

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the bill (H.R. 6) to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) are necessarily absent.

Mr. LOTT. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 62, nays 32, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 225 Leg.]

YEAS—62

Akaka	Ensign	Nelson (FL)
Alexander	Feingold	Nelson (NE)
Baucus	Feinstein	Obama
Biden	Graham	Reed
Bingaman	Grassley	Reid
Brown	Gregg	Rockefeller
Byrd	Harkin	Salazar
Cantwell	Inouye	Sanders
Cardin	Kennedy	Schumer
Carper	Kerry	Smith
Casey	Klobuchar	Snowe
Clinton	Kohl	Specter
Coleman	Lautenberg	Stevens
Collins	Leahy	Sununu
Conrad	Lieberman	Tester
Corker	Lincoln	Thune
Craig	Lugar	Warner
Crapo	Menendez	Webb
Dodd	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Dorgan	Murkowski	Wyden
Durbin	Murray	

NAYS—32

Allard	Domenici	Martinez
Bayh	Enzi	McCaskill
Bennett	Hagel	McConnell
Bond	Hatch	Pryor
Bunning	Hutchison	Roberts
Burr	Inhofe	Sessions
Chambliss	Isakson	Shelby
Cochran	Kyl	Stabenow
Cornyn	Landrieu	Vitter
DeMint	Levin	Voivovich
Dole	Lott	

NOT VOTING—5

Boxer	Coburn	McCain
Browback	Johnson	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 62, the nays are 32. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Under the previous order, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. DURBIN. 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) are necessarily absent.

Mr. LOTT. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 65, nays 27, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 226 Leg.]

YEAS—65

Akaka	Durbin	Nelson (NE)
Alexander	Ensign	Obama
Baucus	Feingold	Pryor
Bayh	Feinstein	Reed
Biden	Grassley	Reid
Bingaman	Gregg	Rockefeller
Brown	Harkin	Salazar
Byrd	Inouye	Sanders
Cantwell	Kennedy	Schumer
Cardin	Kerry	Sessions
Carper	Klobuchar	Smith
Casey	Kohl	Snowe
Clinton	Lautenberg	Specter
Coleman	Leahy	Stevens
Collins	Lieberman	Sununu
Conrad	Lincoln	Tester
Corker	Lugar	Thune
Craig	Menendez	Warner
Crapo	Mikulski	Webb
Dodd	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Domenici	Murray	Wyden
Dorgan	Nelson (FL)	

NAYS—27

Allard	Enzi	Levin
Bennett	Graham	Lott
Bunning	Hagel	Martinez
Burr	Hatch	McCaskill
Crapo	Hutchison	McConnell
Cochran	Inhofe	Roberts
Cornyn	Isakson	Stabenow
DeMint	Kyl	Vitter
Dole	Landrieu	Voivovich

NOT VOTING—7

Bond	Coburn	Shelby
Boxer	Johnson	
Browback	McCain	

The bill (H.R. 6), as amended, was passed, as follows:

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

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, due to a family obligation, Senator BOXER was unable to attend today's session. Had she been present for the vote to invoke cloture on the Baucus energy tax package, she would have cast a vote of "aye". She would have also cast a vote of "aye" on the motion to invoke cloture on the Reid substitute, cloture on the underlying bill, and on final passage of H.R. 6.

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now

be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

HEAD START REAUTHORIZATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am pleased to speak today about the passage of H.R. 1429, the Head Start for School Readiness Act. This bipartisan legislation reauthorizes the Head Start program, something the Congress has not done since 2003.

In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson launched a summer program for low-income children and their families, and called it Project Head Start. The program's mission was simple: prepare low-income, preschool-aged children for success in school. Today, Head Start serves children and their families in urban and rural areas across the United States. And, since its inception, more than 20 million children and families have benefited from the Head Start program.

Nevada's eight centers range from a Head Start and Early Head Start Center in rural Ely, to larger, more urban centers in Reno, to a Tribal Head Start center in Gardnerville. Each of these programs is unique and, with the input and involvement of parents and families, help meet the needs of the communities they serve.

