

work with Edward R. Murrow and who has since given us a remarkable series of Emmy Award-winning films, created the Honors with the great Hollywood showman Nick Vanoff, one of the shaping influences of popular television. They produced the show for years—and since Nick's death, George has produced the show each year with Don Mischer, who has given the world other extraordinary broadcasts from the Emmy Awards to the Opening Ceremonies of the Olympic Games. Their artistic genius constantly renews the Honors, fills it with fresh delights and gives us an evening that is both entertaining and equal to the Pantheon of artists it celebrates.

This year's show honored Mikhail Baryshnikov, Chuck Berry, Placido Domingo, Clint Eastwood, and Angela Lansbury—again illuminating the span and sparkle of America's talent. I think how proud President Kennedy would have been of this ceremony which, like the Kennedy Center itself, fulfills his hope for "an America that will not be afraid of grace and beauty and which will reward achievement in the arts as we reward achievement in business or statecraft."

So for all they do to make that dream come true, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Chairman of the Kennedy Center, James A. Johnson, and the impresarios of the Honors, George Stevens, Jr. and Don Mischer. For so many years, they have graced the stage of the Kennedy Center with this great celebration; they have graced the life of our nation by marking out the heights of its history in the performing arts. May the show go on and on.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JACK BASSO

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant, Peter "Jack" Basso, Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs at the U.S. Department of Transportation. Jack is retiring after more than 35 years in government service and moving on to a second career with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

Throughout his 36-year career with the federal government, Jack Basso has distinguished himself for his leadership, commitment and dedication to public service and to making government work better. Beginning as a financial program analyst at the Federal Highway Administration, he quickly advanced through the ranks to positions in senior management at an FHWA regional office and at the agency's headquarters. He served as Deputy Chair for Management at the National Endowment for the Arts, Assistant Director for General Management at OMB, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs before being

nominated by President Clinton to his present position as Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs and Chief Financial Officer at the U.S. DOT.

As a senior member of the Senate Banking Committee which has jurisdiction over the nation's transit programs, I came to know Jack, as many other Members of Congress did, during the crafting of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) and its successor, the Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century or TEA 21. Jack put in countless hours running the tables, advising the Committees and individual Members, and helping to work out the compromises that ultimately resulted in the enactment of these landmark pieces of legislation and record budgets for financing the Nation's transportation infrastructure. I have enormous respect for the professionalism, ingenuity, and integrity which he brought to the positions in which he has served and greatly value the assistance he has provided to me and my staff over the years. The replacement of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and many other transportation projects in Maryland and throughout the Nation would not be taking place, but for his persistent efforts.

Jack Basso's contributions and accomplishments in these positions have been recognized through many prestigious awards including the Public Employee's Roundtable Chairman's Award for Distinguished Public Service, the Presidential Rank Award, the Government Technology E-Commerce Leadership Award, and the General Services Administration's Travel Manager of the Year Award for two years running. His abiding sense of responsibility and commitment have earned him the respect and admiration of everyone with whom he has worked.

It is my firm conviction that public service is one of the most honorable callings, one that demands the very best, most dedicated efforts of those who have the opportunity to serve their fellow citizens and country. Throughout his career Jack Basso has exemplified a steadfast commitment to meeting this demand. I want to extend my personal congratulations and thanks for his many years of hard work and dedication and wish him well in the years ahead. •

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment.

S. Con. Res. 1. Concurrent resolution to provide for the counting on January 6, 2001, of the electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States.

S. Con. Res. 2. Concurrent resolution to extend the life of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and the provisions of S. Con. Res. 90 of the One Hundred Sixth Congress.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, January 4, 2001, at 10 a.m. on the nomination of Donald L. Evans to be Secretary of Commerce.

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

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND A CONDITIONAL RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 1, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 1) providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

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

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 1) was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 1

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Saturday, January 6, 2001, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Saturday, January 20, 2001; and that when the House adjourns on Saturday, January 20, 2001, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30, 2001, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Saturday, January 6, 2001; Sunday, January 7, 2001; Monday, January 8, 2001; Tuesday, January

9, 2001; Wednesday, January 10, 2001; Thursday, January 11, 2001; Friday, January 12, 2001; Saturday, January 13, 2001; Sunday, January 14, 2001; Monday, January 15, 2001; Tuesday, January 16, 2001; Wednesday, January 17, 2001; Thursday, January 18, 2001; or Friday, January 19, 2001; on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until 10 a.m. on Saturday, January 20, 2001, or until such time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2001

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate adjourns today, it stand in adjournment until 10:30 a.m., Friday, January 5; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date; that the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later; and that there then be a period of morning business until 11 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Madam President, would the majority leader yield?

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I would be happy to yield to the assistant Democratic leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. I say to the leader, I have had a number of inquiries today as to whether or not votes may be required tomorrow. I heard you say we may have at least one very important vote tomorrow that is possible. Is that true?

Mr. DASCHLE. That is correct.

The possibility exists that a request for a rollcall vote could occur on the organizing resolution. And were that to take place, of course, we would set a time certain for that matter to be voted upon, which would include, of course, some time for debate.

Mr. REID. I ask one further question. If, in fact, that vote is required, it would be on organizing the Senate, which is a very important vote. Is that also a fair statement?

Mr. DASCHLE. That is correct.

As all of our colleagues know—the distinguished Senator knows probably better than anybody on our side—this has been a matter that Senator LOTT and I have been working on now for over 2 months. We have been in constant consultation with our colleagues on both sides, and with our more senior Members even more frequently.

So this is a very important matter, and I hope people would treat it as such. It is critical we continue our work here so that we can organize the Senate, that we can appoint Members to appropriate committees, and that we can take the business of the committees as seriously as that business requires, given hearings and other issues that need to be resolved at an early date. So it is very important for us to conduct our business throughout the rest of the month.

I appreciate very much the assistant majority leader's comments and questions in that regard.

I now yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10:30 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, January 5, 2001.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:07 p.m., adjourned until Friday, January 5, 2001, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate January 4, 2001:

THE JUDICIARY

H. ALSTON JOHNSON, III, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT, VICE JOHN M. DUHE, JR., RETIRED.