

union to advance political agendas outside of trade, tariffs, and those kinds of things. Well, let's look.

This is an article in the American Thinker, "Fast Tracking an International EPA," by Howard Richman, Raymond Richman, and Jesse Richman. They are professors, I think, all three. But this is on the Web site.

This is a statement by Mr. Froman, President Obama's Trade Representative. He laid out environmental protection as President Obama's bottom line in trade negotiations—environmental protection. This is a quote from the Trade Representative:

The United States' position on the environment in the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations is this: Environment stewardship is a core American value, and we will insist on a robust, fully enforceable environment chapter in the TPP or we will not come to agreement.

If they reach an agreement on the environmental issues that Congress won't pass, what happens then? The President signs off on it, votes for it, and then we will be disciplined by this Commission for failure to abide by the rules of the Commission.

His Trade Representative—I believe this is Mr. Froman—continues:

Our proposals in the TPP are centered around the enforcement of environmental laws. . . .

Let me repeat that:

Our proposals in the TPP are centered around the enforcement of environmental laws, including those implementing multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) in TPP partner countries, and also around trailblazing, first-ever conservation proposals that will raise standards across the region. Furthermore, our proposals would enhance international cooperation and create new opportunities for public participation in environmental governance and enforcement.

Well, that is a powerful statement. So there is no doubt that this President is intent on utilizing this agreement to drive his environmental agenda, whether the Congress or the American people agree with it or not. He is not bringing it up to the floor of the Senate, because Democrats and Republicans have no intention of passing his environmental agenda. I am not worried. This is the President's top negotiator on this trade agreement.

Mr. Joshua Meltzer at the Brookings Institute said this:

As a twenty-first-century trade agreement, the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) presents an important opportunity to address a range of environment issues, from illegal logging to climate change and to craft rules that strike an appropriate balance between supporting open trade and ensuring governments can respond to pressing environmental issues.

Ensuring that governments respond to pressing environmental issues.

Who is going to ensure? Who has the power to ensure that the United States meets some environmental standard somebody somewhere has set or even the President would like to see set? That is a serious matter. I don't think we should treat it lightly.

I do believe that the American people are correct to be dubious about this trade agreement. Polling data, as I understand it, clearly shows that it is not supported by the American people. Yet forces are at work, breaking arms and breaking hands and bludgeoning people into acquiescence to vote for this thing. It cleared the House by the narrowest of margins. We had 62 votes when it passed through the Senate. They needed 60, and they got 62. The President was working, the Republican leaders were working, the chamber of commerce was working, Big Business was working, money was working and wheeling and dealing, and pork projects were promised, I am sure, to get the votes to pass this, to put it on a fast-track skid.

I am against it. I believe I am speaking on behalf of the working people of the United States of America. I don't believe their interests are being properly considered. I am confident that if this agreement goes into effect, the trade deficit we have with Japan and with Vietnam will increase. Vietnam has 100 million people. We will not be much different with places such as Canada or Australia or Mexico because we basically have a free-trade agreement with them.

So it is not necessary that we create some 12-nation entity, some commission. Why don't we just negotiate trade agreements that serve the interests of the American people with Japan and Vietnam and ensure exactly that they comply with what they say, that their markets are open to ours, as well as our markets are open to theirs? And we should have some reasonable expectation that if we enter into this agreement, it will be good for American workers, not just Japanese workers or workers in Vietnam.

I don't say we shouldn't have a trade agreement. I am saying let's be more careful about it. Let's negotiate some trade agreements for a change that advance the interests of the United States. We need to reduce our trade deficits, not increase them. They are weakening our GDP. The deficit subtracts from the current account trade deficit, subtracts from our gross domestic product. It is not healthy for America to have this kind of deficit.

