

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, the next order of business is the amendment of the Senator from Florida, Mr. GRAHAM.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. STEVENS. I see my friend is here. Maybe he would like to announce, we have reached agreement to modify his amendment. We will put it in the managers' package because it is being withdrawn. We have reached accommodation with the Senator from Florida, after further conversation with the VA administration.

I yield to my friend for a minute if he would like.

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Madam President, the Senator from Alaska has very accurately described the negotiation. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that temporarily withdraw my amendment with the understanding it will be approved in the managers' package, as modified.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I thank the Senator. It is the proper thing to do.

I yield now to the Senator from Nevada.

**AMENDMENT NO. 488 WITHDRAWN**

Mr. ENSIGN. Madam President, regretfully, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment. I also want to briefly say that this is a battle I plan to continue. I believe it was the right thing to do. But we are going to live to fight another day on this particular amendment. We are going to watch what the administration does with the funds for reconstructing Iraq, perhaps even join this fight at a later date. I ask unanimous consent that amendment No. 488 be withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has the right to withdraw his amendment at this time.

The amendment is withdrawn.

The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. SARBAZISH. Mr. President, I would like to address an inquiry to the Senator from Nevada who indicates he intends to live and fight another day on this amendment. If and when he does so, I hope he will also address the question of how much cooperation he anticipates receiving from the intelligence services in both Germany and France in our fight against international terrorism. If he is going to be laying down a marker to these countries with his amendment, I hope when he does so the consideration of its impact on our cooperation with these countries in the effort against terrorism will be in the forefront of his explanation.

**AMENDMENT NO. 481**

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, we still have another amendment to vote.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is to agree to amendment No. 481. Senator Stevens, Senator Kohl, and others who oppose the amendment, are entitled to a 1-minute statement. The Senator from Iowa has expressed opposition to this amendment. I do express opposition to it myself. I would like to take the balance of the time to tell the Senate we are working to try to finish the bill. This is the last of the amendments that is part of this package. We will struggle to put together another series of amendments to vote on no later than 4 o'clock. We have, for very strong reasons, at least one Member and others who requested we try to finish this bill as early as possible today. I urge Senators to contact us to see if there are any further amendments we might work out and not have to vote. But there will be some votes probably by 4:30. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time? Mr. McCain. Regular order, Madam President. Mr. STEVENS. I am finished. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa. Mr. McCain. I ask for the regular order. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time has expired on the amendment. Mr. STEVENS. I took the time in opposition. I thought I was entitled to take the time in opposition. As manager, I oppose the amendment. I ask unanimous consent for 1 minute on the other side. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Mr. McCaIN. I object. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is laid. Mr. HARKIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll. Mr. HARKIN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 481. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kerry) is necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kerry) would vote ‘no.’

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 38, nays 61, as follows:

[Role Call Vote No. 118 Leg.]
The yeas are:—

YEAS—38

Alexander
Baucus
Bayh
Bennett
Boxer
Breaux
Burns
Byrd
Campbell
Cantwell
Carper
Chafee
Clay
Clinton
Cochran
Conrad
Daschle
DeWine
Dodd
Dole

Kerry

The amendment (No. 481) was rejected.

Mr. STEVENS. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. BOND. I move to lay that motion on the table. The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

VOTE CHANGE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, on vote No. 118 I am recording as voting aye on amendment No. 481. I ask unanimous consent that my vote be recorded as nay. This change will not affect the outcome of the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The foregoing tally has been changed to reflect the above order.

Mr. REID. Senator Stevens, Senator Kohl, has an amendment, and wants 5 minutes of it. It may require a vote; we have not had a chance to look at it. Mr. STEVENS. With due respect, we are still negotiating with several people, including Senator Kohl. I urge not putting that amendment in yet. If we are going to make the deadlines some want to meet, we will have to work some amendments out.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I was not in the Chamber prior to the last vote, and there was an objection to having an extra minute so I could make some comments on the vote just held.

I thank the Senators for rejecting the McCain amendment for a number of reasons, but most importantly because the biggest item in that proposed amendment was funding to begin to complete the National Animal Disease Laboratory located in Ames, IA. I point out that this National Animal Disease Laboratory is fully authorized, specifically authorized. It has been peer reviewed. The USDA developed all the lands, and it is being built on an expedited basis to get it completed as soon as possible. It is a national animal disease laboratory in Ames. It is not an Ames lab, it is not an Iowa lab. Think about it like NIH. The National Institutes of Health is located in Maryland, but it is not a Maryland facility. It is a national facility. You can look at it like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, GA. That is not a Georgia facility; it is a national facility that just happens to be located in Atlanta. The same is true of the National Animal Disease Laboratory. It is a national laboratory that is located in Iowa.

I think in speaking of the Centers for Disease Control, we could also think of the National Animal Disease Lab as sort of the animal counterpart to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Just as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is there nationally to help prevent or stop any kind of an infectious outbreak that might occur among humans, whether it is anthrax or smallpox or SARS or whatever it is, the job of the CDC is to there, contain it from infecting more people. The National Animal Disease Laboratory has the same function for animals. It is there to prevent, to stop infectious outbreaks among animals, infectious outbreaks that could devastate entire herds or entire populations of animals in this country, as we saw what happened with the mad cow disease in Great Britain. The National Animal Disease Lab would be charged with the responsibility. There is already kind of a terrorist outbreak or you had an animal infectious disease that could be transmitted to humans, the National Animal Disease Lab would be there to stop...
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill, insert the following:

**TITLE III—FEDERAL HOMELAND SECURITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND SECURITY**

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

For an additional amount for “Operating Expenses”, $200,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, for terrorism-related counterintelligence and counterterrorism activities associated with Operation Liberty Shield, including but not limited to operating expenses related to the increase in maritime security, the protection of critical infrastructure and enforcement of Security Zones, and the activation of Coast Guard Reserve Units.

**BORDER AND TRANSPORTATION SECURITY**

**CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION**

For an additional amount for “Customs and Border Protection”, $366,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, of which not less than $35,000,000 shall be for the Container Security Initiative, not less than $200,000,000 shall be for radiation portal monitors and other forms of non-intrusive inspection equipment to be deployed at the Nation’s ports-of-entry, and not less than $131,000,000 shall be for increased border and maritime protection operations, overtime pay, and other activities resulting from the movement to the “Code Orange” terrorist threat level and in support of activities related to Operation Liberty Shield.

**IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT**

For an additional amount for “Immigration and Customs Enforcement”, $131,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, for increased operations, overtime pay, and other activities resulting from the movement to the “Code Orange” terrorist threat level and in support of activities related to Operation Liberty Shield.

**TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**

For additional amounts for necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration related to transportation security services under title 49, United States Code (hereafter referred to as the “TSA”), which shall be made available until December 31, 2003, of which not less than $25,000,000 shall be for Customs and Border Protection expenses relating to courthouse security; $150,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, for capital, tunnel and baggage processing equipment, facilities, and working capital for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation; and $850,000,000 for the Office for Domestic Preparedness, $150,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, for grants to States and localities to improve communications within and among first responders including law enforcement, firefighters, emergency medical services personnel, and other emergency personnel.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

For an additional amount for “Operation of the National Park System”, $18,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, for expenses related to increased security at nationally significant facilities.

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses”, $25,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, for necessary expenses relating to courthouse security; Provided, That funds provided under this paragraph shall be available only after the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate are notified in accordance with section 605 of the Department of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2003.

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses”, $225,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, for necessary expenses related to response and security capabilities and field operations; Provided, That funds provided under this paragraph shall be available only after the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate are notified in accordance with section 605 of the Department of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2003.

**OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS**

**COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES**

For an additional amount for the Community Oriented Policing Services’ Interoperable Communications Demonstration Program, for grants to States and localities to improve communications within and among law enforcement agencies, firefighters and emergency medical services personnel; Provided, That funds provided under this paragraph shall be available only after the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate are notified in accordance with section 605 of the Department of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2003.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FEDERAL FUNDS**

**FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia for critical infrastructure protection $25,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, for grants to States and localities to improve communications within and among first responders including law enforcement, firefighters, emergency medical services personnel, and other emergency personnel; Provided, That the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate for approval not later than 30 days after enactment of this act; Provided further, That the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate on the use of funds under this heading, beginning not later than June 2, 2003.
Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, the committee has done a very good job in addressing a number of concerns dealing with terrorism, particularly in the area of counterterrorism, by creating a fund that is going to give to the Department of Homeland Security $1.135 billion for counterterrorism. I think the administration actually requested a little more money than that.

Regarding the amendment I have, we think, No. 1, it should be more than that and, No. 2, we think Congress should be involved and the American people should be involved in where that money is going to be allocated, as to which department doing this type of work is going to get the additional funds.

The amendment of the committee, about which I am concerned, says: Mr. President, here is $1.135 billion. Let’s throw it up against the wall and hope it comes off the wall and falls down and does some good. We take $1.135 billion and throw it up in the air and somehow hope it comes down and settles in the areas where it can do the most good to protect the American people.

I think that is the wrong way we should do business. We are taxing the American people for these moneys to be spent to protect the American public. We as a Congress should have a direct say-so, not just entrust it to an individual Secretary as to where the money should go.

My amendment says in the area of counterterrorism funds, instead of $1.135 billion, we are going to have $2.65 billion, an increase for counterterrorism provisions in the bill.

In addition to that, we are going to say where the moneys are going to be allocated. That is the role of the Congress. That is the appropriate role of the Congress.

For instance, in the Coast Guard, our provision provides $200 million more for the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard is being asked to do a lot more work domestically. Most of the money in the committee’s bill is for Coast Guard utilization overseas. That is fine; they ought to be overseas doing this work, but they also should be protecting the ports of America, the ports of New York, and the gulf and the west coast and east coast ports. We also say the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection should have an increase of $366 million for the inspections they are going to be required to do.

We have literally millions of containers, each one of which is 60,000 pounds of material, coming into the ports of the United States. We ought to be looking at these containers where they are loaded, in foreign ports. The Bureau of Customs and Border Protection is going to have additional money if, in fact, they are going to be able to get the job done.

In addition to the Bureau of Customs, we are talking about $1 billion for transportation security. We are talking about making sure that at all the airports where we are telling them now you have to put in all this fancy equipment, not just to check luggage that is carried on the plane but check every single piece of luggage that is going to be put into the cargo hold of the plane—how many of us have had to be delayed at airports because they are checking not only your carry-on luggage but also the stuff that is going to be checked on the plane. You see the long lines develop. They need the equipment to make sure that type of luggage is safe and not delaying passengers and the traveling public moving into the airports.

We also say to the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, give them an additional $20 million for enhanced training.

We are asking these organizations now to work 7 days a week training these new employees to make sure they know what they are doing. They are going to need additional funds for that.

I read the bill from the committee. It just says on page 36 of the bill: counterterrorism, give the Secretary the discretion to spend $1.135. That is what the bill says. That means throw it over to the Secretary; let him spend it anywhere he wants. I think the report language makes some suggestions. That is fine; we all know what happens with report language. It is filed in some staff person’s desk, and they don’t pay any attention to it. That is not the law. They can totally ignore it. They can disregard it, pay no attention to it whatsoever.

If you put it into law, it would state that these are the categories that are necessary in order to make sure this counterterrorism provision is run the way we would like it to run.

Mr. President, I want to yield time to the distinguished Senator from North Dakota. I think he said he would like to have 10 minutes. And if he could use less, we may give him the other speaker in here. But I yield 10 minutes to the distinguished Senator from North Dakota.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota is recognized for 10 minutes.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I rise to support the amendment offered by my colleague, Senator Breaux. I am a co-sponsor of that amendment.

Let me describe why I think this is so important. We have a number of wars that are going on at the moment. We have a conflict, a war in Iraq. We have a war against terrorism. So in this piece of legislation we deal with defense, the costs of defense.

Part of defense is the Defense Department, in which men and women in America’s uniform are overseas protecting our country and involved in the conflict in Iraq. But, also, part of the defense is our homeland defense. The issue of homeland defense is very important.

Let me describe what happens inside this country each and every day: 1.1 million passengers come into this country processed by the Customs Service; 57,000 trucks and containers come into this country every single day; 580 vessels arrive at this country’s ports; 2,459 aircraft arrive in this country; 332,000 vehicles, every single day.

None is going to provide an adequate homeland defense in this country unless we have secure borders and are able to prevent terrorists—both known terrorists and those who associate with terrorists—from coming into our country. Frankly, we are not doing as good a job as we must in preventing a future act of terrorism in this country.

I speak from the standpoint of a northern border State. We have thousands of miles of common border with our good neighbor to the north, the country of Canada.

We know that at least two of those who perpetrated the September 11 attack came into this country across the northern border. We also know that, in the past, almost all of our resources in this country were targeted at the southern border, southwestern border. Border Patrol, Immigration, the Customs Service: Hundreds and hundreds and hundreds—in fact, thousands—of agents from all of those agencies were sent to the southern border and too few to the northern border. We have at the 4,000-mile northern border that we share with Canada.

So what do we do about that? Well, we need the resources at the northern border, and the new technology that is available, to make sure we try to keep terrorists out. Once again, you must have control of your borders or you do not have control inside the country to prevent an act of terrorism perpetrated against our country.

