

America's tax cut to the President for his signature.

Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNETT). Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. LOTT. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the conference report accompanying H.R. 2014, the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1997. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 92, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 211 Leg.]

YEAS—92

Abraham	Faircloth	Lott
Akaka	Feinstein	Lugar
Allard	Ford	Mack
Ashcroft	Frist	McCain
Baucus	Gorton	McConnell
Bennett	Graham	Mikulski
Biden	Gramm	Moseley-Braun
Bingaman	Grams	Moynihan
Bond	Grassley	Murkowski
Boxer	Gregg	Murray
Breaux	Hagel	Nickles
Brownback	Harkin	Reed
Bryan	Hatch	Reid
Burns	Helms	Roberts
Campbell	Hutchinson	Rockefeller
Chafee	Hutchison	Roth
Cleland	Inhofe	Santorum
Coats	Inouye	Sessions
Cochran	Jeffords	Shelby
Collins	Johnson	Smith (NH)
Conrad	Kempthorne	Smith (OR)
Coverdell	Kennedy	Snowe
Craig	Kerrey	Specter
D'Amato	Kerry	Stevens
Daschle	Kohl	Thomas
DeWine	Kyl	Thompson
Dodd	Landrieu	Thurmond
Domenici	Lautenberg	Torricelli
Dorgan	Leahy	Warner
Durbin	Levin	Wyden
Enzi	Lieberman	

NAYS—8

Bumpers	Glenn	Sarbanes
Byrd	Hollings	Wellstone
Feingold	Robb	

The conference report was agreed to.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. I move to reconsider the vote.

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

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

[Applause.]

BILL HOAGLAND

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, while we all mention many people who had a lot to do with our success, I believe if you were to ask the White House staff, all the way to the Chief of Staff, and ask all the staff that work for us here on both sides, who was most responsible for getting this job done, they would not say the Senator from New Mexico or the Senator from New Jersey or the distinguished Senator from Delaware. I think they would all say, "Let's be honest about it. Bill Hoagland, staff director for the Senate Budget Committee"—the man without whom we could not have done this.

I just want the RECORD to reflect that. I am sure they would agree with me—those whom I have mentioned. It is just an obvious fact.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President.

I want to thank all the Senators for their cooperation. I know this is kind of like "school's out" for a break, and we are taking advantage of the opportunity to say good-bye to each other and enjoy the district and State work period. But I want to thank all the Senators for the tremendous cooperation we have seen here in the last 2 weeks. I do not know that I have seen it any better since I have been in the Senate.

We have already moved 10 appropriations bills. We are going to try to get lined up to start on the 11th one right when we come back. We have passed these two very important bills, the Balanced Budget Act and the Tax Relief Act. It took a lot of cooperation on both sides of the aisle.

I want to thank my counterpart on the Democratic side of the aisle, Senator DASCHLE. He is a pleasure to work with. I think we have a relationship that is important for the Senate; that we be able to talk to each other and work with each other in honesty and frankness. We are going to continue to do that.

Before we leave, we are going to work on doing as much as we can, and I think it is going to be substantial on the Executive Calendar. So I just want to thank Senator DASCHLE and our colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their good work.

If we could keep this pace going, I think the American people would be very pleased, and maybe they would feel very good about our Senate and what we are trying to do.

So thank you very much for your cooperation.

I would be glad to yield to the Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I know there are Members who wish to leave. I will be very brief.

Let me just commend the majority leader for his leadership in bringing us to this point. As he has indicated, we have the good fortune to have a good relationship, and we work very closely together. I think, in part, the results are very clear. That relationship has been productive.

Let me also commend the chairmen of the Finance Committee and the Budget Committee, and our ranking members on both the Finance Committee and the Budget Committee, for the extraordinary job they have done. Obviously, you cannot lead if there are not those who are willing to follow. We have followed, and we have worked in good faith on both sides of the aisle.

This is a great day for the Senate and a great day for America. I appreciate very much the opportunity, once more, to express our gratitude to all Senators.

Mr. LOTT. I thank Senator DASCHLE. I do want to also take a brief opportunity, without naming names—and I think their names should be put in the RECORD—to thank a lot of staff people who worked extremely long hours, all night several times over the past few weeks, on both sides of the aisle. You know who we are talking about. We extend our appreciation and thanks to those staff members for their great work. This was a monumental accomplishment. I don't know how you physically got it done. I thank you for that.

Mr. KERRY. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. LOTT. I am glad to yield to the Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I congratulate the majority leader. He is correct, there has been a significant amount of progress made in the last 2 weeks. I ask the majority leader publicly on the record what he and I have talked about a number of times privately, and that is an issue of enormous concern to some of us. We have written a letter to the majority leader regarding a campaign finance reform debate. While we leave here in good spirits and have cooperated, when we come back, many of us are adamant about having the opportunity to debate campaign finance reform. I ask the majority leader whether he has a sense of when that might take place or if he could give assurance that it will take place.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I expected that I would get this question, and I don't have a time that I could give. I must say that the Governmental Affairs Committee is working right now and looking into potential campaign violations, and what happened in the last election. I think for us to proceed before we even get the completion of that work would be premature. Regarding the last election, we ought to know what laws have been broken and how they were broken. I don't have a date in mind.

I am sure I have been told by several Senators that this issue will come up sometime soon. I understand that. I hope that we will be patient and take our time and maybe even see at some point if we could not do something in this area in a bipartisan way. But I understand what the Senator from Massachusetts has said. He indicated he is going to bring it up at some point. I am sure that will happen. We don't have any time scheduled on that at this point.