One of the reports that was done lays out the argument that power comes from this mercantilist approach. The Richmans' and the American Thinker—I will quote a study, and it says this:

To see if mercantilism works—

This is the exporting drive of our trading partners and competitors—[the Richmans'] conducted a statistical study of 11,623 country-year observations for 186 countries from 1870 through 2007 using panel data models. The results: a strong statistically-significant correlation between balance of trade and national power. A favorable balance of trade is associated with an increase in power (national material capabilities), an unfavorable balance with a decrease.

This is what China believes to the core. This is what most of the Asian

countries believe and act on. And apparently the Richmans' conclude—an objective study—that it is accurate. I don't know. But those are the kinds of things we need to be careful about.

They have two scenarios they have laid out based on this scenario. The first envisions 20 years of trade deficits at the rate of the trade deficit we ran in 2007. The second scenario envisions balanced trade, where we don't have a trade deficit. Under trade deficit, their definition of "national power" declined 28 percent. So the national power declined 28 percent. Under a balanced trade, our national power remains basically stable, increasing by one-half of 1 percent. I think balanced trade is certainly preferable. It is certainly preferable for working Americans.

Mr. President, I thank the Chair for your patience and allowing me to share these remarks. It could be that I am wrong. Maybe trade deficits make no difference. Maybe the loss of manufacturing is offset by the fact that we get cheaper goods. That is what some of our people in the United States say.

When somebody sends subsidized goods here and that closes the U.S. factory and people can purchase their goods for below cost, we should send those countries a thank-you note—no concern about the people who got laid off and the jobs lost. I am not sure that model is now appropriate. Maybe it was 20 years ago.

I sort of believe that cheaper products was the ultimate goal and voted that way, but I am reevaluating it. I think this country needs to go through a serious evaluation of that, No. 1. Secondly, we absolutely—colleagues, we absolutely should not fast-track a movement to the establishment of an international commission or international union and maybe creating two more of them as part of two more trade agreements—the three trade agreements that will be part of fast-track if it passes. And, of course, any number of other trade agreements for the next 6 years could be accelerated through this fast-track process, if it passes.

I yield the floor.

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.

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

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

HONORING VIETNAM VETERANS AND NORTH DAKOTA'S SOLDIERS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN VIETNAM

Ms. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, I rise today to again speak about the North Dakotans who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country in the Vietnam war.

Since March, I have had the honor of learning from families about the lives

of their sons, brothers, husbands, fathers, and uncles who died during the Vietnam war.

Before speaking about the 13 of the 198 North Dakota young men who didn't return home from Vietnam, I want to first talk about Dan Stenvold of Park River. Dan is a Vietnam veteran who survived the war.

While a student at Sargent Central High School, Dan thought about joining the military. After graduation, he felt he should grow up before going to college, and he enlisted in the Army. He was sent to Vietnam and served three continuous tours of duty there. His records count that he was in Vietnam for 802 days. After returning home from Vietnam, Dan enrolled in college at North Dakota State School of Science in Wahpeton so he could fulfill his dream of playing college football. The combination of Dan's time in Vietnam and a football knee injury made Dan feel old, and he left college. He then had a 33-year career with Polar Communications in Park River.

In 1999, the North Dakota Vietnam Veterans of America voted him as their State president, and he has served in that position for the last 16 years. For the last 6 years, he has served on the National Board of Vietnam Veterans of America. The national president asked him to run for another 2-year term, and I wish Dan well in that upcoming election.

Dan also serves his community as a member of the DAV, AMVETS, VFW, and the American Legion, and he is currently in his third term as mayor of the city of Park River in North Dakota.

Dan is proud of his three wonderful children and seven grandchildren.

Agent Orange exposure education is one of his top priorities. He has seen his own family affected by the side effects of Agent Orange. Dan is grateful to the North Dakota State Legislature for once again approving funding for education and outreach related to Agent Orange exposure.

I thank Dan for his continuing service to our country.

And please, Dan, keep up your good work on behalf of the citizens of your community and Vietnam veterans all across this country.

