

very important event and something that needed to be done, or we would have ended up with a windfall to these lenders and these individuals who go out and teach in these tough schools on difficult subject matters would have ended up with large student loans.

This is a very positive step. I thank the Senator from Massachusetts for his efforts in this area as the ranking member of the committee, and I thank the entire committee for its cooperation and appreciate the attention of the Senate.

I yield the floor.

INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION—Continued

AMENDMENTS NOS. 3989, 3994, AND 4037, AS MODIFIED, AND AMENDMENT NO. 4045 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3981, EN BLOC

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that the technical amendments are now approved on both sides. I send to the desk conforming modifications to three amendments that were previously agreed to, and a technical and conforming amendment, and ask unanimous consent that they be considered en bloc and agreed to en bloc.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the modifications?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendments were agreed to, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3989, AS MODIFIED

Strike section 101(b)(1) of the resolution and insert the following:

(1) Department of Homeland Security, except matters relating to—

(A) the Coast Guard, the Transportation Security Administration, or the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center; and

(B) the following functions performed by any employee of the Department of Homeland Security—

(i) any customs revenue function including any function provided for in section 415 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296);

(ii) any commercial function or commercial operation of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection or Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, including matters relating to trade facilitation and trade regulation; or

(iii) any other function related to clause (i) or (ii) that was exercised by the United States Customs Service on the day before the effective date of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296).

AMENDMENT NO. 3994, AS MODIFIED

In section 101(b)(1), strike “(B)” and redesignate “(C)”

Following section 101(b)(1)(A) insert the following:

(B)(i) the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services or (ii) the immigration functions of the U.S. Customs or Border Protection or the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or the Directorate of Border and Transportation Security; and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4037, AS MODIFIED

In section 101(b)(1)(A), after “center” insert “, or the Secret Service”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4045 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3981

Page 2, line 10, strike “primarily”

Page 5, line 20 & 21, strike “Ranking Member” and insert “Vice Chairman”

Page 4, lines 9 through 13, strike.

At the end of section 101(b)(1) insert the following: “The jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs in this paragraph shall supersede the jurisdiction of any other committee of the Senate provided in the rules of the Senate.”

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. We are down to the underlying McConnell-Reid amendment. I am unaware of any request for a rollcall vote.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am wondering—I made this statement earlier—if we could vitiate the necessity of having a cloture vote on this matter.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to vitiating the cloture vote?

Mr. McCain. I object.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. McCain. Mr. President, I withdraw my objection.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 3981, AS MODIFIED, AS AMENDED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand there is no request that we vote on this.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada restates his unanimous consent. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 3981, as modified and as amended, the McConnell-Reid substitute.

The amendment (No. 3981) was agreed to.

SECTION 101(B) AND 101(C)

Mr. REID. Mr. President, Section 101(b) contains the jurisdiction for the new Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. Section 101(b)(1) refers to the new jurisdiction of the new committee. The rest of Section 101(b) and all of Section 101(c) describes the existing jurisdiction of the Governmental Affairs Committee and is not intended to make any changes to existing practice nor precedence regarding referrals on those issues with regard to other committees.

Mr. McCONNELL. I agree Section 101(b)(2) through Section 101(b)(13) and Section 101(c) makes no changes to the status quo regarding jurisdiction over those items.

AMENDMENT NO. 3981

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I appreciate the managers of the resolution adopting this amendment. It achieves the goals of an amendment filed by my distinguished colleague, the junior Senator from Texas, that I cosponsored. The language in the managers' amendment will make explicit that the shared jurisdiction over “government information” that is provided by rule 25 to the Judiciary Committee is not adversely affected by this resolution. I thank the Senator from Texas for his

leadership on this matter and the managers for working with us to clarify the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I said at the beginning of this debate that after reforming the executive branch's intelligence and homeland security agencies, we needed to put our own house in order. We can now say that after years of demanding that other institutions reorganize and improve their performance, we have demanded the same of ourselves. And we succeeded.

This is no small achievement for the Senate, the cooling saucer of American politics. We are very averse to change here.

We respect history in this institution. But today we avoided making the mistake of falling victim to it. Learning from our mistakes prior to 9/11, we have changed the way we do business. This is a great accomplishment.

We recognized the need to reform the way we conduct oversight over the most important issues of our day: intelligence and homeland security.

I want to thank my good friend, Senator REID. I have greatly enjoyed working with him, and have marveled at his prodigious talents in resolving particularly contentious conflicts.

We have accomplished this difficult task thanks in large part to his honest brokering and commitment to respecting the concerns of each and every Senator. He is fair-minded, and he is effective. I look forward to working with him more often.