When we come back, the focus will be on the three remaining appropriations bills that we have not passed, the conference reports that we must pass, and pending legislation we must pass, including ISTEA, the highway transportation legislation, which expires at the

end of September. We have a lot of very serious work to do of interest to the Nation's Capital, to the people in America, including the Interior appropriations bill, the Labor-HHS appropriations bill, as well as the ISTEAA bill. But there is time to look at these matters. I am sure they will be considered appropriately as we move into the fall.

Mr. KERRY. Will the majority leader yield further?

Mr. LOTT. I yield for a further question.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I thank the leader for that answer. I understand where he is heading with respect to that.

If I could ask further, I had wanted at this time, Mr. President, to be able to introduce a bill. I don't know what the intentions of the leader are regarding time to be able to proceed and do that.

Mr. LOTT. We have some unanimous-consent requests and then Senator DOMENICI has an issue, but there will be time for brief remarks.

Mr. THURMOND addressed the Chair.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I yield to the Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I just want to commend Senator LOTT, the majority leader, for the outstanding leadership he is providing here in the Senate. Many things here have been accomplished. I don't recall, in the 43 years I have been here, fine leadership shown that has gotten so much done in such a short time. I am proud of you. And I want to commend Senator DASCHLE for his fine cooperation and leadership, too.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you very much.

Further, I want to say that we are going to have a period for morning business.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, would it be appropriate at this time to ask if I could proceed after the Senator from New Mexico?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I see a number of Senators that wish to speak. I believe Senator DOMENICI has something he needs to do, and I have a couple unanimous consents, and then the Senator may speak. Within a very few minutes, he can get recognized.

Mr. SARBANES. If the Senator will yield, Mr. President.

Mr. LOTT. I yield to the Senator from Maryland.

Mr. SARBANES. First of all, I join with my colleagues who have commended the majority leader for the very efficient way in which the Senate has conducted itself over the past month. We have, obviously, processed a great deal of business.

I just want to say that I was very heartened to hear the majority leader state that it was his intention to address this Executive Calendar before we go out, I gather, with the anticipation of clearing, if not all of it, most of it, as I understand it.

I want to underscore how important that is. If we do it now, these people

can move into their positions and be functioning within the week. If we don't do it now, then it obviously has to carry over into September, and you are talking about losing 5, 6, 7 weeks before we get people on the job.

I just want to thank the majority leader for his indication that he is going to address that issue before we depart.

Mr. LOTT. Maybe before we go out tonight.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, if the leader will yield further. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I commend the distinguished majority leader, the Democratic leader, and the chairman and ranking member of that committee for pushing us this far on the appropriations. It is highly commendable.

I join my friend from Maryland in saying there are many of these nominations on the calendar that need to be cleared as soon as possible—especially the judges that are there. We have new vacancies in our courts. Again, once a person has been confirmed, it still takes weeks before they get out of whatever life they are in—private practice, or whatever—to get out of that and get set up and get their law clerks hired, and on and on, and with all that it means with their families and lives and all. So if some can be cleared now, we know it will be 5 weeks sooner.

Mr. BIDEN. Will the majority leader yield?

Mr. LOTT. I yield to the Senator from Delaware.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. Leader, on the matter of the legislation we just passed, I want to make one comment. It is obvious that the Senator from New Mexico is recognized as an effective chairman. It is obvious that the Senator from New York [Mr. MOYNIHAN] is viewed as articulate and as one of the brightest people here. It is obvious that everybody knows how effective the ranking member of the Budget Committee is.

I want to make a personal comment that I never thought I would make, or need to make. I think the single-most underestimated person in this body is one of the single-most effective people, and that is my senior colleague, BILL ROTH. He has a style that is so low-key and so quiet that I don't think he gets the credit he deserves. I just want to remind everybody, notwithstanding the fact that everyone sees and hears more about the able leaders I mentioned, this deal would not have been done without BILL ROTH. BILL ROTH. People in my State love him, but they don't even realize that.

I just want everybody to be reminded that this quiet guy from Delaware, who has a very different political view on a lot of things than I do, is one of the single-most effective people we have. On last year's welfare reform bill, and every major thing we have done in the past 18 months, he has been at the helm, or has played a major part.

I want to personally recognize the contribution he makes and state for

the record, I think he gets—not intentionally; I think unintentionally—less credit than anybody in this place, and I think he plays the most significant role in all of what we are rightfully celebrating here, which is the passage of the tax bill and the reforms that have taken place in welfare, et cetera. So I want the RECORD to reflect that the man from Delaware, my senior colleague, deserves a heck of a lot of credit.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Delaware for making that comment. That is the kind of recognition that we should give more of around here, especially between colleagues of opposite parties.

Let me assure you that, without Senator ROTH, the IRA provision and many other provisions in this bill would not be there. He was dogged and determined and did a great job. I thank the Senator for what he said and the recognition he gave.

PROVIDING FOR THE CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE TWO HOUSES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 136, the adjournment resolution, which was received from the House.

I further ask 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 concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 136) was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 136

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That, in consonance with section 132(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Friday, August 1, 1997 or Saturday, August 2, 1997, pursuant to a motion made by the Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until noon on Wednesday, September 3, 1997, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Thursday, July 31, 1997, Friday, August 1, 1997, or Saturday, August 2, 1997, pursuant to a motion made by the Majority Leader or his designee in accordance with this concurrent resolution, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Tuesday, September 2, 1997, or until such time on that day as may be specified by the Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. 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 reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.