

trade does. Not one among us believes that just trade alone is all we need. But it is an important, integral part of our relationships around the world.

We live in a very dynamic time. The light of change today in the world is unprecedented in modern history, and maybe all of history. Food, fiber, and trade are common denominators of mutual interests of all the peoples of the world.

We must not isolate ourselves. Trade embargoes isolate those who impose trade embargoes. We need dynamic policies for dynamic times. The world is not static.

This is a strong step forward. This is the beginning of the larger debate that this Congress will have and must have about the role of the United States in the world and how we intend to engage the world, and trade is a very important part of that.

Embargoes and sanctions without the support of our allies only hurt us. From a foreign policy perspective, embargoes rarely achieve their goal. Their real harm is on U.S. agricultural producers. It's estimated that sanctions and embargoes cost the U.S. economy more than \$20 billion each year. We have got to bring some common sense to our trade policy.

American agriculture and the U.S. government must send a strong message to our many customers and our competitors. U.S. farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses are a consistent and reliable supplier of quality and plentiful agricultural products. Support of the Agriculture-Specific Embargo Act will send a strong message that U.S. agriculture will be once again considered a reliable supplier of food and fiber around the globe.

Mr. President, I am very proud to join my friends and colleagues who have worked on these issues diligently, who will continue to provide leadership, not just to this body but to the country, to the world, and to our farmers and our ranchers, our producers, and our citizens.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this very important measure. Again, I say to my colleagues that this is an engagement we must be a part of today.●

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 316. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to improve the availability of child care and development services during periods outside normal school hours, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

AMERICA AFTER SCHOOL ACT

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, today Senators MIKULSKI, WELLSTONE, KERRY, and I are introducing the America After School Act. With this legislation, the nation can do much more to provide the care and activities that children need when they are not in school.

Over 17 million parents rely on others to care for their children before and after the school bell rings each day. Over 5 million children are left home alone after school. The need for responsible after-school activities is urgent. Hundreds of thousands of families are on waiting lists across the country for such programs.

Today's students deserve the best and brightest future possible. After school programs provide a unique opportunity to help to meet this challenge. Tutoring, mentoring, recreational, and cultural activities are all key components of strong, stimulating after school programs. These activities can help young men and women strengthen their computer skills, explore prospective careers, learn about the arts, and develop their physical fitness. They are an investment in education, children, and our future.

After school programs help reduce crime. Police across the nation report that juvenile delinquency peaks between 3 and 8 p.m. each day. We know that unsupervised children are more likely to engage in destructive behavior. Effective after school programs help keep young people off the streets, away from gangs, and out of trouble. All children deserve a safe and productive environment in which to spend their time out of school.

Parents want safe, effective after school programs for their children, and this legislation helps meet that need. The legislation significantly expands after school care for low-income families by increasing the Child Care and Development Block Grant. Title I of the bill, authorizes a \$3 billion increase in such grants over the next 5 years. With this higher level of investment, we can reduce waiting lists and provide after school care to hundreds of thousands of additional children from low-income working families. Communities with high concentrations of poverty and at-risk youth will receive priority for this funding, so that the help will be available where it is needed most. The needs of children with disabilities are also specifically addressed.

After school programs should challenge children, stimulate their curiosity, and enhance their creativity. We get what we pay for. On the average, child care providers earn less than bus drivers and garbage collectors. We need stronger incentives to develop and retain skilled child care providers. Our bill designates 25 percent of the increase for indirect services that include salary incentives for training care givers.

Our bill also strengthens and expands the 21st Century Learning Centers program. In the last Congress, we provided \$200 million to expand this worthwhile program and increase after school programs to serve up to a half million more children. This action was an important step forward—but even with this increase, a tremendous need remains.

To address this problem, President Clinton has proposed to triple the fed-

eral investment in these centers: The additional funds will ensure that one million more youths will be in safe, effective after school care. Our America After School Act builds on this momentum. By strengthening the 21st Century Learning Centers program, we will provide greater opportunities for hundreds of thousands more children and their families. This additional funding will support mentoring programs, academic assistance programs, and drug, alcohol, and gang prevention activities.

