

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 2525 to amendment No. 2524.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following new section:

SEC. ____.

This title shall become effective 5 days after enactment.

AMENDMENT NO. 2526

Mr. REID. I have a motion to commit the bill with instructions. The clerk has that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to commit the bill (S. 2237) to the Committee on Finance, with instructions to report back forthwith, with amendment numbered 2526.

The amendment is as follows:

SEC. ____.

This Act shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays on that motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2527

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have an amendment to the instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 2527 to the instructions of the motion to commit S. 2237 to the Committee on Finance.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "3 days" and insert "2 days".

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2528 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2527

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 2528 to amendment No. 2527.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "2 days" and insert "1 day".

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Finally, Mr. President, I have a cloture motion on the bill which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on S. 2237, the Small Business Jobs and Tax Relief Act.

Harry Reid, Max Baucus, Mary L. Landrieu, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Barbara A. Mikulski, Carl Levin, Frank R. Lautenberg, Barbara Boxer, Mark Udall, Mark Begich, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard Blumenthal, Al Franken, Patrick J. Leahy, Tom Udall, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard J. Durbin

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum requirement under rule XXII be waived for the cloture motions just filed.

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

PROVIDING AN INCENTIVE FOR BUSINESSES TO BRING JOBS BACK TO AMERICA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 442, S. 3364.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to S. 3364, a bill to provide an incentive for businesses to bring jobs back to America.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, right now the Senate is considering the small business jobs bill, a very important proposal that was part of President Obama's package to increase employment in this country. It will create a million jobs. This legislation will give tax credits to businesses that grow and hire. Yet Republicans are looking for any excuse to vote down the proposal for two reasons: No. 1, it has the support of President Obama and the Democrats in Congress. Second, it would strengthen the economy, which would help President Obama.

We know Republicans will not do anything that helps President Obama, even if it is good for the economy, because their No. 1 goal is to defeat the President. My friend MITCH MCCONNELL has said that. So Republicans are hiding behind their usual procedural trick, filibustering with unrelated amendments. If there is any doubt about Republicans' motivation to kill this legislation, take a look with me at the amendment proposed today by Senator HATCH of Utah.

The first thing Senator HATCH's amendment would do is eliminate all the tax cuts, every tax cut we have in this proposal, every one of them, the

one that is now before the Senate, to create a million jobs. The Hatch amendment would literally eliminate every provision in the bill designed to create jobs.

Senator HATCH's amendment eliminates the 10-percent credit for employers to hire additional workers or increase their payrolls, a provision that would create—that part alone—a half million jobs. It strikes another deduction for businesses that invest in machinery and equipment which would create another half million jobs.

But the Republican amendment does not stop there. It goes on to increase taxes for 25 million American families. The Republican amendment, I repeat, increases taxes for 25 million American families. Senator HATCH's amendment would extend tax breaks for the top 2 percent of Americans, but it fails to extend a number of tax cuts that help middle-class families get by in a very tough economy. For example, Senator HATCH's amendment, a Republican amendment, would increase taxes by \$1,100 for 11 million families trying to pay for college—11 million families, in effect an increase of their taxes by \$1,100.

The Republican amendment would make it harder for 12 million large families to put food on the table. It would increase taxes by \$800 for families that have three children or more. Senator HATCH's amendment, the Republican amendment, fails to extend the full childcare tax credit for 6 million families, increasing their taxes by \$500 each.

So no one is fooled by the Republican amendment. We see it for what it is, more Republican obstruction that comes with the added bonus of sticking it to the middle class. If that were not enough political theater for 1 day, my Republican colleagues also claim they are anxious to vote on President Obama's plan to cut taxes for 98 percent of American families. Once again, no one should be fooled. Republicans know very well the Senate will vote on the President's proposal to give middle-class families the certainty they will not be hit with a tax increase. We will vote on it this work period. I have already said so. They say they want a vote sooner, so let's lock in an agreement sooner. The President's plan to give 98 percent of Americans certainty their taxes will not go up and Republican plans to raise taxes on 25 million American families—Democrats are ready to have those votes right away and we will do it with a simple majority. Then we can get back to the task at hand, cutting taxes for millions of small businesses that want to expand and put Americans back to work.

I have a consent agreement that I will go through with you.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2237