Let me also take a minute to thank his capable staff. Rich Verma, Gregg Jaczko, and Gary Myrick, who worked on a truly bipartisan basis with my staff. Their expertise on these issues, and their patience with Harry and me, are truly commendable. They deserve a great deal of credit for managing the Working Group and cobbling together for us the many suggestions made by our Members.

I would also like to thank my staff: Kyle Simmons and Robert Karem. Both of these outstanding gentlemen were with me from the beginning of this process and we would not be at this point without them. I would also like to thank Mike Solo. He jumped right in to masterfully produce this product and also helped steer it to passage on the floor. Finally, my thanks to John Abegg and Brian Lewis for their counsel and able assistance.

I want to thank the members of the Congressional Oversight Working Group themselves for their many good ideas, and for their patience and willingness to work on a bipartisan basis to do something that is very difficult, but also very worthwhile.

Not every Senator will be happy with the result of the Senate working its will on this resolution.

Some Members will complain this reform goes *too far*. Others will complain it *does not go far enough*.

I believe we have struck an appropriate balance of reform that improves our ability to conduct oversight of intelligence and homeland security during a very serious time for our country.

On intelligence oversight, I am pleased the Senate not only accepted our suggested reforms of the Select Committee on Intelligence, but also improved upon them by agreeing to modify the sequential referral of defense-related intelligence legislation to the Armed Services Committee so the process is more cooperative.

The working group wanted to improve the structure of the Committee to allow Members more time to become experts and give them many tools to do their jobs. And we have done that.

Let me briefly summarize just a couple of our reforms:

Improved and enhanced the Intelligence Committee;

Included 9 recommendations of the 9/11 Commission;

Members now have a stronger Committee;

Without term limits, Members can better develop the expertise needed to conduct effective oversight;

Clarified jurisdictional lines and improves the coordination of military intelligence matters between the Armed Services and Intelligence Committees.

Appropriations jurisdiction over oversight is currently dispersed throughout multiple subcommittees. We have created an Intelligence Subcommittee of Appropriations to consolidate the roughly 80 percent of the intelligence budget that will come under the jurisdiction of the national intelligence director.

This subcommittee will help the Appropriations Committee to live up to its responsibility to exercise oversight over the national intelligence budget.

This legislation consolidates widely dispersed appropriations for non-military intelligence under a single Subcommittee.

Allows the National Intelligence Director to work with only one Subcommittee to approve his budget.

Improves intelligence oversight by creating two sets of eyes on the budget and activities of the assets under the National Intelligence Director.

Jurisdiction over the Department of Homeland Security was too dispersed. Roughly 25 Congressional Committees or Subcommittees claimed jurisdiction over Homeland Security yesterday. We have cut that number down significantly.

The Senate worked its will on this Resolution, and in the end it significantly consolidated jurisdiction over Homeland Security.

Some will think the Senate went too far. Others will think the Senate hasn't gone far enough.

We introduced a Resolution that dramatically consolidated jurisdiction in the new Committee. In an open process, the Senate worked its will and decided that the overlapping functions of certain agencies required exceptions.

While there have been some changes to our proposal, we have not let the perfect be the enemy of the good. We have taken great strides towards a level of consolidation many of us would

have thought impossible only weeks ago.

This reform puts the Homeland Security Committee in charge of those who prepare to defend against terrorist attacks and those who respond to terrorist attacks. This is the most important work the Department does.

Protecting the Homeland is the core function of the Department, and the Homeland Security Committee will acquire jurisdiction over the core entities of the Department that do just that.

Among other programs, the Homeland Security Committee will acquire jurisdiction over the following Directorates:

Office of the Secretary—Responsible for integration of terrorist threat warning, preparedness, and response. This alone is a huge responsibility.

Undersecretary for Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection.

Undersecretary for Science and Technology—Chemical, Biological, and Nuclear defense research; and Homeland Security technology development.

Undersecretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response—FEMA; National Domestic Preparedness Office; Integrated Hazard Information System; and Domestic Emergency Support Teams.

Undersecretary for Management.

We have consolidated all of this on top of the existing jurisdiction of the Government Reform Committee, including the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

Mr. President, I believe the Senate has accomplished a great deal today. We have strengthened our Intelligence oversight, created a Homeland Security Committee under the new Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and stood up a new Intelligence Appropriations Subcommittee.

I hope our Colleagues will pay attention to the reform we have enacted as they consider their Committee assignments for the 109th Congress. The American people will be better served by these reforms. And the Senate as a whole will benefit from their improved expertise and authorities over these critical policy matters.