Title III of this bill provides \$1.25 billion over the next five years to expand grants by the Justice Department for after-school programs to prevent juvenile delinquency. Both public and private agencies will be eligible to apply for these grants, and awards will be made on a matching basis. To maximize its effectiveness, recipients must coordinate their efforts with state and local law enforcement officials. After school educational and recreational programs in high crime neighborhoods will receive priority, since children in these neighborhoods face the highest risk.

We must do all we can to prepare students for the future. Providing safe and worthwhile afterschool activities is an essential part of achieving this goal. We owe our children no less.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 4

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4, a bill to improve pay and retirement equity for members of the Armed Forces; and for other purposes.

S. 9

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 9, a bill to combat violent and gang-related crime in schools and on the streets, to reform the juvenile justice system, target international crime, promote effective drug and other crime prevention programs, assist crime victims, and for other purposes.

S. 89

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 89, a bill to state the policy of the United States with respect to certain activities of the People's Republic of China, to impose certain restrictions and limitations on activities of and with respect to the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

S. 136

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 136, a bill to provide for teacher excellence and classroom help.

S. 223

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to help communities modernize public school facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 264

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 264, a bill to increase the Federal medical assistance percentage for Hawaii to 59.8 percent.

S. 270

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM) were added as cosponsors of S. 270, a bill to improve pay and retirement equity for members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 6, A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

SENATOR BYRD'S FINEST HOUR

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, on behalf of myself, Senator STEVENS and Senator DODD: George Santayana stated, "Those who disregard the lessons of history are bound to repeat them." The United States Senate is too politically charged and it would be more so were it not for the distinguished Senator from West Virginia, ROBERT C. BYRD. A couple of weeks ago the Senate was about to go over the precipice of partisanship. Fortunately, we agreed to have an off-the-record session of all Senators. That alone would not have prevented our reckless course, but it did give all Senators an opportunity to hear Senator BYRD at his finest hour. He commenced by thanking Senator DANIEL AKAKA for leading us in prayer, harkening the time Benjamin Franklin took to the floor of the Continental Convention to call on divine guidance for cooperation and bipartisanship. Then Senator BYRD continued to calm partisan zeal and give us all a sense of historic perspective. We started talking sense instead of politics. It got us together. We could have gone the way of the House, but Senator BYRD is the one who put us on the right path. In appreciation for his leadership, we think the country could benefit by reading Senator BYRD's comments. I ask that the full text of Senator BYRD's remarks be printed in the RECORD.

The remarks follow:

REMARKS OF SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD—BIPARTISAN CONFERENCE IN THE OLD SENATE CHAMBER, JANUARY 8

My colleagues, I thank the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader for bringing us together in this joint caucus. Mr. Daschle asked me last evening to be prepared to speak this morning following the remarks of the two leaders. I am flattered and honored to do so. Having a proclivity to speak at length on subjects that are close to my heart and about which I feel deeply, I have taken the precaution this morning to prepare some remarks in order that I might present them in an organized fashion and thus avoid speaking as long as I might otherwise be wont to do. I shall, however, add some extemporaneous remarks as the spirit of the occasion leads me.

Before proceeding with the thoughts that I have put in writing, I wish to remind ourselves that we do, indeed, have not only the standing rules of the Senate, but we also have the standing rules for our guidance in impeachment trials. This bound copy of rules governing impeachment trials that I hold in my hand was published in 1986 as a result of a resolution which former Senator Robert Dole and I offered for referral to the Rules Committee, at which time we called on that Committee to update and provide any proposed modifications or revisions to the rules that had been in existence from the year 1868 when the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson took place.