Head Start currently provides comprehensive early education and health services to almost one million low-income preschool children to help them prepare for and succeed in school. Unfortunately, this is only a fraction of the number of children that could benefit from Head Start services. In my own state of Nevada, there are just under 10,000 3- and 4-year-olds that are eligible for Head Start programs. But, last year, only about 27 percent of those eligible were able to participate.

The bill that we have passed will allow many of these children in Nevada and across the Nation to get the early childhood services that they need, by expanding access and eligibility for low-income children and families.

The legislation also makes a number of other important changes to the Head Start program. It focuses on developing the skills that children will need to enter school ready to learn by aligning Head Start standards and services with state child care and preschool programs and local public schools, and requiring new research-based standards and assessments.

And, to ensure that Head Start programs are effective, the bill requires greater accountability through improved monitoring and recompetition for poor performing Head Start centers. Finally, this bill strengthens the Head Start workforce by setting new education and training goals for Head Start teachers and curriculum specialists.

With proven and lasting results, Head Start is a wise investment in our future. I applaud the good work of the HELP Committee, and thank Senators KENNEDY, ENZI, DODD, and ALEXANDER for their efforts on behalf of low-income children across the Nation.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I want to join Senator REID, and all of my colleagues, in congratulating Senator ROBERT BYRD on reaching yet another historic milestone in his lifetime of public service.

To have the privilege of casting even one vote in the U.S. Senate is an honor. To cast 18,000 votes in this Senate is a legend.

It is a feat that has never been achieved before, and very likely never will be again.

His 18,000 votes in this Senate are more than a singular statistic. They are yet another measure of ROBERT C. BYRD's lifetime of devotion to his state, our Nation, this institution, and to the U.S. Constitution.

Senator BYRD is, of course, a great student of history—and the author of the definitive work on the history of the U.S. Senate. In fact, one could say that ROBERT C. BYRD is Senate history.

Think about this: In addition to being the only Senator ever to cast 18,000 votes, Senator BYRD is also the first U.S. Senator ever to cast 15,000 votes.

Senator BYRD has served with—not under, with—11 Presidents.

He has served as majority leader and held more leadership positions than any Senator in history.

To help put the length of his service in perspective, consider a few facts: When Senator BYRD cast his first vote in the Senate—on January 8, 1959 his colleagues included Senators John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson. Vice President Richard Nixon was the presiding officer. Hawaii was not yet a state. And a state-of-the-art computer would have taken up half of the space of this Chamber and had roughly the same amount of computing power as a Palm Pilot.

Today, Senator BYRD is a hero among bloggers and so many others because of his unyielding dedication to our Constitution and his obvious love of our Nation and the principles for which it stands.

He is the unrivaled expert on Senate rules.

He has been a candidate for election 12 times—9 times as a candidate for the U.S. Senate and 3 times as a candidate for the U.S. House. He won every time.

And he has become perhaps the most popular political figure in West Virginia history. He was named West Virginian of the Century by the residents of his home State.

It is an honor to serve with this giant of Senate history, and to share with him this milestone. Again, I commend him and congratulate him.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President. I stand today to honor my dear friend and colleague, Senator ROBERT C. BYRD.

Few of us can truly hold claim to the title of living legend—but ROBERT C. BYRD can. This afternoon he cast his 18,000th vote. A remarkable record that reflects his years of dedicated, passionate and heartfelt service to the people of West Virginia and the Republic he so loves.

Eighteen thousand is an impressive number. But what is more impressive is the change that those votes had on America. He voted to strengthen Social Security for all Americans. He voted to turn the dream of college education into a reality for all students. He voted to ensure that those who put in an honest day's work receive an honest day's wage. He voted to protect the health and safety of coal miners. And, he voted to ensure that those who serve in uniform would get the benefits they deserve. Quite frankly, his voting record, and its impact on the fabric of our country, is immeasurable.

