

matter for U.S. Congressmen, Senators and Representatives, to express themselves as they saw fit. He did not appear perturbed that action in this way would be an impediment to the peace process in the Mideast.

The negotiators of Israel and the PLO are scheduled, as I understand it, to take up the status of Jerusalem approximately a year from now. I think there is no doubt about the Israeli position that Jerusalem is an undivided city, and certainly I think there is no doubt in the Congress of the United States about Jerusalem being an undivided city and it being the judgment of Israel as to where its capital should be. The tradition is, the unbroken tradition is that the embassies are located in the capital city, and it is a fundamental matter therefore that the United States Embassy and the Ambassador's residence ought to be located in the capital of Israel just as the Embassy and Ambassador's residence are located in the capital city of every nation with the host nation determining where its capital should be.

We have to make decisions on matters of this sort, Mr. President, as we see it. There is no doubt about the strong relationship between the United States and Israel, but judgments need to be made by Senators and Congressmen as to what we think is appropriate. Many of us have joined over the years in urging that the Embassy be moved to Jerusalem, and I think that the record is consistent over such a long period of time that there is no appropriate way someone could make a claim that it is a matter for political purposes.

The distinguished majority leader, Senator DOLE, has been singled out in a number of newspaper editorials, others of us less prominent than the majority leader have not been so identified, but I am confident that all of us in exercising our judgment in calling for the location of the U.S. Embassy to be in Jerusalem instead of Tel Aviv are doing it because we think it is the appropriate course of conduct, and no one, no fairminded person, can say that when the record goes back to 1983 in the endorsement of this resolution, there could be any political motivation. I think that ought to be considered and the record ought to be set straight on this issue.

CONTRACT WITH THE AMERICAN FAMILY

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition to comment on the proposed Contract With the American Family which was the subject of an early morning "Good Morning America" telecast where Ralph Reed, Jr., appeared as the spokesman in favor of the Contract With the American Family, and I was invited to appear and did appear in expressing my personal views on that subject.

It is my view, Mr. President, that we have the fundamental contract which

governs the relationship of Americans with their Government, U.S. citizens with their Government, and the relationships among U.S. citizens, and that basic contract is called the Constitution of the United States. It is a document which has served this country very, very well since 1787. And there is appended to the U.S. Constitution a Bill of Rights which has served this country very well since 1791.

The first amendment of that Bill of Rights provides for freedom of religion, which is the very basis of our American society—freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of petition our Government.

The United States was founded by the Pilgrims who came to this country in the early 1600's, coming for religious freedom. And if I may on a personal note, Mr. President, say that my parents came to this country in the early 1900's for the same reason.

When the so-called Contract With the American Family calls for a constitutional amendment involving freedom of religion and the first amendment, I believe it is not well placed. I believe that the Jeffersonian wall of separation of church and state is firmly established for the benefit of America, and I think it is most unwise to have an amendment to the first amendment freedom of religion, which is what is called for by this newly drafted Contract With the American Family.

When Mr. Ralph Reed, Jr., speaks on behalf of that contract, and when his mentor, Rev. Pat Robertson, speaks on the subject, Reverend Robertson makes the statement that there is no constitutional doctrine of separation of church and state, that it is a lie of the left, I believe that is directly contrary to the Constitution itself, to the intent of the Founding Fathers. Certainly this is not ARLEN SPECTER's statement. This is the statement of Thomas Jefferson, articulating the doctrine of separation of church and state.

When Mr. Ralph Reed, Jr., articulates a need to change the law of the land as articulated by the Supreme Court of the United States in *Casey* versus *Planned Parenthood* and *Roe* versus *Wade*, which held on a constitutional basis that a woman has a right to choose, there again we are looking for constitutional change, which I submit is unwise and is unwarranted.

There are some parts of the proposals which I think are fine. When they call for an attack on criminals and in support of benefits for victims, I heartily endorse that and have done that for many years since my days as an assistant district attorney, through the DA of Philadelphia, through my service in this body with special reference to the Judiciary Committee.

When they call to crack down on pornography as it relates to children, there is no doubt that the Supreme Court of the United States has set a very rigid standard and we should do all we can to enforce that standard.

There, again, is something I have done personally over the years in the district attorney's office in Philadelphia and here in the U.S. Senate.

And when there is a call to have women who are homemakers have available to them the same opportunities for individual retirement accounts, I say that is just and right.

We have a contract with America in the Constitution which has served this country so well. And in the House of Representatives there has been a Contract With America which has been adopted in large measure in the House and has been adopted to some extent in the Senate and is under further consideration and I think will be adopted with few significant changes.

But if every group comes forward to insist, Mr. President, on their own view of what there should be in the relationship between the Government and its citizens, among its citizens, then I suggest to you that we are going to be a very, very fragmented society, and that it is not wise to have any one group seek to determine the social mores of this country.

This country is strong because it is a melting pot. It is strong because we recognize diversity. America is strong because we do not break into individual groups and have one group seek to impose its ideas on any other group.

So when an idea comes forward that there ought to be an amendment to the Constitution, I say no. When the idea comes forward that there ought to be a change in the first amendment's freedom-of-religion provision, I say no. When the idea comes forward that there ought to be a change in the Constitution as it has been interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States on a woman's right to choose, I say no.

