

So, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 33, H. Con. Res. 25; that the amendment which is at the desk, the text of S. Con. Res. 8, the budget resolution passed by the Senate, be inserted in lieu thereof; that H. Con. Res. 25, as amended, be agreed to; the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate, all with no intervening action or debate.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, would the Senator yield for a question? Is a question in order?

Mrs. MURRAY. There is a UC before the Senate. If no one objects, I would be happy to answer a question.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Reserving the right to object—which I am not going to do, but I just want to clarify the Senator's motion—the Senator is simply asking us to move the budget which she passed after a heroic effort on the part of many to pass a budget so we could move to regular order. The Senator's consent is only asking us to move with all due speed to a conference to resolve the differences between the House budget and the Senate budget. Is that the Senator's understanding?

Mrs. MURRAY. The Senator from Louisiana is correct. The UC I am requesting simply takes us to conference so the House and the Senate Members can agree—Republicans and Democrats alike—to work toward a bipartisan solution.

Ms. LANDRIEU. One more question: Are not there Republicans represented on that committee? In fact, would the Republicans have the majority representation from the House?

Mrs. MURRAY. The Senator is correct.

Mr. McCONNELL. Parliamentary inquiry: Are we making a speech?

Ms. LANDRIEU. No. I am asking a question.

Mr. McCONNELL. Or are we considering objecting to a consent request?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request?

Mr. McCONNELL. Reserving the right to object, I would ask consent that the Senator modify her request so that it not be in order for the Senate to consider a conference report that includes tax increases or reconciliation instructions to increase taxes or raise the debt ceiling.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, reserving the right to object, and I will in a moment, we considered over 100 amendments on the Senate floor. All of those kinds of amendments were brought up, debated, and considered as part of the resolution, as we do on any debate. So there is no need to go back and redo all of our amendments again. So I object and ask simply again our

UC to move forward to conference so we can discuss all of these issues in regular order.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is noted.

Is there objection to the original request?

Mr. McCONNELL. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Louisiana.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, can I be heard for 3 minutes on this subject?

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

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, this is very disturbing that the minority leader has objected to taking the budget to conference because the only way to get a compromise on the budget is to take it to conference, as the chair of the Budget Committee has asked us to do, to work out the differences between the Republican version of the budget and the Democratic version of the budget.

Right now, President Obama has some ideas about what his budget would look like. The Democrats and Republicans passed a budget here. The Republicans have passed a budget on the House side. The only way to work that out is following the leadership of the chairman of the Budget Committee, who is a senior Member now of this body, who understands regular order, understands the art of compromise, understands that there is a Democratic-controlled Senate, a Republican-controlled House, and a Democratic President—all who have legitimate but varying views about how the budget should be worked out may I say, a very important subject for the people of the United States because we are running deficits as far as the eye can see. While we have made some progress in cutting substantially—and we have raised some revenues—it is important to get our budget better in balance so we can grow this economy, keep this recovery going, stop throwing cold water on the recovery that is underway, and help Americans get jobs and create business.

I am flabbergasted to hear that the minority leader has just said no to that plan—said no, we are not going to conference. We object unless you do X, Y, and Z.

It is always an objection, a “but.” Democrats could come to this floor and say the same thing: I do not want to go to conference unless we decide we cannot, under any circumstance, even talk about Medicaid or Social Security or cutting education or health care; we will not go to conference unless we put that on the table.

We will never get to conference if both sides dig in before the discussions can even begin. That is where we are. I can understand the majority leader's frustration, and I most certainly appreciate the leadership of the Budget Committee chair. I am just so sorry to see that the chairman of the Budget

Committee cannot even get the budget to conference to begin the debate on compromise because of this nonregular order status, because of the Republican minority, led by the Senator from Texas, of course, but reiterated by the Senator from Kentucky.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I thank the Senator from Louisiana. I just have to say I am frustrated and shocked at the reaction of our Republican counterparts who have repeatedly—repeatedly—said to the Senate: You need to pass a budget. We did so under regular order. Everyone will remember the night we spent here until 5 a.m. going through hundreds of amendments—the ones the minority leader just objected to that he wanted guarantees on before we went to conference. We voted on all those amendments. That is what this process is all about.

How can I, as Budget chairman, now do what the country is asking us to do, which is to compromise, move forward, and solve our problems rather than managing by crisis? If we cannot go to conference, how are we going to get a budget agreement moving forward? Everyone in this country knows this debate. It has gone on for several years. It went through the supercommittee. It went through an election where people's voices were heard. Now, after just berating us for not having a budget, the Senate Republicans are saying: Well, that did not matter. We do not care if you have a budget. We are just going to sit here.

