

of America

Congressional Record

proceedings and debates of the 107^{th} congress, second session

Vol. 148

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2002

No. 88

Senate

The Senate met at 9:31 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. BYRD].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The prayer to Almighty God, the supreme Judge of the world, will be led by the Senate Chaplain, the Rev. Dr. Lloyd J. Ogilvie. Dr. Ogilvie, please.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, Creator, Sustainer and Providential source of all our blessings. We praise you for the freedom of religion in America guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. There is no separation between God and State. With gratitude we declare our motto "In God we trust." Though that trust may be expressed in different religions, we do proclaim You as ultimate Sovereign of our Nation. Our Founders declared their trust in You and in each stage of our development You have guided us through peril and prosperity, peace and war. Thank You for Your faithfulness to respond to our confession of trust in You.

It is with reverence that in a moment we will repeat the words of commitment to trust You which are part of our Pledge of Allegiance to our flag: One Nation under God, indivisible.

Help us to savor these words this morning. May we never lose a profound sense of awe and wonder over the privilege You have given us to live in this religiously free land. Renew our sense of accountability to You, and never take for granted the freedom we enjoy or the accountability we have to You. As we declare our convictions in the Pledge, we affirm that patriotism is an essential expression of our trust in

Specifically for today and its pressing agenda and challenges we affirm we are one Senate united under You to lead a nation that is free to say confidently, "In God We Trust."

God our Sovereign, we continue the work of this busy week with the words

and music of the Fourth of July celebration sounding in our souls. We pray together today, remembering the first prayer of dependence prayed for the delegates to the Continental Congress in 1774 that eventually led to the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Now before the fireworks begin, work in us the fire of that same dependence on You that has been the secret of truly great leaders throughout our history. We pray for the women and men of this Senate. Enlarge their hearts until they are big enough to contain the gift of Your Spirit; expand their minds until they are capable of thinking Your thoughts; deepen their mutual trust so that they can work harmoniously for what is best for this Nation. You know all the legislation to be debated and voted on before recess. Grant the Senators an unprecedented dependence on You, an unreserved desire to seek Your will, and an unlimited supply of Your supernatural strength.

With renewed dependence on You and renewed interdependence on one another as fellow patriots, help us to be willing, in the spirit of our Founders, to stake our reliance on You and pledge our lives, fortunes, and sacred honor for the next stage of Your strategy for America: God bless America!

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore [Mr. BYRD] led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

THANKING THE CHAPLAIN

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I know I speak for all of our colleagues in thanking Chaplain Ogilvie for his wonderful prayer this morning. He spoke for all of us. We are one nation under God, and we reaffirm that today as Americans—not as Republicans or as Democrats—and we do so proudly.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, there will be a vote on cloture at 10:30 this morning. The time between now and then will be divided equally between the Republican leader or his designee. who will have the first half of the time, and the Democratic leader or his designee for the second half. Senators should be aware that within the next 50 minutes, we will have a cloture vote, and we will proceed in an effort to try to complete work on the Defense bill today.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

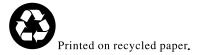
MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each. The first half of the time shall be under the control of the Republican leader or his designee; the second half of the time shall be under the control of the majority leader or his designee. Who seeks recognition?

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. REED). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Minnesota should be aware that the time is presently controlled by the Republican leader.

The Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask the Senator from Minnesota how long he is intending to speak?

Mr. WELLSTONE. I say to my colleague from Texas, probably about 3 minutes. I want to talk about disaster assistance in Minnesota.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Minnesota be allowed to speak for approximately 3 to 4 minutes, after which I ask unanimous consent to be recognized.

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

FLOODS IN MINNESOTA

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, as any number of my colleagues may have noted, if they have been watching CNN, northwest Minnesota in the last 3 weeks has been deluged by heavy rainfall causing disasters in 13 northwestern Minnesota counties. We have had massive flooding.

