

May 13; further, that immediately following the prayer the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, that no resolutions come over under the rule, that the call of the calendar be dispensed with, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and there then be a period of morning business until the hour of 3:30 p.m. with Senators allowed to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

I further ask that Senator DASCHLE, or his designee, be in control of the time between 12:30 and 2 p.m., and that Senator COVERDELL, or his designee, be in the control of the time between the hours of 2, and 3:30 p.m.; and, further, that immediately following morning business the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 2937, the White House Travel Office legislation.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Senate will resume consideration of the White House Travel Office bill and the pending gas tax repeal issue on Monday.

There will be no further votes during today's session. The Senate will not be in session on Friday of this week, and no rollcall votes will occur during Monday's session of the Senate, although the Senate will be in session on Monday.

Senators are expected to debate the gas tax repeal issue throughout the day on Monday. And, as a reminder, a cloture motion was filed on the pending amendment.

And, therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote occur on the Dole amendment at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, and the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order following the remarks of the distinguished Senator from Massachusetts.

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

The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I thank the Senator for permitting us to address the Senate for just a few moments at this time.

ACTIONS OF THE SENATE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I wanted to just correct the record with regard to the suggestion of the Senator from Mississippi about actions that were taken by those of us who favor having an up-or-down vote on the minimum wage and the action that was necessary to try to keep the issue of

the minimum wage before the U.S. Senate because, as the record shows very clearly, we have demonstrated a majority support for increasing the minimum wage as an amendment on legislation earlier this year, and at the time that the Senate voted by 55 votes, Republicans and Democrats, to increase the minimum wage. Our Republican majority leader made a motion to recommit the pending legislation, sending it back to the committee and having it returned to the floor without that amendment that was pending which would have effectively denied us any further debate or discussion of the minimum wage. And, before that action was processed, I filed a cloture motion on the minimum wage to at least assure that the Senate would have an opportunity to vote on the minimum wage issue and which we have been denied the opportunity to do.

The Senator from Mississippi can continue to talk about the various procedures, processes, and actions that can be used by the Republican leadership to avoid this institution taking a vote up or down on the minimum wage, which they have been successful in doing. But I do not think there is an American today that does not understand that it has been the Republican leadership position in the House of Representatives and the Senate of the United States that is frustrating the overwhelming sentiment of the people of this country—in all regions of the country and among all ages of the country—that believe that fairness and decency ought to permit the Senate of the United States and the House of Representatives to vote on a modest increase for those men and women who work 40 hours a week, 52 weeks of the year, to try to provide for themselves and their families.

That is not favored by the majority leadership. That is opposed by the Republican leadership, and the Senator from Mississippi, as outlined earlier, which may be of interest to I do not know who at this hour of the day here in the Senate, about various procedures that are utilized to deny us that opportunity. But I can tell you that there are families that are gathered around the kitchen table at this moment at 6:30 at night, and there are the mothers of children that are gathered there at the kitchen table at this very moment that are wondering how they are going to pay the utility bill, or the emergency room bill, or the rent, or food on the table, or the clothing for their children. That is happening now. And, if they could afford a television and watch what is happening on the floor of the U.S. Senate, they have to ask, "Why? Why is the Republican leadership demanding or forbidding the opportunity to have an up-or-down vote on this measure one more day, one more day?"

They denied it yesterday, denied it the day before, denied it the day before that, denied it last week, and denied it

in the weeks before, in spite of the fact that the majority leader has voted for an increase in the minimum wage four times, voted against it eight times, but voted for it on four different occasions, and in spite of the fact that Republican Presidents Eisenhower, Bush, and Nixon have all supported an increase in the minimum wage. So, it is an interesting perhaps story about the procedural steps which have been taken by various Senators to deny an increase in the minimum wage.

But, Mr. President, there is no doubt in the minds of the American people about what is taking place here in the U.S. Senate; Republican leadership denying working families on the bottom rung of the economic ladder the opportunity to have a living wage, a living wage for themselves and for their families, and that is wrong. No parliamentary procedure is going to change that fundamental fact.

