

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second. There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHN-SON), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) would have voted "yea."

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

The result was announced—yeas 84, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 192 Leg.]

YEAS—84

Akaka	Feinstein	Moran
Alexander	Franken	Murkowski
Ayotte	Gillibrand	Murray
Barrasso	Graham	Nelson (NE)
Baucus	Grassley	Nelson (FL)
Begich	Hagan	Portman
Bennet	Harkin	Pryor
Bingaman	Hatch	Reed
Blumenthal	Heller	Reid
Boozman	Hoeven	Risch
Boxer	Hutchison	Roberts
Brown (MA)	Isakson	Rockefeller
Brown (OH)	Kerry	Sanders
Burr	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cantwell	Kohl	Shaheen
Cardin	Kyl	Shelby
Carper	Lautenberg	Snowe
Casey	Leahy	Stabenow
Chambliss	Levin	Tester
Coats	Lieberman	Thune
Cochran	Lugar	Toomey
Collins	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Conrad	McCain	Udall (NM)
Coons	McCaskill	Vitter
Corker	McConnell	Warner
Crapo	Menendez	Whitehouse
Durbin	Merkley	Wicker
Enzi	Mikulski	Wyden

NAYS—8

Blunt	Inhofe	Paul
Coburn	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
DeMint	Lee	

NOT VOTING—8

Cornyn	Johnson (SD)	Rubio
Inouye	Kirk	Webb
Johann	Landrieu	

The motion was agreed to.

VETERANS JOBS CORPS ACT OF 2012

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3457) to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a veterans jobs corps, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

AMENDMENT NO. 2789

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.)

Mr. REID. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator MURRAY, I call up the substitute amendment, No. 2789.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID], for Mrs. MURRAY, proposes an amendment numbered 2789.

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of Tuesday, September 11, 2012, under "Text of Amendments.")

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 yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2808 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2789

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a first-degree perfecting amendment which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 2808 to amendment No. 2789.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following new section: Sec. ____.

This Act shall become effective 7 days after enactment.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2809 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2808

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 2809 to amendment No. 2808.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "7 days" and insert "6 days".

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion on the substitute amendment 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 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 the substitute amendment No. 2789 to S. 3457, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a veterans jobs corps, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Bill Nelson, Carl Levin, Tom Harkin, Jeff Bingaman, Christopher A. Coons, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, Daniel K. Inouye, Benjamin L. Cardin, Al Franken, Barbara Boxer, Ron Wyden, Robert Menendez, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Barbara Mikulski.

AMENDMENT NO. 2810

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk to the language proposed to be stricken.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 2810 to the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 2789.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following new section: Sec. ____.

This Act shall become effective 5 days after enactment.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2811 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2810

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 2811 to amendment No. 2810.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "5 days" and insert "4 days".

MOTION TO COMMIT WITH AMENDMENT NO. 2812

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a motion to commit the bill with instructions which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to commit the bill, S. 3457, to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 2812.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following new section: Sec. ____.

This Act shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2813

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 2813 to the instructions (Amendment No. 2812) to commit S. 3457.

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 amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2814 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2813

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 2814 to amendment No. 2813.

The amendment is as follows:

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

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion to 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 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. 3457, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a veterans jobs corps, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Bill Nelson, Carl Levin, Tom Harkin, Jeff Bingaman, Christopher A. Coons, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, Daniel K. Inouye, Benjamin L. Cardin, Al Franken, Barbara Boxer, Ron Wyden, Robert Menendez, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Barbara Mikulski.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived on the cloture motion just filed.

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

FAMILY AND BUSINESS TAX CUT CERTAINTY ACT OF 2012—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 499, S. 3521.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion to proceed.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 499, S. 3521, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, now that the Senate has finally adopted the motion to proceed to the veterans jobs bill, we have brought to a close the 380th filibuster during my time as majority leader—less than 6 years. And just now, to start to bring debate to close on the veterans jobs bill itself, I have had to file the 381st cloture motion during my 5½ years as leader. That is 381 cloture motions filed in just 6 years. Actually, it is less than that.

For comparison, in the 6 years that Lyndon Johnson was majority leader, he had to file one cloture motion. This has become outrageous. The peoples' time is being wasted. We just finished 30 hours of nothing. We are now starting our next 30 hours of nothing, just standing around looking at each other.