When I began this process, even before September 11, I proposed something called the Northern Border Initiative. That became law. That added some resources at the northern border. It became more imperative after September 11 that we do much more. Prior to that time, when the northern border ports would close, especially in the remote areas, they would simply put an orange cone in the middle of the road, and that would be the protection in that area against terrorism. Well, terrorists, of course, would simply move to another border. It is a big problem.
The fact is, we have to do more. And we are now doing more. But we are not doing enough. That is why the Senator from Louisiana offers an amendment that says let's make the investments we know we need to make.

He said: Mr. President, I come from a landlocked State. I do not know much about seaports, but I have made two tours of seaports, two of them recently, to understand what is happening at our ports. Mr. President, 5.7 million containers come in every single year. Eight and a half ships—5.7 million. And 100,000 of them are inspected.

I was at a port one day—and I have told my colleagues this previously—but they had a refrigerated container there that they had taken off a container ship. I said: What's in that container? They said: Well, we're just inspecting that. They said: This is frozen broccoli from Poland. And they showed me one of the 100-pound bags of frozen broccoli they pulled out of this container. They ripped it open, and, sure enough, there it was, frozen broccoli from Poland. It didn't look very appetizing to me, but it was going to go into America's food supply.

So I said: Well, that is interesting to know. So have you shown me the bag at the end of the container. What is in the middle of the bag in the middle of the container? Do you know? They said: No, we don't know. I said: Do you know where it came from? They said: We know it came from Poland. I said: Do you know who loaded it? They said: No, we don't know. I said: Do you know that there's something in the middle of this container that could threaten our country? They said: No, we don't know.

Mr. President, 5.7 million containers come into this country every year, and we inspect 100,000 of them.

You know the story about the person from the Middle East who put himself in a container, had heat, and other things and smuggled himself to Canada in a container. He had a little bathroom set up in the container. He had a water supply. He had a computer. He had a GPS. He had a cot. He had a heater. He was going to ship himself to Canada, presumably then to enter this country from Canada. But he did it in a container. They caught him actually before he left the Middle East.

The fact is, we had better care about homeland security—yes, about the northern border, about the southern border, about aircraft coming into this country, and, yes, about ships that are pulling up to our seaports this afternoon in New York, Los Angeles, and the other major ports around this country.

Which of those ships might have a weapon of mass destruction in the middle of a container, piled in the middle of that ship, that will be hoisted off, by a crane, put on 18 wheels, and then sped across America's highways to Cincinnati or Toledo or Fargo or Los Angeles? That is what homeland and defense has to be about: preventing these kinds of things from happening, preventing terrorists from perpetrating an attack in this country.

We have actually done pretty well since 9/11. The fact is, there is much more to do. It will not do any good to say: Fear, yes, this is needed, but let's do it later.

This is the legislation. This is a supplemental appropriations bill. This is emergency funding. And this is about defense, yes, the Defense Department, but also, in my judgment, the defense of our homeland.

I have not gone through all of the portions of this bill that the Senator from Louisiana suggests we adequately fund, but it is the Immigration Service, the Customs Service, the Border Patrol, and a list of agencies that we know have to have adequate funding to do the job this country expects in order to protect itself against a terrorist attack.

So this is not some ad hoc spending for which the Senator has no justification. This is spending and funding every bit as important as every dollar that is going to the U.S. Department of Defense. That is homeland defense. That is the Department of Defense. That is of paramount importance in protecting this country's interests. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting the amendment now offered by the Senator from Louisiana.

There is, perhaps, an unlimited number of things we could do to protect this country, but we do not have unlimited funds. The Senator has selected specific areas of investment that all of us know are underfunded. And he said: Yes, let's do this, but, more important, let's do this now.

I just submit, in the shadow of 9/11, this country knows that terrorists want to attack this country. Homeland defense is of paramount importance. The investment—a rather small investment—made by the amendment offered by the Senator from Louisiana will make this a stronger country, better able to resist terrorists who wish to attack her.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, I reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I wish to speak in support of the amendment offered by my colleague.

For many months now, the American people have been told that we are at war. We are at war in Iraq. We are at war here at home. We are at war against the al-Qaeda terrorist network and other organizations like it. We are at war against terrorists who would use any means possible to destroy our Government, strike fear in our people, and cripple this great Nation. But, America is still woefully unprepared to prevent or respond to another terrorist attack. Despite the constant warnings from the Department of Homeland Security about terrorist threats here at home, and despite the obvious vulnerabilities, there are some in Congress who seem to want to put off sound investment for increased protections for our people. "Hold off! Hold off! Wait for another day!" they say. Mr. President, we may wait, but the terrorists, I fear, will not.

The amendment before the Senate, which is offered by Mr. Breaux, would invest dollars now—today—in some of the most critical areas of vulnerability here at home.

The amendment offered by the Senator from Louisiana would provide $2.6 billion for border and transportation security, including $200 million for the Coast Guard, $35 million for the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, $200 million for radiation detection equipment, $235 million for airport explosion detection systems, $300 million for mass transit security, $300 million for interoperable communications for first responders, $225 million for terrorism prevention at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and, of course, Department of Homeland Security expenses incurred as a result of Code Orange and to make up for fiscal year 2003 funding shortfalls at the Transportation Security Administration.

In addition, a December 2002, GAO report identified more than $700 million in security needs at only eight transit agencies that were visited. The GAO concluded that, "Obtaining sufficient funding is the most significant challenge in meeting its security-related responsibilities while rebuilding its capacity to accomplish other missions that have declined" and that these challenges are made even more difficult by the heightened terror alert and by Coast Guard deployments to the Persian Gulf.

If there is one lesson that we should learn from 9/11, it is that terrorist attacks on our Nation can no longer be viewed as distant threats across the oceans. The enemy may attack our troops, the enemy may attack our citizens overseas or civilians here at home. Clearly, we must provide all of the necessary resources to support our troops overseas and to secure our shores. Yet to date, no money—none—has been provided for transit security.

If there is one lesson that we should learn from 9/11, it is that terrorist attacks on our Nation can no longer be viewed as distant threats across the oceans. The enemy may attack our troops, the enemy may attack our citizens overseas or civilians here at home. Clearly, we must provide all of the necessary resources to support our troops overseas and to secure our shores. Yet to date, no money—none—has been provided for transit security.
at home—do not have sufficient equipment or expertise to handle wide-ranging threats involving madmen who may have gotten their hands on weapons of mass destruction.

The danger is clear. The need is clear. I urge my colleagues to support the Breaux amendment.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join Senator Byrd, Senator Breaux, and others in supporting this Federal homeland responsibilities amendment. In particular, I want to speak for a moment about the National Park Service component of the amendment. As the ranking member on the Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I am deeply concerned that the administration's supplemental funding request will leave the National Park Service in the lurch, without the resources it needs to protect our most important symbols.

The Statue of Liberty, the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, the St. Louis Arch, the Liberty Bell, and Independence Hall in Philadelphia; these are just a few of the national icons under the protection of the Park Service. These treasures are, in their own unique way, potent reminders of the liberty and freedom that are the foundation of the American experience. They symbolize the struggles this Nation has fought in the name of the liberty and freedom that are the foundation of the American experience. They symbolize the struggles this Nation has fought in the name of the liberty and freedom that are the foundation of our Nation's future, and the essence of the democracy we all cherish.

The Twin Towers of the World Trade Center were a powerful symbol of the economic might of our Nation, and that is why they were attacked. The Pentagon is a powerful symbol of our military might, and that is why it was attacked. I worry about which symbol is next. Which of these facilities, emblematic of our liberty, will the terrorists target next? I don't have the answer to that question, nor do I know anyone who does. This is precisely why we need to provide the National Park Service with the resources it needs to ensure the safety and security of these national treasures.

In fact, yesterday's Washington Post contains an article which substantiates my fears. As of yesterday, the Park Service has closed Independence Hall in Philadelphia because of security concerns, which is the first indication we have received of a threat level. The very birthplace of our Nation's transit systems and the 14 million Americans who depend on them to get to work or elsewhere safely and securely every workday.

In the 107th Congress, as the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I voiced just two hearings ago the importance of transit in the wake of September 11. At these hearings, we heard from transit operators and others that public transportation is regrettably a target for terrorists. Indeed, roughly one-third of terrorist attacks worldwide have occurred on transit systems.

The danger is clear. The need is clear. We cannot turn our backs on the security needs mandated by the increased threat level. Nor can we expect the Park Service to just absorb these costs. It is our responsibility to provide the funding necessary for the Park Service to support this amendment.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today in opposition to the Breaux amendment for a variety of reasons, but I will limit my remarks to the provision dealing with increased funding for mass transit security.

I commend the Senator from Louisiana for bringing attention to this important issue. While I believe that transit security is an issue deserving of increased attention, the approach taken in the amendment is not one that I can support at this time.

Existing Federal transit law already requires that a percentage of formula funds be used for security and safety programs. The Federal Transit Administration has made transit security a priority. FTA has already conducted assessments for the 33 largest systems and has provided a "tool box" to help systems develop their own individualized security programs. Further, FTA has developed and distributed a checklist of the most important measures that transit agencies should implement to ensure that their systems are as secure as possible. FTA has made it a priority to work with agencies to assist in implementation of those measures.

Mass transit is perhaps one of the most difficult modes of transportation to secure. By its very nature, transit must operate in an open environment and is essential to the mobility and access needs of the millions of working men and women who ride our subways, buses, and commuter rail lines that their government is aggressively working to improve transit security.

As chairman of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, I am cognizant of the unique need for further analysis of transit security issues. As the committee reauthorizes the Federal Housing Trust Fund in this Congress, I intend to make the issue of transit security a priority.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the Breaux amendment.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Breaux Federal homeland security responsibilities amendment. This amendment addresses a number of important homeland security needs that the administration has failed to adequately fund, and it deserves the support of our Nation's transit systems.

I particularly want to thank the author of this amendment for including specific resources to help protect our Nation's transit systems and the 14

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE S4767

April 3, 2003

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, it has been our hope that we could get the cooperation, state in funding what are essential needs of the Department of Homeland Security for the balance of this fiscal year. In trying to determine what those amounts are for all of these new activities, the 22 agencies that have been folded into this new Department under the jurisdiction of Secretary Tom Ridge, we had hearings. We have questioned agency officials to determine how we could help support the administration's effort to improve the FTA and its Homeland Security fund the activities of those agencies that were involved in the war effort in Iraq, such as the Coast Guard, to be sure that they could meet their responsibilities.
We did this in a very careful and deliberate way, knowing full well that because of the concerns and the fears that exist throughout the country about terrorism attacks and because of the increase in the threat levels that from time to time, there is no way we could assuage the concerns of everybody with just money. But money helps. If a State or locality believes it is not able to afford what it thinks it needs to do right now to protect its citizens, there is pressure the builds on elected Members of this body. All of us feel this pressure right now to be sure that we do the best job we possibly can to put money in the hands of those agencies and those government officials that can make a difference in terms of our national security needs.

We didn’t just think up these numbers and throw them in the bill. They are based upon estimates we have received from each agency, the President’s request that was submitted to the Congress, the testimony from the recent hearing where Secretary Ridge appeared before our committee and we had an opportunity to talk with him about these needs.

One reason there is some concern is that the Secretary asked for flexibility. There were some members of the committee who questioned him pretty sharply about why he needed flexibility, that it is the role of the Congress to appropriate money for specific purposes and not just write a blank check.

Well, we didn’t write a blank check. We have written not only the provisions of the bill with specificity about how the funds will be spent and where they will be used, but we also have accompanied the bill with a written report that spells out, in the case of the counterterrorism fund, what our understanding of the needs are and the estimates that we received from the agencies. The suggestion that we have heard by the proponents of this amendment that Congress ought to be involved in the decision of the Secretary about how it should be spent is misplaced.

We have made a concerted effort to ensure that the taxpayers will get their money’s worth out of the funds appropriated in this bill. For example, although this amendment adds money for the Coast Guard, we set up a separate section for funding of Coast Guard activities. We put in $580 million directly to the Coast Guard. We have not written any testimony we have received in any of our hearings, but yet amount to a rewrite of this entire section of the supplemental appropriations bill.

There is some money in here for States and localities. We hope the Senate understands that we have written in here some requirements that get the money out faster to States and localities. It requires that 80 percent of the funds go directly to localities in the form of grants. The Department of Homeland Security is to administer this money.

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If you want to say how money is going to be spent, it has to be part of the law. We are not saying spend what- ever you want. We are giving him a specific amount. We should also say how that specific amount is going to be spent. That is what my amendment does.

Let me give an example of what the problem is. For the Coast Guard—and we know how much work they are going to have to be doing in the United States, especially in New York, Florida, New Orleans, Houston, and the west coast because of the problems we have—the supplemental appropriations bill puts in $590 million more for the Coast Guard. What they say is that $400 million of it is going overseas. We need it overseas. That is appropriate and proper. But we also have some homeland needs for counterterrorism.

Under the supplemental bill pending before the Senate, we would have $180 million for the domestic Coast Guard needs, and the remainder of $410 million would be going overseas. We are neglecting homeland security. We are talking about homeland security, which means here at home.

So we are suggesting that we add an additional $200 million, which would be utilized in this country for the needs at all of the ports. They have to do a lot more, we are telling them, and the Coast Guard has to devise a security plan for every single port in the United States. They are not going to be able to do that for free, with all the work that needs to go into those ports.

