

going to be some language in that bill in this area. I don't know what it is going to be. There are a lot of people with a lot more expertise in how that will work, and the safety aspects of it, and what individuals will be able to do. All of that is going to have to be resolved.

You have the sanctions question. There is no easy solution there. You have kind of the Senate position, the House position, a third position, and other options. I wish the Senator the very best in working all of that out. I am not a member of the agriculture appropriations subcommittee, and I hope not to be there when the final decision is made.

Last but not least, I assume within the next week or so the conferees will meet.

There are areas sometimes when communication between the bodies of the Congress or between the parties is not as good as it could be, I guess. But usually in agriculture you have pretty good input all around because it is so important to individual Senators.

But I am assuming conferees will be appointed at some point before too long and that there will be a vote and action taken. I quite often wish for magic, but I rarely see it in dealing with these appropriations issues.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, if the Senator will yield for one further point, I have consulted with the senior Senator from Mississippi, Mr. COCHRAN, someone for whom I have great regard. He has done a wonderful job as chairman of that subcommittee. He indicated, pretty much as the majority leader did, that the House didn't appoint conferees. The House passed the agriculture appropriations bill on July 11.

It may be a stretch, but I think sometimes there are teams around here, and the team kind of gets together to talk about how they are going to do something. When teams huddle up, they do not call both a pass play and run play; they normally call one play. It may be a stretch on my part, but I figured there is a team that has huddled up and said: You know the play. We are not going to call on agriculture because we have a couple of things we don't want to have people vote on, and we are not going to have a conference.

That is the only explanation I can have for being a conferee and never having a conference. I guess the easiest choice is the obvious choice. Let the House and the Senate vote on these controversial issues. Both of them that I mentioned would have passed by 75 percent of the House and the Senate easily.

The reason the Senator from Mississippi, the majority leader, knows I have a little bit of tension about this is, last year we had the same issue on sanctions and food shipments. The same issue went through the Senate with 70 votes and went into conference. I was a conferee. The first order of

business in the conference was to say: We insist on the Senate's position. Let's stop using food as a weapon. Let's stop having embargoes on food shipments.

The Senate voted. The Senate conferees insisted on their position, and the conference was disbanded and never met again, because the House conferees were prepared to support us and the House leadership said: No. We are going to disband the conference and bring the conference report to the floor that we haven't had a chance to work on.

My great concern is, that might happen again this year and maybe there has been no play called yet. But I hope that, really soon the majority leader will tell them that the easiest play for these controversial issues is to bring them back, and let's have votes in the House and Senate. I am willing to lose the votes if, after we count them, I am on the wrong end. But we won't lose on either of these issues.

I finally say to the majority leader, it is true that we have suffered, and his State has suffered droughts and floods. We have had fires in my State and devastating quality losses on top of floods. We need to put a piece in this agriculture appropriations bill in response to those disasters as well. That is another significant part of it.

I want to work with the majority leader. But my great concern is that there won't be a conference. If the majority leader is telling me he thinks there will be, I hope he will consult with the Speaker of the House. We both served in the House. I think it is unusual to have a bill passed on July 11, and now on September 22 they haven't appointed conferees.

Mr. LOTT. Has the Senator ever tried giving Senate or House appropriations members orders or directions? What I am saying to the Senator is, it won't do any good; they are going to do what they are going to do in due time.

All I ask from the appropriators on Agriculture, Energy and Water, and Interior is to give me a bill. Whatever you agree on is fine with me. All I want is to be able to schedule the conference report. I have tried saying, Do this; do that. How about that? What about this time? What about another time? They will act when they get ready, I guess. They will have a conference meeting and do their work or they won't. It beats the heck out of me. It is mystifying.

They have a job to do. All I am saying is I have confidence in THAD COCHRAN. I will support whatever he wants to do. I believe the farmers of North Dakota and Mississippi are going to be better for whatever he does. That is all I can do.

I am ready to go the minute they get a conference report. We will bring it to the floor like white lightning. Hopefully, that is next week. I would love to do it next week. The last time I checked, that is the end of the fiscal year. If they have it ready Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, the happier I will be.