Along the way, his votes and his voice became the conscience of the Senate. Reminding us all that change is never easy, and that following the rules matters. That we can disagree with each other, even an administration, but we can ill afford to be disagreeable with each other.

It is impossible to picture the history of the last 50 years without thinking of ROBERT C. BYRD's impact and influence on all of our lives. I am incredibly honored to serve every day with my dear friend and colleague—he is an inspiration to us all.

S. CON. RES. 21 CHANGES

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, section 309 of S. Con. Res. 21, the 2008 Budget Resolution, permits the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits for legislation that reauthorizes the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, makes changes to the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act of 1976, or both, so long as that legislation does not worsen the deficit over the period of fiscal years 2007 through 2012 or fiscal years 2007 through 2017.

I find that Senate amendment No. 1704 offered by Senator BAUCUS to Senate amendment No. 1502 satisfies the conditions of the deficit-neutral reserve fund for county payments legislation. Therefore, pursuant to section 309, I am adjusting the aggregates in the 2008 budget resolution, as well as the allocation provided to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

I ask unanimous consent that the following revisions to S. Con. Res. 21 be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008—S. CON. RES. 21; REVISIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 309 DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR COUNTY PAYMENTS LEGISLATION

(In billions of dollars)

Section 101:	
(1)(A) Federal Revenues:	
FY 2007	1,901.520

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008—S. CON. RES. 21; REVISIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 309 DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR COUNTY PAYMENTS LEGISLATION—Continued

(In billions of dollars)

FY 2008	2,018.073
FY 2009	2,114.167
FY 2010	2,169.484
FY 2011	2,350.294
FY 2012	2,489.580
(1)(B) Change in Federal Revenues:	
FY 2007	— 3.186
FY 2008	— 32.723
FY 2009	7.241
FY 2010	5.763
FY 2011	— 44.256
FY 2012	— 107.516
(2) New Budget Authority:	
FY 2007	2,376.348
FY 2008	2,496.522
FY 2009	2,517.896
FY 2010	2,570.370
FY 2011	2,685.483
FY 2012	2,719.714
(3) Budget Outlays:	
FY 2007	2,299.749
FY 2008	2,468.780
FY 2009	2,566.479
FY 2010	2,600.013
FY 2011	2,692.447
FY 2012	2,703.920

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008—S. CON. RES. 21; REVISIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 309 DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR COUNTY PAYMENTS LEGISLATION

(In billions of dollars)

Current Allocation to Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee:	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	5,016
FY 2007 Outlays	5,484
FY 2008 Budget Authority	5,071
FY 2008 Outlays	4,757
FY 2008–2012 Budget Authority	25,838
FY 2008–2012 Outlays	24,730
Adjustments:	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	0
FY 2007 Outlays	0
FY 2008 Budget Authority	565
FY 2008 Outlays	565
FY 2008–2012 Budget Authority	3,745
FY 2008–2012 Outlays	3,745
Revised Allocation to Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee:	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	5,016
FY 2007 Outlays	5,484
FY 2008 Budget Authority	5,636
FY 2008 Outlays	5,322
FY 2008–2012 Budget Authority	29,583
FY 2008–2012 Outlays	28,475

TRAGEDY IN CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise briefly to speak for a few moments about the horrible tragedy we witnessed Tuesday morning in Charleston, SC: the death of nine firefighters: Captain William "Billy" Hutchinson, Captain Mike Benke, Captain Louis Mulkey, Engineer Mark Kelsey, Engineer Bradford "Billy" Baity, Assistant Engineer Michael French, Firefighter James "Earl" Drayton, Firefighter Brendon Thompson, and Firefighter Melvin Champaign.

Clearly, this loss is one of profound sadness for the Charleston community and, indeed, for the entire Nation. My thoughts and prayers go out to these firefighters' loved ones, families, friends, and colleagues.

These nine brave men died while fighting a horrific multialarm fire in which two people were ultimately