If we are going to spend $1.135 billion, the Congress should be involved in say- ing where it is going to be spent. We should not simply say: Here is the money: we hope it does some good; whatever you want to use it for, do it, as long as it fits the generic title of counterterrorism. Well, counter- terrorism is more than a word; it is the Coast Guard, the Bureau of Customs, the Immigration Service, and it is money for airport modifications to de- tect the luggage going into the holds of the ship; it is mass transit security, railroad security, Federal law enforce- ment training, and it is better commu- nications for the men and women who work in counterterrorism.

That is what counterterrorism is. It is not just a term; it is a bunch of Agencies and Departments that have a lot of work to do. It is going to have to be done, and it is going to have to be done in a way that needs to be done. We ought to have the intelligence to be able to say where it is going to be spent, instead of just putting a term out there and saying we are going to give $1.135 billion for counterterrorism.

What is counterterrorism? I suggest that counterterrorism is outlined in the descriptions we have in the amend- ment now pending before the Senate, which we ask our colleagues to con- sider supporting. It is nice that we have suggestions in a report, but we all know if you have been here more than a week—a report is not binding, not law; it is merely a suggestion. We are here to write laws, to direct the De- partments as to how their funds should be used. I am sure they are going to read the report, but they can also ig- nore the report. I think it is better to spell out what we are talking about when we talk about counterterrorism. It is not just a word; it encompasses a lot of different issues. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen- ator from Mississippi is recognized.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, con- trary to the suggestion of my friend from Texas, the committee is re- quiring the administration to respond and spend the money as provided in this bill. I am reading:

Prior to the obligation of any funds, the Secretary of Homeland Security is required to submit a notice to the Committee on App- ropriations. The committee expects this notice to be accompanied by a full and com- plete justification of the costs to be reim- bursed by agency accounts, including a de- tailed breakdown by program, project and activity.

We are going to maintain oversight. Who is not going to get money if this amendment is adopted? The U.S. Sec- retary of Homeland Security is re- quiring the administration to respond and tell us why you did it that way. We should tell them where it should be spent before the fact, not after the fact. Our amendment adds money to counterterrorism. I think that is what we should be doing as a Senate.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I move to table the amendment and ask for the yeas and nays. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I send to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require certain air carriers that receive funds appropriated under this Act to accept procedures that ensure the fair and equitable resolution of labor integration issues in transactions for the combination of air carriers.)

At the end of title IV, insert the following:

(b) The purpose of this section is to require certain air carriers that receive funds appropriated under this Act to accept procedures that ensure the fair and equitable resolution of labor integration issues in transactions for the combination of air carriers, which would potentially aggravate the current disruptions in air travel associated with increased terror alerts and other factors in the United States.

(c) In order to receive funds appropriated under this Act, a covered air carrier shall agree to be subject to this section.

(d) In any covered transaction involving a covered air carrier that leads to the com- bination of crafts or classes that are subject to the Railway Labor Act—

(1) sections 3 and 13 of the labor protective provisions imposed by the Civil Aeronautics Board in the Allegheny-Mohawk merger (as published at 59 CAB 48) shall apply to the covered employees of the covered air carrier; and

(2) subject to paragraph (1), a case in which a collective bargaining agreement pro- vides for the application of sections 3 and 13 of the labor protective provisions in the process of seniority integration for the covered employees, the collective bargaining agreement shall apply to the covered employees and shall not be abrogated.

The yeas and nays were ordered.
(e) Any aggrieved person (including any labor organization that represents the person) may bring an action to enforce this section, or the terms of any agreement or award resulting from or that relates to the requirements of this section. The person may bring the action in an appropriate Federal district court, determined in accordance with section 1346 of title 28, United States Code, without regard to the amount in controversy.

(i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any provision of law that provides greater employee rights than the rights established under this section.

(g) In this section:

(A) is a transaction for the combination of air carriers; or

(B) involves the transfer of ownership or control of an air carrier;

(i) 50 percent or more of the equity securities (as defined in section 101 of title 11, United States Code) of an air carrier; or

(ii) 50 percent or more (by value) of the assets of the air carrier;

(C) was pending, or had been completed, during the period beginning on January 1, 2001 and ending on September 11, 2001; and

(D) did not result in the recognition of a single air carrier by the National Mediation Board by September 11, 2001.

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I rise, along with my colleagues, Senators BOND, CLINTON, and SCHUMER, to offer the Airline Workers Fairness Act, with the hope of ensuring the fair and equitable resolution of labor integration issues surrounding American Airlines and the former TWA. I want to give to the Senate a brief history of these issues.

American Airlines acquired TWA in April of 2001. We all thought that was a good thing. We still hope it is a good thing. We supported it. At the time, American Airlines promised TWA employees that they would be treated fairly as a result of the buyout, and in fact that promise was one of the conditions of Federal approval of the buyout. Certainly, our expectation was that the representative of the former employee groups merged, their seniority lists would be dovetailed in the normal fashion. In other words, the years of service those employees had worked for so long and given back to the heart of TWA as well—its employees, would be protected in this buyout are going to be gone, and most of the pilots will be gone as well.

I am not here to blame anybody for this. It is an extraordinarily, uniquely disadvantageous situation. I do not take any position, but I know it is not right, and this amendment is designed to fix it in a fair and equitable fashion. It applies only to this merger.

It says that the parties will bargain for several weeks after this amendment becomes effective, and if they cannot reach an agreement, they will go to a neutral expert binding arbitration, and the arbitrator can then decide what result will be fair in light of the situation they are in now. These people who have worked for so long and given back so much over the years to keep this company afloat will have the consideration that we all thought they would have had.

Those of us who are offering this amendment—and supporting this amendment would rather not do it on this vehicle. We would not have done it on this vehicle, but the underlying bill provides several billion dollars of extraordinary relief for the airline industry. We support that.

In addition, American Airlines announced several thousand more layoffs earlier this year. If we do not do something soon, it will be too late to do anything. Certainly it will be too late to do anything as conveniently as it will be if we adopt this amendment.

Again, our amendment does not impose any Government solution on the parties. It costs no money. It affects no one on the airline industry. We are offering it now to provide some relief to a group of people who expected and deserve better and who, unless we do something, are going to be out on the street. That is the reason we are offering the amendment at this time.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of the amendment by my colleague from Missouri. We are dealing with another very significant bailout, using taxpayers' money, for the airlines which have been hurt.

I agree with the need to keep the airlines flying. Airlines are absolutely essential to our economy. But I believe when we are sending taxpayers' dollars to the airlines, we have some responsibility to ensure the employees are being fairly treated. This, to me, is simply an issue of equity and fairness.

Back when American Airlines acquired TWA, they did not just take the employees. They took the facilities, and they took the heart of TWA as well—it's employees, employees we have come to know and respect and whose service we have appreciated over the years.

On April 9, 2001, American Airlines and TWA have operated under a single umbrella. On that date, Donald J. Carty, chairman and CEO of American Airlines, stated:

Today, we warmly welcome TWA's employees to the American family. While employees and customers will see business-as-usual for some time, we're looking forward to working together and building a future as one team. Employees at American and TWA are united in our commitment to meeting our customers' needs and providing opportunities for growth in a rewarding work environment. Our theme for today is "Two Great Airlines—One Great Future," and I'm sure that, working together, we can fulfill that promise.

I was out there and I joined in that recognition in celebrating two great airlines with one great future, and on January 1, 2002, all TWA employees officially became American employees. At that moment, all former TWA employees were now an integral part of the American team and American Airlines are united in our commitment to meeting our customers' needs and providing opportunities for growth in a rewarding work environment.

Promises were made to the hard-working TWA employees in my home State, and these employees were publicly referred to as the crown jewel of TWA. It was not as if they were "lucky to have a job at all," as some have suggested. They are employees with extensive years of background and years of seniority over a great number of their colleagues at American Airlines and, through their service to the traveling public and our communities, had developed a reputation for service that made this an extremely valuable hub.

Had they known that the promises were not going to be kept, there were
other options—reorganizing in bankruptcy, seeking alliance with another airline that would treat them fairly. They were made promises of fair treatment. They gave up what they call their Allegheny Mohawk protection rights in the expressed promise that they would be treated fairly.

After American Airlines stapled the TWA seniority list to the bottom, at least the top official of American Airlines came to my office and said: We are going to protect the hub at St. Louis, we are going to put a wall around that and keep former TWA employees serving the traveling public out of that hub, and we are not going to have them laid off because they will continue the TWA service.

The wall came down. They were not protected. The crown jewel of TWA, the people in St. Louis, are losing their glitter. These promises made to them were the root of the entire agreement reached between TWA and American Airlines. This whole agreement was going down, and now these promises appear to have been broken.

If the TWA employees knew at the beginning they were merely being taken as a sacrificial lamb, then the deal would have never have happened. Now the TWA employees, the TWA pilots, and the TWA flight attendants are the blood donors when cuts have to be made.

According to today's issue of the St. Louis Post Dispatch:

All American Airlines flight attendants based at Lambert Field will lose their jobs if members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants approve a contract by April 15 to help the airline avoid bankruptcy.

That is what we are providing money to support?

The situation for former TWA pilots is grim as well. Fifty-four percent of the former TWA pilots will lose their job before a single former American Airlines pilot loses his or her job because they were simply stapled to the bottom of the seniority list.

After planned furloughs, there will only be 565 former TWA employees remaining. To help everyone with the math, that is 76 percent of the former TWA pilots and 100 percent of TWA flight attendants in St. Louis who will lose their jobs. They are literally cutting off the family crown jewel.

The Senior Most TWA pilot hired in 1963 was integrated along with a 1965 hire from American Airlines. That is almost 22 years later, and guess which one is on the chopping block first? Promises made in fairness have not been achieved.

In this supplemental bill, we are poised to provide our airlines with $3.5 million to keep them in the air. With that assistance, more layoffs are coming. We must act before more of our talented and qualified employees are let go before junior colleagues within the same organization.

The choice before this body is simple: Support the Talent-Bond amendment and you support fairness, or oppose the Talent-Bond amendment and you decide with the bosses who are strong arming weaker unions, resulting in an extremely unfair integration of two great airlines and one great future. About 5,000 jobs are at stake.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this fair integration proposal. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise to speak against the amendment. I respect my colleagues, Senator TALENT and Senator BOND very much. I am very sad and very sorry about the situation with the TWA employees. It was a difficult situation when TWA was in bankruptcy. A number of airlines sought to take over TWA. American was the one that was willing to do it.

There were agreements made at the time. American offered to preserve the jobs and pensions of the TWA employees at the time if the unions would agree to waive their seniority rights from TWA. That was the agreement. If American had not stepped up to the plate, all of the TWA pilots, flight attendants, mechanics, and ticket agents would have lost their jobs immediately and the TWA pension funds would have been wiped out. Instead, American not only persevered their jobs but fully funded the TWA pension funds.

Everyone hoped the aviation industry would recover and that everyone would stay employed. It is still the hope of every American employee that the TWA former employees who have been laid off will be hired back. American is committed to hire back former TWA employees before anyone else.

However, the TWA employees took this matter to the National Mediation Board. The National Mediation Board has rendered a decision reinforcing the original agreement. TWA's pilots and flight attendants have appealed. That is their job.

This case is still in litigation. It is completely inappropriate to bog down a wartime appropriations bill with language that would attempt to pit winners and losers in a battle between unions or between any union and management.

This amendment is coming at a time when American's unions are set to vote on the most significant cost restructuring proposal in U.S. history, with $18 billion in projected concessions. Interference with these negotiations at this time could impact that vote and push the world's largest airline into bankruptcy. Of course, if that happens, everyone at American, not just the former TWA employees, could lose their jobs.

I do sympathize, and I hope very much the little bailout that we are giving the aviation industry, will result in American staying strong and being able to look back everyone who has had to be laid off. That is the purpose of the bill today.

Regrettably, I must raise a point of order and offer an objection to amend-
Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding that a number of Senators want to speak for a brief time on the amendment the Senator from Missouri sent to the desk that is now pending. I ask they be allowed to speak on this amendment but that no action be taken until we have had a chance to review it on our side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is this a unanimous consent request?

Mr. REID. Yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I will speak briefly. First, I commend my friend and colleague from Missouri for his work on this issue for several years and his consistent advocacy for fairness to all the employees of American Airlines. I also express my deep gratitude to our friend and colleague from Texas for how she has worked with us on this and indeed this whole issue within, of course, the limits of her convictions.

Briefly, this situation is not easy for anyone and I recognize that. I emphasize that there are thousands of people who have been displaced. In a difficult situation, people with 10, 15, 20 years seniority with a company. When you get that kind of seniority with a company, you order your life so far as it is job related, on the assumption that unless the company goes down—in this case, stops flying—you are not going to be laid off. You do that in terms of your financial affairs; you get mortgages; you make arrangements with your kids and their college education. Thousands of people worked for TWA for years and years and years and did that.

Then something happened. I don't know what happened; I was not there. The people who were supposed to represent their interests in this process—management, the union, the government—had reasons did not. Their interests were not represented. As a result, they are now facing layoffs contrary to all their expectations.

