

passage occur at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, July 16, notwithstanding rule XXII, and that no call for the regular order serve to displace the DOD appropriations bill.

I think this is an eminently fair unanimous-consent request on the way to deal with this very, very important bill that our colleagues are ready to handle on the floor this afternoon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. BRYAN. I regret to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
S. 1936

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now turn to consideration of S. 1936, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, and during the pendency of S. 1936, that it be considered under the following time restraints: 1 hour on the bill to be equally divided in the usual form; 1 hour on all first-degree amendments which must be relevant; 30 minutes on all relevant second-degree amendments. Further, I ask unanimous consent any rollcall votes ordered with respect to the nuclear waste bill on Friday, July 12, or Monday, July 15, occur at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 16, and that following the disposition of all amendments, S. 1936 be read for a third time and final passage occur at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, July 16, notwithstanding rule XXII; and that no call for the regular order serve to displace this bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. BRYAN. Objection.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
H.R. 3103

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate insist on its amendment to H.R. 3103, the Senate agree to the request for a conference with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, first of all, let me begin by saying the distinguished majority leader made comments about how nice it would be to have regular order. I would just note for the RECORD that the first two unanimous consents were not in keeping with regular order. There is nothing regular about asking unanimous consent with a predetermined procedure. Regular order is to take up a bill and deal with it.

With regard to the health insurance reform conferees, for the reasons I have already stated on the RECORD just moments ago, we object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
H.R. 3448

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that immediately following the appointment of the conferees, that the Senate then insist on its amendment to H.R. 3448, the small business tax package bill, the Senate then request a conference with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I ask unanimous consent the clerk be directed to make the following changes in the enrollment of H.R. 3448, the small business minimum wage bill, and the bill be sent to the House for its consideration. These changes, which I shall send to the desk, change the effective date for the minimum wage increase to 30 days after the date of enactment, and they take care of the problem regarding the utilities which Senators MOYNIHAN and D'AMATO discussed on the floor yesterday.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I object to that because the way this should be dealt with, and I feel it should be dealt with, is to go to conference. I had just made a unanimous-consent request that we appoint conferees on the minimum wage and small business tax relief package, and it was objected to. When we get conferees appointed to this conference, then we will deal with this issue.

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving further the right to object, I would only point out the minimum wage title in the bill passed in the Senate is identical to the minimum wage title passed in the House. There is no need for a conference. But, if they insist on a conference at this time, given the fact they have also insisted on health care conferees, for both reasons, we object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
H.R. 2337

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now turn to the consideration of Calendar No. 374, H.R. 2337, the taxpayer bill of rights legislation, the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the measure appear at this point in the RECORD.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, we have a number of amendments to this legislation we would like considered. So we object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
H.R. 2937

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to

the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 380, H.R. 2937, relating to the White House Travel Office and former employee Billy Dale; further, that a substitute amendment which is at the desk be offered by Senator HATCH, that it be considered and agreed to, the bill be deemed read a third time and passed as amended, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

I note that I did try this yesterday. There was some problem with an objection to it because they indicated they had not seen Senator HATCH's amendment. They have now had it and had 24 hours to review it, so I renew my unanimous consent request.

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object, I find all these unanimous consent requests intriguing, given the eloquent comments made by the distinguished majority leader about how wonderful it would be to have regular order.

This is not regular order. As I have indicated to the majority leader, we have amendments we would like to offer to this bill, and to several of the other pieces of legislation he is propounding today. So obviously we have to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
S. 704

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now turn to the consideration of Calendar No. 449, S. 704, a bill to establish a gambling impact study commission; further, a managers' amendment that I will send to the desk be agreed to, the bill then be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the measure appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, this is the first time we have had the opportunity to see this unanimous-consent request. Ordinarily, we are given unanimous-consent requests ahead of time so we can check with our colleagues. No one has given us this unanimous consent request. So, in order to clear it with our colleagues, I object at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like the RECORD to show, as a matter of fact, they did receive notice on this. We have been talking back and forth about it for days. I believe Senator SIMON had indicated he thought it had been cleared. A couple of Senators who had earlier had reservations on the Democratic side had indicated they would not object. You have seen it. There is no great big surprise here. There was a chance, I think, 3 weeks ago, to read it and reread it.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, usually we do these things leader to leader. I will be happy to talk to Senator

THOMAS about the legislative calendar, or I might be able to talk to other Members of the Senate Republican caucus, but I prefer to deal with the majority leader. I think we ought to see the reciprocal here. I have not had a chance to see it or check with my colleagues. Until that happens, nothing is going to get done on this side.