RICHARD "RICH" BOEHM

Richard "Rich" Boehm was born on June 23, 1951. He was from Mandan. He served in the Army's 198th Infantry Brigade. Rich died on March 26, 1971. He was 19 years old.

Rich was one of six children. All three boys served our country in the military—Marvin and Clarence in the Army National Guard and Rich in the Army.

Rich served in Vietnam with Myron Johnson from Mandaree, and they became very close friends. Rich was engaged, and Myron was going to be his best man.

Keith Nolan's book "Sappers in the Wire: The Life and Death of Firebase Mary Ann" includes details of the day

Rich and Myron died. Rich and Myron were in a foxhole together, ran for safety, and were both shot in the back and killed.

Dennis Bollinger was assigned to escort Rich's body home, and his family knew Rich's family. Dennis continues to serve our State and my community of Mandan as the current city of Mandan chief of police. Rich's brother Marvin says he is grateful to Rich's squad leader who contacted him from Texas and shared memories and photos of Rich during his time in Vietnam.

LARRY JACOBSON

Larry Jacobson was from Norma. He was born on March 15, 1949. He served in the Army's 1st Aviation Brigade. Larry was 21 years old when he died August 26, 1970.

He was the second of six children and grew up on his family's farm near Norma. He attended grade school in Norma and high school in Kenmare. His best friend in high school, Craig Livingston, remembers Larry as a shy person who never had an enemy.

Larry's older brother remembers the week Larry was killed in Vietnam. The family had been in Fargo celebrating his sister's graduation from nursing school. They had planned to host a party at home, too, but when they arrived home, there were a sergeant and captain waiting for them to deliver the news of Larry's death.

This year on Memorial Day weekend, a large memorial was dedicated at the Mouse River Park honoring Renville County veterans. The memorial includes Larry's photo, images of the soldier's cross, and a helicopter like the one Larry was riding in when it was shot down and he was killed.

CARL WOODS

Carl Woods was from Bottineau. He was born June 8, 1933. He served as a Navy pilot. Carl was 32 years old when he died on September 28, 1965.

His father Monte also served our country during World War I, and six of the eight boys in Carl's family served in the military.

Carl was an honor student in high school and college in Bottineau, where he made the All-Conference Football team. He then chose to enlist in the Navy. He served our country as a Navy pilot for over 12 years, reaching the rank of lieutenant commander.

While serving in the Vietnam war, Carl's plane was hit by an anti-aircraft missile. Instead of bailing out over North Vietnam, Carl maneuvered the plane 40 miles to the Tonkin Gulf, where he died after his parachute failed to open.

The family is grateful to Carl's wingman for sharing with them the details of Carl's service and extraordinary flight skills the day he died.

In addition to his brother, Carl left behind his wife Elaine and three children, Mark, Jennifer, and Kathryn.

Carl is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

This summer, the Bottineau AMVETS Post 25 is going to rename

themselves the Carl J. Woods Memorial Post 25 in honor of Carl's service and his sacrifice.

JOEL ELLINGTON

Joel Ellington was from Rolette. He was born January 21, 1945. He served in the Navy. Joel was 22 years old when he died on June 26, 1967.

Joel was the oldest of three boys. They were 3 years apart in age. At Rolette High School, Joel played in the band. Right after high school, Joel enlisted in the Navy. After serving 2 years, he returned home and worked in the local grocery store.

Due to the Vietnam war draft, Joel reenlisted in hopes that his brothers, Dennis and Doyle, would not have to serve in Vietnam. Dennis said of Joel's reenlistment, "I think he did that to try to protect me; he didn't think they'd take two brothers."

DAVID HAEGELE

David Haegele was from Napoleon. He was born on September 28, 1948. He served in the Army's 25th Infantry Division. David died February 28, 1969. He was 20 years old.

He was the fifth of eight children and grew up on his family's dairy farm. His brother Tim also served our country in the Marines.