I support the Senator's sense-of-the-Senate amendment. I hope it means as we continue to represent those interests we will have some chance along the process to get fairness for these people who expect better and deserve better and who have worked so hard in giving so much to this company for so long.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I certainly support the sense of the Senate. We all want fair treatment. If the aviation industry had stayed viable, I believe every employee would have maintained their employment status. There would have been more hires. However, we all know the economy is in a very precarious situation. The aviation industry has been hit hard since September 11, particularly American. And they do not want these layoffs. That is the only alternative they have.

I know the first people hired back when business picks up are going to be these employees who have been laid off. I certainly support the sense of the Senate. We all want fair treatment for all of the employees of American Airlines.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, Senator Feinstein has been waiting here all day. She has a speech she wants to give and an amendment to offer. This will not be part of the voting in 45 minutes because she and Senator STEVENS have been in discussions about how to resolve this.

If I could have Senator COCHRAN's attention, Senator BYRD is here. You and Senator BREAUX used up all the time on the amendment, the Breaux amendment pending, which we will vote on at quarter to 5. Senator BYRD will ask for up to 15 minutes to speak in favor of the Breaux amendment. We have no objection to that.

Mr. COCHRAN. I have no objection to that request, Mr. President.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator Feinstein from California be recognized for up to 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. Smith. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Following that speech, I ask unanimous consent that Senator Byrd be recognized to speak in favor of the Breaux amendment for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from California is recognized for up to 15 minutes.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I was going to call up an amendment about interoperable communications, but the text of our amendment is being worked out by the chairman of the committee and the ranking member. I believe it is going to be successfully worked out, so I would like to say a few words about what I would like to see happen.

This emergency supplemental provides $2 billion through the Office of Domestic Preparateness for State and local governments and first responders for homeland security. It also states in the Conference Report that $30 million of the $2 billion should go to provide "technical assistance to States for a variety of activities" and mentions "assistance with interoperable communications and equipment as one such activity." But nowhere is there a specific earmark for interoperable communications, and none of the $30 million mentioned for "technical assistance" will go directly to the people who need it—policemen, firefighters, and emergency assistance personnel. And even if some fraction of the $30 million does trickle down to public safety first responders, this is simply not enough to make a dent in the problem.

There are, today, about 2.5 million public safety first responders operating in the U.S., located at 18,000 law enforcement agencies, 26,000 fire departments, 6,000 rescue departments, and many other agencies as well. They have historically depended on their own radio systems, even though sometimes these systems are often incompatible with other agencies with whom they work.

As a result, law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical service (EMS) teams can't talk to each other.

For example, while police received a radio message that the World Trade Center was going to collapse on September 11, firefighters never received the message because they use different radios.

A report from the University of New Hampshire-based ATLAS Project states:

From numerous interviews gathered as part of a fire department inquiry into the events of September 11th, it would appear that non-interoperability was at least partially responsible for the loss of 343 firefighters at the World Trade Center.

According to an article in The New York Times on January 30, 2002, the New York Fire Department's most senior commanders report that:

they had little reliable radio communication that morning, could not keep track of all the firefighters, could not communicate with other groups, and were unable to reach them as the threat of collapse became unmistakable... They could not reach the highest-ranking fire chief in the Trade Center complex. A city engineer warned officials that the towers were at risk of "imminent collapse." Those he told could not reach the highest-ranking fire chief by radio. A message crossed a road dodging flaming debris and falling bodies, to deliver it in person. He arrived with the news less than a minute before the first tower fell.

Let me give some other examples. Interoperability was also a problem at both the Littleton, Colorado shooting spree at Columbine High School. During that horrific attack, over 2000 students and teachers were effectively held hostage and 15 were killed and 23 were injured.

Forty-six separate agencies responded during the incident. Many of these responders were operating on different emergency radio channels, and in different parts of the radio spectrum. Some operated on VHF frequencies, some on an Ericsson 800 megahertz system, some on an analog 800 megahertz system, and some on a digital 800 megahertz trunked system.

According to an internal report by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office:

With such varying systems being used, not only were agencies prevented from communicating directly with each other, but groups with similar functions also could not communicate via radio. Ideally, groups with the same responsibility, such as the various SWAT teams or those officers setting up inner or outer perimeters would have their own channel to use in order to report and obtain vital information about their particular area.

In the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing, the Federal, State, and City first responders agencies couldn't talk to each other.

Things were so bad that agencies reported to using "runners" to carry
messages from one command center to another. To ensure that all agencies were on the same page, these runners often had to run between different agencies repeating the same message.

This is the same method of communication used thousands of years ago by the ancient Greeks and Romans. We all know—Senator Byrd especially—the story from 490 B.C. of the man who ran 26 miles from the plains of Marathon to the city of Athens to report victory in the Battle of Marathon and warn the people in the city of impending attack. In some ways, we are no better off today, 2,500 years later.

It is outrageous that our emergency communications systems can be reduced to levels that existed 2 1/2 millennia ago.

And even if runners are not needed to transit messages physically from agency to agency, lack of interoperability can still spell disaster.

Lack of interoperability always means that precious minutes are lost and lives are put at risk.

The bottom line is that Congress has not provided enough money for interoperable communications—and that means we are needlessly jeopardizing the safety of our public safety first responders and the citizens of our country.

The fiscal year 2003 appropriations bill only provides $45 million in dedicated money for interoperable communications—only $2 million of which is likely to go directly to first responders. Twenty million dollars was given to the COPS program for interoperability, but $8 million of this amount was earmarked for other purposes—$5 million to the National Institute of Standards to develop minimum standards and $3 million for research and development through the National Institute of Justice's Advanced Generation Interoperability for Law Enforcement program.

Another $25 million was given to FEMA under the Emergency Management Planning and Assistance account. However, my staff has been told that this money will probably go to State emergency management agencies.

There is another $400 million for equipment grants and $750 million for fire grants, but only some of this could be used for interoperable communications. There was only about $50 million set aside specifically for interoperable communications in fiscal year 2002.

And I mentioned earlier, that there is $30 million in the supplemental for "technical assistance" to the States, some of which could be used for interoperable communications.

In my view, providing only $12 million in dedicated money directly for first responders for fiscal year 2003 is simply not enough.

We have talked with the Interstate Commission on Law Enforcement and Crime Prevention. We have talked with all the national firefighting and first responding organizations. They are all strongly in support of increasing this amount.

I must tell you, I am delighted that both the chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the ranking member have responded, and I am assured there will be added, in the managers' package, an additional amount which will go directly to first responders.

Now, let me make one point. I recently heard from a Los Angeles city councilman, Jack Weiss, about one potential solution. It is a device called the ACU–1000, which is available in a mobile version called the First Responder Vehicle. ACU–1000 is manufactured by JPS Communications, which is owned by Raytheon.

Now, here is how the First Responder Vehicle works: They take an SUV, and fill it with software that converts the different frequencies into a compatible network that allows first responders, using different communication devices, to talk to each other. So a local community, such as one of yours, I say to the Presiding Officer, or one of mine, can purchase this vehicle for $150,000 to $200,000 and thus allow first responders to coordinate using diverse, incompatible communications.

A public safety first responder will drive the SUV to an emergency. Then Federal agency, State agencies, local agencies, the National Guard, police officers and firefighters can all talk to one another. This can be done for as little as $150,000 a unit.

While my amendment is for $400 million, I am hopeful that as much as the chairman and the ranking member believe is possible will be appropriated and earmarked for interoperable communications in the supplemental and go directly to these first responding communities.

I also ask that the Record reflect that Senator Mikulski, Senator Dodd, Senator Durbin, and Senator Dayton are also very concerned about this issue and that they worked on the amendment with me. I thank them all very much.

The bottom line is that it is easy to solve this problem and that solving the problem is going to save lives. If you are going to protect the homeland, you have to enable those who first respond to a major crisis to be able to communicate.

Once again, I thank the chairman and the ranking member for working with me to include money for interoperable communications in the supplemental. I look forward to this issue being resolved in the manager's package, but I would like to reserve the right, in the event something goes wrong, to call up the amendment.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Will the Senator yield for a personal statement?

Ms. FEINSTEIN. I certainly will.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I thank the Senator from California. I particularly thank her for bringing this issue to the attention of the Senate. I ask unanimous consent to be added as a cosponsor of the amendment.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record a letter from the Governor of Louisiana and a letter from Louisiana's Department of Public Safety and Corrections. Those documents substantiate the statement outlined by the Senator from California.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

STATE OF LOUISIANA,
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
Hon. MARY LANDRIEU,
U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MARY: I am writing to request that the Senate Appropriations Committee report to accompany the Fiscal Year 2004, Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, include language in the Law Enforcement Technology Program account to provide $7 million for one-time equipment costs necessary to upgrade Louisiana's statewide 800 MHz SmartZone public safety communications system.

This system is operated by the Louisiana State Police and utilized by 75 other State and local agencies including numerous sheriffs' departments, the Louisiana National Guard, the Louisiana Highway Patrol, the U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Coast Guard, among others.

The existing 800 MHz system is an analog one, designed over 15 years ago. The existing system has numerous gaps in statewide coverage. Upgrading to the digital system would eliminate statewide communications coverage gaps, allowing for more seamless, interoperability. The digital system upgrade would greatly enhance communications interoperability. The requested system would enhance the ability to provide enhanced coverage and communication. The building infrastructure was paid for by the state of Louisiana, public safety community and those whom we serve.

Sincerely,

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS,
Hon. MARY LANDRIEU,
U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MARY: I am sending the following letter to the Appropriations Committee in support of additional funds for the Louisiana State Police's statewide public safety communications network.

The State of Louisiana and local governments have invested approximately $50 million in the existing 800 MHz SmartZone communications system. This system is operated by the Louisiana State Police, and utilized by 75 other State and local agencies. This network is operated by a private vendor, Raytheon, and utilizes a SmartZone database.

The existing 800 MHz system is an analog one, designed over 15 years ago. The existing system has numerous gaps in statewide coverage. Upgrading to the digital system would eliminate statewide communications coverage gaps, allowing for more seamless, interoperability. The digital system upgrade would greatly enhance communications interoperability. The requested system would enhance the ability to provide enhanced coverage and communication. The building infrastructure was paid for by the state of Louisiana, public safety community and those whom we serve.

Sincerely,

STATE OF LOUISIANA,
SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS,

Hon. MARY LANDRIEU,
U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MARY: I am sending the following letter to the Appropriations Committee in support of additional funds for the Louisiana State Police's statewide public safety communications network.

The State of Louisiana and local governments have invested approximately $50 million in the existing 800 MHz SmartZone communications system. This system is operated by the Louisiana State Police, and utilized by 75 other State and local agencies. This network is operated by a private vendor, Raytheon, and utilizes a SmartZone database.

The existing 800 MHz system is an analog one, designed over 15 years ago. The existing system has numerous gaps in statewide coverage. Upgrading to the digital system would eliminate statewide communications coverage gaps, allowing for more seamless, interoperability. The digital system upgrade would greatly enhance communications interoperability. The requested system would enhance the ability to provide enhanced coverage and communication. The building infrastructure was paid for by the state of Louisiana, public safety community and those whom we serve.

Sincerely,

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor.
a letter to you dated March 14, 2003 requesting that the House Appropriations Committee report to accompany the Fiscal Year 2004, Commerce, Justice, and State, the U.S. Agencies Appropriations Act. I include language in the Law Enforcement Technology Program account to provide $7 million for one-time equipment costs necessary to Louisiana’s statewide 800 MHz SmartZone public safety communications system. In addition, as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Public Safety, Secretary of Louisiana State Police, and as the largest user of this life-line communications network I am also asking for your support.

This system is operated by the Louisiana State Police and utilized by 75 other state and local agencies including numerous sheriffs’ departments, the Louisiana National Guard, the U.S. Marshals Service, U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Coast Guard, among others.

The existing 800 MHz system is an analog one, designed over 15 years ago. The existing system has numerous gaps in statewide coverage. Upgrading to the digital system would eliminate the statewide communications coverage gaps. The existing system is also limited in terms of communications interoperability. The digital system upgrade would greatly improve communications interoperability. The requested system upgrade would measurably assist the public safety agencies in Louisiana who provide the bulk of the first response (will defend the State of terrorism, or other manmade disasters) and consequence management efforts in emergency situations.

The move to a digital capable system allows the State to build on the existing 800 MHz infrastructure by reusing a large percentage of the hardware at the existing sites. These sites would be upgraded to allow for digital communications. New sites would be added to enhance coverage for the users. With the capability to add more sites, improve coverage and audio clarity the ability to interoperate with other public safety agencies would be greatly enhanced thus providing more agencies the capability of communications during a disaster recovery effort.

As mentioned in the Governor’s letter the State of Louisiana and local governments have invested less than $400,000 in infrastructure and subscriber units for the statewide system. Your assistance in appropriating the necessary federal funds for the new communications upgrade will be greatly appreciated by the State of Louisiana, public safety community and those whom we serve.

Sincerely,

COL. TERRY C. LANDRY,
Deputy Secretary/Superintendent.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, the Senator from California is absolutely correct with the federal policy. There are some state challenges in our communication ability.

The Senate is absolutely correct, with just a small investment, the current communications systems could be made upgradeable. Louisiana’s statewide first training, law enforcement, on the ground—and of which they are doing a better job every day—as they step up their training to address these new threats, all of that training is for naught if they cannot communicate with each other. There are some real naught if they cannot communicate with each other. There are some real threats, all of that training is for naught if they cannot communicate with each other.