That kind of chaos is exactly what this country does not need when it comes to our fragile economy today and people are trying to get back on their feet. I am ready to go to work. I am ready to sit down with the Republican leadership from the Budget Committee in the House and their conferees, to put our ideas on the table, and to make some tough choices. But I cannot do it until the Senate Republicans quit objecting to us moving to conference to get that done.

So this is the third time we have asked, the third time we have been turned down. We are going to keep trying to get this done. I am committed to solving one of the biggest problems facing our country—give us certainty, get us back on track—but I cannot do it when the Republicans are objecting to allowing us to go to conference. So I am very disappointed.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

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

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:42 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2013

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to proceed to S. 601 is agreed to and the clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 601) to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Water Resources Development Act of 2013”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definition of Secretary.

TITLE I—WATER RESOURCE PROJECTS

- Sec. 1001. Purposes.
- Sec. 1002. Project authorizations.
- Sec. 1003. Project review.

TITLE II—WATER RESOURCES POLICY REFORMS

- Sec. 2001. Purposes.
- Sec. 2002. Safety assurance review.
- Sec. 2003. Continuing authority programs.
- Sec. 2004. Continuing authority program prioritization.
- Sec. 2005. Fish and wildlife mitigation.
- Sec. 2006. Mitigation status report.
- Sec. 2007. Independent peer review.
- Sec. 2008. Operation and maintenance of navigation and hydroelectric facilities.
- Sec. 2009. Hydropower at Corps of Engineers facilities.
- Sec. 2010. Clarification of work-in-kind credit authority.
- Sec. 2011. Transfer of excess work-in-kind credit.
- Sec. 2012. Credit for in-kind contributions.
- Sec. 2013. Credit in lieu of reimbursement.
- Sec. 2014. Dam optimization.
- Sec. 2015. Water supply.
- Sec. 2016. Report on water storage pricing formulas.
- Sec. 2017. Clarification of previously authorized work.
- Sec. 2018. Consideration of Federal land in feasibility studies.
- Sec. 2019. Planning assistance to States.
- Sec. 2020. Vegetation management policy.
- Sec. 2021. Levee certifications.
- Sec. 2022. Restoration of flood and hurricane storm damage reduction projects.
- Sec. 2023. Operation and maintenance of certain projects.
- Sec. 2024. Dredging study.
- Sec. 2025. Non-Federal project implementation pilot program.
- Sec. 2026. Non-Federal implementation of feasibility studies.
- Sec. 2027. Tribal partnership program.
- Sec. 2028. Cooperative agreements with Columbia River Basin Indian tribes.
- Sec. 2029. Military munitions response actions at civil works shoreline protection projects.
- Sec. 2030. Beach nourishment.
- Sec. 2031. Regional sediment management.
- Sec. 2032. Study acceleration.
- Sec. 2033. Project acceleration.
- Sec. 2034. Feasibility studies.
- Sec. 2035. Accounting and administrative expenses.

- Sec. 2036. Determination of project completion.
- Sec. 2037. Project partnership agreements.
- Sec. 2038. Interagency and international support authority.
- Sec. 2039. Acceptance of contributed funds to increase lock operations.
- Sec. 2040. Emergency response to natural disasters.
- Sec. 2041. Systemwide improvement frameworks.
- Sec. 2042. Funding to process permits.
- Sec. 2043. National riverbank stabilization and erosion prevention study and pilot program.
- Sec. 2044. Hurricane and storm damage risk reduction prioritization.
- Sec. 2045. Prioritization of ecosystem restoration efforts.
- Sec. 2046. Special use permits.
- Sec. 2047. Operations and maintenance on fuel taxed inland waterways.
- Sec. 2048. Corrosion prevention.
- Sec. 2049. Project deauthorizations.
- Sec. 2050. Reports to Congress.
- Sec. 2051. Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act conforming amendment.

- Sec. 2052. Invasive species review.
- Sec. 2053. Wetlands conservation study.
- Sec. 2054. Dam repair study.

TITLE III—PROJECT MODIFICATIONS

- Sec. 3001. Purpose.
- Sec. 3002. Chatfield Reservoir, Colorado.
- Sec. 3003. Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee expenses reimbursement.
- Sec. 3004. Hurricane and storm damage reduction study.
- Sec. 3005. Lower Yellowstone Project, Montana.
- Sec. 3006. Project deauthorizations.
- Sec. 3007. Raritan River Basin, Green Brook Sub-basin, New Jersey.
- Sec. 3008. Red River Basin, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana.
- Sec. 3009. Point Judith Harbor of Refuge, Rhode Island.