Earlier this week, the President rightly declared these counties disaster areas, which will bring much needed FEMA assistance to individuals and businesses. More help is needed, and the Minnesota Farm Service Agency has estimated that we have 2 million acres in northwest Minnesota that are affected by the flooding, and the losses are expected to be about 70 percent. Most of the producers have carried crop insurance, but the crop insurance cannot come close to compensating for these losses. What I am worried about is FEMA can help us with public infrastructure and SBA can help some of our small businesses, but we need disaster relief for our farmers. Without disaster relief, there is no future for them at all.

The President and the administration are saying that there will not be any more disaster relief money and that whatever assistance goes to these farmers has to come from the farm bill. In other words, money has to be taken from other farmers, taken from corn growers, wheat growers, soybean growers. The President and the administration are saying that our farmers cannot expect any relief until the year 2008, no matter what. That is not going to work for northwestern Minnesota.

The farm bill which we passed is not a disaster assistance bill. It is a bill to stabilize farm income. It is a bill about the rural economies, but it is not about disaster relief. Disaster relief is all about "there but the grace of God go I"—fire in Arizona, drought in South Dakota, flooding in northwest Minnesota.

When the Congress decides to help areas affected by hurricanes and fires, we do not tell people to pull their emergency assistance out of somebody else's highway fund.

Sometimes the Federal Government needs to be there for people, and this is one of those cases. I will be visiting northwest Minnesota again this week on Saturday afternoon. It is very important that the administration provide this much needed assistance. I do not think as a Senator, in the almost 12 years I have been in the Senate, I have ever voted against disaster relief for any part of the country, because. again, I think this goes to the essence of who we are as a community. Nobody asked for the flooding. Nobody asked for 2 million acres of farmland, 70 percent of it, to be destroyed. Nobody asks for hurricanes or tornados. Nobody asked for the drought. It is "there but for the grace of God go I." We come together as a community and we provide the help for people. That is what disaster relief is about.

I come to the floor to call on the administration to change their mind and to make a commitment to providing this assistance. We had it in the farm bill in the Senate. It was taken out in conference committee for 2001. Now we are talking about even more damage for 2002.

There is no more important issue for the State of Minnesota than to get the help for these farmers. Otherwise, they will not be there. It will be all over. I appeal to the White House: Please change your mind on this matter. We need the help in Minnesota. There will be other States that will need the assistance, as well.

I yield the floor.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Texas is recognized.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the Senator from Texas has an important measure, which I have reviewed. Given the current status of the bill, it is questionable whether it can be brought up on the bill. The Senator is anxious to speak about it. I suggest the Senator send the amendment to the desk and leave it there, making it part of the Record as a colloquy.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the amendment be brought up, and I will speak on it, after which I will withdraw the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is not currently on the bill. The Senate is in a period of morning business.

Mr. WARNER. At some point it may be reviewed in committee or by the Senate, but it is important to be part of the RECORD.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. When does morning business end?

Mr. REID. After the cloture vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is scheduled to end at 10:30.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent it be in order for me to call up amendment No. 3928 to the Defense authorization bill.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, I have no objection for calling the bill up as long as the amendment will be withdrawn subsequently.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. That is correct. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003—Resumed

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

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (S. 2514) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3928

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MIL-LER). The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows: The Senator from Texas [Mrs. Hutchison], for herself, Mr. Bingaman, Mr. Lott, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Bunning, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Craig, Ms. Collins, Mr. Shelby, Mr. Smith of New Hampshire, Mr. Bond, Mr. Domenici, Mr. Bayh, Mr. Nelson of Nebraska, Mr. Burns, and Ms. Snowe, proposes amendment No. 3928.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I ask unanimous consent reading of the amendment be dispensed.

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

The amendment is as follows:

add the following:

(Purpose: To specify additional selection criteria for the 2005 round of defense base closures and realignments under the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990) At the end of subtitle B of title XXVIII,

SEC. 2814. ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA FOR 2005 ROUND OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT.

- (a) ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA.—Section 2913 of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (part A of title XXIX of Public Law 101–510; 10 U.S.C. 2687 note) is amended—
- (1) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (e), (f), and (g), respectively; and
- (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection (d):
- "(d) ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.—The selection criteria for military installations shall also address the following:
- "(1) Force structure and mission requirements through 2020, as specified by the document entitled 'Joint Vision 2020' issued by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, including—