

Lott	Pressler	Specter
Lugar	Roth	Stevens
Mack	Santorum	Thomas
McCain	Shelby	Thompson
McConnell	Simpson	Thurmond
Murkowski	Smith	Warner
Nickles	Snowe	

NOT VOTING—1

Bradley

So the amendment (No. 4897) was rejected.

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. DOMENICI. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to speak today on the important yet controversial topic of welfare reform. As this Congress works through the rigors and challenges of welfare reform, I am reminded of my upbringing in Idaho, where I learned that charity begins in the home.

Having grown up in a rural western State, I can remember the days when the county clerks were the ones who handed out public assistance. Today that task has been assumed by the Federal Government and operated thousands of miles away from the recipient. Obviously, the war on poverty was launched with good intentions, but it has become a miserable failure. Unfortunately, the plight of the poor today is worse than it was before we began our massive assistance programs.

Since 1965, when our current welfare system was started, the American taxpayers have spent trillions of dollars—yes, trillions. The current budget is in the hundreds of billions and its growth continues to spiral upward. Incredibly, with this extraordinary growth in spending, the number of children living in poverty has also risen. We need real reform in the welfare system. Throwing unlimited money at this problem has proven not to be the answer.

Welfare spending was intended to provide a safety net for children, likewise to provide a hand up and out of poverty for those in need. What it has become is a way of life and not short term assistance.

With dramatic reforms and an emphasis on getting people into real permanent work situations, we can provide these children and their parents with a future. All one has to do is to look at the successes States are achieving that are already out there operating under waivers to the current policy. I would argue that these same States have done a much better job at designing programs to meet the needs of their people than has the Federal Government. It is just plain common sense that the State can identify problems quicker and develop solutions faster, as they can see the problems as they really are.

One of the ways these States are achieving successes is through block grants. Governors have supported this. Our Governor in Idaho supports this. We can provide block grants to the

States and give them the flexibility to use funds in a variety of ways, including to supplement wages for those recipients who are working.

In closing, I support welfare reform. Everyone here supports welfare reform. We must find ways to overcome bipartisan differences in our efforts toward our single common goal—providing a helping hand up and out of poverty while preserving the dignity of those in need.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I believe we are going to yield to Senator SPECTER for a resolution.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE TRAGIC CRASH OF TWA FLIGHT 800

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have consulted with the distinguished majority leader as to sequencing on a resolution relating to last night's crash of TWA flight 800, and this is a resolution which has, as I understand it, been cleared on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. DOMENICI. Could we have order, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will come to order.

Mr. SPECTER. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, this resolution relates to the disaster last night involving TWA flight 800 where 229 passengers were killed. As I have said, my distinguished colleague from Pennsylvania, Senator SANTORUM, and I have taken the lead on this because at least from preliminary indications, our State, Pennsylvania, has been hit the hardest. We are not yet sure about the passenger list, but from all indications the passenger list contained some 16 members of the Montoursville High School French Club and 5 chaperones.

I talked earlier today with Superintendent David Black and Principal Dan Chandler to get an idea of the impact on the community. They have commented that this group of students was a most extraordinary group, as shown by the fact that it was a specially planned trip to Paris, and these young men and women were among the best and the brightest.

Along with these 16 high school students were 5 chaperones, and I understand a recent report shows that two other Pennsylvanians were on board. Of course, passengers included people from all over the United States and doubtless beyond the United States.

So I offer this resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the tragic crash of TWA flight 800:

Whereas, on July 17, 1996, Trans World Airlines Flight 800 tragically crashed en route from New York to Paris, France, creating a tremendous and tragic loss of life estimated at 229 men, women, and children;

Whereas, according to Daniel L. Chandler, principal of Montoursville, Pennsylvania High School, among those traveling on board this airplane were 16 members of the Montoursville High School French Club, who were among the very best students of the French language at their school, and five adult chaperones, who generously devoted

their time to making possible this planned three-week French Club trip to Paris and the French provinces;

Whereas the actual cause of the airplane crash is as of yet unknown;

Whereas the federal government is investigating the cause of this tragedy; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the United States—

(1) expresses its condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of those whose lives were taken away by this tragic occurrence; and

(2) expresses its sincere hope that the cause of this tragedy will be determined through a thorough investigation as soon as possible.

That is the text of the resolution. Beyond that, as has been reported publicly, it is unknown what the cause was. We have requested a briefing for Senators through the Intelligence Committee or Terrorist Subcommittee of Judiciary. We are awaiting final word on that.

Mr. President, I submit this resolution for consideration by the Senate and ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 280) expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the tragic crash of TWA flight 800.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, last night TWA flight 800, on route from New York to Paris and then Rome, crashed into the Atlantic Ocean approximately 10 miles off the coast of Long Island. It does not appear that there were any survivors among the 228 passengers and crewmembers who were aboard.

My heart goes out to the family and friends of the victims of this tragedy. It is always hard to lose a loved one. It is particularly hard to lose a loved one in an unexpected, violent event such as last night's tragedy.

We do not yet know the cause of this terrible crash. We do not know whether it was accidental or intentional.

I do not believe that we should make assumptions at this time as to what happened last night. This is the time to collect the remains of the dead, to mourn their passing, and to begin to investigate the cause of this tragedy.

Rest assured, however, that this is an event that must be fully investigated. If last night's tragedy was intentional, we will find out who was responsible. If it was the result of a mechanical or electrical failure, we will find out the cause.

Every year, Americans take off and land 547 million times; 22 thousand flights take off every day in this country.

