

Simpson, John H. Chafee, Frank H. Murkowski.

CALL OF THE ROLL

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The mandatory quorum call has been waived.

VOTE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to the consideration of Senate Resolution 227, the Whitewater resolution, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are required. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. LOTT. I announce that the Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK] is necessarily absent.

I further announce that the Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] is absent due to a death in the family.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] would vote "yea."

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. CONRAD] is absent because of illness.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 61 Leg]

YEAS—51

Abraham	Faircloth	Lugar
Ashcroft	Frist	McCain
Bennett	Gorton	McConnell
Bond	Gramm	Nickles
Brown	Grams	Pressler
Burns	Grassley	Roth
Campbell	Gregg	Santorum
Chafee	Hatch	Shelby
Coats	Hatfield	Simpson
Cochran	Helms	Smith
Cohen	Hutchison	Snowe
Coverdell	Inhofe	Specter
Craig	Jeffords	Stevens
D'Amato	Kassebaum	Thomas
DeWine	Kempthorne	Thompson
Dole	Kyl	Thurmond
Domenici	Lott	Warner

NAYS—46

Akaka	Ford	Mikulski
Baucus	Glenn	Moseley-Braun
Biden	Graham	Moynihan
Bingaman	Harkin	Murray
Boxer	Hefflin	Nunn
Bradley	Hollings	Pell
Breaux	Inouye	Pryor
Bryan	Johnston	Reid
Bumpers	Kennedy	Robb
Byrd	Kerrey	Rockefeller
Daschle	Kerry	Sarbanes
Dodd	Kohl	Simon
Dorgan	Lautenberg	Wellstone
Exon	Leahy	Wyden
Feingold	Levin	
Feinstein	Lieberman	

NOT VOTING—3

Conrad	Mack	Murkowski
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 46. Three-fifths of the Senators not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The majority leader is recognized.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST— S. 1664

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, what I am going to propound when Senator

DASCHLE arrives is consent that consideration of the immigration bill be limited to relevant amendments only. Either we will finish this bill or we will move to something else. It is my hope we can complete action on the immigration bill by tomorrow evening and then go to the Kassebaum-Kennedy health care bill.

In the interim, we need to take care of the conference report on terrorism. The original bill passed the Senate last May. We are prepared, if we cannot do business on the immigration bill, to move to the conference report on terrorism. We would like to finish that so that the House might complete action on it by Thursday.

I now ask unanimous consent that during the consideration of the pending immigration bill, the bill be limited to relevant amendments only.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I wonder how many times Senator DOLE has been in the opposite position, when Senator MITCHELL and my distinguished predecessor, Senator BYRD, made similar requests on the Senate floor.

We all know the circumstances on the Senate floor. We all know that there are many occasions when Senators have no other opportunity to raise an issue except in the form of amendments to pending legislation. Our Republican colleagues have done it time and time again, both in this Congress as well as in previous Congresses.

Given that, I propose a modification to the unanimous-consent request that I think is reasonable. We would be prepared to offer just two nonrelevant amendments, the minimum wage amendment as well as the Dorgan amendment relating to the balanced budget proposal, and would even be prepared to allow the Republicans a similar number of nonrelevant amendments, with time constraints and no second-degree amendments, in an effort to accommodate the schedule.

That is not, it seems to me, too much to ask. We could accommodate that within the next hour or two. We could even agree to a limited number of amendments on the bill itself that are relevant. I make that modification and ask the distinguished majority leader whether he would be inclined to support it. If so, I think we could find a way in which to schedule this legislation and reach final passage.

Mr. DOLE. Maybe regulatory reform. We have over a majority. We have 58 votes; we need 60. My colleagues on the other side will not let us bring that to a vote. That costs the average family about \$6,000 per year because of excessive regulations. We think it is a reasonable nonpartisan bipartisan approach to regulatory reform. Maybe that is an amendment we could look at.

What I will tell the Democratic leader, I am happy to consider that, but I assume if he objects to this request, we

will go on to the terrorism conference report, after a statement by the distinguished Senator from Wyoming, Senator SIMPSON. Maybe while we are resolving that bill, we could see if we can resolve this one.

I said we passed this bill last May. It was June 7 that the terrorism bill passed by a vote of 91 to 8. We have pretty much the same bill. I hope we would not spend a great deal of time on the conference report. Then we can go back to the immigration bill if we can work out an agreement. If not—

Mr. DASCHLE. If I can respond to the distinguished majority leader, I hope we could use whatever time we have available to us to see if we can find some mutually agreeable schedule here. Our desire is to come to final passage on an illegal immigration bill.

We want to see that happen as badly as anybody else here in the Senate. We also recognize, however, that circumstances in the past have precluded us from offering amendments relating to minimum wage. We will not have, if we bring up the constitutional amendment to balance the budget under the reconsideration rules here in the Senate, an opportunity to offer amendments. So we really have no vehicle with which to offer alternatives.

But I understand and certainly respect the majority leader's position, and I want to work with him to see if we cannot accommodate his desire and ours to complete work on the illegal immigration bill, as well as to have opportunities to vote on issues that we hold to be very important.

I object under the circumstances now presented.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. DOLE. As I understand it, the Senator had a modification to mine?

Mr. DASCHLE. Yes, I proposed a modification.

Mr. DOLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader has the floor.

TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT— CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I hope that the Chair may lay before the Senate the conference report to accompany the terrorism bill, and I will ask that the conference report be considered as having been read, and then we can make whatever statements we want.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object. If, as soon as that is laid down, the Presiding Officer could recognize the Senator from Massachusetts and the Senator from Wyoming, I would have no objections, with that understanding.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 735), to prevent and punish acts of terrorism, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses this report, signed by a majority of the conferees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the conference report.