We have no more important charge than keeping the American people safe, and today we have improved our ability to do just that.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today the Senate adopted S. Res. 445, the Senate Intelligence and Homeland Security Oversight Reform resolution. This resolution will combine the oversight of most Department of Homeland Security functions and will provide jurisdiction over those functions to the Committee on Governmental Affairs, which will be renamed the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

I will vote in favor of S. Res. 445. This resolution will help advance the U.S. war on terror by consolidating and streamlining Senate oversight over the Department of Homeland Security. I'm confident that the Committee on

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs will serve an important role in promoting the safety and security of the people of the United States.

As originally introduced, the resolution provided that the Committee on Homeland Security and governmental Affairs would not have jurisdiction over customs revenue functions. Instead, the drafters recognized that, going forward, it's important to keep the jurisdiction over customs revenue functions within the Finance Committee, the committee that has exercised jurisdiction over these issues for the past 188 years. Moreover, with the United States collecting over \$23 billion annually in duties and trade related fees, the drafters realized that it's important that the U.S. customs agencies be able to perform their revenue functions efficiently. Retention of Finance Committee jurisdiction over these functions will greatly facilitate this objective.

Senator BAUCUS and I introduced an amendment during debate on S. Res. 445 that clarified the language concerning customs revenue functions contained in the managers' resolution. Specifically, our amendment stated that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs will not have jurisdiction over the following functions performed by any employee of the Department of Homeland Security: any customs revenue function including any function provided for in section 415 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002; any commercial function or commercial operation of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection or the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, including matters related to trade facilitation and trade regulation; or any other function related to those that I just mentioned that was exercised by the U.S. Customs Service on the day before the effective date of the Homeland Security Act of 2002. In a colloquy between Senator BAUCUS and me on October 7, we more fully spelled out what is covered by our amendment and the reasons why our amendment was necessary.

The Grassley-Baucus amendment was needed to elucidate non-security functions of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement that necessarily should remain within the jurisdiction of the Finance Committee. Our amendment passed by voice vote on October 7.

A transfer of customs revenue and commercial functions to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs would detract from that committee's main focus. Moreover, the removal of customs revenue and commercial functions from the jurisdiction of the Finance Committee

would be disruptive to our efforts to advance a comprehensive international trade agenda for the United States. In adopting our amendment, the Senate wisely avoided both of these outcomes. agenda for the United States. In adopting our amendment, the Senate wisely avoided both of these outcomes.

With passage of our amendment, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs will be better able to focus on its core objective, the protection of the United States from terrorist attacks. The staff of the new committee should be expected to be experts in the field of national security. They will work day-in and day-out to keep terrorists away from our shores and to protect Americans from attack. With their focus on national security concerns, it would be unrealistic to expect them to learn the technical details of our country's customs laws relating to revenue and commercial functions. The addition of customs revenue and commercial functions to their committee's agenda would only distract them from their central focus, national security. If that were to occur, Senate oversight of both the national security and international trade agendas of the United States would suffer.

Our amendment also recognizes that removal of customs revenue and commercial functions from the jurisdiction of the Finance Committee would be disruptive to U.S. businesses, and thus harmful to U.S. economic interests. The Finance Committee has a long history—of some 188 years—of exercising jurisdiction over tariffs and trade. This long history, and the technical expertise it has helped engender within the committee, provides the Finance Committee with an exceptional ability to provide sound oversight in the Congress over our government's customs revenue and commercial functions. Not surprisingly, the U.S. business community has developed strong confidence in the workings of this committee. Moreover, these same businessmen and women have doubts as to whether the committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs—with its focus on national security—would pay sufficient attention to trade compliance and revenue functions.

The U.S. business community acted, and quickly, this week upon hearing rumors of possible legislation to strip jurisdiction over customs revenue and commercial functions from the Finance Committee. Let me read to you excerpts from letters sent to me this week on this issue.

The National Retail Federation wrote that "NRF's members are deeply concerned that moving jurisdiction for duty collection process issues from the Finance Committee would serve to reduce U.S. interest in preserving trade revenues, and require members of those committees to spend a great deal of time on revenue issues that are not central to the Government Affairs Committee's main jurisdictional inter-

ests. Of equal importance, the Senators who have served on Finance have developed expertise in these complex revenue issues that many members of the Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee do not possess and would have to develop."

