

most valuable ally and adviser as we developed a plan to balance the budget without compromising the priorities we stand for. He has never wavered in his commitment to balance the budget fairly.

Most of all, Senator Jim EXON will be remembered as having served the people of Nebraska and all Americans with dignity, diligence, and integrity. As a soldier, Governor, as a Senator and as a friend, he has exemplified all these virtues and many more.

His love for the Senate is exceeded only by his love for his family and the beautiful State of Nebraska, and I might add the not-so-successful team in the last weeks, the Nebraska Cornhuskers. I know that troubled him, and he has lost a great deal of sleep over that during the last week, and I am sure his fortunes will turn.

Both he and I have had the good fortune now to serve in this wonderful body for some time. I can say in all sincerity I will miss him a great deal. I wish Senator JIM EXON, his wife, Pat, and their family the very best in the years ahead.

Mr. President, at times like this you wish you could find other ways with which to express gratitude and friendship and the best of health to those who are retiring. Oftentimes, we wait too long to come to the floor to make these expressions of great affection and admiration for the public servants who come here every day. I could talk at some length about Senator EXON, as I now will about Senator Sam NUNN. They are men from whom I have learned a great deal, men of remarkable decency, men respected on both sides of the aisle, men with a sense of humor and a sense of devotion to country.

FAREWELL TO SENATOR NUNN

Mr. DASCHLE. The day SAM NUNN cast his 10,000th vote, I mentioned that his first vote, on January 23, 1973, was to confirm a nominee to be Assistant Secretary of Defense. Since then, Senator SAM NUNN has become the Senate's leading authority on defense policies. He has served as chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee from 1987 to 1994. He has introduced or cosponsored the most important legislation and the most important military and defense issues of the last two decades, including Defense reorganization, reducing the threat of nuclear war, Pentagon procurement reform, base closing, and restructuring of military pay and benefits.

He has earned the respect of virtually every colleague with whom he has served—Republican, Democrat, conservative and liberal, Presidents, Vice Presidents, Members of the House. He has earned, also, the thanks of every American throughout this country for his efforts to ensure the integrity and mission of our military establishment in the face of many of history's most significant challenges. Every adminis-

tration since the 1970's has consulted him on military matters and considered him for top-level positions in their administrations.

Senator NUNN's career has neither been confined to nor consumed by military and defense issues, however. In the Senate, he has played monumental roles in laying the groundwork for national service, deficit reduction, and on efforts to redirect our national economic and tax policies. He has applied his talents and energy to a multitude of issues whenever they were required. I must say that America is better for it.

Mr. President, I congratulate my colleague, my advisor, my friend, Senator SAM NUNN, on his remarkable career, and I thank him for his service to this institution and to this country. Unfortunately, it is also time to say goodbye and wish him well in his future endeavors. We will miss him in the Senate, but I must say that we expect him to be very visible, very active, very involved, very engaged, both in public policy and in matters relating to private enterprise, for many, many years and decades ahead.

I hope that, should he have the opportunity to serve in other capacities in government, he will take them—not for his benefit, but for ours.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and 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. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

SENATE ETHICS RULES

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, as everyone knows, we have, over the last year, year and a half, made some adjustments in the ethics rules for the Senate. The Select Committee on Ethics is principally in business to do investigative and disciplinary work, but its work in the area of Member and public education is also a major part of what the committee does, and that is less familiar to most Americans.

The committee's advice and counsel, typically provided to Members, staff and the public affected by the Senate code of conduct, in fact, constitutes a substantial amount of the work that the committee does in giving advice to people who are seeking not to run afoul of the rules of the Senate. On a regular basis, the committee answers questions and provides guidance on a wide array of subjects, from financial disclosure to the application of gift and travel rules, to conflicts of interest. Much of the advice takes the form of just responses to telephone calls, which are typically received by the committee staff. But, frequently, the committee responds in writing to a specific question raised by a Senator or, for that matter, some-

body out in the public who is trying to get advice about how to structure an event. All inquiries, frankly, are welcome and are treated as confidential, in accordance with the committee's rules.

On occasion, a specific question raised with the committee is determined to have general relevance to the entire Senate. Over the years, the committee has published the answers to such questions as interpretative rulings. Between 1977 and 1992, the committee issued more than 440 interpretative rulings, all of which are publicly available.

The committee has also, from time to time, communicated with all Senators in the form of "Dear Colleague" letters on a particular point of the Code of Conduct. The committee did that earlier this year regarding the application of the new gifts rule. The committee has compiled various other documents explaining rules governing proper and appropriate Senate conduct.

The committee staff also conducts regular briefings for staff and orientation sessions when we have new Members coming in at the beginning of each Congress.

The sum and substance of this means that information and education are an important part of the work of the Ethics Committee. In order to facilitate and improve the committee's educational role, we have, today, published the first-ever Senate Ethics Manual. I regret that it is as thick as it is, but the Senate, over the last 10, 15 years has been increasingly made more complex in the rules by which we must live our lives, so we have had the staff work, over the last year, trying to develop a manual which, candidly, Mr. President, is not going to answer every question, but may help in providing a sort of quick, ready reference for Members of the Senate in trying to determine how to handle a matter that might raise some ethical question. Again, I apologize for the thickness of it, but I think it illustrates how many new rules we have adopted for ourselves and how much interpretation is needed in order to discover what to do under the new rules. So this will be made available to every Member of the Senate. I suggest that, for whoever in the office becomes sort of the office expert on matters of this sort, this be on their desk and, hopefully, that person will be able to be of some assistance to the Senator in the coming years in answering questions.

