

S. Res. 188, and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 188) expressing the sense of the Senate that additional assistance should be provided to the victims of Hurricane Floyd.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 1890

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, Senator EDWARDS and Senator HELMS have an amendment at the desk to the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT], for Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. HELMS, proposes an amendment numbered 1890.

On page 4, line 14, after "Maryland," insert "Delaware,".

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, let me say that I live in an area of Mississippi that has also had to deal with hurricanes. Three of them have hit my hometown over the last 15 years. We have had to deal with droughts, ice storms, floods, and everything but the plague and locusts. I know how difficult it is for people who are faced with disasters such as the one with which North Carolina is now dealing. I know how tough it is for the people who are trying to dig out from under mud, with dead carcasses, and all that goes with disasters.

All of us extend our sympathy to the people of North Carolina and want to reassure them that the Federal Government will do its part, as we always do when people are hit by natural disaster.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution, as amended, and the preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 1890) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 188), as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 188

Whereas from September 14 through 16, 1999, Hurricane Floyd menaced most of the southeastern seaboard of the United States, provoking the largest peacetime evacuation of eastern Florida, the Georgia coast, the South Carolina coast, and the North Carolina coast;

Whereas the evacuation caused severe disruptions to the businesses and lives of the people of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina;

Whereas in the early morning hours of September 16, 1999, Hurricane Floyd made land-

fall at Cape Fear, North Carolina, dumping up to 18 inches of rain on sections of North Carolina only days after the heavy rainfall from Hurricane Dennis and producing the worst recorded flooding in North Carolina history;

Whereas after making landfall, Hurricane Floyd continued to move up the eastern seaboard causing flooding, tornadoes, and massive damage in Delaware, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, North Carolina, New York, and Connecticut;

Whereas portions of Delaware, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia have been declared to be Federal disaster areas under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.);

Whereas Hurricane Floyd is responsible for the known deaths of 65 people;

Whereas 45 people are confirmed dead in North Carolina, with many people still missing;

Whereas 4 people were killed in New Jersey, 2 people in New York, 6 people in Pennsylvania, 4 people in Virginia, 2 people in Delaware, 1 person in Connecticut, and 1 person in Vermont;

Whereas as the flood waters recede, the death toll is expected to increase;

Whereas the rainfall resulting from Hurricane Floyd has caused widespread flooding in North Carolina along the Tar River, the Neuse River, and the Cape Fear River, among other rivers, in Connecticut along the Still River, and in Virginia along the Nottoway River and the Blackwater River;

Whereas some of the rivers are expected to remain at flood stage for more than a week;

Whereas the floods are the worst seen in North Carolina in 80 years;

Whereas the flood level on the Tar River exceeds all previous records by 9 feet;

Whereas flood waters engulfed cities such as Tarboro, North Carolina, Franklin, Virginia, Bound Brook, New Jersey, and Danbury, Connecticut;

Whereas tens of thousands of people have fled to shelters scattered throughout North Carolina, South Carolina, New York, New Jersey, and Virginia;

Whereas thousands of people remain isolated, surrounded by water, in their homes in North Carolina and Virginia;

Whereas approximately 50,000 homes have been affected by the hurricane, and many of those homes will ultimately be condemned as uninhabitable;

Whereas water supplies in New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia have been severely disrupted, and, in many cases, wells and private water systems have been irreparably contaminated;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses have lost electric power, telephone, and gas service as a result of Hurricane Floyd;

Whereas there have been road washouts in virtually every State struck by Hurricane Floyd, including 900 road washouts in North Carolina alone;

Whereas many farmers have suffered almost total crop losses; and

Whereas small and large businesses throughout the region have been gravely affected: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. NEED FOR ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF HURRICANE FLOYD.

It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the victims of Hurricane Floyd deserve the sympathies of the people of the United States;

(2) the President, the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Director of the Small Business Ad-

ministration are to be commended on their efforts to assist the victims of Hurricane Floyd;

(3) the Governors of Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia are to be commended for their leadership and coordination of relief efforts in their States;

(4) the National Guard, the Army, the Marine Corps, the Navy, and the Coast Guard have provided heroic assistance to the people of the afflicted areas and are to be commended for their bravery;

(5) the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and other private relief organizations have provided shelter, food, and comfort to the victims of Hurricane Floyd and are to be commended for their generosity and invaluable aid; and

(6) additional assistance needs to be provided to the victims of Hurricane Floyd.

SEC. 2. FORMS OF ASSISTANCE FOR HURRICANE FLOYD VICTIMS.