I appreciate the comments. Thank you very much.

I yield the floor.

Mr. STEVENS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order of business be suspended to proceed to the quorum call.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I remind Senators we are going to come up on a series of votes soon. This bill is a key part of the President’s request to the Congress. I urge that we move quickly on to provide moneys for the ongoing events in Iraq and Afghanistan and the war on terrorism. We are now being besieged by amendments for homeland security. As a matter of fact, we have been besieged by homeland security amendments as long as I can remember.

The problem is, apparently there is an assumption here on the floor that the Federal Government is responsible for every single dime spent by any city or State in the interest of security. I always thought this was a mutual security society, and the cities and States and counties did what all they could do, and we would follow up and do the balance. Now it seems we are getting to the point where we are asked to provide each city, each State, each county with the full cost, not only of their systems for security against terrorism, but for their overtime.

I again ask the Senate, how much overtime are the people out in the desert in Iraq getting? How much overtime are the people right here on the floor, who are going to be working late tonight, getting? And they are going to be working over the weekend. It is high time people realized, I will not support financing every city, every town, every county, every State for every dime they say they need for homeland security. I think we should wake up. There is just so much that can be put on the Federal agenda.

We are running an enormous deficit. On the one hand, my colleagues on that side of the aisle are beating on this President every day for a deficit, yet there isn’t one amendment here that doesn’t go billions above the request the President made. What for? For war. Not for homeland security. There is a very small amount for homeland security. It was associated with moneys that were necessary to prosecute the war.

Now we are going to the total concept of homeland security, whatever it may be. Politically it may be good. I believe the American public wakes up to what is going on. I don’t think the average person working for wages expects their money they pay into the Treasury is going to be used to pay overtime money in every city, every State, every village in this country.

When I inquired about several of these amendments, I was told they were to save overtime. We then accepted those amendments. We will continue to oppose them. Any campaign I hear about in 2004 where any of our people are attacked for votes made here, I will pay my own expense and go defend them. I am going to tell the American public what is right.

Everyone ought to be part of homeland security. There ought to be voluntaryism. There should be people paid by the cities, by the counties, by the President and by the Federal Government. We are providing the money for the Federal people. This bill is full of money to pay those who are in Federal employment to increase the level of homeland security. But what we are hearing now is that every city wants more. Every State wants more. It is time we realize we ought to have a debate about this in terms of what is the Federal policy.

I remember we used to have debates about Federalism and what it means. It doesn’t mean the Federal taxpayer pays every dime everyone wants in order to get ready for a potential terrorist attack. I have said this before. I had one mayor from a very small village in my State ask me to help him to get a new fire truck for homeland security. When I looked into it, I found out they didn’t have a fire station. As a matter of fact, most of the roads weren’t paved. This concept that everybody is going to get part of the money we put up for homeland security, I believe, is wrong.

As we vote, I hope the Members on my side stand up and be counted in terms of protecting this bill that the President wants. I keep hearing we have a war going on. Well, I see three wars out there, and I don’t know how long any one of them is going to go.

The President deserves our support. Our people in uniform deserve our support, and the people fighting in Iraq deserve our support. I hope the Members on my side will stand up.

Sincerely,
for homeland defense—$4.6 billion out of almost $78 billion. Yet we are spending most of our time on the floor debating adding to the $4.6 billion. I hope that does not go on much longer. As a matter of fact, it isn’t going to go on much longer. I am not going to continue to accept amendments that are directed toward just beeping up homeland security for political purposes. I accepted the amendment of the Senator from Florida when he cut it down to five-sevenths of what he wanted, and I fund it after the balance of this year.

This gets to the point where I would like to talk about something else for a minute. I mentioned before today that I read in this morning’s paper the tremendous story of one of our brave young soldiers, PFC Jessica Lynch. I asked my staff to look up more about her.

As we all know from reading the papers, she is 19 years old. She is a supply clerk with the Army’s 507th Ordnance Maintenance Company supporting the 3rd Infantry Division advancing toward Baghdad. I am sure Senator Byrd knows that PFC Lynch is from Palestine, WV. I know he joins me in recognizing this brave young woman.

I remember so well standing on the floor of the Senate years ago, when we had the draft, urging that we extend the draft so it covered everybody who was 20 or more—men and women. That was an achievement. People thought that young women should not be in combat at all. This young woman shows what happens when a brave, young American woman is in combat.

She was taken captive, as we all know, by Iraqi forces on March 23, after her company was ambushed near the southern city of Nasiriyah. She was rescued Tuesday from an Iraqi hospital after 8 days in captivity. It was obvious that she had been used as a military command post. She suffered two broken legs, a broken arm, and at least one gunshot wound during her ordeal. They found her at her position and the magazine on her gun was empty. Most of the people in her detail had been killed. She survived.

I think this is a tremendous example of the young people who are involved in this war. She is the first POW to be rescued from Iraq. The Democratic leader, and all the Senators from Alaska and other members who have, year after year, argued—and I think successfully, as the record will show—that women can serve but not here. I think it would be to everyone’s advantage that women can serve but not on the front lines, or in a combat role, but in this capacity, that women can serve but not here.

I think those glass ceilings are shattering, and women are showing themselves to be, as we all know, the brave and courageous individuals who help us strengthen our military and strengthen every aspect of our national life.

I thank the Senator for his comments and for his leadership and add my own voice to the progress we are making on that issue.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration and a vote on it at whatever time the managers believe will be convenient.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to laying aside the pending amendment?

Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: The Senator from Louisiana [Ms. LANDRIEU], for herself and Ms. Mikulski, proposes an amendment numbered 504.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To make applicable provisions of law requiring the use of privately owned United States flag commercial vessels for the transportation of U.S. Aid and other materials)

At the end of chapter 2 of title I, add the following:

...
S4776

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

April 3, 2003

SEC. 210. No provision of this Act may be construed as altering or amending the force or effect of any of the following provisions of law:

(1) Sections 2631 and 2531a of title 10, United States Code.

(2) Sections 901(b) and 901b of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. App. 1241(b), 1241f).


(4) Any other similar provision of law requiring the use of privately owned United States flag commercial vessels for certain transportation purposes of the United States of America.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I understand this amendment has been agreed to on both sides. I brought this issue up in committee and was asked specifically by the leadership to wait until the bill was before the Senate to discuss it. I understand the amendment has already been worked out.

It is an amendment that merely restates current law regarding the merchant marines. There is in this bill a very strong provision that the President may furnish assistance under this heading, notwithstanding any provision of law, dealing with provision of aid, cargo, and supplies that we are sending to Iraq. I do not think it is the intention of the Senate to have the President use this broad waiver to diminish or to circumvent current law regarding the merchant marines which would, of course, have the effect of giving a preference, and rightly so, to vessels sailing under the American flag with American crews.

As you understand and as the Senate is well aware, in the drafting of this amendment, there is an exception in the event of an emergency; there is an exception in the event that the particular cargo could be shipped at a less expensive price if the rates are not competitive. All four sections of the law that we cite in our amendment have national security waivers.

The preference is only 50 percent, which gives the President the flexibility he needs in the event that a foreign carrier is necessary, and with DOD cargo, the President can also look at cost, as I said, to ensure that fair and reasonable rates are being charged. I hope this amendment that Senator MIKULSKI and I offer for the consideration of the Senate will be accepted. It is very important for many reasons to support our merchant marines, particularly at a time when American taxpayers have really stepped up to the plate in their support of this war effort and will pick up a huge share of the reconstruction of Iraq. It only makes sense that we also extend and restate in this supplemental appropriations our intention not to waive, unless absolutely necessary, the current law regarding cargo shipments in this time of war and also post conflict.

At the appropriate time, I will ask for an amendment to the proper disposition of this amendment. It is very important to many Members of the Senate but is something that can be supported in a bipartisan way.

In additional support of this amendment, it does not cost anything. I know there are Members who say every amendment that has come to the floor has added money to the bill. This does not add any money to the bill. It is not to attempt to slow down the bill. It is simply offered to make sure that our merchant marines and the laws governing flags, the vessels, and the crews of the ships that will be carrying a lot of this cargo follow the law as it is today and only grant the waiver to the President and give him broad flexibility under certain guidelines unless there is an emergency or cost is involved.

At the appropriate time, I will ask for a vote.

Mr. STEVENS. Regular order.

AMENDMENT NO. 494

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The regular order is the vote on the motion to table the Breaux amendment No. 494. Mr. COCHRAN. The yeas and nays have been ordered, I think, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The question is on agreeing to the motion to table amendment No. 494. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. COCHRAN. I announce that present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote "no."

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Roll Call Vote No. 113 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Alexander
Allard
Allen
Benjamin
Bond
Brownback
Burns
Campbell
Chafee
Chambliss
Cochran
Coleman
Collins
Corzine
Craig
Crappo
DeWine

Dole
Domenici
Ensign
Espinola
Frist
Frist (SC)
Grassley
Griffin
Hagel
Hatch
Hutchison
Inhofe
Kyl
Lott
Lugar
McCain
McConnell

Miller
Murkowski
Nickles
Roberts
Santorum
Sessions
Bunning
Sheby
Smith
Snowe
Spector
Stevens
Sumunu
Talent
Thomas
Voinovich
Warner

NAYS—46

Akaka
Baucus
Bayh
Biden
Bingaman
Boxer
Breaux
Byrd
Cantwell
Carpenter
Clinton
Conrad
Corzine
Daschle
Dayton
Dodd

Dorgan
Durbin
Edwards
Feingold
Feinstein
Gravel (FL)
Harkin
Hollings
Jeffords
Johnson
Kennedy
Landrieu
Lautenberg
Leahy
Lugar

Lieberman
Lincoln
Mikulski
Biden
Bingaman
Boxer
Breaux
Byrd
Cantwell
Carpenter
Clinton
Conrad
Corzine
Daschle
Dayton
Dodd

NOT VOTING—2

Kerry

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. COCHRAN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. STEVENS. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CORNYN). The majority leader, Mr. Frist, Mr. President, it is 5:20 now, and I want to update Members where we are pending the supplemental appropriations bill.

The chair has been here throughout the day working on amendments. We have made outstanding progress, if you take yesterday and today. We have had some amendments agreed to by voice vote. Some have been withdrawn and, as you know, we have had a number of rollcall votes.

I do want to ask our Members, as much as possible, to show restraint and not feel compelled to offer every single amendment. I believe every Member in this body does understand the urgency, that it is absolutely imperative we pass this bill. It is an emergency bill. It is an emergency supplemental bill. We need to do it in a responsible way. And we need to do it expeditiously.

I once again ask for the cooperation of all Members in allowing us to move forward on this bill, which we will do, so that we can keep moving in a progressively advancing way and finish this bill this evening.

We are going to stay in session until we finish this bill tonight. We will stay in as late as it takes to get this bill through to final passage. I hope it will not necessitate being here for hours and hours and hours, but it means we, as a body, must look at the individual amendments, come forward with some restraint, and understand the importance of finishing this bill in a responsible but expeditious way.

I do want to be clear that Senators should be prepared to be here until we have final passage sometime tonight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, we have asked Members to stay who have amendments they might wish to consider. If the Senator from Nevada is prepared, we could go through some of those and see what the time constraints may be in getting the bill finished tonight.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am in the process of working. During the vote, I was not able to contact everyone. If we could go to the next amendment, it would be better in a few minutes from now.

We have been able to work quite well with Members who have offered amendments, amendments that others have offered. We still have a number of amendments to finish that we want to offer. I could go over those now if the Senator wanted. We are down to about half a dozen amendments over here.

Mr. STEVENS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.
Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I have spoken to the manager of the Appropriations Committee and the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee has an amendment to offer. He has agreed to have a time agreement. Would 30 minutes equally divide be appropriate or 40 minutes equally divided?

Mr. BYRD. Forty.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from West Virginia be allowed to proceed with his amendment and that there be 40 minutes equally divided in the usual way.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 508

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I send to the desk an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendment is set aside. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) proposes an amendment numbered 508.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To protect the prerogatives of the Congress in the allocation of homeland security funding)

On page 36, Line 9, strike all through the colon and insert the following:

Border and Transportation Security
Customs and Border Protection
For an additional amount for “Customs and Border Protection”, $160,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, of which not less than $55,000,000 shall be for the Container Security Initiative and not less than $125,000,000 shall be for radiation portal monitors and other forms of non-intrusive inspection equipment to be deployed at the Nation’s ports of entry.

Transportation Security Administration
For additional amounts for necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration related to transportation security services pursuant to Public Law 107-71 and Public Law 107-296 and for other purposes, $452,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, of which not less than $50,000,000 shall be available for grants to public transit agencies in urbanized areas for enhancing the security of transit facilities against technological and other terrorist threats, not less than $147,000,000 shall be for radiation portal monitors and other forms of non-intrusive inspection equipment to be deployed at the Nation’s ports of entry.

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER
Salaries and Expenses
For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses”, $5,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, of which not less than $287,000,000 shall be for Federal law enforcement personnel, equipment, and support for increased training requirements for Federal and State and local law enforcement personnel.