It is time, Mr. President, in America for unifying actions, not for divisive actions. One Contract With America from the Congress elected by the people of the United States is sufficient. What we really need to do is rely on the basic contract with America, and that is the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. President, in the absence of any other Senator on the floor, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ABRAHAM). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, let me indicate to my colleagues that there is an effort underway to come to some agreement on H.R. 483, the Medicare Select bill. Hopefully, we can reach an agreement and pass the bill, maybe with one or two agreed upon amendments. If we can do it by voice vote,

there would not be any additional votes today. We do not have that agreement yet. As soon as we do, I will notify my colleagues. Senator CHAFEE has been working with Senator ROCKEFELLER and others. Hopefully, we will be able to advise our colleagues in 10, 20 minutes.

I yield to the Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. CHAFEE. The majority leader is exactly right. We are working now with staffs trying to see if we cannot come to an agreement on the problems raised by the Senator from West Virginia, Senator ROCKEFELLER. Everything seems to take longer than anybody thinks around here. So I would say in the next half-hour, I hope, we can have some information on whether indeed there would be the necessity for a vote.

Mr. DOLE. I think everything else that we can take up has been taken up. There is only one nomination on the calendar. There is no other legislation that we can take up at this time.

Tomorrow we will start on the budget. I understand the Democrats will have a caucus at 10:30 in the morning and, hopefully, they will allow us to start on the budget at noon tomorrow. Otherwise, we would have to wait until tomorrow evening to start on the budget. There are 50 hours of debate. Of course, it is more than just 50 hours.

We did indicate to and promise the President that we would try to complete the antiterrorist legislation before Memorial Day. So we would have to finish the budget by next Wednesday night. I think we will need probably a couple of days on the antiterrorism legislation and then there would be the Memorial Day recess, which could be the last recess of the year, but I hope not.

Unless we can work out some accommodation on some of these major bills, the Senate will have no alternative but to stay here for a considerable period of time during what might have been the August recess. If we can start on the budget tomorrow—the House should pass their budget tomorrow. We will start on ours tomorrow and have votes on tomorrow and on Friday and on Monday. If I were Members, I would be back on Monday; if there is ever a Monday on which there will be votes, it will be this Monday on the budget, and on Tuesday and, hopefully, we can complete action on Wednesday. The final legislation would be the antiterrorism legislation.

So I suggest that we complete action on this bill, and if we can do it without votes, we will do it. If not, Members should not leave until they have some final notice.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I want the majority leader to know—and I will share this amendment—I have one amendment which I think may be noncontroversial. I can limit it to 10 minutes. I would like to at least show it to colleagues on the other side of the aisle. It is on the Medicare Select.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call.

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

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

A VETO OF THE RESCISSION BILL

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I was just reading a wire story here. I find it hard to believe that the House and Senate have just completed action on a rescission bill which would save about \$16.4 billion—actually savings around \$9 billion, because of the \$16.4 billion there is additional money for disaster assistance in Oklahoma City and other programs. I am a little bit bewildered because the President indicates if we send this bill to him—it will be back from the House this week and we will take it up next week—that he will veto it. I am puzzled because the President has said we ought to reduce spending. So we finally get a little reduction in spending and at his first opportunity, he says: No, no; I am not going to sign it. I am going to veto it. And at the very time he is suggesting that he is not going to do anything on the budget, not going to offer any budget of his own. We will have a vote on the President's budget. He is just going to be a spectator and not participate in trying to reduce the deficit.

So it seems to me the President had a golden opportunity here to exercise some leadership and demonstrate to the American people that he wants to reduce Federal spending, but he struck out. He does not want to reduce Federal spending.

So what does he do? He tries to blame Republicans. We have cut too many programs or we have done this or done that. It seems to me the President ought to carefully review what he said today and indicate to the Congress that he will sign this rescission package. It is not easy to save money around here. The taxpayers wonder why we do not do more and this is a good example. We have been working on this rescission bill for weeks and weeks and months, in many cases in a bipartisan way, and before it even goes to the President he says he is going to veto it.

So I think he has missed a golden opportunity and I know he will try to figure out some way to blame Republicans. But we cut programs that were not high priority and in addition we added spending for the disaster in Oklahoma City and other programs the President had requested.

So, Mr. President, if you have an opportunity to look at it one more time, I suggest maybe you might want to reverse your position. Because if you are not willing to even save \$9 billion in Federal spending, we are talking about

many, many, many, many times that much in the budget resolution we are going to start debating here tomorrow.

If this is any indication of the leadership in the White House, it is probably a forgone conclusion that the President will veto anything we send him on the budget process.

So I would hope that this is not an indication of the trend. I think they have blown a very good opportunity here to demonstrate to the American people that if they are serious about cutting spending, serious about reining in the Government, serious about cutting back on some of the Federal Government which the American people are tired of paying for, but unfortunately it appears the President of the United States does not want to cut anything—“Don't touch anything, don't do this, or don't do that”—he will sit on the sidelines and he will watch the Republicans as we try to bring the budget into balance between now and the year 2002.

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

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

EXTENDED USE OF MEDICARE SELECTED POLICIES

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now turn to the consideration of Calendar Order No. 92, H.R. 483, regarding Medicare Select, and it be considered under the following time agreement: 10 minutes on the bill, to be equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Finance Committee; that one amendment be in order to be offered by Senators PACKWOOD, CHAFEE, ROCKEFELLER, and KENNEDY, on which there will be 10 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; and that following the conclusion of time, that the amendment—namely, the Packwood-Chafee-Rockefeller-Kennedy amendment—be agreed to; and that the bill be read a third time and passed and that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table all without any intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, since this has been agreed to, I am authorized to say there will be no further roll-call votes today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 483) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit Medicare Select policies to be offered in all States, and for other purposes.