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that cloture be vitiated with respect to the substitute amendment on S. 2237, that the motion to commit be withdrawn and amendment Nos. 2525

and 2522 be withdrawn; that at 2 p.m. tomorrow, Thursday, July 12, the Senate vote in relation to the following amendments: amendment No. 2524, which is the Cantor language; substitute amendment No. 2521; that there be no other amendments or motions in order to the amendment to the bill prior to the votes other than motions to waive or motions to table; that upon disposition of the two amendments the Senate proceed to a vote on passage of S. 2237, as amended, if amended; further, that at a time to be determined by the majority leader after consultation with the Republican leader the Senate proceed to consideration of a bill to be introduced by Senator REID or designee, extending the 2001, 2003, and 2009 tax cuts for 98 percent of Americans and 96 percent of small businesses as outlined by President Obama; that the only amendment in order to the bill be an amendment offered by Senator MCCONNELL or designee, which is identical to the text of amendment No. 2491, as filed by Senator HATCH; that the amendment not be divisible; that there be 4 hours of debate on the amendment and the bill, equally divided between the two leaders or their designees prior to a vote in relation to the McConnell or designee amendment; that upon disposition of the amendment the Senate proceed to vote on the passage of the bill, as amended, if amended; that there be no motions or points of order to the amendment or the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I am glad my friend the majority leader has dropped his earlier opposition and now wants to make an effort to set up these votes on this important issue. On Monday, the President said that if the Senate passes his tax hike on small businesses he would sign it right away. So I am glad the Senate will have a chance to beat that bad idea that will raise taxes on nearly 1 million small businesses.

I will be happy to take a look at what my good friend the majority leader is offering, but I cannot at this time agree to lock in a vote at an indeterminate time on a proposal that has not yet been written. My good friend has had all day to come up with a written proposal, but I gather that so far they have been unable to do so or, if they have, we certainly have not seen it. Our proposal is drafted and filed and has been available for all to see.

My goal here—and it is one that I laid out several weeks ago—is that we act now to ensure that no one's income taxes go up January of next year. The mere threat of this tax increase is already a drag on our economy and I do not plan on standing by and letting that tax increase go into effect.

So we would be happy to set up a vote on this issue as soon as the majority leader produces a bill to show us what tax increases they have in mind. I want to make sure that everyone un-

derstands the differences in our positions. My goal—and I hope it is one that is shared by a majority of Senators—will be to enact a bill that protects small businesses by extending current income tax rates for 1 year to ensure that no one in America sees an income tax hike in January, and tasking the Finance Committee to produce a bill that would enact fundamental progrowth tax reform. Their goal will be the President's proposal to raise taxes on nearly 1 million business owners in the middle of the worst economic recovery in modern times.

The Senate ought to make absolutely clear which policy it supports. I look forward to having the chance to do that, but until that time, until we actually have a product we can take a look at, I cannot agree to this request, and therefore I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I will be very brief. My friend the Republican leader said this morning, and I quote directly: I am trying to get a vote, a vote on what he says he's for, on what the President says he's for, and what the Republicans say they are for. That is what this consent agreement does.

I am happy to let the Republican leader read the exact language. But let no one be fooled by this. The Hatch amendment does not do anything to protect small businesses. It does everything to protect Grover Norquist and his pledge; that is, make sure the American people are not satisfied. They believe—Democrats, Independents, and Republicans—that the top 2 percent of income earners in this country should contribute to solving the problems we have with the deficit and the debt in this country. That is what this is all about.

I look forward to working with my friend the Republican leader to see if we can come to a position here where we can vote on the bill that is before us. I am concerned because the Hatch language eliminates our bill, but I am happy to have staff, during the night, look and see if we can arrive at some way to move forward. But I think I made my point clear.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, one other brief observation. I have already objected, but one other brief observation. The consent that I objected to also chose for us the amendment we would get to have, and of course that is not an agreement the Republican side would feel we would want to be a part of.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am only trying to do what they said they wanted to do this morning. Senator HATCH came and gave a big speech: This is what they want to do. If they have something else they want to propose, I am happy to take a look at that, but I only am trying to do what they said they wanted to do this morning.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum unless my friend has more to say?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of Colorado). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO JOHN BOWLING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Mr. John Bowling of Laurel County, KY. "Big John Bowling," as he is affectionately called by friends and family, not only served Laurel County as jailer during the 1970s, but has also lived a life of kindness and integrity. His legacy to Kentucky exceeds his public service because not only was he a compassionate jailer, he also built a loving home for his family that welcomed all members of the Laurel County community.

John Bowling met his wife, Imogene, at a church dinner. After commenting on the quality of a macaroni salad at the dinner, his pastor introduced him to Imogene. At that time Imogene was married, but later, in 1964, her husband was tragically killed in a car crash and Imogene was left with three children aged 7, 4, and 2 years old. Imogene began working at Hoskins Grocery where, 5 years later, she and Mr. Bowling became reacquainted.

The couple began dating and they brought Imogene's children along on every date. After 6 years, the couple married. In their first year of marriage, Imogene had another daughter, Tammy Jo. The four children loved their parents and considered John to be an excellent father. Mr. Bowling truly cared for the children, which he showed by ensuring chaperones came along on all of their dates which were only at church.

The family continued to grow when Imogene was approached to take in Toni, a 21-year-old who did not have a palette in her mouth, had limited hearing in one ear, and no hearing canal in the other ear. Though Toni could only communicate through sign language, she quickly became part of the Bowling family.

Crediting faith in God for their success in blending a harmonious family, John Bowling created a home atmosphere that was accepting of anyone who crossed his home's threshold. From adopting his wife's children, to taking in Toni, to allowing relatives and family friends to stay with the family, Big John made his home one of love.