

of gridlock American voters rejected so emphatically.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant Democratic leader is recognized.

KEYSTONE PIPELINE

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, in a short period of time, less than an hour, the Senate is going to vote on whether to end the debate on Senate bill 1.

Senate bill 1 is the Republican's No. 1 priority this year. They are new to the majority in the Senate, and they got to choose the first and most important bill to call, and they chose this bill, Senate bill 1.

This bill will override the President's authority when it comes to making a decision on building the Keystone Canadian pipeline—Canadian pipeline. You see, Keystone is a Canadian corporation, and the Republicans in the Senate decided the highest priority when it comes to America's economy is to help this Canadian corporation.

There will certainly be construction jobs involved in the construction of this pipeline, but there will only be 35 permanent jobs that come out of this. The No. 1 priority for the Senate Republican majority is 35 permanent jobs. Most McDonald's hamburger franchises have more than that number of jobs.

But, having said that, let's talk about where we are on the floor of the Senate at this moment. In their new role as majority party, the Republicans asked us to take up this legislation, and they said: We want to go to the point we have made over and over during the past several years—we should have an open amendment process.

I am here to tell you that we have cooperated. I was quoted—I am honored, flattered—by the majority leader on the floor as saying I think it is healthy. I have said that for a long time. What changed in the Senate is not just the new majority but the new minority. Our feeling on our side is we need to be constructive, offer amendments, offer different points of view, offer different approaches, debate them on the floor, accept the will of the Senate, and move forward on legislation. That is what we have tried to do on this Keystone XL bill, and we have really offered amendments on the Democratic side that we think get to the heart of this debate.

My Republican friends and Senators like to characterize this as the Keystone jobs bill.

We started off by saying: Here is an idea. Let's say that the Canadian tar sands brought in through this pipeline and refined in the United States—the ultimate products, the oil products that come out of this refinery, are going to be there for Americans first, that Americans can use the gasoline and diesel fuel and jet fuel. In other words, it is going to stay in America.

The Republicans said no. We have to be prepared, after we go through all of this and build this Canadian pipeline, that ultimately none of the products will be used in the United States.

Then we said: OK, if we can't use the ultimate products coming out of this pipeline to help the American economy, then let's at least agree that we will build this Canadian pipeline in the United States with American-made steel. Let's put our steelworkers and foundries to work fabricating the steel to build the pipelines so we will create good-paying American jobs supplying the materials.

The Republicans voted no.

Then we said: Well, at the end of the day, these refineries, after they have processed Canadian tar sands, end up with a miserable byproduct called petcoke. It has some positive applications, but sadly, in many instances it is piled up stories high—even in the city of Chicago, within our city limits—and blows all over the neighborhood and into the lungs of children and elderly people. So let's at least have standards for the storage and handling of this byproduct that is going to come out of this Canadian pipeline.

The Republicans voted no.

Then we had a vote on whether we should be concerned with the environment. Using Canadian tar sands to make oil products puts more greenhouse gases in the air, more carbon dioxide, and should we be mindful of this.

If you read the votes that took place last week, it is unclear, uncertain as to where the Republicans stand on this issue. In fact, one Senator from North Dakota offered what I thought was a good amendment acknowledging this issue and then at the very end voted against his own amendment, which is rare in the Senate annals, but it shows you how conflicted many Republican Members were on the basic environmental issues.

Now let's get to the procedure and where we stand. Last Thursday night was troubling. After the constructive consideration of over a dozen different amendments on both sides of the aisle, the Republican majority leader said: Now bring out the next group of amendments. And we did. The Democrats cooperated. We produced six amendments we wanted up next, and the Republicans produced six amendments they wanted up next. An hour later, within an hour after producing the list, the Senate majority leader came to floor and said: That is it; we are not going to get this done as I wanted to get it done. We are going to start tabling the Democratic amendments, one after the other.

So the Members who offered the amendments, who had worked on the amendments stood at their desks as each amendment came up and said: I would like 60 seconds to just explain the amendment I wrote that we are about to vote on. Each and every time, the Republicans objected to 60 seconds of debate.