Mr. DORGAN. If they get it ready, I hope it goes through a conference at some point. If I am a conferee, I hope I am invited.

There is the television commercial where the cowboys are trying to herd cats.

Mr. LOTT. I was one of the cowboys trying to keep the cats; they won't herd up, though.

Mr. DORGAN. I know that.

It is one thing for me to be mystified; that is probably acceptable, but I am worried when the leader is mystified.

Mr. LOTT. You are a cat, and you will want to get grouped up for a conclusion.

Mr. DORGAN. Things will slow down a lot if we have a process that tries to partition people off from this. These are important issues, and they are not done at the end of the session; they probably should have been done long ago. As we get to the end of the session, I am asking we have conferences.

To the extent you are talking to the Speaker, I hope you will encourage them: Appoint conferees, get to conference, and get the business done. That is all I am asking today. I expect to be at a conference next week.

Somebody in this Senate said yesterday to a member of the press—I assume it is probably printed today—that the conference report was going to come to the Senate floor by "magic." Well, that is a magic carpet that will surprise a lot of Members, I suppose, and will cause a lot of problems. If the Senator will support us in regular order in having a conference in which we can all participate, that is what we expect to be the case in the Senate.

TRIBUTE TO PAT WADE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I rise in support today and bid farewell to a dear colleague and a member of our Senate family. That person is Patricia "Pat" Wade, who has worked on Capitol Hill with distinction and loyalty for over 28 years.

Pat came to Washington from Memphis, TN. I have known her throughout these 28 years. I have been in Congress all those years and remember when she first came. She came in 1970 and actually began working for Congressman Dan Kuykendall from Tennessee—the Tennessee talking horse, we affectionately called him, a great guy and a good friend.

During her tenure on the House side, she also worked for then-Congressman THAD COCHRAN and his successor in the House, Jon Henson, both from the great State of Mississippi.

After a stint in the House, she moved over to the Senate side to work for Vice President George Bush in his Capitol office. Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole's office was her next stop. Then I brought her on board when I took the position in the Senate majority leader's office.

She now works with Elizabeth Letchworth, and she is administrative

assistant to the secretary for the majority's office. She is invariably friendly and effective. When I call looking for this very important floor staff director, Pat can find her no matter where she is. She always has a smile on her face. She has a fun-loving attitude and is just a very nice person. I will miss her dearly. Pat will certainly do well as she goes back to her home State and spends more time with her beloved mother. We will miss her, but we wish her luck in all future endeavors and thank her for her contributions to this body over these many years.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. President, I noticed that Senator BYRD from West Virginia was seeking to ask me to yield. I am happy to yield for any kind of question or comment the Senator desires.

Mr. BYRD. The majority leader is very, very gracious. I appreciate that. I have a speech I want to make today. Could the majority leader enter an order that I be recognized for 25 or 30 minutes at the close of day.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, certainly. We will modify our closing script to make that possible for Senator BYRD. I know it will be informative, interesting, and entertaining, as his speeches always are, and it will recognize some great moment, some great individual, or some important point about the Senate itself.

We will certainly accommodate that request.

Mr. BYRD. I have my tie on today. This is Constitution Week and this is the last working day for us in the Constitution Week. I do have a speech about the Constitution.

Mr. LOTT. I will be interested in hearing that speech.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

WELCOME TO TAIWAN REPRESENTATIVE C.J. CHEN

• Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, today I rise to welcome Mr. C.J. Chen as the new Representative at the Taiwan Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO). Mr. C.J. Chen, former foreign minister of Taiwan, has recently replaced Mr. Stephen Chen as Taiwan's top diplomat in the United States. Mr. C.J. Chen is certainly qualified to speak for his government and to brief us on all the issues affecting the good relations between the United States and Taiwan.