Now, Mr. President, in recent days a number of commentators have pointed out that the Senate seems to be in the doldrums, "D-o-l-e-d-r-u-m-s." I believe the normal spelling leaves out the "e"—d-o-l-d-r-u-m-s. I thought it might be worth listening to some of the dictionary definitions for that word.

The Random House Dictionary of the English Language defines it this way:

A state of inactivity or stagnation;

A belt of calms and light baffling winds;

Or, three:

A dull, listless, depressed move; low spirits.

The Oxford English Dictionary refers to the doldrums this way:

A vessel almost becalmed, her sails flapping about in every direction.

It goes on to call it:

A region of unbearable calm broken occasionally by violent squalls.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines it this way:

Ocean regions near the equator characterized by calms, or light winds, and the calms characteristic of;

Or, second:

The calms characteristic of these areas;

Or, third:

A period of inactivity, listlessness, or depression probably influenced in form by the word "tantrum."

That seems to fit the Senate precisely. First our Republican friends have a tantrum over the Democratic efforts to raise the minimum wage. Then our Republican friends go into the doldrums.

The American people look to the Congress for action on the minimum wage, and all they see are cloture motions, quorum calls, and procedural gymnastics to avoid taking action.

I say end the gridlock, end the deadlock, end the doldrums. The way for Senator DOLE to find his way out of the doldrums is clear: Raise the minimum wage.

Finally, Mr. President, on one other matter that was raised by my friend from Mississippi about cloture motions; and there will be those that will

study this period of history in the 102d, 103d, and the 104th Congress.

What they will find is that the times when the cloture motions were filed was to close off the prolonged debate which was taking place in the Senate. But they will also find that when our Republican leadership has been filing the cloture motions in this Congress, it is not to terminate debate. It is to block out debate, to close out the possibilities to close off amendments to the underlying measure, a very significant and important difference. It can be made light of on the floor of the Senate, but every Member of this body ought to know what the significance and the difference is about in the application of cloture during this period of time—to close out debate, to deny the opportunity for Members to be able to express the interests of people they represent. It is unbecoming for this institution to be put in that position because this is the institution which has debated the great issues as well as less important issues over the period of the history of this Nation. Denying that opportunity for debate does not serve this institution or its tradition well. To the contrary.

I wish to make just a final observation, Mr. President. I ask unanimous consent to be able to proceed for 3 or 4 more minutes.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. In every case where cloture was filed on an amendable vehicle during the 103d Congress and Republicans sought to offer amendments, amendments sponsored by or cosponsored by Republicans were voted on before the cloture vote. Do we hear that? In every case where cloture was filed on an amendable vehicle during the 103d Congress and Republicans sought to offer amendments, amendments sponsored by or cosponsored by Republicans were voted on before the cloture vote. Not today in terms of where we are on proposals of Democrats and on proposals that are cosponsored by Republicans, because the minimum wage increase is cosponsored by a Republican. In no case was the amendment tree completely filled to prevent Republicans from offering amendments after cloture was filed. In no case. In no case. I have heard that claim to be the case by the Republican majority leader and again repeated this afternoon. But the facts do not support that statement.

Cloture was most frequently filed to close off debate in situations where amendments were not in order—conference reports, nominations, motions to proceed to bills. The only bill on which cloture was filed during the 103d Congress and no Republican amendments were offered was S. 414, the Brady bill. In that bill, cloture was filed on the Mitchell-Dole substitute amendment. There were no votes on Republican amendments because a unanimous-consent agreement was reached dictating which amendments

would be permitted—unanimous consent—a completely different history than has been described either earlier this evening or by the majority leader on yesterday.

So, Mr. President, as I mentioned, the people in my State who are receiving the minimum wage have been fortunate in that my State increased the minimum wage. Fortunately, it has been in effect since January of this year, and the unemployment has gone down. It has gone down. In our neighboring State of New Hampshire, where they have not increased it, the unemployment has gone up.

So I will welcome the opportunity to debate the issue of whether the minimum wage adds to inflation, whether it adds to unemployment, about what the economic impact is going to be. We have ample examples of that from history. We have at other times reviewed that for the benefit of the Senate, and we will welcome the chance to either do that again or not do it.