In another letter, the National Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association of America stated that "protecting our borders is vital. As we take measures to enhance security at our borders, however, we must also carefully weigh the consequences to the flow of international trade. . . . The Senate Finance Committee possesses the knowledge and expertise necessary to provide effective oversight over Customs' business facilitation issues. For over 200 years, the Finance Committee has been involved in the details of customs processing and their role is significant in assuring that the Senate gives due consideration to the practical consequences of security measures."

The Business Coalition for Customs Modernization, which is composed of 24 major companies operating in the United States, voiced similar concerns. It wrote that "granting jurisdiction over the business facilitation functions of the Customs Service to the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs—a committee concerned primarily with security—will lead inevitably to commercial considerations being discounted heavily in the name of security, without thought about the effects on America's consumers. That will hurt the U.S. economy and undermine our strength and standard of living in the long run."

As pointed out in these letters, as we move forward in enhancing our border security efforts, it is important to keep in mind that a large part of homeland security is economic security. And international trade is a critical component of our economic security. Exports alone accounted for 25 percent of U.S. economic growth from 1990-2000. Exports alone support an estimated 12 million jobs. Trade also promotes more competitive businesses—as well as more choices of goods and inputs at lower prices for U.S. consumers. If we impede trade, we impede our own economic growth and our own future well-being.

A concrete example can be found by looking at one sector of the economy immediately following the events of September 11. Just 36 hours after the attacks, Daimler-Chrysler announced that it would close one of its assembly plants because it could not get the parts it needed to continue operations from Canada. Similar circumstances caused Ford to lay idle five of its assembly plants—each producing an average of one million dollars worth of cars per hour—for a week.

Events like this make it clear that the United States must be at the forefront in developing the border technologies and enforcement, methodologies which will enable our economy to prosper and grow in the post Sep-

tember 11 world. We cannot afford to do any less. The Finance Committee has the experience and expertise to appropriately meet this challenge. And I'm pleased that the resolution we passed today acknowledges the unique role of the Committee.

Finally, it only makes practical sense for the Finance Committee to retain jurisdiction over customs revenue and commercial functions. Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate provides that the Finance Committee is the committee to which shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and all other matters relating to reciprocal trade agreements and tariffs. It also provides that the Finance Committee has jurisdiction over customs. The reason that the Finance Committee has jurisdiction over reciprocal trade agreements, tariffs, and customs is precisely because all of these trade issues are all interrelated. Trade agreements set tariff levels, and customs personnel administer the U.S. laws relating to these tariffs. Therefore, as long as the Finance Committee has jurisdiction over reciprocal trade agreements and tariffs, this committee almost by necessity must have jurisdiction over customs revenue and commercial functions.

For these reasons, I'm very pleased that the Senate voted this week for the Finance Committee to retain jurisdiction over customs revenue and commercial functions. In doing so, the Senate permitted the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs to focus on its core objective of national security, and prevented a disruption to U.S. businesses that could result if such jurisdiction were removed from the Finance Committee. In addition, given the Finance Committee's jurisdiction over reciprocal trade agreements and tariffs, it only makes sense for this committee also to maintain its jurisdiction over customs revenue and commercial functions of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, even though these agencies are now housed in the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask the Chair, what is remaining on this legislation?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The pending question is a cloture motion on the resolution, as amended.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that that be vitiated.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is now my understanding the resolution is left?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution, S. Res. 445, as amended.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU), are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), would vote "yea".

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER), and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) would vote "yea".

The result was announced—yeas 79, nays 6, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 208 Leg.]

YEAS—79

Akaka	Dorgan	Lugar
Alexander	Dubin	McConnell
Allard	Ensign	Mikulski
Allen	Feingold	Murkowski
Baucus	Feinstein	Murray
Bennett	Fitzgerald	Nelson (FL)
Biden	Frist	Nelson (NE)
Bingaman	Graham (FL)	Nickles
Bond	Grassley	Pryor
Brownback	Gregg	Reed
Bunning	Hagel	Reid
Burns	Harkin	Roberts
Byrd	Hatch	Rockefeller
Cantwell	Hutchison	Santorum
Carper	Inhofe	Schumer
Chafee	Inouye	Sessions
Clinton	Jeffords	Shelby
Cochran	Johnson	Smith
Conrad	Kennedy	Snowe
Corzine	Kohl	Stabenow
Crapo	Kyl	Stevens
Daschle	Landrieu	Talent
Dayton	Lautenberg	Leahy
DeWine	Leahy	Thomas
Dodd	Levin	Warner
Dole	Lincoln	Wyden
Domenici	Lott	