David's family said that he was such a kind person and a hard worker. They remember his jokes and how much he enjoyed playing fun pranks on people.

David's letters home to his family requested three things he and his fellow soldiers desired most: Kool-Aid, baked goods, and dry socks.

His mother gave David's niece Veronica a box she filled with David's things, such as the letters he mailed home from Vietnam and his wallet. She said that Veronica would know what to do with them. About 3 months before David's mother passed away at age 95, Veronica finished David's scrapbook, and his mother thought it was perfect.

GARRY KLEIN

Garry Klein was born November 22, 1947. He served in the Marine Corps' Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Marine Division. Garry was 19 years old when he died on May 27, 1967.

He was third from the youngest of nine children. His sister Arlene said that Garry was an easygoing kid who was lighthearted and never caused any trouble. She remembers the cartoons he liked to draw.

Garry chose to enlist in the Marines to serve his country. When he went home during Christmastime on leave, he told Arlene and her children, "I won't see you again, but you may see me."

He died almost exactly 1 year after he graduated from high school.

RANDY LEE HANSEN

Randy Lee Hansen was born October 23, 1948. He was from South Dakota, but he was living in Williston when he enlisted. He served in the Army's 1st Signal Brigade as a field radio repairer. Randy died on Easter Sunday, April 6, 1969. He was only 20 years old.

Randy's brothers, Jim and Mike, served our country in the Navy. His stepbrother, Arthur, also served in the Army.

Randy's brother, Jim, remembers that Randy liked to fish. Jim believed Randy had some great stories from his time fishing, as many fishermen do.

While his brothers, step-brothers, step-sister, and mother remained in South Dakota, Randy attended Williston High School, where his father was working in Williston as a brick-layer.

In 1966, Randy enlisted in the Army before he graduated from high school. The product of a service-oriented family, Randy felt it was important that he serve his country.

FRED JOHNSON

Fred Johnson was born on November 3, 1939. He grew up in Watford City and Leeds. He served in the Army's 1st Cavalry Division. Fred was 27 years old when he died on January 20, 1967.

Fred's wife's name was Jacqueline, and they had one son and three daughters. Their oldest child, Richard, said that Fred loved to hunt and fish. Fred's dad was a game warden and Fred would go to work with his dad sometimes. They would bring home injured animals and nurse them back to health. Among the most memorable animals were a white owl, a baby skunk that behaved like a pet cat, and a raccoon that he kept for 6 years.

After high school, Fred joined the Army. He served for 7 years before he was killed in action in Vietnam on his second tour of duty.

Fred's son, Richard, remembers going fishing with his dad often and fishing together the week before Fred left for Vietnam on his second tour of duty.

Fred's brother, Robert, said he took Fred to the airport before he returned to Vietnam the last time. Fred was scared and didn't know if he would be back again.

Fred died shortly thereafter when his vehicle hit a landmine.

LYLE JOHANNES

Lyle Johannes was born June 25, 1949, and spent his high school years in Kulm. He served in the Army as a radio operator. Lyle died January 29, 1970. He was 20 years old.

Lyle was the oldest of four children. His youngest sister, Sally, said that Lyle was a happy person who didn't get rattled by anything. He loved a good joke and had lots of friends. Sally said, "You'd never want to turn your back on him because you never knew what he might do!" He was a daredevil who loved motorcycles, had a number of Hondas—and crashes—over the years. He spent a lot of time hanging over the engine of a car. He would buy old cars and fix them up. He also worked on the cars of elderly women who lived in town. After high school, he attended a technical college in Denver for mechanics.

Lyle was glad to be in the Army serving in Vietnam. He kind of "adopted" a young Vietnamese boy. The boy really

liked blue jeans and a turtleneck sweater, so Lyle asked his mom to send them for him. She said she sent them as well as other things, but for packing material she put popcorn in Lyle's packages. When the packages arrived, the soldiers would eat the stale popcorn because they were so happy to have something from home.