Mr. LOTT. As I indicated earlier, I will be glad to try this again later on today once you have a chance to talk to your colleagues. I will be glad to come back to this at 4, 5, 6 o'clock, so we can deal with this issue. I know there are Senators interested in it on both sides. So I will put you on notice, I have tried to bring it up. I will try it again later. If we do not get it today, I will try it again tomorrow.

At some point, I want to say this, if the objection continues to be heard that would bring it up under unanimous consent, then I will want to schedule time for it and move to bring it up, have some debate. I am willing to do that, too. I am just trying to find a way to get some of these things up and get them considered.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, we might want to bring it up under regular order. I am told, just now, we may have amendments to the legislation. So that might be the most appropriate vehicle.

Mr. LOTT. I might say, if there are going to be a lot of amendments to what I thought was going to be relatively noncontroversial, that will affect when it comes up, because we do have appropriations bills that take priority over everything else.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 2980

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate turn to Calendar No. 421, H.R. 2980, a bill relating to stalking, and the bill be then read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the measure appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Because we have amendments pending, we are not prepared at this point to agree to this unanimous consent as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

RECESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in recess until the hour of 4 p.m.

There being no objection, at 2:27 p.m., the Senate recessed until 4 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer [Mr. SANTORUM].

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, 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. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be dispensed with.

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

SENATOR MURRAY AND THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I rise to make a statement on behalf of my colleague from Washington, Senator MURRAY. Senator MURRAY is unable to attend today's session of the Senate, because she has been called away to participate in very important national business. She is charting the course of Democratic priorities for the balance of this century, and into the next, as part of a distinguished group of 16 Americans meeting today to write the National Democratic platform on which the President and all of us will run this fall.

As a person who came to public service as an outsider, with a message of commonsense middle class values, Senator MURRAY is uniquely qualified to make sure the 1996 National Democratic Platform reflects the hopes and dreams and concerns of all Americans. Her priority is making modern Government policies relevant to families in particular, including workers, young parents, senior citizens, and all people looking to work hard, get ahead, and live the American dream. I speak for all my colleagues on this side in saying that we are grateful for her leadership, and we take comfort in knowing she is bringing an important personal touch to our national agenda.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk continued to call the roll.

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

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

RECESS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I move that the Senate stand in recess until 6 p.m. this evening.

The motion was agreed to, and at 5:17 p.m., the Senate recessed until 6 p.m.;

whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer [Mr. BENNETT].

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I had hoped that we could come to some agreement with regard to these numerous matters that we had taken up, but it does not look like that is going to be possible; therefore, I intend to ask unanimous consent again on a number of items.

There has been a concerted effort on behalf of the chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator MURKOWSKI, and the Senator from Idaho, Senator CRAIG, and the Senators from Nevada to see if an agreement could be reached.

I thought we had one that was time-consuming but fair to all concerned, but at the last minute it appears that that is not possible after an effort to get an agreement that would have allowed the nuclear waste issue to be brought up later on in July. I think the 23d, for limited debate, a vote on cloture, then bringing it back up after the August recess, the first day we are back, with a vote and then 30 hours of debate, and then a vote on final passage, and then go to conference.

That is an awful lot of time when the Senate has limited time to do its work, but it is a way to allow the Senators from Nevada to make their point and to get this issue resolved. But then we find, no; they want to reserve the ability to add three more hurdles to filibuster and get votes on going to conference. That was a river too far. There is a limit to what we can do in terms of agreeing to what is obviously just, you know, a dilatory agreement. So it was not acceptable in that condition.

We will be in session tomorrow. Hopefully we can make some progress then. If not, we will go next Tuesday to the cloture vote. But it does gridlock the Senate. The inability to get this agreement between the key players ties up the Department of Defense appropriations bill and ties up everything else that is pending around here. I think that is really unfortunate because we need to get the agreement on these issues if at all possible.

Perhaps there has been some positive result of our discussions earlier today. At least now I do have something in writing with regard to the medical savings accounts. I just received it within the last 15 minutes. I will take a serious look at it and discuss it with the key Senators involved on the Republican side in the House and Senate. We need to get this done.

I still find it indefensible that we have not appointed conferees on health insurance reform for 80 days. I have the conferees. It is a fair division. Even if we get an agreement on the medical savings accounts, we still are going to need a conference to agree on the final