To alleviate the conditions faced by the victims of Hurricane Floyd, it is the sense of the Senate that the President should—

(1) work with Congress to provide necessary funds for—

(A) disaster relief administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

(B) disaster relief administered by the Department of Agriculture;

(C) disaster relief administered by the Department of Commerce;

(D) disaster relief administered by the Department of Transportation;

(E) disaster relief administered by the Small Business Administration; and

(F) any other disaster relief needed to help rebuild damaged homes, provide for clean water, renourish damaged beaches and protective dunes, and restore electric power; and

(2) prepare and submit to Congress a report that analyzes the feasibility and cost of implementing a program to provide disaster assistance to the victims of Hurricane Floyd, including assistance in the form of—

(A) direct economic assistance to agricultural producers, small businesses, and displaced persons;

(B) an expanded loan and debt restructuring program;

(C) cleanup of environmental damage;

(D) small business assistance;

(E) repair or reconstruction of private homes;

(F) repair or reconstruction of highways, roads, and trails;

(G) provision of safe and adequate water supplies; and

(H) restoration of essential utility services such as electric power, telephone, and gas service.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: Calendar Nos. 235, 247, 248, 249, 258 through 266, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the

RECORD, that 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 were considered and confirmed as follows:

NATIONAL CONSUMER COOPERATIVE BANK

Harry J. Bowie, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank for a term of three years.

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Paul L. Hill, Jr., of West Virginia, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Paul L. Hill, Jr., of West Virginia, to be Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Richard A. Meserve, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a term of five years expiring June 30, 2004.

COAST GUARD

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) David S. Belz, 0000
Rear Adm. (lh) James S. Carmichael, 0000
Rear Adm. (lh) Roy J. Casto, 0000
Rear Adm. (lh) James A. Kinghorn, Jr., 0000
Rear Adm. (lh) Erroll M. Brown, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Ralph D. Utley, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard Reserve to the grade indicated under Title 10, United States Code, section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Carlton D. Moore, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Mary P. O'Donnell, 0000

The following named officer of the United States Coast Guard to be a member of the Permanent Commissioned Teaching Staff of the Coast Guard Academy in the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 188:

To be lieutenant commander

Kurt A. Sebastian, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Vivien S. Crea, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Kenneth T. Venuto, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. James W. Underwood, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. James C. Olson, 0000

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE COAST GUARD, NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Coast Guard nominations beginning Ernest J. Fink, and ending William J. Wagner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration nominations beginning Donald A. Dreves, and ending Kevin V. Werner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 1999.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want the Senate to know we are still working to get an agreement to take up consideration of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. We originally wanted to bring it up next week on October 6. That was objected to by the Democratic leadership. They indicated they thought more time was needed and they needed more time designated for debate. We have now offered to begin on October 8, next Friday, with debate. The debate would go up to 14 hours. We will conclude action on that treaty no later than the close of business on Tuesday, October 12.

We are willing to agree to more time on behalf of the leader's amendments if that is necessary. I believe the Democratic leader has indicated his willingness to go to the treaty debate on the 8th and be on it the 12th and conclude it by the 12th, but we are still working on details.

There were statements made by the President of the United States in 1998, I believe in his State of the Union Address, and again in 1999, that he wanted the Senate to take up the treaty. I have statements from a number of Democratic Members of the Congress calling for this to be done.

We have said to our colleagues on the other side of the aisle we don't think this is a good treaty; we think it puts safety in jeopardy; we think it puts us in a weakened condition internationally; and we think it is dangerous. However, since there have been calls and demands for a vote, we have offered to vote, and we have offered two different dates. We have offered time and more time.

I am a little bit puzzled why the Democrats now are saying: We don't want to vote. I presume they are say-

ing it because it may fail. The Senate will have a debate, and the Senate will vote. If there is not a two-thirds vote, it is over; it is defeated.

It is hard for me to understand. Do they want it or not? Do they want to debate or not? Do they want to vote or not? I think it shows a little bit about what has been going on all along.

I want to assure the Senate, there will be some hearings in the Armed Services Committee with experts in this field. There will be plenty of information on the record. If they want a vote, let's vote; if they don't, let's move on. I don't want to hear more about it for a while.

Having said that, I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

COMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDING OFFICER

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I commend the Presiding Officer on what an outstanding job he is doing. We appreciate the fact that on this beautiful Friday afternoon, approaching 3 o'clock, the distinguished Senator from Kentucky is here, on duty, and enjoying every moment of it.

Now, may I proceed to the closing?

Thank you for not responding, Mr. President, to my comments.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1999

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 12 noon on Monday, October 4. I further ask consent that on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m. with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each, and the time equally divided between the two leaders, or their designees.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. I remind Senators that on Monday, at 5:30 p.m., the Senate will proceed to the Transportation appropriations conference report, and a vote will occur immediately on adoption of that conference report, so there will be at least one recorded vote at 5:30 on Monday, and it is on the Transportation appropriations conference report. I think a lot of credit, once again,