This is considered the world's greatest deliberative body. Yet the sponsors, the authors of the amendments were denied 60 seconds to even explain their amendments. It didn't leave a very good taste in the mouths of many Democrats—not even those who were supporting this Keystone Canadian Pipeline. Many of them think this is unfair.

If we are going to have a good-faith, bipartisan environment to consider amendments, let's go back and forth—Democrat, Republican—and let's consider the major issues before us. There are still major unresolved issues, health and safety issues, with pending amendments.

I approached the majority leader as he was leaving the floor and I said: Even if we do not invoke cloture this evening, let's work together on a bipartisan basis. Let's come up with these lists of amendments. Let's do this in a conscientious, good-faith effort to complete this bill.

I think we can achieve it. My hat is off to Senator LISA MURKOWSKI, Republican Senator, who has come to the floor, leading this effort on the floor with the debate, but I have a special place in my heart for the Democratic side, where two other Senators have been outstanding in bringing us to this point on the issue. Senator MARIA CANTWELL from Washington is leading our effort on the Democratic side in full partnership with Senator BARBARA BOXER of California, and many others.

As was suggested by a Senator last week, it is time for the boys to get off the stage and let the ladies come back in and consider these amendments and bring us to the right conclusion of thoughtful debate, important issues considered, and a vote in the U.S. Senate on this legislation.

REMEMBERING ERNIE BANKS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, last week America lost a hero and Chicago lost one of its greatest. Cubs Hall of Famer Ernie Banks passed away Friday night.

He was known as Mr. Cub. His love for the game of baseball was matched only by his passion for the city of Chicago.

He was a Hall of Famer in every sense of the word. He won the hearts of not just Cubs fans but baseball fans across the Nation with his power hitting and Golden Glove performances, and he endeared himself to everyone he ever met with his humble approach to the game of baseball and the game of life.

Before Hall of Famer Ernie Banks became Mr. Cub, he was 17 years old playing in a sandlot in Dallas, TX. That is where Cool Papa Bell, one of the legendary leaders in the Negro League, discovered this young man and signed him to play for the Kansas City Monarchs for \$7 a game.

While playing for the Monarchs, Ernie Banks was managed by another legend, Buck O’Neil.

Playing for the Negro League legend had a profound impact on young Ernie Banks. Buck had so much love for everybody that Ernie decided to model his life after him. It was with the Monarchs that Ernie learned to play with boundless energy and enthusiasm. He learned to express his joy for the game and took to heart the message Buck O’Neil, the manager, would often shout at him: “You gotta love this game to play it!” Ernie Banks loved it, and it showed.

Years later, O’Neil reunited with Ernie Banks when O’Neil agreed to manage the Cubs in 1962. Incidentally, he was the first African-American manager in Major League Baseball.

As one of the first African-American baseball players in the Major Leagues, Ernie Banks helped break down the color barriers. The Hall of Fame slugger and two-time MVP made his Major League debut at Wrigley Field in 1953, and he became the first African American to suit up for the Chicago Cubs.

He was only 180 pounds. He was not the most intimidating batter at the plate, but he had powerful wrists that generated tremendous bat speed. He whipped the bat through the ball, hitting 512 home runs in his career, with 2,583 hits, 1,636 RBIs, and having a career batting average of .274.

From 1955 to 1960, he was the most prolific home run hitter in the game, hitting more home runs than either Hank Aaron, Willie Mays, or Mickey Mantle during those years.

In 1958 and 1959, he was named the most valuable player in the National League. He was the first ever to win the award in consecutive years.

He was also the first player to have his jersey number retired by the Cubs, and on game days his number 14 flies proudly over the left field foul pole at the friendly confines of Wrigley Field.

Not surprisingly, Ernie Banks was inducted into Cooperstown the first year he was eligible. But it wasn’t the numbers on the back of the baseball card that made Mr. Cub a beloved member of Chicago and the community. It was his passion for the game and the appreciation he showed to everyone he encountered.

Over the last several days, I have heard from baseball fans sharing their stories of meeting Mr. Cub. Nearly all were humbled by the opportunity to meet their hero, but even more impressed to find that Ernie was just as appreciative of his fans as they were of him.

