

concerns. But the understanding is we will come back and address the issues in his amendment at some point in some way on the floor if that glidepath to satisfactory conclusion is not reached.

AMENDMENT NO. 3176 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2944

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, on behalf of myself, Senator MCCAIN, and Senator LIEBERMAN, I send a second-degree amendment to the pending amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Maine [Ms. COLLINS], for herself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN, proposes an amendment numbered 3176 to amendment No. 2944.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be 2 hours equally divided between Senator COLLINS and Senator VOINOVICH or his designee. I further ask unanimous consent that there be 20 minutes equally for debate between Senator WYDEN and Senator SESSIONS or his designee. I further ask unanimous consent that following the use or yielding back of time the Senate proceed to a vote on the Collins amendment, to be followed immediately by a vote on the Wyden amendment, with no further intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, what we have done is cleared a way, with one amendment and calling up other amendments, with the glidepath that we will address two amendments shortly after our break for our policy lunches today. We, I think, can be on a glidepath thus of completing the lobbying reform bill before addressing the border security and immigration bills. Again, we have a lot of work to do, but that would be the intent.

There is one remaining piece of business we need to address, in terms of the cloture vote that is scheduled for this afternoon, and I will, before lunch, have a further unanimous consent about that as well.

At this juncture, 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. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture

vote with respect to S. 2454 be vitiated. I further ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined after further concurrence by the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to S. 2454 and, further, that the bill be open for debate only during the first day of consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, very briefly to review, after our break today for lunch, our policy lunches, we will be on lobbying reform. We have two amendments which will be debated. We set up to 2 hours. I would think that time could be condensed. Further discussions will take place over our lunches on lobbying reform. At a point in time, we would expect after we finish with lobbying reform, we will go to the border security bill, and we will have more to say about how that will all be handled at a later date.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will stand in recess—

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I wonder if the majority leader would be willing to respond to a—

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when we return at 2:15 I be recognized for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, reserving the right to object to the unanimous consent request, I believe that Senator COLLINS had offered an amendment and that she would be scheduled to be recognized first.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if I might respond to my colleague, I am asking that I be recognized in morning business for 10 minutes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, what is the status of the proceedings? What is happening here?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There has been a unanimous consent request by the Senator from Illinois to speak at 2:15.

Mr. REID. Who has the floor now?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, will the Senator yield to me?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, further reserving the right to object, the legislative business that is pending, what is the status of that, before the unanimous consent was made?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate is scheduled to have 2 hours equally divided between the Senator from Maine, Senator COLLINS, and—

Mr. LOTT. So Senator COLLINS would be recognized upon the return from the luncheon period to begin debate on the pending amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Or Senator VOINOVICH or his designee.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we have had so much difficulty in getting an

agreement to move forward on this legislation; we were not able to do it yesterday or this morning. I really hope that when we return from lunch, we go straight to the pending business and amendment. I would like to accommodate all of our colleagues, but we have struggled so hard to get to this point, I would have to object.

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

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be recognized at 2:15, when we return, for 10 minutes.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, but I will not object, I was not aware of the purpose of the request, and I understand the sensitivity and the timing of this. We will be prepared to proceed with Senator COLLINS at 2:25.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:50 p.m., recessed until 2:16 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. VOINOVICH).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be recognized for 10 minutes in morning business. At this point, I yield 5 minutes to my colleague, Senator BARACK OBAMA, from Illinois.

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

The Senator from Illinois.

RETIREMENT OF LANE EVANS

Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleague from Illinois, in a bittersweet moment. One of our dearest friends from Illinois, Congressman LANE EVANS, announced today that he will not be seeking reelection next term.

Since the day he arrived in Congress more than two decades ago, LANE EVANS has been a tireless advocate for the heroes with whom he served and the countless other veterans who bravely defended this country. When Vietnam vets were falling ill from Agent Orange exposure, he led the effort to pass Agent Orange compensation. Just recently, he led the fight to make sure the children of veterans exposed to Agent Orange who were born with spina bifida would be taken care of as well.

He was one of the first in Congress to speak out about some of the health problems facing Persian Gulf war veterans and has fought for benefits for them ever since.

He fought to expand benefits to women veterans. He worked to help those veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome, and also worked to make sure there is a roof over the heads of the thousands of homeless veterans in our country today.

LANE EVANS has fought these battles for more than 20 years, and even in the face of his own debilitating disease, Parkinson's, he has had the courage to keep fighting. Today, veterans across America have this man to thank for reminding America of its duty to take care of those who have risked their lives to defend ours. Today, we all thank LANE EVANS for his courage in reminding us of this. His voice is going to be missed in this town, but I am sure it will continue to be heard wherever there are veterans who need help or vulnerable people across America who are looking for a hand up, not a hand-out.

Just a personal note: I don't know many people who are more courageous than LANE EVANS, who has worked tirelessly, despite extraordinarily challenging physical ailments. He is one of the most gracious, best humored, and hardest working people that I have ever seen.