Filibusters have increased in recent years, but this is really unbelievable what has happened. The level of Republican obstruction has increased dramatically. It has increased dramatically just in the last few years.

We do not have to fight over everything. A veterans jobs bill, does that deserve a fight? When we were in recess subject to the call of the Chair, an Afghan veteran was brought out here. He is missing one leg. He is 25 years old. He is an Army veteran. He is trying to hang on to his other leg. The pages who are in here, I called them up and introduced them to this young man. I wanted them to see what all of this talk is about, of people who sacrifice for our country. Hopefully this man will be well enough after some more rehabilitation time that he can go out and look for a job. He will have at least one artificial limb.

This is a veterans jobs bill that is being held up for what reason? I do not know—or do I know? The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports there are about 200,000 unemployed post-9/11 veterans, approaching a quarter of a million. And as our Nation appropriately winds down our military commitments abroad, we can expect increased numbers of newly separated veterans to enter the workforce.

The veterans jobs bill is a \$1 billion investment in our veterans. This bill would increase training and hiring opportunities for veterans. It would help to create jobs for veterans.

I commend Senator NELSON of Florida and the chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Senator MURRAY, for their hard work on this bill. Unfortunately, I have already received word that the Republican Senators are simply unwilling to pass this measure. One Republican Senator, for example, is insisting on a vote on something related to Pakistan.

Another Senator has filed a right-to-work amendment. Yet another Republican Senator has filed the Department of Defense authorization bill as an amendment to this bill. As important as Pakistan and many other issues are, the Senate ought to be able to focus on this young man who was here in the well this evening. We ought to be focusing on creating jobs for veterans.

Now, we all know what is happening over here. The Republican leader, you have to admire him, he stuck to it. His No. 1 goal is to defeat President Obama, and that is why we have not been able to legislate. Everything has been stopped. Everything. We have been able to push through a few things but not many.

As always, I will do everything I can to work with Senators to get consent agreements to provide for consideration of this legislation. Hopefully we can reach such agreement. I do not have much hope, but I am always, I guess, hopeful. But in the meantime, I will do what I need to do to ensure that the Senate can vote on this important measure. I will do what I can to help create jobs for America's veterans. We need to do it for everyone, but could we just not agree on veterans?

I know we are now 30 hours postcloture. We all know the drill. Scores and scores of times—the Pre-

siding Officer is a new Member of this Senate, relatively new. He has served going on two Congresses. But he is an expert at watching this. The Senator from Oregon has watched this, and he understands what is going on, and it is not very good.

So the time will run out on this 30 hours from whenever the vote was turned in. First of all, we just—it is easy to get—especially when I am used to the Ryan math mixed up on numbers a little bit. So let's go back where we were.

We just completed and wasted 30 hours. I had to file cloture now on the underlying bill. I have done that. Now we have to wait 2 days for this to ripen. The 2 days is going to expire on Friday.

Now, we are going to vote on Friday, but it is not going to be at a time convenient to everybody. We are going to come in shortly after midnight tomorrow night, and we are going to vote on this. Then the 30 hours can start running, and then we will vote Saturday generally.

If people cannot work together to help veterans, then we are going to make sure the American public knows what is going on here. So we will not vote tomorrow night, but we will vote—it has to be anytime 2 days from now. We can do that tomorrow night or actually Friday morning early, a little after midnight.

I am sorry I got a little mixed up on 30 hours, 2 days for something to ripen. Then, as I said, I have been very confused because of the Ryan math. It has been difficult for me to accept all of that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 3457

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, where to start? I mean, what a charade and what a farce. The majority filibusters their own bills. They fill up the amendment tree. They do not even pretend like they are going to work with the other side. How do they expect to pass legislation if they will not allow any input from the other party? A charade and a farce.

As far as helping that young veteran, our soldiers went to war in Afghanistan to get bin Laden. We finally got bin Laden, and we got him with the help of Dr. Shakil Afridi. I do not hear one peep from the other side, I do not see one bit of concern for the man who helped get bin Laden.

Our soldiers went to Afghanistan. That young man lost a limb. A young man in my town also lost three limbs. They did it to get this horrible mass murderer bin Laden. This happened, and this is why we went to war. We are going to do nothing to support the man who helped us get bin Laden?

We send good money after bad. Billions of dollars have been squandered in Pakistan. Pakistan then tortures the man who helped America get bin Laden. And we do nothing. I have asked for 15 minutes to vote on this