It is an understatement to say that the Chicago Cubs had some tough sea-

sons during Ernie’s 19-year career. The Cubs had not won a World Series since 1908 or a National League title since 1945. But every day, win or lose, Ernie would lace up his cleats, step on the field, and smile for the whole world to see. You could not help but love watching him play.

And for Ernie Banks, the eternal optimist, he always believed this was going to be the year for the Cubs. Every spring he predicted, without fail, the Cubs were going to win the pennant.

Well, Ernie never got to play in the post season. But his love of the game never wavered despite this. He became famous for his contagiously positive attitude. He often remarked: “It’s a great day for baseball. Let’s play two.” That was the charm of Mr. Cub.

An 11-time All-Star, first-ballot Hall of Famer, selected to baseball’s All-Century team in 1999, it was never about accolades or money for Ernie. He played for the pure joy of the game.

After hitting his 500th home run, becoming only the 9th player to achieve that feat, he summed up his feelings by saying: “The riches of the game are in the thrills, not the money.” That is an inspiring message.

In 2013, I contacted some friends in the White House and asked President Obama to consider a Medal of Freedom for Ernie Banks. I felt that his impressive career with the Cubs and his courage in breaking down the color barrier in baseball were reason enough. But more than these amazing achievements, Ernie’s spirit set him apart.

It was a special moment to be there at the White House when Ernie Banks received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I was honored to see it and experience it.

After being awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, we held a reception for him in my office up here. I don’t know if there have ever been so many humbled politicians coming by my office looking for an autograph. He happened to sign this photo for me that day that I have in the Chamber. I remember JOHNNY ISAKSON from Georgia—a faithful Atlanta Braves fan—made a point of being there to meet Ernie Banks. And I remember HARRY REID, when he met Ernie Banks, said: “I used to play a little baseball.” Ernie Banks said to him: “Well, Senator REID, what position did you play?” He said: “I was a catcher.” Ernie Banks said: “If you were truly a catcher, get down in that catcher’s position.” Somehow or another, HARRY REID got down in that catcher’s position right in my office to prove it to Ernie Banks.

Ernie could not have been more gracious with his time, signing autographs for everybody who showed up. He made time for everybody.

The North Side of Chicago and Wrigley Field will not be the same without Ernie. “Let’s play two” will echo off the bricks and ivy for generations to come. His positive, hopeful, Cub view of life filled every room and

every baseball diamond he ever touched.

And now it would seem they need to find a new roster spot on the Field of Dreams—and everyone better be ready for daytime double-headers too.

Ernie Banks, your spirit, passion, and sunny outlook on life will be missed.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1, which the clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1) to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Pending:

Murkowski amendment No. 2, in the nature of a substitute.

Vitter/Cassidy modified amendment No. 80 (to amendment No. 2), to provide for the distribution of revenues from certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf.

Murkowski (for Sullivan) amendment No. 67 (to amendment No. 2), to restrict the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency to arm agency personnel.

Cardin amendment No. 75 (to amendment No. 2), to provide communities that rely on drinking water from a source that may be affected by a tar sands spill from the Keystone XL pipeline an analysis of the potential risks to public health and the environment from a leak or rupture of the pipeline.

Murkowski amendment No. 98 (to amendment No. 2), to express the sense of Congress relating to adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities.

Flake amendment No. 103 (to amendment No. 2), to require the evaluation and consolidation of duplicative green building programs.

Cruz amendment No. 15 (to amendment No. 2), to promote economic growth and job creation by increasing exports.

Moran/Cruz amendment No. 73 (to amendment No. 2), to delist the lesser prairie-chicken as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Daines amendment No. 132 (to amendment No. 2), to express the sense of Congress regarding the designation of National Monuments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. COATS. Madam President, I came to the floor to speak about a measure that is supported by Members of both sides. I was listening to the remarks by the minority whip on who commemorated the life of Ernie Banks.

REMEMBERING ERNIE BANKS

I began school in Chicago in the early 1960s, when Ernie Banks was playing, and it is to be noted for the record that my grade point average would have been higher had I not spent so many afternoons at Wrigley Field watching the Cubs play. During that time all the games were played during the day, and