Lyle was accidentally killed by friendly fire. Since his death, the family occasionally finds items someone leaves on Lyle's grave.

Lyle had shipped cashmere sweaters home for the family as Christmas presents in late 1969. The package arrived after his funeral in January of 1970.

ERIC NADEAU

Eric Nadeau was born November 12, 1948. He was from Grand Forks and was a member of the Turtle Mountain band of Chippewa. He served in the Army's 101st Airborne Division, the Screaming Eagles. Eric died May 26, 1969, just days before his tour of duty was scheduled to end. He was 20 years old.

He was the eldest child of his family and had three sisters. Eric's sisters remember how much he loved hunting game in the Turtle Mountains before he enlisted in the Army, and they think that is part of the reason why he joined the Armed Forces.

Everyone liked Eric. He had a circle of friends he grew up with, and if he was ever in town on break from the service, Eric and his best friend Dale were inseparable. Wherever Dale was, one could find Eric, and vice versa.

His sister remembers a time when Eric came home and surprised their mother. She and her mother were playing bingo in the local church basement. When he walked into the room, everything stopped, and everyone stood up and sang the National Anthem. Eric's mother was shocked and thrilled.

Eric died when his company was outnumbered and overrun. He jumped back in to save his crew members, and did save some, but was killed in the process. Eric's sister thinks of Eric not only as her brother but her hero.

FRED JANSONIUS

Fred Jansonius was born June 23, 1948. He was from Jamestown. He served in the Army's 9th Infantry Division. Fred died February 2, 1968. He was only 19 years old.

He was the oldest of four children. His sister, Claire, said that Fred was a gentle soul and that his younger siblings looked up to him. In high school, Fred was a good student and enjoyed photography, golf, and tennis. After graduation, he attended Drake University and studied journalism.

One of his Drake professors told Fred's class, "To be a good journalist, you really need to see the world." Fred's draft number was high, but he was deferred for being in college. So he quit college and traveled to New York City to see part of the world while waiting to be drafted.

Claire shared some of Fred's letters he wrote home to his family, which revealed a talent for writing and the wis-

dom of someone who had definitely seen his share of the world in his 19 years. Many of his letters included vivid descriptions of Fred's experiences in Vietnam, so you could imagine Fred sleeping in a cemetery, using a bag of grenades for a pillow or his fellow soldiers drinking Coca-Colas and using their imaginations to create their own entertainment.

After Fred was killed in Vietnam, his casket arrived in Jamestown on the train. The same conductor who drove the train the day Fred left to go to basic training was driving the train that delivered Fred's body back to Jamestown.

About a year ago, one of Fred's officers, Lee Moorman, was traveling the United States visiting the graves of the soldiers he knew in Vietnam. Lee told Fred's family that Fred liked to read and was well liked by everyone.

GREGORY KRUEGER

Gregory Krueger was born March 1, 1949. He was from Garrison. He served in the Army's 173rd Airborne Division. Gregory died July 17, 1970. He was 21 years old.

He was the oldest of three boys. His brother, Stephen, said that Gregory was hard-working, responsible, and well-liked by everyone who knew him.

Stephen remembers that Gregory loved everything to do with the farm. He had fond memories of working with Gregory, hauling many bales of hay on Saturdays. Their brother, Fred, continues to farm that family farm today.

Gregory had a special relationship with a nearby farmer who trusted him at a young age to run his farm equipment and to help on the farm. Gregory hoped to eventually take over the neighbor's farm after completing his service in Vietnam.

The Heritage Park in Garrison is currently in the process of adding a stone memorial in memory of Gregory's service and his family's sacrifice.

RICHARD HOVLAND

Richard Hovland was from Williston, and he was born August 12, 1946. He served in the Army's 20th Engineer Brigade. Richard was 21 years old when he died on January 31, 1968.