We continue to deny an increase in the minimum wage to hard-working Americans, most of whom are women. A good percentage of those women have small children. This is a women's issue. It is a families' issue. It is a children's issue. It is an issue for justice. It is an issue on decency. It is an issue on fairness. The American people understand that.

So perhaps as we come to the conclusion of this week of Senate debate and discussion, those families are going to wonder why the Senate did not address this issue again. It is more and more difficult for this Senator to explain to families that are trying to provide for themselves and their families why Republican leaders refuse to give working families a livable wage that we have been prepared to do at other times in our history with Republicans and Democrats alike. The last time we increased it, we had a Democratic controlled Congress and a Republican President. Now we have a Republican Congress and a Democratic President, but the Republican leadership in the House of Representatives and the Senate of the United States has refused to do it.

In a final point, I will say it is going to get done. It is going to get done, and those families ought to understand that it will get done. It will get done, I believe, sooner than later. We will continue to offer this amendment on the legislation, and if the Senator from Mississippi or the Senator from Kansas, the majority leader, want to go to this arcane procedure of denying any debate or discussion on either the minimum wage or any amendments thereto, they are going to have a very long spring and a very long summer, but we are going to prevail on this issue.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
MAY 13, 1996

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until Monday, May 13, 1996.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:57 p.m., adjourned until Monday, May 13, 1996, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate May 9, 1996:

THE JUDICIARY

RICHARD A. LAZZARA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, VICE JOHN H. MOORE II, RETIRED.

MARGARET M. MORROW, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, VICE RICHARD A. GADBOIS, JR., RETIRED.

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR PROMOTION IN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED:

CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR:

TERENCE FLANNERY, OF VIRGINIA
LARON L. JENSEN, OF VIRGINIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE FOR PROMOTION INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, AS INDICATED:

CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

DOLORES F. HARROD, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
JAMES L. JOY, OF FLORIDA
DAVID K. KATZ, OF CALIFORNIA
GEORGE W. KNOWLES, OF FLORIDA
KAY R. KUHLMAN, OF FLORIDA
JOHN L. PRIAMOU, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
GEORGE F. RUFFNER, OF PENNSYLVANIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED PERSONS OF THE AGENCIES INDICATED FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED, AND ALSO FOR THE OTHER APPOINTMENTS INDICATED HEREWITH:

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF CLASS TWO, CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

JUSTIN EMMETT DOYLE, OF NEW YORK
HECTOR NAVA, OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

CRAIG B. ALLEN, OF WISCONSIN
ROBERT M. MURPHY, OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DAVID M. BUSS, OF TEXAS
PATRICIA M. HASLACH, OF OREGON

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF CLASS THREE, CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DAVID JOHN CLARK, OF TEXAS
AMY RENNEISEN FAWCETT, OF TENNESSEE
JAMES B. GAUGHRAN, OF VIRGINIA
MICHAEL J. GREENE, OF WASHINGTON
PHILIP D. HORSCHLER, OF CALIFORNIA
VIRGINIA HOWELL POOLE, OF VIRGINIA
CLAUDE WILBUR MARK REECE, OF VIRGINIA
CAROLINE TRUESDELL, OF NEW YORK
RUTH F. WOODCOCK, OF FLORIDA
ALBERT OBIRI YEBOAH, OF VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SHARON A. BYLENGA, OF FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ANN M. BACHER, OF FLORIDA
NANCY K. CHARLES-PARKER, OF VIRGINIA
DAVID K. SCHNEIDER, OF VIRGINIA
DALE N. TASHARSKI, OF TENNESSEE

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF CLASS FOUR, CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LINDA F. ARCHER, OF CALIFORNIA
FRANK G. CARRICO, JR., OF TEXAS
JAMES M. FLUKER, OF NEW YORK
ROSEMARY D. GALLANT, OF VIRGINIA
KENNETH H. KEEFE, OF FLORIDA
JAMES M. MCCARTHY, OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MICHAEL JONATHAN ADLER, OF MARYLAND