TITLE IV—WATER RESOURCE STUDIES

- Sec. 4001. Purpose.
- Sec. 4002. Initiation of new water resources studies.
- Sec. 4003. Applicability.

TITLE V—REGIONAL AND NONPROJECT PROVISIONS

- Sec. 5001. Purpose.
- Sec. 5002. Northeast Coastal Region ecosystem restoration.
- Sec. 5003. Chesapeake Bay Environmental Restoration and Protection Program.
- Sec. 5004. Rio Grande environmental management program, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas.
- Sec. 5005. Lower Columbia River and Tillamook Bay ecosystem restoration, Oregon and Washington.
- Sec. 5006. Arkansas River, Arkansas and Oklahoma.
- Sec. 5007. Aquatic invasive species prevention and management; Columbia River Basin.
- Sec. 5008. Upper Missouri Basin flood and drought monitoring.
- Sec. 5009. Northern Rockies headwaters extreme weather mitigation.
- Sec. 5010. Aquatic nuisance species prevention, Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin.

TITLE VI—LEEVE SAFETY

- Sec. 6001. Short title.
- Sec. 6002. Findings; purposes.
- Sec. 6003. Definitions.
- Sec. 6004. National levee safety program.
- Sec. 6005. National levee safety advisory board.
- Sec. 6006. Inventory and inspection of levees.
- Sec. 6007. Reports.
- Sec. 6008. Effect of title.
- Sec. 6009. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE VII—INLAND WATERWAYS

- Sec. 7001. Purposes.

- Sec. 7002. Definitions.
- Sec. 7003. Project delivery process reforms.
- Sec. 7004. Major rehabilitation standards.
- Sec. 7005. Inland waterways system revenues.
- Sec. 7006. Efficiency of revenue collection.

TITLE VIII—HARBOR MAINTENANCE

- Sec. 8001. Short title.
- Sec. 8002. Purposes.
- Sec. 8003. Funding for harbor maintenance programs.
- Sec. 8004. Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund prioritization.
- Sec. 8005. Civil works program of the Corps of Engineers.

TITLE IX—DAM SAFETY

- Sec. 9001. Short title.
- Sec. 9002. Purpose.
- Sec. 9003. Administrator.
- Sec. 9004. Inspection of dams.
- Sec. 9005. National Dam Safety Program.
- Sec. 9006. Public awareness and outreach for dam safety.
- Sec. 9007. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE X—INNOVATIVE FINANCING PILOT PROJECTS

- Sec. 10001. Short title.
- Sec. 10002. Purposes.
- Sec. 10003. Definitions.
- Sec. 10004. Authority to provide assistance.
- Sec. 10005. Applications.
- Sec. 10006. Eligible entities.
- Sec. 10007. Projects eligible for assistance.
- Sec. 10008. Activities eligible for assistance.
- Sec. 10009. Determination of eligibility and project selection.
- Sec. 10010. Secured loans.
- Sec. 10011. Program administration.
- Sec. 10012. State and local permits.
- Sec. 10013. Regulations.
- Sec. 10014. Funding.
- Sec. 10015. Report to Congress.

TITLE XI—EXTREME WEATHER

- Sec. 11001. Study on risk reduction.
- Sec. 11002. GAO study on management of flood, drought, and storm damage.
- Sec. 11003. Post-disaster watershed assessments.

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF SECRETARY.

In this Act, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Army.

TITLE I—WATER RESOURCE PROJECTS

SEC. 1001. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this title are—

(1) to authorize projects that—

(A) are the subject of a completed report of the Chief of Engineers containing a determination that the relevant project—

(i) is in the Federal interest;

(ii) results in benefits that exceed the costs of the project;

(iii) is environmentally acceptable; and

(iv) is technically feasible; and

(B) have been recommended to Congress for authorization by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works; and

(2) to authorize the Secretary—

(A) to review projects that require increased authorization; and

(B) to request an increase of those authorizations after—

(i) certifying that the increases are necessary; and

(ii) submitting to Congress reports on the proposed increases.

SEC. 1002. PROJECT AUTHORIZATIONS.

The Secretary is authorized to carry out projects for water resources development, conservation, and other purposes, subject to the conditions that—

(1) each project is carried out—

(A) substantially in accordance with the plan for the project; and

(B) subject to any conditions described in the report for the project; and

(2) a Report of the Chief of Engineers has been completed and a referral by the Assistant