He was one of four children and his family and friends called him Ricky.

Growing up, Richard was active in the Boy Scouts. He played baseball and sang in the choir. His sister, Deanne, remembers his beautiful voice and him singing country music in their living room with his friend, Charles Hanson.

Deanne thought she and her brother were the coolest when he would drop her off at school in his Chevy Impala. She looked up to Richard very much. When he left for Vietnam, she was in junior high and was in awe about what he was going to do.

Deanne said Richard was a fun-loving and family-oriented man who was especially kind and good with their brother, Duane, who had Down Syndrome. Richard always mentioned Duane in his letters he sent home from Vietnam.

After completing his service in Vietnam, Richard had plans to go to college

and become a farmer. Deanne has drawings that Richard made of the farmhouse he wanted to build on the land he was picking out in the Williston area. His parents Arlene and Oscar often said Richard wanted to farm and loved the land so much that he didn't realize his true calling was becoming an architect.

These are just some of the stories of North Dakotans who sacrificed their lives on behalf of our country in Vietnam.

I have to say that every time I do this, I wonder who would they be today. Would they be standing here instead of me? But I do know the men and women in uniform who serve our country continue to serve when they take off the uniform. I also know our country suffers a great loss any time we lose a young man or a young woman in service of our country. That loss must be remembered, it must be respected, and we can never forget.

In this anniversary and commemoration of the Vietnam war, it is so important that we spend our time talking about the sacrifices our country and our servicemen gave in Vietnam and continue to give through the ravages of Agent Orange—the issue Dan worked so hard on. They continue to suffer the post-traumatic stress that was part of that service, and they continue to overrepresent in the homeless populations and populations of people who continue to be troubled from the experiences they suffered in Vietnam.

So today we celebrate these lives and we think about who they might have been. We offer a very humble and grateful thank-you to all of the family members who have helped us with these memorials but who have experienced this loss in a way we will never understand.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

DEFENDING PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the message to accompany H.R. 2146.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2146) entitled "An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal law enforcement officers, firefighters, and air traffic controllers to make penalty-free withdrawals from governmental plans after age 50, and for other purposes," with an amendment.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2146.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. McCONNELL] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2146.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 2060

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2146 with an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. McCONNELL] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2146 with an amendment numbered 2060.

Mr. McCONNELL. 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 as follows:

At the end add the following.

"This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment."

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2061 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2060

Mr. McCONNELL. 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 Kentucky [Mr. McCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2061 to amendment No. 2060.

Mr. McCONNELL. 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 as follows:

In the amendment

Strike "1 day" and insert "2 days"

MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 2062

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to refer to the Committee on Finance H.R. 2146 with instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. McCONNELL] moves to refer H.R. 2146 to the Committee on Finance with instructions being amendment numbered 2062.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following.

"This Act shall take effect 3 days after the date of enactment"

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, 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. 2063

Mr. McCONNELL. 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 Kentucky [Mr. McCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2063 to the instructions of the motion to refer H.R. 2146.

The amendment is as follows:

In the instructions

Strike "3 days" and insert "4 days"

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2064 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2063

Mr. McCONNELL. 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 Kentucky [Mr. McCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2064 to amendment No. 2063.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment

Strike "4 days" and insert "5 days"

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion 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 senior 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, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2146, an act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal law enforcement officers, firefighters, and air traffic controllers to make penalty-free withdrawals from governmental plans after age 50, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Johnny Isakson, David Perdue, Chuck Grassley, Thom Tillis, Marco Rubio, Daniel Coats, John Cornyn, Michael B. Enzi, Kelly Ayotte, Orrin G. Hatch, Roger F. Wicker, Deb Fischer, Rob Portman, Cory Gardner, Richard Burr, Roy Blunt.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII be waived.

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

TRADE PREFERENCES EXTENSION ACT OF 2015

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the message to accompany H.R. 1295.