

I have had many conversations over the course of the last several months with Dan on this point. I am pleased at his enthusiastic response to the desire that many share with regard to building value-added markets in the future.

Dan Glickman also understands the importance of the next generation of agriculture. He knows that the farm community is getting older, that the farm community is getting to the point where, indeed, we must look to the next generation for the long-term future and viability of agriculture. He knows we have to help young farmers. He knows that the only way to do that is to provide a better price.

Dan Glickman also understands the importance of conservation. Conservation has been an issue that he has worked on for many years. He realizes the importance of the CRP program and the efforts that we made to address soil erosion. He understands the importance of research in providing for the efforts to conserve our soil and to do more in the realm of providing for long-term environmentally sound responses to the agricultural practices of the past.

So, Dan Glickman is a very futuristic individual. He understands that we made an investment that ought to be protected, but he understands, as well, the need to refocus that investment as warranted.

Mr. President, it is with great enthusiasm that I come to the floor this evening to support his nomination, to again reiterate my view that there are few people that have come to the Senate in support or in recognition of the need for agricultural policy that have been as qualified as this person is.

Dan Glickman deserves strong bipartisan support. Given the remarks made by the majority leader and others in the Senate Agriculture Committee, I am confident that there will be overwhelming support demonstrated in our vote for him tomorrow.

Once he becomes Secretary, I look forward to working with him. I know for the next couple of years his plate will be full and his agenda will be long, but, I think there also will be a good deal of willingness on both sides of the aisle to work with him to ensure that he is successful.

Our country depends upon the talents of a Dan Glickman. Our future in agriculture depends upon his leadership. It is critical that we cooperate with Dan as he continues to provide that leadership.

Mr. President, I hope that we can demonstrate with enthusiasm tomorrow how strongly we feel about this nomination, how hopeful we are about his success and how determined we can be about our willingness to cooperate as he begins his task. I yield the floor.

Mr. EXON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I want to add my voice to the strong support that has been evident for a long time with the President's new nominee for

the Secretary of Agriculture, former Congressman Dan Glickman, from my neighboring State of Kansas.

Mr. President, much has been said about this dedicated, talented individual. I have heard statements made by Senator LEAHY, the ranking Democrat on this side of the Agriculture Committee; by the majority leader, Senator DOLE, who has, as he has indicated in his remarks on the floor a few moments ago, the record as the longest sitting member of the Agriculture Committee; and just a few moments ago by the minority leader, from my neighboring State to the north, South Dakota, the minority leader, Senator DASCHLE.

They all summed up very, very well, the regard that the nominee had by those who know him the best. I have known him for a long, long time. I have worked with him on foreign policy ever since I have been in the U.S. Senate.

He is one who thoroughly understands the farm programs, but more importantly, what an important part agriculture is to the overall economy of the United States of America.

I remind all once again that, if it were not for the offsetting factor of exports of farm products, the balance of trade deficit that the United States has would skyrocket dramatically. Dan Glickman understands agriculture. He knows the serious situation that agriculture is facing today. I am delighted that the majority leader has called for the vote on tomorrow morning.

I am anxious to begin working with the new Secretary of Agriculture because, as the lead Democrat on the Budget Committee, the new agricultural leader knows, the Agricultural Committee knows, the Appropriations Committee knows, that the actions that will take place in the Budget Committee in the near future are going to have a great deal to do with how successful the new Secretary of Agriculture will be in writing a workable farm program and policy.

I have not been in a position, nor has he, during this waiting period which held up his assuming this new role in even a more timely fashion—it was not possible for me to sit down with him and talk specifics about what his recommendations will be with regard to the recommendations out of the Budget Committee for the total agricultural programs.

Dan Glickman will do a great job. I will listen to his recommendations very carefully with regard to the farm program. Given the fact we are going to have to make some very, very hard choices on a whole series of issues if we are going to get ourselves on the road to a balanced budget by the year 2002—which I think obviously is the overwhelming goal of Members of the Congress on both sides of the aisle and in both Houses—it is, therefore, critically important we get Dan Glickman on board as soon as we make the confirmation tomorrow and as soon as the President goes through the formality, which I hope will follow almost instan-

taneously. Then Dan Glickman can take over fully the important function of Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America and, for that matter, the Secretary of Agriculture for the whole free world.

I urge as near a unanimous vote as possible. I would not be surprised if the vote of the Senate was unanimous tomorrow morning. I am looking forward to working with my great friend, Dan Glickman, who will be the new Secretary of Agriculture.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate return to legislative session, to the bill, for purposes of my offering an amendment that has been agreed to on both sides regarding grazing permits for cattle in certain parts of the United States.

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

## EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 425 TO AMENDMENT NO. 420

(Purpose: To extend the terms of permits for grazing on National Forest System lands to allow time for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 in connection with permit renewals)

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, on behalf of myself, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. SIMPSON, and others, I send an amendment to the desk that has been approved on both sides and that the chairman of the Interior appropriations subcommittee has approved, and I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. PRESSLER], for himself, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. SIMPSON proposes an amendment numbered 425 to amendment No. 420.

Mr. PRESSLER. 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:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

## SEC. . RENEWAL OF PERMITS FOR GRAZING ON NATIONAL FOREST LANDS.

Notwithstanding any other law, at the request of an applicant for renewal of a permit that expires on or after the date of enactment of this Act for grazing on land located in a unit of the National Forest System, the Secretary of Agriculture shall reinstate, if necessary, and extend the term of the permit until the date on which the Secretary of Agriculture completes action on the application, including action required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I rise today to propose an amendment to allow the renewal of grazing permits on Forest Service lands until the completion of the required analyses under the National Environmental Protection Act [NEPA].