The rules which the Senate approved in 1986 were followed during the impeachment trials of the three Federal judges: Claiborne, Hastings, and Walter Nixon. In listening to some of the comments on television last evening, I noted that when news reporters interviewed tourists, those visitors to this city were under the impression that the Senate was proceeding into a trial without any rules for guidance. Some of the representatives of the news media were also under this mistaken impression. I am concerned about the public perception that we are proceeding to a trial without any rules to guide us. Therefore, I trust that we will all make it clear as we work with the press that the Senate, indeed, has a set of standing rules to guide us in this trial.

Before I begin my prepared remarks, I wish to thank the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader for calling on Senator Akaka to deliver prayer. They chose the right Senator to lead us in prayer, and I thank Danny. His prayer set just the right tone and the right spirit for his occasion. In the midst of Danny's prayer, I recalled that day which came during the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, when the Framers were encountering difficult problems, and their spirits were at a low ebb. There was dissension and divisiveness, and their hopes for success in achieving their goal were fading. Things seemed to be falling apart. Their dreams of fashioning a new Constitution—the Articles of Confederation being our first national Constitution—appeared to be growing dim. The new Ship of State which they hoped to launch was floundering in troubled waters with rocks and shoals upon every hand. Dark clouds of despair were closing in upon them, and the Framers were brought face-to-face with the stark possibility of failure.

It was then, at that fateful moment, that the oldest man at the Convention, Benjamin Franklin, stood to his feet and addressed the chair in which sat General George Washington: "Sir, I have lived a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see that God still governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without our Father's notice, is it probable that we can build an empire without our Fa-

ther's aid? We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writings, that, 'Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.' I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without our Father's aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than did the builders of Babel. I, therefore, beg leave, sir, to move that, henceforth, prayers imploring the assistance of heaven and its blessings on our deliberations be held in this assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the clergy of this city be requested to officiate in that service."

Franklin's motion was seconded by Mr. Sherman.

My colleagues, let us proceed in these deliberations this morning in a spirit of prayerfulness and cooperation and bipartisanship, and see if we, too, in our generation may produce something worthy of being remembered.

I speak from the viewpoint of having a long and varied experience in legislative bodies. I was born during the Woodrow Wilson Administration. I was sworn in as a new member of the House of Representatives during the final days of the Truman Administration. He is my favorite Democratic President in my lifetime. I having been sworn in as a new member of Congress in January 1953, I have served longer in Congress than has any man or woman in either House of Congress today. Dizzy Dean said that it is alright to brag if you've done it. Well I have done it! No member of Congress in either House today was here when I first became a member 46 years ago.

I also try to take the long view of the history that is yet before us. This country has a long history ahead of it, and the things we do here, the service we perform, our words and our deeds will be long remembered and long recorded.

As we proceed to the unpleasant task that awaits us in the days ahead, let us remember that this is not a trial in a court of law. It is not a criminal trial. It is a political trial. The Nation will be watching us, and I implore us all to conduct ourselves in a way that will bring honor to this body. I view the immediate future with considerable dread. There is a poison in the air, and it is not the flu virus, and there is no antibiotic that can be prescribed for it. It is a bitter political partisanship, and if we let it control us in the impeachment trial, we will find it to be lethal, and we will die together.

From time to time there occur events which rise above the everyday, and sorely test the leaders of men and the institutions they create.

This is such a time. For it is not only William Jefferson Clinton who is on trial. It is this August body and all of us who carry the title of Senator.

The White House has sullied itself. The House of Representatives has fallen into the black pit of partisan self-indulgence. The Senate is teetering on the brink of that same black pit.

Meanwhile, the American people look in vain for the order and leadership promised to them by the Constitution. Of one thing I am sure: the public trust in all of the institutions of government has severely suffered.

Senators, this is the headline, I had so hoped we could avoid. I have in my hand this morning's Washington Times bearing the headline: "Trial Opens Amid Pomp, Partisanship." It is the word "partisanship" that is troubling.

Any of you who have read your mail or the phoned-in comments from your constituents knows that the anger and disappointment is only growing in intensity with each day that we prolong this painful ordeal.