I am committed to achieving the highest possible level of safety for our Nation's airways. Yesterday's events point out that we need to redouble our efforts to ensure the safety of our travelers.

Air transportation is an integral part of the lives of millions of Americans, and we must do everything in our power to ensure that it is as safe as we can possibly make it.

We must do everything in our power to prevent future tragedies like the one that occurred last night.

My prayers are with the families and friends of the people aboard TWA flight 800.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have been requested.

Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Oregon [Mr. HATFIELD] is necessarily absent.

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

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. BRADLEY] is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FRAHM). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber who desire to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 202 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Abraham	Ford	Mack
Akaka	Frahm	McCain
Ashcroft	Frist	McConnell
Baucus	Glenn	Mikulski
Bennett	Gorton	Moseley-Braun
Biden	Graham	Moynihan
Bingaman	Gramm	Murkowski
Bond	Grams	Murray
Boxer	Grassley	Nickles
Breaux	Gregg	Nunn
Brown	Harkin	Pell
Bryan	Hatch	Pressler
Bumpers	Heflin	Pryor
Burns	Helms	Reid
Byrd	Hollings	Robb
Campbell	Hutchison	Rockefeller
Chafee	Inhofe	Roth
Coats	Inouye	Santorum
Cochran	Jeffords	Sarbanes
Cohen	Johnston	Shelby
Conrad	Kassebaum	Simon
Coverdell	Kempthorne	Simpson
Craig	Kennedy	Smith
D'Amato	Kerrey	Snowe
Daschle	Kerry	Specter
DeWine	Kohl	Stevens
Dodd	Kyl	Thomas
Domenici	Lautenberg	Thompson
Dorgan	Leahy	Thurmond
Exon	Levin	Warner
Faircloth	Lieberman	Wellstone
Feingold	Lott	Wyden
Feinstein	Lugar	

NOT VOTING—2

Bradley	Hatfield
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The resolution (S. Res. 280) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

Mr. SANTORUM. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. FORD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY, WORK OPPORTUNITY, AND MEDICAID RESTRUCTURING ACT OF 1996

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

Mr. ASHCROFT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

AMENDMENT NO. 4901

(Purpose: To ensure that welfare recipients are drug-free as a condition for receiving welfare assistance from the American taxpayers)

Mr. ASHCROFT. Madam President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Missouri [Mr. ASHCROFT] proposes an amendment numbered 4901.

Mr. ASHCROFT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that further reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

Strike existing Section 2902, and replace with the following:

"SEC. 2902. SANCTIONING WELFARE RECIPIENTS FOR TESTING POSITIVE FOR THE USE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, States shall randomly test welfare recipients, including recipients of assistance under the temporary assistance for needy families program under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act and individuals receiving food stamps under the program defined in section 3(h) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, for the use of controlled substances and shall sanction welfare recipients who test positive for the use of such illegal drugs.

Mr. DOMENICI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. I understand the distinguished Senator from Missouri will agree to 15 minutes and Senator KENNEDY, in opposition, to 15 minutes. I ask unanimous consent that there be 15 minutes on each side for a total of 30 minutes on this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DOMENICI. And I ask unanimous consent that there be no second-degree amendments.

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

Mr. CHAFEE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. CHAFEE. I wonder if we could get some indication, while the managers are here, of what is going to transpire for the remainder of the evening, perhaps tomorrow.

Mr. ASHCROFT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that this not be deducted from the time on the amendment.

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

Mr. DOMENICI. That was understood, but we will be glad to agree.

I say to Senator CHAFEE, we have 28 Democratic amendments and 22 Repub-

lican amendments. We have not had a chance to go through and see if there are significant numbers that we could agree to accept. So for now we are in business until we get to talk with our leader and see what he wants to do. We will take this amendment and use that time to see what we can give the Senator by way of assurance. There are a lot of Senators who have things planned for this evening, but I think the leader made it clear that we want to try to finish this reconciliation bill by a time certain, and we are nowhere close to that. So for now, the best I can do is say let us wait for at least 30 minutes and then try to give you a more concrete answer.

I thank Senator ASHCROFT for yielding.

Mr. ASHCROFT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. ASHCROFT. Madam President, the debate over the provisions before us today represents an opportunity to change the way we view welfare in this country. The question is simple: Will we continue to allow Federal assistance to be a way of life?

That is the fundamental choice we face. Will we see welfare as the intergenerational problem that it is, or will we continue to fund this failure, this dependence?

There are a number of things in this bill that would help us make sure welfare is no more than a transition. We put time limits on welfare, for instance. But if we really want to move people from dependence to independence, if we want individuals to move from welfare to work, if we really want individuals to change their behavior, I think we ought to be asking people to display a set of behaviors which readies them for the real world.

If you want to be part of the working world, you ought to be drug-free. When you go to work in the private sector, this is the standard. As the chart behind me indicates, even in small firms with 1 to 500 employees, 62 percent test for drugs. Similarly, 88 percent of all firms employing over 10,000 people in America require drug testing.

Now, I ask a simple question: What good does it do for us to allow people to remain on drugs if they have little or no capacity to be placed in the private sector? If you are on welfare, you should be off drugs. Period.

That is the point that I make, that the American people should not be asked to spend their hard-earned resources supporting the drug habits of uninterested addicts. Under my amendment, each State would be required to create a random drug-testing program as well as sanction those individuals who test positive.

It does mandate that the States require drug testing. No question. It is time, however, for us to stop funding the drug habits of individuals who have no intention of working toward a job.

I am pleased, then, to send this amendment to the desk, and to say to