Office for Domestic Preparedness
Salaries and Expenses
For an additional amount for “Office for Domestic Preparedness,” $300,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, of which not less than $100,000,000,000 shall be for “Emergency Management Planning Funds” to improve communications within and among first responders including law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel, and not less than $7,000,000 shall be for the purchase of radiation detection equipment, and not less than $24,000,000 shall be for the establishment of Maritime Safety and Security Teams.

United States Coast Guard
Operating Expenses
For an additional amount for “Operating Expenses”, $72,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, of which not less than $42,000,000 shall be for Port Security Assessments and the Port Security Assessment Program, and not less than $7,000,000 shall be for the purchase of radiation detection equipment, and not less than $24,000,000 shall be for the establishment of Maritime Safety and Security Teams.

Acquisition, Construction and Improvements
For an additional amount for “Acquisition, Construction and Improvements”, $40,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, to implement the Automated Identification System and other tracking systems designed to actively track and monitor vessels operating in United States waters.

Departmental Management
Counterterrorism Fund
For an additional amount for the “Counterterrorism Fund,” for necessary expenses of the Secretaries of Homeland Security, $105,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2003, to reimburse any Department of Homeland Security organization for providing support to prevent, counter, investigate, respond to, or prosecute anticipated threats or acts of terrorism: Provided, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives prior to disbursement of any amount of these funds: Provided Further, That of the total amount provided, $20,000,000,000, is under this heading which shall be transferred to, and merged with, funds in the “Federal payment for Homeland Security at nationally significant facilities” appropriation to the law as currently applied:

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Byrd amendment be temporarily set aside and that the Senator from Louisiana be allowed to offer her amendment and then we would be allowed to speak up to 4 minutes and then we would return to the Byrd amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Louisiana.

AMENDMENT NO. 504, AS MODIFIED

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I send my amendment to the desk with a modification suggested by Senator STEVENS.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is so modified.

The amendment (No. 504), as modified, is as follows:

At the end of chapter 2 of title I, add the following:

Sec. 210. No provision of this Act may be construed as altering or amending the force or effect of any of the following provisions of law as currently applied:

(1) Sections 2631 and 2631a of title 10, United States Code:
(2) Section 9003 of title 40, United States Code:
(3) Public Resolution Number 17, Seventy-third Congress (48 Stat. 500).
(4) Any other similar provision of law requiring the use of privately owned United States flag commercial vessels for certain transportation purposes of the United States.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I thank the Senator from West Virginia for yielding for a few moments because I understand this amendment has been worked out.

This amendment simply clarifies the underlying bill. It doesn’t add a penny to the bill. It seeks to clarify the waiver given to the President that will mirror the current law regarding U.S. flags. It doesn’t add any new legislation to the law. It simply clarifies the general waiver provisions in the supplementary provision, that the same law in effect today will remain in effect for the Military Cargo Preference Act. I understand it has been agreed to. I submit the amendment for consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia is recognized.
Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I sent to the desk an amendment and I asked unanimous consent that further reading be dispensed with, which was granted.

The PRESIDENT proclaims. The Senator from Mississippi is correct.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Mr. HOLLINGS be made a cosponsor.

The PRESIDENT proclaims. The amendment is voiced.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on March 25, 2003, the President sent to Congress a $74.7 billion supplemental appropriations request for "urgent and essential requirements" for the costs of Operation Iraqi Freedom and for the global war on terrorism. In his request, the President sought an unprecedented level of flexibility in the use of those funds. This request was not only for the Secretary of Defense for the prosecution of the war in Iraq but also for the Secretary of Homeland Security and for the Attorney General.

While I understand the unique circumstance in which the Nation finds itself, the situation is not entirely without precedent. We have been at war before. We have faced earthquakes and we have faced floods before. We have faced economic crises before. But the need to confront a crisis in a thoughtful or nimble way does not mandate that the Congress allow the executive branch to usurp its constitutional duties.

The Constitution grants to the Congress the authority to appropriate funds and the responsibility to use that authority to make careful choices. Yet the President has asked the Congress to hand over its responsibility to the executive branch. The bill that is before the Senate includes $1.135 billion to be parcelled out by the Secretary of Homeland Security for whatever purpose he deems most appropriate. So will he use that authority to support the Coast Guard? Will he use that authority for border security or for port security? Will he give the money to States or to localities? Will he give it to first responders—police, fire, or emergency medical personnel in our communities? Or will he use it to build up a new bureaucracy?

These are questions to which Congress should be seeking the answers. Congress should guard its prerogatives and resist succumbing to expediency and to political partisanship.

While I fully support the funding in this legislation for the men and the women who are engaged in battle in Iraq, I do not support additional grants of authority to this administration, or to any other administration, that would infringe upon the congressional power of the purse.

Senator STEVENS and I, together with the subcommittee chairman, majority and minority members, have worked, in most cases, to improve the President's supplemental budget request. We have eliminated or reduced the sweeping grants of new authority requested by this administration, while still providing some very limited flexibility where appropriate.

However, with regard to this unallocated fund for the Secretary of Homeland Security, while I have not adequately protected the prerogatives of the Congress, nor have we done enough to protect our homeland. Time and again, the White House has argued that funding for securing our homeland can wait. When the Senate debated legislation to increase funding for homeland security just 2 months after the September 11 attacks, we tried to add money for homeland security, but the President said let's wait—let's wait until 2002. Then, in 2002, the Congress approved a $2.5 billion supplemental for first responders, for port security, border security, aviation security, and nuclear security, and the President refused to spend it. He claimed that homeland security could wait until 2003. Now it is 2003 and Senators on the other side of the aisle—some of them—are saying we are half way through the fiscal year; so let's wait until 2004. Well, I must ask the Senate, in the name of the people whom we represent, when will it be enough to securing our homeland? How much longer must we wait?

The President proposes to put more than $1 billion in a fund for homeland security. Well tell us what the money will be used for. He does not tell us which agencies have requested funding. He provides us with no evaluations of those requests. He does not tell us when the money will be spent. For all we know, he may take the rest of this year to decide how the money will be spent so that he can reduce his spending request for fiscal year 2004. But who knows, he may just tell us that homeland security spending can wait until 2005.

How can we reconcile this desire to wait, wait, wait, with the fact that the Secretary of Homeland Security has said that more terrorist attacks are inevitable and the threat of further attacks is a long-term threat to our Nation? I simply cannot reconcile his statements with the policies of this administration. This threat of terrorist attack will not end at the end of this war.

So today, here is an amendment that does not add one thin dime to the bill. Instead, this amendment does what the Constitution—which we all swore to uphold—requires us to do. This amendment makes choices. Last year, the Senate Appropriations Committee held 5 days of bipartisan hearings on homeland security. It was an excellent series of hearings where we heard from Governors, mayors, first responders, six cabinet officers, the Attorney General, and the Administrator of FEMA, at those hearings, we identified numerous gaps in our security. Based on those hearings and numerous reports, such as the nonpartisan Rudman-Hart report, my amendment, which I offered together with Senator HOLLINGS, allocates the $1.135 billion contained in the committee bill for specific programs.

More than $365 million would fund critical improvements at our seaports. Some containers enter into the United States each year through our ports and very little is known about the contents of these containers or their shippers. There is no national system in place to track who is working in our own ports. This funding would begin to develop that system.

The amendment would also pay for the installation of monitors at seaports to detect radiological, nuclear, chemical, biological substances, and weapons of mass destruction, without disturbing cargo. Additional equipment would expedite the inspection process. At the same time, we invest in port security teams and in other quick-response efforts should a terrorist strike anywhere in the United States. We provide $150 million for mass transit and rail security. Transit systems throughout the world have historically been a top transportation target of terrorists. They are, by their nature, open systems that are used by thousands of people and are very vulnerable to attack.

With the exception of the Metro in the District of Columbia region, no money to date has been provided to our Nation's transit system to enhance security and reduce the vulnerability of these systems.

Under the amendment, the Transportation Security Administration will receive $247 million for aviation security, while $55 million is directed toward efforts to find ways to protect commercial airplanes from missile attack.

Another key part of this amendment is the $100 million directed toward interoperable communications equipment for police and fire departments. First responders need equipment that allows them to communicate with each other regardless of the team, the squadron, or the department to which they belong.

Finally, there is funding totaling $75 million for the Secretary of Homeland Security to use for responding to unanticipated problems. The Secretary could draw on this fund by notifying the Congress 15 days in advance of spending the money. Mind you, this is no small sum. This is $75 million.

This Congress can make intelligent choices and this Congress should make intelligent choices about how to use the taxpayers' dollars. We should not abrogate that responsibility by handing it off to unelected officials in Washington.

I urge Members to support this amendment. Mr. President, I reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDENT proclaims. Who yields time? The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I yield myself such time as may consume under the order.

The PRESIDENT proclaims. The Senator is recognized.
Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, this amendment is a modified version of the amendment the Senate just acted on a little while ago offered by the Senator from Louisiana, Mr. BREAUX. That amendment was tabled by the Senate. That amendment strongly supported by the Appropriations Committee. It included a number of specific earmarks and proposals that have been included in other amendments that have been offered to this bill but have been either tabled or defeated.

These additional amounts have no direct relationship to additional costs borne by the agencies as a result of heightened security related to the Iraqi war as part of Operation Liberty Shield.

For example, this amendment proposes to add an additional $160 million for the Customs and Border Protection account. Of this amount, $35 million is proposed for the Container Security Initiative. That is nearly three times the fiscal year 2003 regular appropriation level of $12 million; and $125 million for radiation portal monitors and other equipment, over two times the regular fiscal year 2003 appropriation level of $45.7 million.

It does not seem to me to make good sense to add these amounts of money at this time to a supplemental of immediate need to pay costs related to the war and Operation Liberty Shield.

We are 8 months into this fiscal year. The amendment proposes an additional $452 million in supplemental appropriations for the Transportation Security Administration. It includes $100 million for port security grants when the fiscal year 2002 funds have not been completely awarded. Ninety million dollars in 2002 funds have been re-awarded, and $105 million in applications are being currently examined, and there is another $150 million in 2003 appropriations.

It also includes the $55 million proposed by the amendment offered by the Senator from California, Mrs. BOXER, which the Senate already tabled earlier today. This amendment being presented to the Senate now is a proposal that we have already rejected.

The amendment proposes $5 million for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. This is more than double any supplemental funding requirements identified to us by the agencies. We have asked the department what they need to meet their responsibilities. We tried to find out what the requirements are and to make this bill coincide with those requirements. We are not talking about a full fiscal year. We are talking about the balance of this fiscal year, this supplemental appropriation.

This amendment proposes an additional $300 million on top of the $2 billion recommended separately in the bill for the Office for Domestic Preparedness. Listen to this: For the Coast Guard, it adds an additional $73 million. This is on top of $580 million provided separately in this bill for the Coast Guard, the costs related to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Liberty Shield. Of that amount, $42 million is for port security assessments, when the highest estimate we know to do complete this is $37.8 million. Another $7 million is for the purchase of radiation detection equipment which is currently under study. Specifically, the Coast Guard is studying what the cost to purchase this equipment will be. So it is difficult to determine the funds required until that study is complete.

Further, the amendment proposes $40 million in supplemental funds to implement the Automated Identification System and other tracking systems when only $4 million is proposed for fiscal year 2004.

Think about that: This supplemental amendment proposes $40 million in supplemental funds for something when only $4 million is proposed for fiscal year 2004.

Finally, it proposes $105 million for the Counterterrorism Fund and specifies the transfer of these funds to other Federal agencies rather than proposing appropriate funds directly to those agencies—$20 million to the District of Columbia; $10 million to the National Park Service.

My position is the same on this amendment as it was on the Breaux amendment; it was on the Breaux amendment that was tabled. We have carefully examined the proposal from the administration for supplemental funding. The request was submitted to our committee. We had hearings. We had opportunities to talk with the departments about their needs.

We have made a concerted effort to find out what the needs are and to respond to those needs in this supplemental appropriations bill.

We might be wrong, but we are certainly not coming in and disregarding the needs of the agencies and throwing money out here and pretending that is going to solve all the problems at a time when we are concerned about the deficit. People are worried about our economy. We are trying to be sure we do not make decisions that make it harder to create new jobs and return good health to the economy.

We are removing some pressure from the added costs for the war in Iraq. We know that. We are under a lot of pressure for the added costs to defend our cities and localities against terrorist attacks. It is a big challenge to do that, but we are trying to make the best judgments on these subjects. But I can assure the Senate that a concerted effort and a very thoughtful effort has gone into the development of the funding levels in this bill before the Senate.

I am prepared to defend it and to not apologize for the amounts we put in here because it reflects a good-faith effort to do what is right.

I urge the Senate to reject the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. HOLLINGS. Will the Senator yield 3 minutes?

Mr. BYRD. How much time do I have?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Ten minutes.

Mr. BYRD. I yield.

Mr. HOLLINGS. There is no one I admire more than my distinguished colleague from Mississippi, Senator COCHRAN, but he is off base. The father of homeland security studied it way better than Governor Ridge. We have been holding the hearings on all of these things, and you can see they have no idea what is going on in that so-called Department of Homeland Security.

We brought the Attorney General up, and an incredible well in the Office of Domestic Preparedness is transferred over. Then you go, by gosh, to the homeland security people, and you cannot find the money.

What the ranking member for homeland security is doing is bringing together all the chaos. We are the ones having the Coast Guard hearings for 30-some years up here. We are the ones who have been handling the Office of Domestic Preparedness. We are the ones who have been knowing the needs.

