

But a fair question would be: how do we fund all the discretionary appropriation needs while complying with the discretionary cap discipline? As always, that will be up to the appropriations process. The budget resolution never dictates to the appropriations committee how individual programs or bills should be funded. What the budget resolution does do is suggest in broad categories what some spending priorities ought to be, and in some cases, it suggests, as sort of a menu, some spending reductions or other offsets that the appropriators could consider in constructing the 13 appropriation bills. For example, the Senate-passed resolution indicated that repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act and the Service Contract Act would save significant construction and contract dollars that could be applied to increases in education or defense. Other sources of savings mentioned include food safety inspection fees and spectrum lease fees to encourage more efficient use of spectrum by both private and government users. And in certain specific budget functions, to offset discretionary spending, some functions call for the sale of certain federal assets and other assume specific savings amounts in mandatory programs, which include requiring securities registration for five government-sponsored enterprises and other incentives to encourage competition and rededication to their missions. Other functions call for reducing excessive flood insurance subsidies and imply reductions in certain grants to local governments that are often misdirected to those not the most financial needy. If the appropriations fairly consider these as well as many other savings items contemplated in this budget resolution, they will have opportunities to provide the increases demanded by some and avoid the decreases in vital programs imagined by others, while still complying with the caps.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the conference report. The yeas and nays have been ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) is necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) is absent due to surgery.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) would vote "no."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber who desire to vote?

The result was announced, yeas 54, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 86 Leg.]

YEAS—54

Abraham	Brownback	Cochran
Allard	Bunning	Collins
Ashcroft	Burns	Coverdell
Bennett	Campbell	Craig
Bond	Chafee	Crapo

DeWine	Hutchison	Santorum
Domenici	Inhofe	Sessions
Enzi	Jeffords	Shelby
Fitzgerald	Kyl	Smith (NH)
Frist	Lott	Smith (OR)
Gorton	Lugar	Snowe
Gramm	Mack	Specter
Grams	McCain	Stevens
Grassley	McConnell	Thomas
Gregg	Murkowski	Thompson
Hagel	Nickles	Thurmond
Hatch	Roberts	Voinovich
Helms	Roth	Warner

NAYS—44

Akaka	Edwards	Levin
Baucus	Feingold	Lieberman
Bayh	Feinstein	Lincoln
Biden	Graham	Mikulski
Bingaman	Harkin	Murray
Boxer	Hollings	Reed
Breaux	Inouye	Reid
Bryan	Johnson	Robb
Byrd	Kennedy	Rockefeller
Cleland	Kerry	Sarbanes
Conrad	Kerry	Schumer
Daschle	Kohl	Torricelli
Dodd	Landrieu	Wellstone
Dorgan	Lautenberg	Wyden
Durbin	Leahy	

NOT VOTING—2

Hutchinson	Moynihan
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The conference report was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I believe that completes our work. I want to thank everyone, whether they were with the budget that I prepared or whether they were against it, for their cooperation. And I thank our leadership for getting that budget down here, and the minority leader and the majority leader for helping expedite it.

This is the 15th. We know it is a very ominous day out there in America. It is tax day. But on a smaller scale, the Budget Act of the United States says the budget shall be finished in both Houses on this date. I do not think it had anything to do with tax day, but they occur together every year. Only twice in the 25-year history of the Budget Act have we produced budgets in both Houses, the blueprints.

They are congressional in nature. They are not Presidential budgets, nor does he sign them. It is historic and significant that as we attempt to get our work done this year and make sure that the American people understand that we are on target for the issues they are concerned about—Social Security, Medicare, tax reduction, defense spending, education and the like—we want them to know that the budget is ready to lead us into a new approach for the next millennium.

Everyone doesn't agree, but a very large percentage of the Senators here have voted in favor of this new approach, which I believe will add significantly to the economic future, economic growth and jobs, and at the same time set a pretty good priority for the American Government's expenditures.

This does have a philosophical bent to it; that is, if you have excess revenues, you pay down the debt. We have done that. We have almost paid down one-half of the national debt in the next decade—rather significant, good for the economy. We believe when you

have even more excess than that, some of it ought to go back to the American people by way of tax reductions, tax reform measures and the like.

I regret to say that I believe when the American people have understood all of this, and when they understand these surpluses are not Social Security surpluses, they are over and above that, I think they will agree with us that some of that ought to go back to the American taxpayer. I think it is a good balance between the Government's needs and the taxpayers' rights and the taxpayers' needs.

I thank the staff, minority and majority, for the very dedicated service in getting this complicated resolution to the floor.

