

continue and that they will become more deadly. Terrorists today often act out of a visceral hatred of the U.S. or the West and seek to wreak maximum destruction and kill as many people as possible.

At the same time, I believe that our counterterrorism policy must be conducted in a way that remains consistent with our democratic values and our commitment to an open, free society.

In many ways, the Kyl-Feinstein Counterterrorism Act of 2000 is a counterpart bill to the Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act that recently passed the Senate 95 to 0. That legislation, which I cosponsored, will make it easier for American victims of terrorism abroad to collect court-awarded compensation and ensure that the state sponsors of terrorism pay a price for their crimes.

While I strongly support assisting terrorist victims, I also believe that we need to do more to prevent Americans from becoming victims of terrorism in the first place. Thus, I am glad that the Senate has acted to pass S. 3205 with such dispatch. It is crucial to act now before terrorists strike again, killing and injuring more Americans and leaving more families grieving. I urge the House to pass S. 3205 before we adjourn.

In conclusion, I want to thank my good friend Senator KYL for his tireless efforts to get this bill passed. His work, as always, has been invaluable.

I also thank my other colleagues for their assistance in helping us pass this bill. I know Senator LEAHY, for instance, initially had a number of concerns with the legislation. I am grateful for the time he spent working through these issues with us, and I am glad that we can move this bill forward unanimously.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 5633

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate receives from the House H.R. 5633, the appropriations bill to fund the District of Columbia, if the text is identical to the text I now send to the desk, then the bill be considered passed and the motion to reconsider laid upon the table.

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

Mr. WARNER. I now send the text of the bill to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be received.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2000

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until the hour of 12 noon on Tuesday, December 5, under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 442.

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

Mr. WARNER. I further ask consent that when the Senate reconvenes on Tuesday, December 5, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and following the leaders' time, there be a period for the transaction of morning business until the hour of 12:30 p.m., with Members permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. WARNER. The Senate will be considering a continuing resolution on Tuesday, December 5, and may be considering other legislative items. Therefore, votes could occur during Tuesday's session of the Senate. All Senators will be notified via the hotline system as to those votes when it becomes clear as to their time.

Again, I wish all Senators a safe and happy Thanksgiving. I do that on behalf of the bipartisan leadership in the Senate. I look forward to working with all Senators when they return on Tuesday, the 5th.

ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. WARNER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 442, following the remarks of Senator DASCHLE, should he seek the floor, for such period not to exceed 15 minutes.

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

Mr. WARNER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

SENATE BUSINESS AND ELECTIONS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, although the Senate will not resume work in earnest today on the issues remaining before the 106th Congress, we certainly hope that when we do return on the 5th of December we will be able to complete action on the appropriations bills, the minimum wage increase, the Balanced Budget Refinement Act, and deal with the immigration issue, as well as a fair and balanced tax relief package.

In the 3 weeks until then, I certainly hope that both parties and the administration will redouble their efforts to reach agreement on these important issues. We do not have to wait until we get back. It is so troubling that we are so close to the end of the calendar year and we do not have as much to show for

our efforts over the last 2 years as I would have liked.

The lameduck session will give us an opportunity to make progress on each of those issues. I hope we will seize that opportunity.

I have spoken with the majority leader about this issue, and about our desire to complete our work in a positive way. I think we agree: We need to work closely together in the final days of this Congress. He certainly reiterated his desire to do that.

When we left before the election, everyone assumed we would return to a relative certainty. We assumed we would have a President-elect. We assumed we would know the balance of power in the next Congress. Of course, to everyone's surprise, we still do not know either of these things.

The situation in which we now find ourselves is virtually unprecedented. It certainly is unusual. But with the elections this close, a period of uncertainty is certainly unavoidable.

While none of us has ever seen such a close Presidential election, some of us have seen this on a smaller scale. I am one of those people.

In 1978, in my first race for election to the House of Representatives, I was behind by 28 votes at the end of election night and was declared the loser. The next day, amid much confusion, I was actually declared the winner by 14 votes. Talk about a roller coaster ride. And that was just the first day.

Over the next few months, after more recounts, and the discovery of computational errors, and more confusion, the election went all the way to the South Dakota Supreme Court.

In August of 1979, the court heard oral arguments and examined every ballot.

Finally, on November 27, 1979—more than a year after the election—the South Dakota Supreme Court issued its decision. It added 5 more votes to the earlier total and declared me the winner by a margin of 110 votes, which I like to say in South Dakota is about 60 percent.

In recounting this story, I am not suggesting that we can afford to take that much time in getting a fair and accurate count in this Presidential election. Clearly, because of the surpassing importance of the Presidency, this election must be decided on an expedited basis. I am confident that it will be.

Instead, I tell this story to illustrate the point that our system has dealt successfully with close elections in the past.

My first race for Congress is just one example. There are many others. Even as we speak, votes are still being counted in another too-close-to-call race: the Senate race in Washington State.

Since last Tuesday, many colleagues have told me of similar experiences in their own elections. To a person, they all agree that the important thing is to take whatever time is needed to get a

fair and accurate vote count. That is the only way to maintain public confidence in the outcome of the election. So yes, this is an unusual situation. But it is not a constitutional crisis.

In a Newsweek poll taken over the weekend, Americans were asked which was more important: Resolving the uncertainty over the election now so we know who the next President will be Or making certain to remove all reasonable doubt that the vote count in Florida is fair and accurate.

By a margin of 3 to 1, Americans say it is more important to get the results right than to get them right now.

Their response is proof of their faith in our system of government.

It is a system of unequaled strength and stability. And it should be allowed to work.

What we all need right now is patience.

What we do not need is "spin" from people with vested interests in the outcome.

It was particularly disturbing earlier today to see a representative of the Bush campaign on national television announce what he called a "compromise offer."

In fact, his proposal merely restated his campaign's previous position that ballots counted by hand after 5 o'clock this evening should be ignored.

He then went on to cite fluctuations in the stock market as proof that a winner must be declared in the presidential election now—even if it means sacrificing a full and fair count.

I hope that everyone involved in this critically important matter would refrain from such overheated rhetoric. It is not helpful to this process. We are all anxious to know who our next President is. We all want finality. But not at the expense of fairness.

That is what the Vice President wants.

That is what the American people want. That is what I believe Democrats and Republicans want.

That is what is needed to reassure voters in Florida and all across America that their votes in this election counted.

That is what is needed for Americans to reassure Americans that their faith in our election system is well-founded.

Regardless of who they voted for as long as Americans have this reassurance I believe they will accept the out-

come of this election and give our next President their support.

It is worth exercising a little patience to get that result.

I yield the floor.

RECESS UNTIL TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 5, 2000

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 4:31 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, December 5, 2000, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate November 14, 2000:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LARRY CARP, OF MISSOURI, TO BE AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

RICHARD N. GARDNER, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

JAY T. SNYDER, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.