Representative Chen was born in China and educated in Taiwan and Great Britain. He received a law degree at the University of Cambridge and was a resident fellow at the University of Madrid. Following his training in Europe, he returned to Taipei and served in many key positions. Most notably he was senior deputy in Taiwan's Washington office in the 1980's; later he was a vice foreign minister, a senator

in the Parliament, and a government spokesman. Prior to June of this year, he was the Foreign Minister for the Republic of China.

Representative Chen's appointment as Taiwan's chief diplomat in the United States is a strong indication of the importance his government attaches to Taiwan-United States relations. He will have a unique opportunity to keep us abreast of the new administration's peace initiatives for the region.

Representative Chen has already made a great start on Capitol Hill. I trust that he will have a very successful stay in Washington and on Capitol Hill. He is a very talented and respected representative for TECRO.●

BABY SAFETY MONTH

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the month of September as Baby Safety Month. This year's theme, "Good Night, Sleep Tight," stresses crib safety. As a grandparent, I experienced the tragic loss of my grandson Blake on March 30, 1995, when he passed away from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS. My experience, and the experiences of the many others I have met since then who faced similar losses, have helped heighten for me the importance of doing everything we can to ensure the safety of an infant.

A baby brings so much joy and excitement into a family, along with a new perspective on life. Of course, a birth also means a host of baby products coming into the home—everything from a car seat and safety locks on cabinet doors, to a crib. Experts recommend parents do not use second-hand products because of the safety standards new baby products have to meet. However, if older products are used, parents should make certain they do not have loose or missing parts.

The most important thing parents can do for the safety of their baby is to supervise them carefully, especially when they are using juvenile products. Baby products are designed for safe use, but not as a substitute for parental supervision. For more than 20 years, the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association has been helping parents keep their babies safe from harm by certifying juvenile products and working with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), a nonprofit organization, to inform and educate the American public on safe products.

Research has told us that normal, healthy infants should ALWAYS sleep on their backs unless otherwise advised by a pediatrician. Consulting their pediatrician and using a safe crib that meets current federal and ASTM standards will help parents feel comfortable placing their babies to sleep. Despite all the precautions, however, nearly 50 babies suffocate or strangle themselves each year in cribs with unsafe designs. During Baby Safety Month, JPMA pro-

vides promotional materials at retail outlets to help promote crib and baby safety to every new parent.

Since the death of my grandson, I have been privileged to get to know the men and women of the Minnesota SIDS Center, which serves Minnesotans by working to prevent SIDS and helping families who have suffered a loss due to SIDS. They are doing important work, and their efforts are very much appreciated. The Minnesota SIDS Center and other organizations have helped reduce SIDS rates by 43 percent by spreading the word to parents that putting infants to sleep on their backs has been proven to reduce SIDS deaths in some cases. The lives of more than 1,500 infants are being spared each year. That is exciting news. Even with the recent progress, though, SIDS claims nearly 3,000 lives every year and remains the leading cause of death for infants between one month and one year of age. Clearly, there is still much more we need to learn.

Mr. President, I hope every parent, new and expecting, takes the necessary precautions to prevent all potential risks to the safety of their baby. I would also like to thank those at the Minnesota SIDS Center and similar organizations across America who are working hard to improve the safety of every baby, thereby ensuring that "Good Night, Sleep Tight" is more than just another catchy slogan.●

AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S DAY

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize September 22 as American Business Women's Day. On this day in 1949, the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) was founded as a support organization for women either entering or already in the workforce. The ABWA was founded by Mr. Hilary A. Bufton, Jr., a Missouri business owner who realized the positive economic impact women can have in the workplace.

American Business Women's Day won national attention after passage of a congressional resolution in 1983 and 1986, and President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation granting it official recognition. Today, American Business Women's Day gives every American an opportunity to recognize the vital contributions women are making to this nation.

Women have long played a vital role in America's workforce. As scientists, elected officials, presidents of companies, and small business owners, in every job category in every profession upon which this nation depends, women take key roles in all facets of business. Some 27.5 million women work in the 9.1 million women-owned businesses in the United States, representing 38 percent of all businesses and generating over \$3.6 trillion in annual sales. Consisting of nearly 48 percent of the overall workforce in the United States, more than 61 million