With that, I yield the floor and thank everyone for helping.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, in just a few minutes, in the order of a previous unanimous consent agreement, we are going to move to S. 767, but the two distinguished Senators from Connecticut have a very important resolution relating to their State. It will take a few minutes. I ask unanimous consent that they be allotted up to 5 minutes, beginning immediately, to present their resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Connecticut.

CONGRATULATING THE 1999 UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and my distinguished colleague from Connecticut, Senator LIEBERMAN, I send to the desk S. Res. 77 and ask for its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 77) commending and congratulating the University of Connecticut Huskies for winning the 1999 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship.

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

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, it is somewhat appropriate, I say to my friend and colleague from Connecticut, that the Presiding Officer is from Ohio. But for Ohio, we would not have made it to the Final Four, the final game.

This is a moment of great joy for my colleague and I and for the people of Connecticut. We express our condolences to the delegation from North Carolina, the home of Duke University. It is a fine university with a fine basketball team that led the Nation ranked number one for a good part of the season. But, unfortunately, on that night of March 29 in St. Petersburg, FL, the Blue Devils met the Husky team from Connecticut in what many have described as one of the best national championship finals in collegiate basketball history. Ultimately,

our team from the University of Connecticut prevailed. To say that there is a great sense of pride in Connecticut and enthusiasm and joy over this victory is to underestimate the case by a considerable margin. We are a State that, over many years, has had to export our allegiances in athletics. We have had a hockey team and a women's professional basketball team, both of which have left our State. There is a good possibility we will be the home of the New England Patriots in the not-too-distant future. In the meantime, it has been our men and women's basketball teams at UCONN that have captured the attention of everybody in our State, and I might say, as well, beyond our State's borders. I think a good part of the Nation was rooting for this 9½ point underdog on March 29 as they prevailed in this great victory.

I want to mention a couple of people if I can. First of all is Jim Calhoun, the Head Coach of the UCONN men's basketball team. He has been with the team for 13 years and has had a wonderful, wonderful record, including capturing the 1988 NIT title and appearing in six "Sweet 16's," and three "Elite 8" rounds. And he has now led the team to victory in the national championship. He is not only an outstanding coach, but also a wonderful human being with great dedication to his team, his players, the university, and our State. As well, his coaching staff is a fine group of people who have also dedicated so much energy and time to making this team the success it has been.

I would also like to mention some of our UCONN players and commend a couple of the fine athletes who made such significant contributions in the championship game.

Our sophomore guard is Khalid El-Amin. We thank the State of Minnesota because he was a native and decided to make the University of Connecticut his home for basketball purposes. He has been a sparkplug for our team and has done a tremendous job. As many will recall, he made two free throws in that final game with only 5.2 seconds left, which absolutely iced the victory for UCONN.

Richard Hamilton has become one of the great players in collegiate history. He was the Most Valuable Player of the NCAA tournament, the Most Valuable Player in the Big East tournament this year, and is truly one of the great, great players not only at the University of Connecticut, but also throughout the Nation.

Other players like Ricky Moore, Kevin Freeman, and Jake Voskuhl did a great job as well, all contributing when it counted most. Moore and Freeman, I think, deserve special recognition for proving that defense is valuable. It is not just who can score the most points, but who can be a great defensive player. Both of them did a terrific job in proving the value of that element of this wonderful, unique game now played worldwide. Basketball is a game that began in Springfield, MA,

something that we in America take pride in as it is a sport that is home-grown.

Lastly, Mr. President, the fans, the student body, the administration, Phillip Austin, President of the university, the Board of Trustees, and the faithful alumni were all in that arena to watch the Ohio State game, and then the final game on Monday. They were both great games. I know the former Governor of that State, the occupant of the Chair, takes great pride in Ohio State. The coach of your team was an assistant coach at the University of Connecticut. He was in Florida and rooting for Connecticut, I can tell you, during that final game. I am sure he would have liked to have been coaching that game instead, but despite not being there himself, and given his former relationship with the University of Connecticut, it is understandable how he felt a special affection for the UCONN team.

Again, Mr. President, as I began, let me end. This was a great moment for our State. The people are very proud of the accomplishments of this team and our university. Senator LIEBERMAN and I wanted to take a moment out of the Senate business to recognize the accomplishments of these fine young men of the University of Connecticut and thank the people of our State who have so faithfully supported them throughout these many years.

Mr. President, at this time I would like to recognize all the coaches and players of the 1999 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship team: Head Coach Jim Calhoun, Associate Head Coach Dave Leitao, Assistant Coach Karl Hobbs, Assistant Coach Tom Moore, Beau Archibald, Justin Brown, Khalid El-Amin, Kevin Freeman, Richard Hamilton, E.J. Harrison, Rashamel Jones, Antric Klaiber, Ricky Moore, Albert Mouring, Edmund Saunders, Souleymane Wane, and Jake Voskuhl.