(The conference report is printed in the House proceedings of the RECORD of Apr. 15, 1996.)

Mr. SIMPSON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1996

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I just reflect that Senator KENNEDY and I are ready to go forward with this measure. It is an issue that is very topical and must be addressed—the issue of illegal immigration, the issue of legal immigration. Both bills are here. One is at the desk and one is being processed.

I want to assure all that immigration reform is not a partisan issue. It never has been and it never will be. It cannot be. I just hope that before we go on with these maneuvers, we recognize that I do not think anyone, especially in an election year, would want to be known as the person that took this bill down and left it down. It is an issue that, as I say, is not going to resolve itself. It is a Federal issue, not a State issue. We either resolve it, or we will have proposition 187's in every State of the Union. From me, I have buried my dead many times before with regard to both legal and illegal immigration, and life will go on if you bury it one more time.

Thank you.

Mr. KENNEDY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I join with the Senator from Wyoming in believing that it is premature to draw this bill down. This issue is of enormous importance in terms of dealing with the borders of this country and the flow of illegal immigration. It is enormously important in terms of enhancing the various criminal statutes that would deal with struggling, and it is enormously important to make sure we are going to protect American jobs by refusing illegals the opportunities for employment. And as the Jordan Commission and the Hesburgh Commission pointed out, jobs are the issues which attract the illegals. This particular measure deals with those particular proposals.

We had 6 days of markup on this in committee. As the Senator from Wyoming pointed out, there was significant

participation by Republicans and Democrats. It was devoid of partisanship in the consideration of various amendments. Last evening, the Senator from Wyoming offered three important amendments, which we were about to accept—one to make it a deportable offense to falsely claim to be a citizen while applying for jobs or welfare benefits. That is important. That can make a difference in terms of protecting the American taxpayer and the American worker. There is an amendment to keep track of the foreign students, to make sure they stay in school and not work illegally. We do not have the information of what is happening to many of the students, whether or not they circumvent the current laws and melt on into the population and use what is a legitimate cause to come here, to subvert the efforts to try and deal with illegal immigration. The third proposal is where you have students that come here to go to a private university and end up, at the public taxpayers' expense, allegedly going to public education at the burden of the taxpayers. These are significant and important amendments. We debated and discussed those last evening. We are prepared to act on them.

So there are probably eight or nine extremely important and controversial items that I was prepared to work out a time agreement on and urge colleagues to do so. And there were the other two items, which as Senator DORGAN and I will speak to briefly, about the minimum wage.

I would have been glad to urge the minority leader to agree to an hour or half hour, if that was going to be the cost of getting a vote on the issue of the minimum wage. We have been unable to get consideration of that measure now for over a year. And we have seen 56 Members of the Senate—bipartisan—who have indicated they want to address that issue. We are still denied an opportunity to consider a bill on its own merits with a relatively short period of time, since this is an issue that is understood by the Members.

Every day that goes on where we deny the opportunity for an increase in the minimum wage makes it clearer and clearer that there are those in this body, the U.S. Senate, that refuse to recognize that the work is important of the men and women in this country that work 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year and are entitled to a livable wage. That issue is not going to go away. We are going to keep revisiting that, as the minority leader pointed out, over the objections and opposition and stress to those opposed to that, until we are at least able to deal with it in a way in which that particular issue is dealt with with a sense of dignity because of the importance that has to many of our fellow citizens.

So I am disappointed that we are not able to move ahead. We are prepared to move along. I think many of those amendments that have been published here could be disposed of with broad bi-

partisan support. Probably, a dozen need our full attention. We were quite prepared—I know the leader on our side had instructed us to make every effort to move the program forward. That was the sense of the Democratic members of the Judiciary Committee. So, Mr. President, I am distressed by that. Also, as a matter of information on the terrorism bill, they did strike provisions that were in the previous law that permits the Internet to publish information about how to make bombs, and then a measure that was worked out by Senator FEINSTEIN, and also Senator BIDEN, that ensured that we were going to deal with that particular item. It was a matter that I brought to the floor. Someone had sent it to me over the Internet itself, and it provided in detail about how to make bombs. Senator FEINSTEIN and Senator BIDEN provided leadership to deal with that on the Internet. And now, as I understand, for some reason that I cannot possibly understand, in this terrorism conference report that particular provision has been eliminated.

I heard the leader say that this is pretty much the same measure that came through the Senate. I have just listened with great interest. I wish our ranking member of our Judiciary Committee, Senator BIDEN, was on the floor to respond to that. I know we will have a debate on some of those measures. But that, along with other provisions dealing with the explosives and tagging explosives and also the reduction of the provisions, which were accepted in the Senate in terms of wiretapping, which the FBI indicated would be such a powerful force in terms of dealing with the terrorist organizations and potential terrorist bombs, have all been dropped in that conference report. For what reason I do not know. But I heard the leader say that this measure was pretty much what was passed in the Senate. Certainly, if those measures have been addressed and deleted or compromised, I think that we ought to—as I am sure we will—hear Senator BIDEN and others address it.

Mr. DOLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, the Senator from Massachusetts is correct. Senator HATCH is prepared, and he will start on the conference report. We are not going to debate the immigration bill. It is being held hostage now because of the demands on the other side. If we do not want to do anything about illegal immigration, I guess the Democrats can make that happen. Most Americans, by 80 percent, think we should deal with this issue. But now we are going to be held hostage by Social Security amendments and minimum wage amendments. They have five or six others. Then they have the gall to stand up and say, "We want to move ahead on illegal immigration." We know what is happening.