The manual is comprehensive. It covers gifts, conflicts of interest, outside income, office account, financial disclosure, political activity, the frank, Senate facilities, constituent service, and employment practices. It explains the rules and incorporates the interpretations that we have developed over the years. In addition, it contains many illustrations of situations that have occurred, or could occur, and sets forth the standard for appropriate conduct.

I am confident that every Senator will incorporate this manual in his or her important office documents. As I have suggested earlier, it will probably end up occupying a significant spot in the office of every Senator. I think it is not likely to eliminate the need to call the Ethics Committee for advice, although it may make those phone calls less frequent.

The committee staff worked long and hard on this manual, and they deserve the appreciation of the Senate and the American people. In particular, Victor Baird, Linda Chapman, Elizabeth Ryan, Adam Bramwell, Marie Mullis, and Annette Gillis toiled long hours over the last several months to bring this project to fruition. They have turned out, in my view, a very fine product.

As I indicated earlier, one copy of this manual will be made available to each Senator. In fact, this afternoon, one copy will be delivered to each office. I am not going to ask that it be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as it is quite thick, but I ask unanimous consent that the manual be printed as a Senate document.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Then there will be sufficient copies available to committees and subcommittees as well as the general public.

So, Mr. President, I hope that this ethics manual will be useful to Members of the Senate and to others who will need to become at least generally familiar with the rules of the Senate.

Again, I thank the staff of the Ethics Committee for an outstanding piece of work. It was really quite a difficult project. I thank them on behalf of all Members of the Senate.

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

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

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business with the time between now and 2:30 p.m. open for statements limited to 5 minutes each; I further ask that the time between 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. be under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee and the time between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. be under the control of the Republican leader or his designee.

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

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

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

COLORADO ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I was shocked and saddened today to learn of the President's threat to eliminate or veto the parks bill that included a number of projects.

I was particularly disheartened over the decision to kill four Colorado environmental projects—surprised because, on a number of these, the administration has specifically reviewed them and signed off on them; that is, we had taken the trouble and the time to walk them through, to seek their advice, to incorporate their suggestions, and to work with them for something that could meet the President's guidelines.

Thus, after doing that—and having secured, at least in many of those projects, the administration's input and approval—we are now faced with a political hit list with regard to Colorado projects. I think it is particularly surprising when you look at where that hit list focuses. It focuses primarily in States where the President has had a difficult time in winning good reelection numbers—Alaska, Colorado, and Virginia are the heaviest hit on that hit list.

Mr. President, the projects in Colorado are bipartisan projects. They are ones that are of enormous benefit to the environment and the State. I hope that the President will reconsider.

This is raw politics to punish those who will not go along with the President's bid for reelection. And it is vindictive politics. It is beneath the Office of the President to engage in this kind of vindictive hit list based not on a rational review of the issues or reasonable discussions of the problems, but simply sending a cold power play to punish those States where the President's ratings are not high enough.

I called the White House this morning because I was concerned about these projects and about one project in particular which, I think, particularly saddens me, and asked why these projects were being eliminated. They were not able to give me an answer. The woman who was kind enough to chat with me did speculate with regard to one of them, and speculated that maybe they were concerned about it being a heritage area. And, of course, the major one involved the Cache La Poudre River bill which is not a heritage area. We specifically changed that aspect because Members of the House and others had concerns about heritage areas.

Mr. President, I want to talk for a moment about a project that we worked for more than 20 years on which is included in that Cache La

Poudre area bill. The Cache La Poudre River is a river that was named by the French, obviously, in the pioneer days. It is a river that has provided the flow of communications, water, transportation, and a lifeline throughout eastern Colorado. It starts in the high mountains in northern Colorado, in those high mountain regions, and it flows down toward the plains. It is now Colorado's only wild and scenic river. I offered that as a Member the House of Representatives.

Peter Dominick did a study perhaps three decades ago on wild and scenic rivers in the State. And it was a great pleasure for me to see the passage of that wild and scenic designation. While Peter Dominick has long passed away, his sons came to that signing ceremony. It was, I think, a token of something very important because it is an effort to preserve part of our national heritage.

The La Poudre bill the President now wants to veto is one that takes that area of the river as it passes through Fort Collins and extends out on the plains. The suggestion is very simple. Let us see if there is some way to set aside the floodplain of the river as it passes through the city of Fort Collins and Greeley and by the city of Windsor on its way. It is an area of rapid growth. It is in the middle of a great urban area stretching from Denver, or perhaps even Colorado Springs, all the way up to Cheyenne, WY.

What a wonderful thing to have set aside open space of a floodplain area for riding and bike paths and hiking paths and recreation facilities in the heart and the middle of a great metropolitan area.

Mr. President, as you well know, many in our part of the world are not so sure they want the heritage broke, and it is controversial. But the saddest thing of all would be to see it grow and for us not to prepare for it, plan for it, and set aside the open space that will keep some of the quality of life that has attracted so many to that part of the world.

That is really what this bill is all about. It does it without a cost to the U.S. Treasury.

It does it by saying if there is surplus land in the State that is federally owned, this bill allows the exchange of surplus land in other parts of Colorado for part of the flood plain of the Cache La Poudre. It will not have a net impact on the Treasury, but what it will do is gradually see land that is held by the Federal Government in areas where it is not needed exchanged for land in the flood plain of the Cache La Poudre River. It promises, I believe, over a lengthy period of time to give us a substantial amount of open space that will be preserved throughout the Republic to the lasting benefit of the community.

Frankly, I think it is a question that needs to be addressed in the Western United States itself. The West is blessed with a large amount of public