

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

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 103) was agreed to.

AUTHORITY TO MAKE CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now call up Senate Resolution 156, which is at the desk.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 156) authorizing the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders to make certain appointments after sine die adjournment.

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

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 156) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 156

Resolved, That notwithstanding the sine die adjournment of the present session of the Congress, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, the Majority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the Senate be, and they are hereby, authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

PROVIDING FOR A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS TO RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now call up House Concurrent Resolution 194 which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 194) providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President on the State of the Union.

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

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 194) was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR THE CONVENING OF THE 2d SESSION OF THE 105th CONGRESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now call up Senate joint resolution 39, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 39) to provide for the convening of the second session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

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

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be considered read the third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 39) considered read the third time and passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 39

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled, That the second regular session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress shall begin at noon on Tuesday, January 27, 1998.

SEC. 2. Prior to the convening of the second regular session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress on January 27, 1998, as provided in the first section of this joint resolution, Congress shall reconvene at noon on the second day after its Members are notified in accordance with section 3 of this joint resolution.

SEC. 3. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and Senate, respectively, to assemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

THANKS OF THE SENATE TO THE VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to Senate Resolution 157 introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 157) tendering the thanks of the Senate to the Vice President for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Senate.

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

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 157) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 157

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the Honorable Al Gore, Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate, for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over its deliberations during the

first session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to note at this point in the RECORD that on occasion we do make use of the Vice President's office across the hall. He is unfailingly cooperative in making it available to Senators on both sides of the aisle. And it has been a pleasure working with the Vice President in his role in presiding over the Senate this year.

TENDERING THE THANKS OF THE SENATE TO THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to Senate resolution 158, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 158) tendering the thanks of the Senate to the President pro tempore for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Senate.

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

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 158) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 158

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President pro tempore of the Senate, for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over its deliberations during the first session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I just want to call attention to this resolution. I think the President pro tempore deserves the accolades, the attention that this resolution provides. Many of us have watched with great admiration as he has conducted his responsibilities as President pro tempore. He has been doing it now for over 100 years.

(Laughter.)

And we are just grateful that he continues to do it with such aplomb. We thank him and we appreciate, as the resolution notes, his "courteous, dignified, and [extraordinarily] impartial" approaches to his responsibilities. And we thank him for that.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want to thank Senator DASCHLE for his comments and the accuracy of the years of service. I note that the President pro tempore is working now as we are commending him. He is diligently tending

to his duties as the real leader of the Senate.

I want to note also that throughout the year, whether we have come in early or the middle of the day, whatever it might be, he was unfailingly waiting at the door, ready to call the Senate to order, and a couple times instructed the younger Member—the majority leader—that I was cutting it mighty close and we needed to start right on time. We were supposed to start at 9 or 9:30, and he expected me to be present and accounted for.

But I want to join Senator DASCHLE in expressing my admiration and great appreciation to Senator THURMOND, for the tremendous job he does for his people in South Carolina and what a credit he is to the Senate and what a great job he does for our country.

Mr. THURMOND addressed the Chair. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. THURMOND. I want to express my deep appreciation to the majority leader and the minority leader. In a few minutes, I will have a few words to say about them.

COMMENDING THE EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to Senate Resolution 159, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 159) to commend the exemplary leadership of the Democratic leader.

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

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I will take a moment here to say I do enjoy and appreciate the relationship that I have with the Democratic leader. We have developed a relationship that is based on trust. Our word has been good to each other. While on occasion we disagree on substance and sometimes we are a bit testy in our remarks, I think overall over the past year and a half since I have had the honor of serving as a majority leader our relationship has been a healthy one and good for the overall atmosphere in the Senate and I hope we can continue that relationship as we go into the second session of the 105th Congress.

Mr. DASCHLE. I thank the majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, if there is not objection by the Democratic leader.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 159) was agreed to.

The resolution is as follows:

S. RES. 159

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the distinguished Democratic Leader, the Senator from South Dakota, the Honorable Thomas A. Daschle, for his exemplary leadership and the cooperative and dedicated manner in which he has performed his leadership responsibilities in the conduct of the Senate business during the first session of the 105th Congress.

COMMENDING THE EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the Senate Resolution 160, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 160) to commend the exemplary leadership of the majority leader.

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

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

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I am very grateful for the generous remarks of the distinguished majority leader. I, too, have enjoyed this relationship, and I believe over the long run this has been a very productive one. We have been able to do a number of things that I look back on with great satisfaction and great pride. I think there are more opportunities like that, and I know the majority leader shares our view that in the end we have to govern.

There is a time for politics and there is a time for leadership. I believe he has demonstrated very able leadership on many occasions; some courage, as well. He has addressed the many responsibilities that he holds. I look forward to working with him in the second session of the 105th Congress and appreciate very much his friendship and the relationship we have had.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank Senator DASCHLE for his comments.

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 160) was agreed to.

The resolution is as follows:

S. RES. 160

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the distinguished Majority Leader, the Senator from Mississippi, the Honorable Trent Lott, for his exemplary leadership and the cooperative and dedicated manner in which he has performed his leadership responsibilities in the conduct of Senate business during the first session of the 105th Congress.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1530

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I understand S. 1530, which was introduced early today by Senator HATCH, is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1530) to resolve ongoing tobacco litigation, to reform the civil justice system responsible for adjudicating tort claims against companies that manufacture tobacco products, and establish a national tobacco policy for the United States that will decrease youth tobacco use and reduce the marketing of tobacco products to young Americans.

Mr. LOTT. I now ask for its second reading, and I would object to my own request on behalf of the other side of the aisle.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The bill will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR COMMITTEES TO FILE REPORTED ITEMS

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent committees have from the hours of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in order to file legislative or executive reported items on the following dates: December 3, January 6, and January 16.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent the Senate go into executive session and immediately proceed en bloc to the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: No. 327, No. 350, No. 386 and No. 465. I further ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed en bloc to the consideration of two nominations reported by the Armed Services Committee today.

I ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements appear in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Raymond C. Fisher, of California, to be Associate Attorney General.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Rita D. Hayes, of South Carolina, to be Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Gail W. Laster, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

THE JUDICIARY

Lynn S. Adelman, of Wisconsin, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.