

The amendment, it is true, has not been finalized in its final form but it certainly will be very quickly, and I might say to my good friend from Rhode Island, it is a very good amendment because it is an amendment which does not take money from other programs, as has been said by opponents. It is an amendment that does not require any additional spending, a claim sometimes made by its opponents.

I might also say that the proposed amendment to be offered apparently by the Senator from New Mexico to be cosponsored by the Senator from Rhode Island which is an amendment that I think will cause much more mischief than is currently realized because under that amendment it gives vast additional powers to the Budget Committee above which that committee now has which would necessarily take it away from the authorizing committees.

In addition, that amendment the Senator described in conjunction with the Senator from New Mexico would also be very mischievous because it would require reauthorizing committees to go back and at least go to conference with the House every year on the highway bill, which would be the cause of all kinds of disruption.

I urge Senators to be very careful and not be taken in by the language of that amendment.

Again, the amendment we will provide will not mandate additional spending this year or any other year and will not take dollars from any other program that are important to people. It only says if there are savings next year beyond those provided for by the budget resolution, and if there is discretion of the Budget Committee and the Appropriations Committee that those committees want to spend on highway, that is their discretion. I think the Senators will find it is a very good amendment and it is good for the country.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, the point I was making is on October 9, Thursday, before we left here, we were promised that this amendment was imminent. As a matter of fact, I thought I would be handed a copy then. But now, 11 days have gone by and we still have not seen the amendment.

All I am saying to my colleagues is, just be cautious before leaping on as cosponsors of something that no one has seen yet. I don't know what the problem is, the hold up in this piece of legislation is, but all I know, it is not here yet, and while the prediction is it will be soon, all I can say is that is exactly what was said 11 days ago, and despite the time off that staffs and others had during the recess, nothing has emerged.

I ask my colleagues to just hold their fire and keep their ammunition dry and let's see what the different proposals are that are inside here, including the one which I wouldn't characterize in the same fashion as the Senator from Montana did, namely, the

Domenici amendment, which I will be part of.

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. CHAFEE. 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. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO IDA BAIRD, CELEBRATING HER 95TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ida Baird of Overland Park, KS, who will celebrate her 95th birthday on October 27. Ida is a truly remarkable individual. She has witnessed many of the events that have shaped our Nation into the greatest the world has ever known. The longevity of Ida's life has meant much more, however, to the many relatives and friends whose lives she has touched over the last 95 years.

Ida's celebration of 95 years of life is a testament to me and all Missourians. Her achievements are significant and deserve to be recognized. I would like to join her many friends and relatives in wishing her health and happiness in the future.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT OF THE CANCELLATION OF DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AUTHORITY (97-42)—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 72

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; referred jointly, pursuant to Public Law 93-344, to the Committee on Appropriations and to the Committee on the Budget.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

Washington, October 14, 1997.

Hon. ALBERT GORE, Jr.,
President of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: In accordance with the Line Item Veto Act, I hereby cancel the dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority, as specified in the attached reports, contained in the "Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1998" (Public Law 105-56; H.R. 2266). I have determined that the cancellation of these amounts will reduce the Federal budget deficit, will not impair any essential Government functions, and will not harm the national interest. This letter, together with its attachments, constitute a special message under section 1022 of the Congressional Budget and Compoundment Act of 1974, as amended.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

REPORT OF THE CANCELLATION OF DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AUTHORITY (97-56)—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 73

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; referred jointly, pursuant to Public Law 93-344, to the Committee on Appropriations and to the Committee on the Budget.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

Washington, October 16, 1997.

Hon. ALBERT GORE, Jr.,
President of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: In accordance with the Line Item Veto Act, I hereby cancel the dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, as specified in the attached report, contained in the "Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 1998" (Public Law 105-61; H.R. 2378). I have determined that the cancellation of this amount will reduce the Federal budget deficit, will not impair any essential Government functions, and will not harm the national interest. This letter, together with its attachment, constitutes a special message under section 1022 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, as amended.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

REPORT OF THE CANCELLATION OF DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AUTHORITY (97-57)—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 74

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; referred jointly, pursuant to Public Law 93-344, to the Committee on Appropriations and to the Committee on the Budget.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

Washington, October 16, 1997.

Hon. ALBERT GORE, Jr.,
President of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: In accordance with the Line Item Veto Act, I hereby cancel the dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, as specified in the attached reports, contained in the "Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1998" (H.R. 2203,

approved October 13, 1997). I have determined that the cancellation of these amounts will reduce the Federal budget deficit, will not impair any essential Government functions, and will not harm the national interest. This letter, together with its attachments, constitutes a special message under section 1022 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, as amended.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1997, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 15, 1997, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA) has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2158. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans' Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2169. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1997, the enrolled bills were signed on October 15, 1997, during the adjournment of the Senate by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

MEASURES REFERRED

Pursuant to the order of March 3, 1988, the following bill was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation for a period not to exceed 30 days of session:

S. 1046. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the National Science Foundation, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on October 10, 1997, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 1000. An act to designate the United States courthouse at 500 State Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas, as the "Robert J. Dole United States Courthouse."

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-3093. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting" (RIN1018-E14) received on September 24, 1997; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-3094. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and

Minerals Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules including a rule entitled "Nonmineral Entries on Mineral Lands" (RIN1004-C65, AC92, AC98); to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3095. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Act which established the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3096. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Act which established the Richmond National Battlefield Park; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3097. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "The Demonstration and Commercial Application of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Technologies Program"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3098. A communication from the Director of the Office of Rulemaking Coordination, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3099. A communication from the Director of the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Ohio Regulatory Program (VA106FOR) received on October 8, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3100. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Delegation of Authority (RIN1004-AD09) received on September 18, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3101. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, notices of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3102. A communication from the Chief of the Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of a cost comparison relative to Kennel Management; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3103. A communication from the Chief of the Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of a cost comparison from the Chief of the U.S. Strategic Command; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3104. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3105. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Modification of Requirement for Conversion of Military Positions to Civilian Positions"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3106. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Defense Manpower Requirements; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3107. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, a notice relative to the Strategic Plan for Arlington National Cemetery; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3108. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, seven rules including a rule entitled "Survivors and Dependents Education" (RIN2900-AI45, AI21, AI50, AI92, AI65, AI72, AI70); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3109. A communication from the Acting Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on veterans' employment in the Federal government for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3110. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Federally-Sponsored Research on Persian Gulf Veterans' Illnesses"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3111. A communication from the Secretary-Designate of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to redesignate the title of the National Cemetery System; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3112. A communication from the Executive Director of the National Capital Planning Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar years 1992 through 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3113. A communication from the Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules including a rule entitled "Inmate Discipline and Good Conduct Time" (RIN1120-AA34, AA62, AA33) received on September 26, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3114. A communication from the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to capital habeas petitions and motions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3115. A communication from the Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Department of Justice Strategic Plan for calendar years 1997 through 2002; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3116. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the operation of the premerger notification program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3117. A communication from the Chairperson of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Equal Educational Opportunity and Nondiscrimination for Students with Disabilities: Federal Enforcement of Section 504"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3118. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure" (RIN0651-AA80) received on October 2, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3119. A communication from the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Interim Designation of Acceptable Documents for Employment Verification" (RIN1115-AE94, AB93); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3120. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the verifiability of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.