With that, I yield to my colleague, an equally fervent champion and fan of the UCONN team.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Hear, hear, Mr. President. I thank my friend and colleague from Connecticut. I am proud to join with him in introducing this resolution commemorating what was truly one of the most thrilling and uplifting moments in the modern history of our State—and I do not say that lightly—the national championship won by the University of Connecticut men's basketball team.

I think to understand what this achievement means to our relatively small State, my colleagues have to understand what this UCONN team has meant for the last decade to the people of Connecticut. I don't think there are many teams in the country that have a more rabid following than our Huskies. From their home base in Storrs, clear across the State to Stamford, from Stonington in the east to Salisbury in the northwest, every basketball season, the people of Connecticut are gripped with a delirium known affectionately

as "Huskymania," which makes every day of the season seem like March Madness in Connecticut. The interest is so intense that the Huskies, hailing from the third smallest State in America, travel with the largest contingent of reporters in all of college basketball, referred to simply as "the horde."

Now, Mr. President, over the last decade, Huskymania has been heightened by the enormous success of our great coach, Jim Calhoun and athletic director, Lew Perkins. UCONN has dominated the storied Big East Conference, winning six regular season championships, distinguishing itself in NCAA tournament play, advancing to the Elite Eight three different times. The one thing missing was a trip to the fabled Final Four and a national championship, and that dream was realized on March 29 with the victory over the Duke Blue Devils in what has to have been, not just for Connecticut fans, but for basketball fans all over the country, one of the great games in recent history of college basketball.

The Huskies' thrilling victory touched off a joyous celebration in our State, which is normally known as "the land of steady habits," an exhilaration which I experienced literally firsthand that night. I could not go to Florida to see the game, but I did the next best thing—I went to Coach's Bar and Grill in Hartford, CT, which is partially owned by Coach Calhoun. Let me just say to my colleagues on the floor, I was, by far, the senior citizen in the bar that night. It seemed like about half of the State's under-30 population was there. The fervor was intense and the joy extreme when the game was over.

Let me say that we are proud of this victory, but we are also really proud of the values that are part of it—the teamwork, the sacrifice, the sportsmanship, the determination and the dignity this team and its coach showed in scrapping and hustling their way to the pinnacle of college basketball. The character of this UCONN team is an apt reflection of their great coach, Jim Calhoun, who is a great coach because he is a great man, a man of indomitable spirit, tremendous values, and a great pursuit of excellence. I am thrilled that Coach Calhoun is finally getting his due as one of the Nation's great coaches.

For now, I am grateful for the wonderful gift that Jim and his players have given the people of Connecticut, for the way they brought such a diverse State together and reaffirmed our sense of community, for living up to our highest ideals of sport and—if you will allow me a pun in the name of the Huskies—for showing that every dog does indeed have their day.

Now, Mr. President, if I may close somewhat unusually, at Coach's Bar and Grill on the night of the game, one of the young men there, at a critical moment in the first half, turned to me and asked me if I would lead the UCONN cheer, and I did that. I was

criticized the first time because they said my N's were not too good. You will see what I mean in a moment. As the game went on, I was called on repeatedly to lead this cheer, and of course, we in Coach's Bar and Grill feel that made the margin of difference in the victory that occurred in Florida that night.

If you will allow me, Mr. President, here is the cheer: U-C-O-N-N, UCONN, UCONN.

Thank you. I urge adoption of the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 77) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 77), with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 77

Whereas the University of Connecticut men's basketball team capped a remarkable season by defeating the top-ranked Duke Blue Devils 77-74, on March 29, 1999, in St. Petersburg, Florida, to win its 1st national championship in its 1st "Final Four" appearance;

Whereas the Huskies finished with a regular season record of 34-2, the best in the program's proud 96 years of competition;

Whereas the Huskies firmly established themselves as the dominant team of the decade in the storied Big East Conference, winning their 6th regular season title and their 4th tournament championship of the 1990s;

Whereas UConn's Richard "Rip" Hamilton distinguished himself in the championship game and throughout the season as one of the premier players in all of college basketball, winning his 2d Big East Player of the Year award, earning 1st team All-America honors, and closing out a spectacular offensive performance in the NCAA tournament by being named the most valuable player of the Final Four.