This does not add a red penny but says here is how these needs should be responded to and it is an emergency.

I commend the distinguished Senator from West Virginia for his particular amendment. He is trying to do the right thing. He is being charged with doing the wrong thing. It is the same thing as the Breaux amendment.

I remember one time they told me I had an amendment and I asked: What was that? They said: The trouble with you, Senator, is that you can't listen.

The trouble with my friends on the other side is they didn't listen to the Breaux amendment.

Now we are getting it clearer with the amendment of the Senator from West Virginia. Mr. BYRD. I thank my friend from South Carolina. He is a good listener. As far as I am concerned, he does not have any impediment in his speech.

The Constitution invests the power of the purse, the control of the purse, here, in Congress, section 9, article I, of the Constitution. But it does not say anything about letting some bureaucrat downtown—we all appreciate the fact we have to have bureaucrats, but nowhere do I swear it is important to defend the Department of Homeland Security when it comes to the allocation of the taxpayers' money.

We are doing what we ought to do here. We are saying these funds are the taxpayers' money; Congress shall determine how they will be spent. Why should we turn over $1.3 billion to a Department head: You take it? That Department head does not appear on the ballot anywhere. He may have in times past. He
was a good Governor, I suppose. I have a lot of respect for him. But nowhere does he appear before the elected representatives, before the electors in the various States. And we do. We have a responsibility to say where this money will be spent.

We had hearings, as Senator Hollings has so ably pointed out. We had extensive hearings. We had six Department heads, we had the Attorney General, we had the Director of Homeland Security, we had mayors, we had Governors, we had Members of Congress who testified. We had Members of Congress who had been wounded, we had Members of Congress who had emergency health personnel before the Appropriations Committee. Those hearings were well attended by Members on both sides of the aisle. My distinguished friend from Mississippi was there.

We then reported out bills based on the hearings and the facts that were gleaned from those painstaking hearings, and in a great way that work was for nothing.

But here we are, we come back, and we are trying to say yes, we will respond, Mr. President. We will appropriate this money, but we are not just going to turn over a blank check to the Department of Homeland Security. That agency head—I have a lot of respect for him, as I say, but he was not allowed to come before our committee during those hearings. He was not allowed by this President. This President said, no, he shall not appear before the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Now are we willing to turn it over to Mr. Ridge and say: Here it is, lock, stock and barrel, the whole kit and caboodle; you have it; we will spend it; we will set ourselves aside. I am not the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. I have not devoted all of my personal attention to that job as has Secretary Ridge. The President and his other staff members and the executive branch have. We have no right to participate in this process. Just because we think we can improve upon what they have suggested by adding funds to these accounts—even funds that have been considered and rejected today by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

This amendment contains a lot of things that have already been considered today and rejected by this Senate. So think about that, as well.

I don't think I need to take up any more time. I am prepared to yield back my time. I do yield back the time on this side. When the Senator has used all his time, it would be my intention to move to table the amendment.

Mr. BYRD. How much time remains?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia has 4½ minutes.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, my friend from Mississippi says the folks downtown want to participate. They did not want to participate last year when we asked the Secretary of Homeland Security—who is now the Secretary of Homeland Security—to appear. The President did not want to participate then. The President said: No, he shall not go up there and talk.

So I say, Mr. President, once again, this administration is simply asking for too much authority. They want to participate? Well, this is not the first time administrations have wanted to participate. Under this Constitution, Congress has the power to appropriate funds. I say that Congress has not only the right, it has the responsibility to state how those funds shall be spent. We should not turn over the whole kit and caboodle without a single passenger on the voyage. That would be the Secretary of Homeland Security. We transfer our responsibilities, we hand off our duties when we do that.

This is an effort to stand by our constitutional duties, to stand by the taxpayers of the country who provide the money. This is our responsibility. We should say where these monies will be spent, and we are doing that based on the responsibility of Senators, I say to the distinguished Senator from Texas who is in the Chair. He shares that responsibility with the Senator from West Virginia and the Senator from North Carolina and the Senator from Mississippi. That is our responsibility.

Why do we want to hand it over to some bureaucrat who is not elected by the people, who doesn't have to stand before the bar of judgment as we Senators do? Why do we want to hand that over to the Administration? Just because the administration wants to have it?

This administration, time and time again, has turned the back of its hand to Congress when we were making appropriations for homeland security—time and time again. We appropriated $2.5 billion last year, designated as an emergency, and that money would be out there in the hands of the local responders right today if this President hadn't turned the back of his hand on that and said: No, I refuse to attach my signature designating that as an emergency.

So, there you have it. That is talk versus action.

Mr. President, I hope Senators will support this amendment. Read the Constitution once again if need be, but take my word for it, that is in the Constitution.

I hope Senators will stand up for the Constitution, stand up for the taxpayers. See, those taxpayers are looking right at us through those electronic lenses there. I say support this amendment.

I yield the remainder of my time.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I move to table the amendment. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays ordered.

Mr. COCHRAN. I understand there are discussions with the acting leader on the other side. Senator Hollings just has a sense-of-the-Senate amendment dealing with taxes that we could take up now and have a debate on it and have a vote in relation to that amendment that would follow immediately and have a roll call vote on the Byrd amendment. I will be happy to yield to the Senator.

Mr. REID. If the Senator will yield, Senator STEVENS has indicated it has been cleared by both leaders that we could have a vote around 6:30.

Senator Hollings' amendment is keeping with the remarks of the Senator from Mississippi, that we have a vote in relation to the Byrd amendment at the
concerned about deficits, I can tell you that. We spent a half trillion dollars last year we didn’t pay for. Under the President’s budget we just passed—another half a trillion dollars in deficits this year. And the President projects to spend even more in the next year. So the particular budget we just passed increases the debt, the national debt, from approximately $6 trillion to $12 trillion. We double the debt in the next 10 years and we are going merrily along, not paying for anything. We run around with our flags in our laps. We all have a moment of silence for the troops in Iraq. It is a sincere demonstration. But then you have to question the sincerity when we will not pay for anything. We are sending that GI into Iraq, and we are saying we hope you don’t get killed. And the reason we hope you don’t get killed is we want you to hurry back so we can give you the bill. We aren’t going to get what we need.

What we need, and Carl Rove has told us, is a tax cut so we can get elected next year. We are not concerned about the needs of the country. We are concerned only about the needs of the campaign. I hope this sense-of-the-Senate amendment will engender support for the troops.

The articles on the front page of the business section of the New York Times today explain why this is necessary. I ask unanimous consent to print the two articles, “Sour Mood Pervades the Economic Front,” and, “A Year-long Decline in the Dollar Is Little Help in Economic Front,” and, “A Year-long Decline in the Dollar Is Little Help in Economic Front.”

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

SOUR MOOD PERVERDES THE ECONOMIC FRONT
By Edmund L. Andrews
WASHINGTON, April 2—While American optimism about the economy in Los Angeles has soared this week, American spirits about the economy are still being battered. Stock market analysts on Wall Street are now downgrading their expectations about the economy because of continuing uncertainty. A year ago, there was broad confidence that the economy was on the road to recovery. Now, many economic analysts are seeing a slowdown in economic growth.

The Commerce Department reported today that factory orders dropped 1.5 percent in January. The drop was larger than expected, and it ended a five-month streak of growth. The drop in factory orders is a sign of weakness in the economy. The report also showed that unemployment rose to 5.8 percent, the highest level in five months. The report comes as the economy continues to slow. Consumers are cutting back on spending, and businesses are cutting back on investment.

In a poll by The New York Times and CBS News, taken from March 20 to 24, 24 percent of the respondents said they were concerned about the economy. The poll showed that public confidence in the economy had dropped dramatically since the beginning of the year. The poll also showed that the economy was the top concern of voters.

The overall economic outlook remains uncertain. The economy is experiencing a period of uncertainty, and there is no clear path to recovery. The Federal Reserve has been increasing interest rates in an effort to combat inflation, and the dollar has been falling in value. The combination of these factors has contributed to a decline in confidence in the economy.

As the economy continues to slow, there is increasing concern about the future of the country. The deficit is increasing, and the budget is out of balance. The economy is not growing at a healthy rate, and the country is facing a serious economic challenge.

We need to take action to address these issues. We need to cut spending and reduce the deficit. We need to increase investment in the economy. We need to encourage growth and ensure that the American people have a bright future.

Let us work together to ensure that the American people have a strong economy. Let us work to create a future where the American people can be confident in the economy and in their country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 479
Mr. HOLLINGS. I call up the amendment and ask the clerk to report the sense of the Senate. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

1) the President should submit a proposal to the Committee on Finance to raise sufficient revenues to offset the funds spent in this supplemental appropriations bill.

2) the President should submit his proposal not later than 60 days after the date of the amendment.

3) the amendment will engender support for the troops.

The articles on the front page of the business section of the New York Times today explain why this is necessary. I ask unanimous consent to print the two articles, “Sour Mood Pervades the Economic Front,” and, “A Year-long Decline in the Dollar Is Little Help in Economic Front.”

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Iraq war: late yesterday, on news of American military progress toward Baghdad, it reached 118.98 yen, up 0.76 percent from Tuesday. But the dollar’s overall trend in the last year is already downward: since June, the euro has outpaced the dollar by the volumes of trade with other countries and adjusted for inflation, an average of the rates dropped 4.4 percent from March 2002 to last month.

A deeper decline could be on the way, though. The run-up to the war in Iraq hurt the dollar, and fears of further conflicts to follow could deter foreigners from holding dollar-denominated securities. With less demand for the securities, there would be less need for dollars.

"Perceptions are very important," said Kermit L. Schoenholtz, chief economist of Salomon Smith Barney. "If people believe that the events we've seen in Iraq are not one-off events, it will affect their investments.

The falling dollar has helped some American companies to increase their exports, but not enough to counteract the effects of a muddling global economy.

"It's only offset part of it," said Frank Mendizabal, a spokesman for Weyerhaeuser, the paper and building materials maker. The company exported 15 percent of its sales last year. As the dollar helped compete with producers in Latin America and Asia. But factors like a stagnant housing market in Japan still restrained demand, Mr. Mendizabal said.

Several forces may be combining to dull the effect of the exchange rate on exports. Mr. Schotz said that weakening of incomes and demand abroad was "a very significant portion of the reason" why the deficit in international transactions had not narrowed. In addition to the trade deficit, which is also adding to the difficulty of American exporters' task.

The current account exchange rate at which U.S. exports might be competitive with those from a very low-cost country like China, said John G. Lonski, chief economist at Moody’s Investors Service. And in China's case, Mr. Lonski said, the currency is tied to the dollar, which helps prevent a narrowing of its trade imbalance with the United States.

Despite the decline in the trade-weighted value of the dollar, from October (when the dollar reached a peak) to January (the last month for which Commerce Department data has), exports barely changed and imports rose 5 percent, seasonally adjusted. At least for the moment, the dollar's movements seem to reflect foreigners' willingness or reluctance to hold American securities more than the balance of trade.

"The recent confrontation with Iraq may have convinced investors of a need to better diversify their investment portfolios away from dollar-denominated assets," Mr. Lonski said. Though he did not forecast any large-scale dumping of American securities, Mr. Lonski said that "in view of the U.S.'s record-breaking current account deficit, it seems unlikely that the decline in the dollar appears to be overdue.

Last month, according to a report by Morgan Stanley, foreign investors' demand for Treasury securities suddenly slackened. With national savings near zero, almost all new investment by American businesses would essentially be financed with foreign money. "The only way we can grow is to get capital from abroad," said Stephen S. Roach, chief economist of Morgan Stanley. "What we're seeing now are some early warning signs of how this will play out over the next several years.

The Treasury also needs foreign investors to remain interested in dollar-denominated securities. According to estimates by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, market share for dollar-denominated assets, foreign loans and foreign purchases of American stocks and bonds.

Mr. Roach said. "It's only offset part of it," said Frank Schotz, chief economist of Morgan Stanley. "What we're asking to give us too much of their surplus savings," Mr. Roach said. "That's just not a sustainable way to run the economy, period.

Mr. Schoenholtz says he thinks the United States could regain its attractiveness to foreign investors. "If concerns about the war, the speculation of its effects, and that the dollar has slowed. The euro zone has outpaced the United States as a target for foreign direct investment for six consecutive quarters, according to figures compiled by Morgan Stanley. "So they are investing back in Europe rather than the United States, which was always their first preference.

With national savings near zero, almost all new investment by American businesses would essentially be financed with foreign money. "The only way we can grow is to get capital from abroad," said Stephen S. Roach, chief economist of Morgan Stanley. "What we're seeing now are some early warning signs of how this will play out over the next several years."

Foreigners hold about 35 percent of the nation's outstanding debt. The Treasury's borrowing requirements seem likely to balloon as a result of the Iraq war, the sluggish economy and President Bush's tax cuts. If demand for that debt falls at the same time, interest rates could rise. "We're asking the world to give us too much of their surplus savings," Mr. Roach said. "That's just not a sustainable way to run the economy, period.

I wish I had the time to read it all, but it is not HOLLINGS just trying to pass a tax. I would rather be tax and spend and wreck. We can't get this crowd off the deficit tripe.
the marginal tax rate to 77 percent; World War II, 94 percent; Vietnam, 77 percent. That is the last time—and I was here—that we balanced the budget, that we paid our way, under President Lyndon Johnson, guns and butter. The tax rate was 77 percent.