NAYS—6

Coleman	Enzi	McCain
Collins	Lieberman	Voinovich

NOT VOTING—15

Bayh	Cornyn	Kerry
Boxer	Craig	Miller
Breaux	Edwards	Sarbanes
Campbell	Graham (SC)	Specter
Chambliss	Hollings	Sununu

The resolution (S. Res. 445), as amended, was agreed to, as follows:

(The resolution will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, because of previous long-standing commitments in the State of California and an unexpected family illness, I was not able to be present to vote on the Senate Intelligence Reform Resolution.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Earlier this week, the Senate overwhelmingly passed legislation to implement recommendations of the 9/11 Commission in terms of reforming the intelligence structure of the executive branch and strengthening our efforts at homeland security. That was an important bill, and I hope we can quickly resolve differences with the House so that it can be sent to the President for his signature.

Equally important, however, is to implement intelligence reforms here in the Senate, as was also recommended by the 9/11 Commission.

This resolution strengthens the Senate Intelligence Committee, and it creates a new Intelligence Appropriations Subcommittee. In addition, the Government Affairs Committee will become the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and the Committee will have greater jurisdiction over the Department of Homeland Security.

All three of these steps will streamline operations in the Senate and make it easier for the Senate to conduct meaningful oversight of intelligence and homeland security. •

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGEL). The distinguished minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask the Senator from West Virginia have 5 minutes prior to the next vote.

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

The Senator from West Virginia.

THE SABBATH

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I am not going to show any disrespect for the distinguished leader, majority leader, who is talking right now, so I will wait until he is finished.

I was saying, I think the distinguished majority leader for listening to what I am saying. I will be brief. I am not sure I will use 5 minutes.

Mr. President, in my office hangs the Ten Commandments. We have heard a lot about the Ten Commandments in recent years. I believe in the Ten Commandments. I believe we ought to respect those commandments, one of which says:

Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.

I am not saying I am a good man. My Bible says that no man is good. No man is good. But I think we ought to show some respect to those Christians in the body, and in our country, and many people who are not Christians, our Jewish friends, who believe in the Ten Commandments. As a matter of fact, the Ten Commandments originate, as we know, at the time when Moses went up on Mount Sinai and was given the tablets by God himself, by the Almighty himself. So we believe that.

I am a Christian. I may not be the best one around. I don't claim to be. But I do claim to be a Christian. I be-

lieve that way, and I believe that we ought to observe the Ten Commandments. I think that this body, as the greatest legislative body in the world, together with the other body, in particular should set an example of respecting the various religions that make up our Nation. That is why I take the floor today.

I think we are setting a bad example. I don't think we are showing proper respect to Christians in our country, and all over the world, for that matter, by publicly failing to observe that Commandment, that we keep the Sabbath Day holy and remember it.

I want to say I am protesting the fact that we are going to have a vote on tomorrow. I told my leadership I had hoped we wouldn't have votes on tomorrow. I also offered to say, Well, it is fine to have votes after sundown. The old Sabbath ran until sundown. Let's have any votes after sundown. If we have to have votes, let's have them after sundown. I asked my leaders to consider that. They did, and for various reasons they decided not to—that we had to have the vote.

I have to say as majority leader, when I was majority leader, I could have easily put this vote over to Monday simply by adjourning and not coming in tomorrow—which I would do, in this case. If there were an emergency, if something suddenly came up and it was a dire emergency, of course. You know the Bible says the ox may be in the ditch and we have to get it out of the ditch. But the ox is not in the ditch here. We have wasted a lot of time this year, and recently. We waste a lot of time. We are not in session when we could be in session. Then all of a sudden, here we are going to have this vote on Sunday. There are practicing Christians who like to go to church and want to observe this commandment.

So I say of course I will be in to vote. I have cast more rollcall votes than any other Senator in the history of the country. I guess I will not miss this one. But I am protesting. It could have been otherwise. It didn't have to be. It didn't have to happen tomorrow. We could have had it earlier. We jam these. We have a way around here in the Senate lately of jamming. The leadership on the other side—I have to say the Republicans are in control of the body—they have a way of jamming us. Maybe we are all at fault a little bit. But there is no reason why we should have to come in on a Sunday, on the Sabbath, and have rollcall votes. I protest it today. I hope it won't be done again after this year. I hope I will still be living and still be serving in the body.

I hope leadership will take this into consideration in the future and get our work done before the Sabbath comes and avoid having meetings on the Sabbath Day. It just isn't necessary. It is not a dire emergency. If it were, as I said, and the ox were in the ditch, I would say let us get it out and let us go in and vote. If it is important to the safety of the Nation, to the safety of