Whereas UConn's senior co-captain Ricky Moore distinguished himself as one of the Nation's top defensive players, personifying the grit, determination, and fierce will to win that carried the Huskies throughout the year;

Whereas UConn coach Jim Calhoun instilled in his players an unceasing ethic of dedication, sacrifice, and teamwork in the pursuit of excellence, and instilled in the rest of us a renewed appreciation of what it means to win with dignity, integrity, and true sportsmanship;

Whereas the Huskies' thrilling victory in the NCAA championship game enraptured their loyal and loving fans from Storrs to Stamford, taking "Huskymania" to new heights and filling the State with an overwhelming sense of pride, honor, and community;

Whereas the UConn basketball team's national championship spotlighted one of the Nation's premier State universities, that is committed to academic as well as athletic excellence; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commends and congratulates the Huskies of the University of Connecticut for winning the 1999 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the president of the University of Connecticut.

UNIFORMED SERVICES FILING FAIRNESS ACT OF 1999

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, let me explain for a moment where we are here. We have, by unanimous consent, 1 hour equally divided on S. 767.

S. 767 is cosponsored by Senators LEVIN, ROTH, TORRICELLI, ABRAHAM, CLELAND, McCAIN, ALLARD, HELMS, COLLINS, BROWNE, FRIST, JOHNSON, HAGEL, BRYAN, DEWINE and GRAMS. Senate bill 767 is identical to the legislation that passed unanimously in the House Ways and Means Committee, and which will be here later this afternoon at about 4 o'clock. When that gets here, we will vote on the House version rather than the substitute that I just described because there has been an objection on the other side. It is a bit perplexing. But we have had an objection. We don't want internal differences to in any way for one moment delay the intent of this bill. I think everybody will understand that in a moment. So we are just simply setting the objection aside and we will accept the House version. I am sure it will be an overwhelming vote.

Mr. President, I ask the clerk to report the bill by title.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

A bill (S. 767) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a 2-month extension for the date for filing a tax return for any member of a uniformed service on a tour of duty outside of the United States for a period which includes the normal due date for such filing.

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

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my colleagues to support legislation that will help our men and women serving in Operation Allied Force.

I might point out that part of the reason we are accepting this House version, due to this skirmish on the Senate floor yesterday afternoon, is because we only have some 12 hours left. This is April 15. These families needed to get this message, frankly, yesterday. But today I am confident that this relief, this comfort, that we are offering to the men and women who are on the front line today in Kosovo will be of enormous comfort and assistance to their spouses and to their families.

In short, the legislation does three things.

I might point out that the Senate substitute was identical in language to the House version that will be coming here later this afternoon on which we will vote.

The legislation does three things.

First, it exempts all U.S. troops serving in the Yugoslav theater of operations from being taxed on their hazardous duty pay. That is the additional pay they receive over their regular pay for being a hazardous operation. That will not be taxed when this passes. The

danger pay that you receive on the periphery of the combat theater will not be taxed.

Second, it grants our troops a 180-day filing extension for their 1999 income tax return. The 180 days begins when they return from duty in the combat zone.

Third, it exempts our troops from the 3 percent excise tax levied on long-distance telephone calls to reduce somewhat the burden of a long-distance call home whenever they have a chance to do that.

Several days ago, the President signed an Executive order declaring Yugoslavia and certain areas surrounding it a combat zone. This declaration in turn provides troops serving in the zone with certain tax breaks which this legislation will codify and expand. It will expand it, for example, to troops like those in Georgia who are fulfilling the refueling missions in the combat zone. The bill takes the President's order a step further by providing these same level of tax breaks and filing extensions to those personnel who have been relocated to the combat zone area and are receiving imminent danger pay.

Mr. President, I believe this is an important additional provision that the President by law cannot extend through an Executive order. At a time when our men and women are putting their lives on the line in the name of freedom, we should do what we can to relieve some of the worries associated with income tax burdens and filings associated with the timing of the conflict occurring within 2 weeks of income tax day, April 15.

Mr. President, we have several other Senators who are here to speak on the measure. Before they get here, let me briefly say that we are deeply appreciative for the enormous bipartisan support—and I named the coauthors on both sides of the aisle—to get this done. My one regret is that we have been delayed a day by "internal process." That is the most polite way to describe it. But we are going to get this done.

I hope anybody who is watching or listening to this who is related in any way to the families and spouses of those troops for whom we think of every minute of every day will tell them that their significant income tax relief burden is being lifted so that they ought not have to stand in that long car line sometime tonight trying to get this in. They have been granted an extension, and a significant one. Depending on the pay grades of those involved, there is rather substantial tax relief, because, as I said a moment ago, with the passage of this act, those additional pays that are received by these troops for hazardous duty or imminent danger will not have an income tax applied against them. So it should be very meaningful.

Let me quickly say that this is no windfall. If anybody listening to me has ever been around a serviceperson