The management of Federal lands is the hub of multiple-use strategies. Sound stewardship and range management practices represent the foundation needed to protect Federal lands and ensure that they are maintained for future generations. Multiple-use practices by the ranchers themselves greatly enhance the condition of Federal lands. Keep in mind that many generations of ranch families have made a living, raised their families, and maintained these lands for future generations. The sustainability of their livelihoods is linked to the sustainability of the land. They are the true environmentalists.

Despite their previous good stewardship, ranch families now risk being punished for the Forest Service's inability to complete the studies required by NEPA in time for the beginning of the 1996 grazing season. Over 120 Black Hills' grazing permits must be reissued by the Forest Service before the 1996 grazing season, which begins in March 1996. In accordance with NEPA, before the permits can be reissued the Forest Service must analyze each allotment for effects on endangered species, and environmental, cultural, historical, and water resources.

In this time of downsizing, already 4,000 jobs at the Forest Service have been eliminated. Yet despite this reduction in human resources, the Forest Service must now take on sweeping studies of every single ranking allotment—not just in South Dakota—but throughout the Western States.

I met with Chief Jack Ward Thomas of the Forest Service last week. He said that in order to complete these analyses as close on time as possible, he will have to concentrate both his financial and human resources on completing the NEPA studies. Chief Thomas said it himself: "This means that every other function of the Forest Service in the West will suffer as a result."

The timber industry will suffer, as well as the ongoing Black Hills forest management plan activity. In addition, because Forest Service personnel and resources will be spread so thinly, the risk of appeals—of both timber sales and grazing permits—is even greater.

I recognize that due to recent court action, the Forest Service is between a rock and a hard place. My amendment will solve the Forest Service's dilemma. It allows the permits to be renewed until the completion of the NEPA analyses.

I would like to note that my amendment is very similar to an amendment offered yesterday by my colleague from South Dakota. However, my colleague's amendment was included as a part of the Regulatory Transition Act which could be delayed in conference for some time. The very fact that I am

introducing a similar amendment again today attests to the gravity of the situation, and my commitment to passing a resolution to this problem into law.

Unfortunately, Mr. President, we do not have much time. It is imperative that we resolve this issue quickly, for the sake of the ranchers and loggers in South Dakota—and across the West.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment.

I will now yield to my colleague who has taken a great deal of leadership on this issue, the Senator from Wyoming.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNETT). The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from South Dakota. He has joined with many of us to deal with this issue. It is one of these issues that has a timeliness problem.

What we really have, as the Senator has pointed out, is during the past several months there has been some kind of court ruling that requires an individual NEPA investigation for every grazing permit. There are about 4,500 grazing permits from the Forest Service. About 700 of them will expire this year, the end of 1995. And, under the new regulation, driven by the court procedure, these NEPA requirements would have to be completed before these grazing permits can be extended.

The Forest Service has said there is no way they can do that within that length of time. The result would be that ranches that depend upon grazing permits for their summer grass for cattle and sheep would simply be out of business.

This does not change the requirement, it simply provides for some time. It says basically that permits cannot be refused because of the lack of the NEPA regulation. In other words, it says until the NEPA regulation is finished the permits can be renewed. That is really what it is all about.

By the way, there is plenty of protection. It is not a matter of protection. There are now NEPA requirements on the forest plain, at the forest level. It is already there. In fact you can make an argument it is not needed. We are not making that argument. We are simply making the argument that the process of NEPA can continue but that there is not enough time to do it without injuring people who have a business of grazing on public lands.

This would simply extend the time for that to happen. It is timely and needs to be done so people can plan for next year, can plan to turn their cattle out, can have loans and continue their business as they always have.

Mr. President, I urge the amendment. Let us put it in the bill so we can take away this threat to the economy of the West.

I thank the Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. EXON addressed the Chair.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I want to congratulate my friend and colleague

from South Dakota, and my colleague and friend from Wyoming. I just made some pronouncements about the new Secretary of Agriculture about adjoining States. Here we are, adjoining States again. I am here with my senior colleague from South Dakota, Senator PRESSLER, and my new colleague from the western neighbor of the State of Nebraska.

I congratulate both of them for the amendment that has been offered. The matter has been cleared on this side and we are prepared to go ahead and agree to the amendment, if that is the will of the chairman of the Commerce Committee?

Mr. PRESSLER. I thank my friend from Nebraska. I regret he is leaving this Chamber. I have previously said a few kind words about him, both here and in the press. But I thank him very much for his great service here in this body.

Mr. President, I urge the adoption of this amendment.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. If there be no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 425) to amendment No. 420 was agreed to.

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

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

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now return to executive session to the nomination of Secretary Glickman.

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

#### NOMINATION OF DANIEL ROBERT GLICKMAN, OF KANSAS, TO BE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

The Senate continued with the consideration of the nomination.

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I would like to say a few words about Dan Glickman. I have known him since 1974, when we came to the U.S. House of Representatives together. I have known him and his wife. We have traveled to different events together over the years. We have voted together in the House of Representatives. We have served together on a number of caucuses. I had observed his work over the years.

I certainly shall be voting with a great deal of pride for Dan Glickman for Secretary of Agriculture.

I am especially interested in the international aspects of agriculture. I believe in the next few years what we do in international agricultural trade will be just as important to farm prices as some of our domestic programs.

The business of the Secretary of Agriculture is the business of food for