Now it has already been cut to 38.5 percent, and they want to cut it further in the budget that just passed. And to say, Why do we have deficits? and to use the statement that we are concerned about deficits—that is nonsensical. That is not the concern. The concern is how to pay for the war, which has run amok. And if we can't get a sense of the Senate that we are willing to pay for the war, we are just going to have to quit, we are not doing the people's job at all.

The party of Lincoln that passed in order to pay for the Civil War the estate tax and the dividend tax, this party of Lincoln today, in 2003, says: Let's go to war. And the first order of business is to eliminate the estate tax; eliminate the dividend tax; and talk about stimulus, stimulus, growth, growth.

Do you know that in 200 years of American history, with all the wars—World War II, right on through, Korea, Vietnam—we never had a $100 billion interest cost on our debt. But, by gosh, along came President Reagan. George Walker Herbert Bush called it voodoo. And under voodoo we went not only to $100 billion, but we went to $200 billion in interest costs. And then we went to $400 billion under President Bush's father.

Then, under President Clinton, we eliminated the deficit. It took 8 years to eliminate that $400 billion deficit, but we raised taxes, which I am asking us to do, at least to pay for the war—not for any other program. I have a value-added tax. Mr. President, that is S. 112.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this particular chart be printed in the RECORD. There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

TAXES TO PAY FOR WAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>War</th>
<th>Individual income</th>
<th>Corporation income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil War</td>
<td>0-10%</td>
<td>Dividends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War I</td>
<td>13-77%</td>
<td>1-12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War II</td>
<td>20-97%</td>
<td>20-49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean War</td>
<td>8-92%</td>
<td>38-54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>70-77%</td>
<td>48-52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran Wars</td>
<td>Tax cut</td>
<td>Tax cut</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, before I forget, I ask unanimous consent to have this article printed in the RECORD: “No Excuse for Tax Cuts,” by E.J. Dionne, Jr.

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

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 25, 2003]

NO EXCUSE FOR TAX CUTS

(By E.J. Dionne, Jr.)

Do the leaders of Congress really want to make their branch of government look foolish?

The attention of Americans is focused on the war in Iraq—the successes, the sacrifices, the capture of American fighting men and women, the march on Baghdad.

Congressional leaders should not exploit this moment to push narrow ideological agendas. Ramming through enormous tax cuts is not the best way to unite the country or—the phrase is on the lips of every politician—to show our support for the men and women in uniform. At a time of war, we need to do what we are witnessing a political Ponzo scheme.

The administration waited until this week to discuss what this war might cost. President Bush's aides insisted that they really couldn't know the price until hostilities began. For some estimates and ranges would have done just fine. The administration, already proposing far too much tax cutting in the face of rising deficits, clearly wanted to avoid putting out numbers that would make the budget picture even worse. The hope was that Congress would just push through budget resolutions containing its $726 billion tax plan.

But once the war started, the fact that it was happening became a rationale for supporting the tax cut. House Speaker Dennis Hastert told his Republican colleagues that it was important not to embarrass the president by cutting back on his tax proposal.

Since the tax plan was losing support among moderates on the merits, Hastert had to haul out the flag. Hastert is saying that to oppose the president on anything right now—even on tax policies that have nothing to do with the war and that make less sense than ever because of the war—is somehow to oppose the war effort. If the speaker really believes that, he should just put the House in recess, where he is free from the pressure of the political storms that plague the president's desires. Who needs a legislative branch?

The Senate, fortunately, is a more complicated place. Republicans hold only 51 of 100 seats, and many Republican moderates are resistant. Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island think...
tax cutting is senseless unless we know more about the costs of war and postwar reconstruc-
tion. Sens. Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe of Maine and George Voinovich of Ohio all warned that the $100 billion they were holding down the size of the reductions.

McCain has particular standing on this matter as a supporter of the war as there is in Congress. On this issue, he has been unwavering in standing up for Bush—not one of his favorite people after the bitter 2000 Republican primaries. McCain is suggesting that conservatives who favor a large American role in the world should put their money where their mouth is and pay for the war.

I would take courage for moderate Repub-
licans and Democrats in the Senate to do more. But they would only be matching the courage of moderate and conservative Demo-
crats who put their principles above the convenience of voting with a president popular in many of their districts.

But the five Republican skeptics held to-
gether, they could put a brake on the mad rush to unaffordable tax cuts. Last week Senate moderates carried a proposal to trim the cuts by $300 billion. But it’s not clear that that vote will stand, and it’s not enough any-
way.

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way.
and fiscal policy for the next fiscal year. The Senate had an opportunity to consider and vote on a lot of amendments and provisions in that budget resolution having to do with tax policy.

Of course, we all know that what we are confronting with is a request from the President for funding for supplemental funds for the balance of this fiscal year to help finance the war in Iraq and to help finance Operation Liberty Shield by providing funds to the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense.

While this sense-of-the-Senate resolution offered by the Senator from South Carolina does raise a subject about which we have thought and discussed a good bit in recent weeks, we hope the Senate will approve a motion to table the amendment and continue to work our way through this bill so we can complete action on the appropriations measure tonight if at all possible.

We can go to conference with the House and work out differences between their bill and ours and get these funds in the hands of the administration so we can get about the business of protecting the security of our homeland and waging a winning war against terror. That is the purpose of this legislation. We hope the Senate does not get too sidetracked on what our mission is tonight.

I hope Senators will be aware. We called over to the Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over tax policy, to let them know about the amendment and that we had an opportunity for them, if they wanted to, to come over and speak on the subject. Not having had a request for time, I am prepared to yield time back and proceed to a vote on the Byrd amendment or in relation to the Byrd amendment and then the Hollings amendment.

Mr. President, if there is no problem with that, I yield back the time on this side. I table the Hollings amendment and ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

Mr. President, if there is a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I will vote not to table the Hollings amendment.

We still do not know how much the war in Iraq will cost, and we do not know how we will pay for those costs.

I have been concerned about the United States shouldering the entire financial burden not only of the ongoing war, but also of the necessary postwar reconstruction. The President has released a list of more than 40 nations that are supporting our effort in Iraq. However, a close look at the nations on that list will show that the overwhelming majority of them are in no position—and have made no commitment—to help pay for the effort.

In comparison, during the 1991 gulf war, our allies paid for 88 percent of the costs of the war. We have no such assurance this time.

Because of this uncertainty, I believe the Senate should be discussing and debating this issue. That is, discussing and debating how we will meet the costs of the war and the costs of reconstruction.

Will we receive contributions from our allies? Will we use revenues from Iraqi oil after the war is over? Will we cut wasteful government spending?

These questions need to be asked and debated. That is why I voted not to table the Hollings amendment. With his amendment, the Senator from South Carolina tried to raise the issue of how we will pay for the war and reconstruction. And, his amendment was intended to force the Senate to debate this issue. I believe we need to have that debate, and that is why I voted not to table the Hollings amendment.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time between the two votes be 10 minutes; the second vote be 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Mr. COCHRAN. There is no objection on this side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. President, if the Senate from Mississippi can answer this question. The Senator from Louisiana had talked to Senator STEVENS' staff and Senator STEVENS on the amendment. We will work on this during the vote.

Mr. COCHRAN. My understanding is Senator STEVENS wanted an opportunity to talk about that.

Mr. REID. We will go ahead and start the vote then.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to table the Byrd amendment, No. 508.

Mr. President, if there is no problem with that, I yield back the time on this side. I table the Hollings amendment and ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I will vote not to table the Hollings amendment.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. STEVENS. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. CRAIG. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 479

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to table the Hollings amendment, No. 479.

Mr. COCHRAN. I ask for the yeas and nays if they have not been ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have been ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) is necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) would vote "yes."

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote "aye."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 79, nays 18, as follows:

[Vol. 157, No. 8, p. 4052]
The motion was agreed to. Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table. The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. STEVENS. I now yield to the Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. HOLLINGS. I ask unanimous consent that the distinguished Senator from West Virginia be added as a co-sponsor on that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when Senator SCHUMER offers his first-degree amendment—regarding first responders, upon the reporting of the amendment it be set aside and Senator SPECTER be recog-nized to offer a first-degree amendment on the same subject; that the amendments be debated concurrently with a total of 30 minutes of debate to be controlled by Senator SCHUMER and Senator SPECTER—actually, I asked my colleague to yield me 5 of those minutes—or their designees, and that no amendment be in order to either amendment prior to a vote in relation to each amendment; upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to a vote in relation to the latter amendment to be followed immediately by a vote in relation to the Schumer amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I would like to inquire as to whether or not, in the opinion of the distinguished manager of the bill, we might be able to finish action by no later than 9 o'clock?

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, we are doing everything we can. I thought we were going to finish by 5:30 but we are having votes that we might otherwise not have. We are proceeding with the agreements we had previously. But we are doing our best to be finished. My feeling is this vote will take place at about 7:30, between 7:30 and 7:35. After that, we are inquiring to see how many more votes. There are two votes, actually.

If it would be in order, I ask the second vote be 10 minutes. I ask unani-mous consent that the second vote on this sequence to come be 10 minutes in length.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. We will do everything we can to shorten the time.

Mr. REID. I would say, if I could, if the Senator would yield, through the Chair, I think we have a real good op-portunity of finishing the bill quickly after these two votes. We will need co-operation of both sides but I think we can do that.

Mr. SPECTER addressed the Chair. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SPECTER. I send my amendment to the desk. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

Mr. STEVENS. Senator, I don't think the Schumer amendment is there yet.

Mr. SCHUMER addressed the Chair. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The order provides that the Schum amendment be called up first. The Senator from New York.

AMENDMENT NO. 514

Mr. SCHUMER. I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER], for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MUKULSKI, Mr. BINGMAN, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. SARBAVES, proposes an amendment numbered 514.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous con- sent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To increase the appropriation for the Office for Domestic Preparedness, Department of Homeland Security, by $2,350,000,000.)

On page 37, strike lines 3 through 25 and insert the following:

For additional amounts for the "Office for Domestic Preparedness", as authorized by the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296), the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (Public Law 107–56), and the National De-fense Authorization Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–201), for grants to States and local gov-ernments, pursuant to the requirements of section 1014 of the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001, subject to the minimum grant amount requirement of that section, and the requirement that remaining amounts be dis-pensed with.

The Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. SPECTER] proposes an amendment numbered 515.

Mr. SPECTER. I ask that my amend-ment now be in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. SPECTER] proposes an amendment numbered 515.

Mr. SPECTER. I ask unanimous consent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.
The amendment is as follows:
(Purpose: To increase funds for protection and preparedness of high threat urban areas under the Office for Domestic Preparedness)
On page 37, line 10, strike "$2,000,000,000" and insert in lieu thereof "$2,200,000,000".
On page 37, line 12, strike "$3,420,000,000" and insert in lieu thereof "$3,270,000,000".
On page 37, line 17, strike "$450,000,000" and insert in lieu thereof "$300,000,000".
On page 37, line 23, strike "$100,000,000" and insert in lieu thereof "$600,000,000".
Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, the essence of my amendment is to provide additional funds for high threat urban areas. This amendment would add an additional $500 million over the $100 million currently contained in the bill for the protection or preparedness of high threat urban areas. This increase would be achieved with $200 million in additional funds added to the supplemental appropriations bill, and a reduction of $300 million in State and local grants for other accounts in the Office of Domestic Preparedness.
The amendment which has been submitted by the Senator from New York would increase the appropriation for the Office of Domestic Preparedness from $2 billion to $4.3 billion. My amendment would increase the appropriation from $2 billion to $2.2 billion. And while there is no doubt the high-threat urban areas and the Office of Domestic Preparedness could use additional funds, the fact is, that increase of more than $200 million which is in my amendment would, in effect, tend to break the bank.
The distinguished manager of the bill, Senator Stevens, is trying to keep this bill within $80 billion, and that can be accommodated with the addition of $200 million.

The urban areas have very substantial risks involved. In very brief summary, the city of Philadelphia has had expenses of almost $30 million annually.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a letter dated April 2 from Mayor John Street to me be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit L)

Mr. SPECTER. Similarly, the City of Pittsburgh has had increases in expenditures for the years 2001 and 2002 in excess of $10 million.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that chart be printed in the RECORD.

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

ADDITIONAL CITY HOMELAND SECURITY SPENDING DUE TO WAR/HIGH ALERT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City and state</th>
<th>Cost/Week (Est.)</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York City, NY</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
<td>8,000,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>2,600,000</td>
<td>776,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>3,694,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>1,250,000</td>
<td>416,474</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>427,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland, OR</td>
<td>750,000</td>
<td>529,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin, TX</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>656,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>651,154</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chandler, AZ</td>
<td>336,000</td>
<td>176,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans, LA</td>
<td>364,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>280,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
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<td>Lexington, KY</td>
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<td>Riverside, CA</td>
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<td>Frederick, MD</td>
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<td>Denver, CO</td>
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<td>Norfolk, VA</td>
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<td>Columbus, GA</td>
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<td>Sacramento, CA</td>
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<td>Cleveland, OH</td>
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<td>Tucson, AZ</td>
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<td>77,906</td>
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<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
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<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>154,370</td>
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<td>Miami, FL</td>
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<td>Fremont, CA</td>
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