I remember when I first started my own campaign for the Senate, he took me around on a tour of his district. By the end of the day I was worn out because he was indefatigable in terms of his efforts. I consider him not only a dear friend, but I think it is fair to say that had he not supported me early in my election campaign I would not be here today. So I think this is an enormous loss for the Congress, but I know all of us will continue to draw inspiration from LANE EVANS, and I am glad that he will continue to be my friend for many years to come.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, only a little over an hour ago, LANE EVANS announced he would not seek reelection in November to the U.S. House of Representatives. I understand his decision. It is a loss for his district, for our State, and for America. From the Quad Cities to Quincy, Springfield, Decatur, Carlinville, and towns in between, LANE EVANS is deeply respected and his service will be deeply missed.

For over 20 years, LANE EVANS has stood as a beacon of hope and has been a strong voice in his Illinois congressional district.

There are two kinds of courage in this world. There is physical courage, which is rare. Then there is even a rarer commodity, moral courage. Once in a great while you find someone who has both. LANE EVANS is that person.

He grew up in Rock Island, IL, the son of a union firefighter. He joined the

Marine Corps right out of high school, served during the Vietnam era from 1969 to 1971. After the Marines, LANE went to college, then to Georgetown Law School. He was elected to Congress in a famous upset election in 1982.

For nearly a quarter of a century, the U.S. House of Representatives had LANE EVANS, former marine, as a Member of its body. He closed his announcement today the way he closed many letters, with the vow: *Semper Fi*. *Semper Fi*, those Latin words that mean "always faithful." LANE EVANS was always faithful—first to his fellow veterans. I can't think of another colleague in the House or Senate who worked harder for veterans, whether it was the Vietnam era Veterans Congressional Caucus which he chaired, his work with Senator Tom Daschle on Agent Orange, his dogged efforts to find out what was behind Gulf War Syndrome, helping homeless veterans, helping veterans find jobs, expanding VA home loans, trying to find health benefits for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder, and, of course, working with the vets at the Rock Island Arsenal.

Like others who served his country in uniform, LANE EVANS was a man of peace. He worked to ban landmines which maim and kill thousands. He hung a portrait of John Lennon in his office, he said, because he thought John Lennon was often a better reminder than many people he met in Congress of the hopes of working-class young people for peace and freedom.

What a champion for America's workers. After the Berlin Wall fell and the Cold War ended, LANE EVANS said we could not abandon workers at places such as the Rock Island Arsenal, men and women who helped to win the Cold War. He fought for fair trade. He saw what happened in Galesburg when Maytag closed, costing 1,600 jobs. He fought to make sure America's workers were never left behind. And what a fighter for family farmers and for the environment, for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. He was cochairman of the Alcohol Fuels Caucus. He has been a leader in proethanol battles.

But, you know, he was a battler starting early in his career. As a lawyer he didn't take the easy way out to make a lot of money. He was a legal aid lawyer. He fought for people who had no voice in the courtroom, and he came to Congress to make sure everyone had a voice in his congressional district. I have no doubt Lane would have been reelected again if he had chosen to run in November. Now he is fighting a different kind of battle.

Nearly 8 years ago, LANE came out publicly and announced that he had Parkinson's disease. It was a cruel blow. It turns out that I was with him when he discovered it. We were in a Labor Day parade in Galesburg. He was waving and he said he couldn't feel some of the fingers in his hand. He sensed something was wrong. It took a while for the diagnosis to come out.

For a man that young to be diagnosed with Parkinson's is unusual. Publicly he announced his disease and started fighting—for stem cell research and for medical help for those who suffer from diseases just like his.

During his last race, in 2004, he told audiences: I may be slow, but I still know which way to go. Living with Parkinson's made him a better Congressman because, "I can understand what families are going through." Time and again, LANE EVANS showed extraordinary courage, not just as a politician but as a human being.

His determination to serve his district pushed him to work harder, even as the burden of Parkinson's became heavier. His dignity and perseverance in the face of this relentless and cruel disease is an inspiration to every one of us who counts LANE EVANS as a friend. In his statement today, LANE EVANS said:

I appreciate the support of people I never met before who would ask how I was doing and tell me to keep up the good fight.

The truth is, LANE EVANS, his whole adult life, has been involved in a series of good fights. Politicians come and go in the Halls of Congress, but this soft-spoken son of Illinois will leave his mark as a man truly committed to securing the American dream for everyone in our Nation.

Thank heavens for LANE EVANS.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VOINOVICH). The Senator from Maine.

LEGISLATIVE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2006—Continued

AMENDMENT NO. 3176

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, would the Presiding Officer review the time agreement that we are about to embark on for consideration of the Collins-Lieberman-McCain amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is 2 hours evenly divided between the Senator from Maine and the Presiding Officer.

Ms. COLLINS. Thank you, Mr. President. I was aware that was the case, but I thought it would be helpful to our colleagues to better understand the state of play.

Mr. President, I made some preliminary comments this morning. I do want to explain further the concept of the Office of Public Integrity, but I know the Senator from Illinois had asked that I yield to him some time. In the interests of accommodating his schedule, I yield 10 minutes to the Senator from Illinois to speak in support of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, I thank Senator COLLINS, not only for her accommodation but also for her leadership on this issue. I also thank Senator LIEBERMAN for his outstanding work on this issue.

I rise today to speak about the importance of improving the ethics enforcement process that we currently