

the consideration of the conference report.

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NATIONAL ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2000—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now renew my motion to proceed to S. 2557. I will notify all Senators as to the exact date on which I intend to file cloture on this very important tax conference report. I note that I will not do that today. In the meantime, this action I have just taken will allow me to file that cloture motion at a later date.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent that the time between now and 6:30 remain in control of the majority leader for morning business, as provided under the previous order.

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

Mr. LOTT. At the request of Senator GRASSLEY and others who wish to be heard, we are asking to extend the time from 6 until 6:30.

I believe there will be a voice vote at the conclusion of this time.

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

Mr. LOTT. I yield the floor.

THE LEGAL IMMIGRATION FAMILY EQUITY ACT

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, it is highly unfortunate that the Clinton administration is apparently trying to play politics with immigration during the final days before the Presidential election.

The Congress has tried to work in good faith with the President to help immigrants who play by the rules, and have not been treated fairly by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Unfortunately, the President does not seem to be interested in a reasonable compromise.

President Clinton has demanded blanket amnesty for any alien in the United States in 1986 or before. This is not limited to legal immigrants. It includes illegal aliens. It does not matter to the President whether they have tried to follow the law in getting their status adjusted during all these years, or whether they flagrantly violated the immigration laws. The President just wants to give blanket amnesty. Also, the White House does not know how many would be eligible for amnesty under their plan, but the number would clearly be in the millions. This is irresponsible policy.

The National Border Patrol Council, whose members are border patrol agents, has strongly criticized the President's proposal. They said, "In addition to punishing those who abide by

our immigration laws and rewarding those who disobey them, a new amnesty would encourage innumerable others to break our laws in the future. This is not sound public policy."

The Congress has a better way. The Legal Immigration Family Equity Act, which is part of the Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations legislation, would allow aliens in the United States before 1982 to secure amnesty if they had tried to comply with the immigration laws. This would provide assistance to about 400,000 aliens who were wrongly denied relief through administrative action of the I.N.S.

Moreover, the legislation would assist hundreds of thousands of applicants who are on a waiting list to be united with their families in the United States. This bill would greatly help promote family unification.

As this legislation demonstrates, the Congress should help immigrants who help themselves and try to follow the rules. However, far too often, the roadblock that legal immigrants run into has nothing to do with the Congress. It is caused by the Administration, and more specifically the I.N.S.

The record of the I.N.S. in helping legal immigrants during this Administration has been very poor. I have grown very frustrated in recent years trying to help citizens of my state who are trying to work through the I.N.S. and follow the law. Sometimes, when I make inquiries about an applicant's case, the I.N.S. does not even respond to my repeated requests. When I do get a response, it is often handwritten and hard to read or understand. It may even be inaccurate. Also, the I.N.S. has actually lost files about which I was inquiring. If federal elected officials receive this type of treatment, the difficulties that applicants face while trying to work with the I.N.S. alone must be many, many times worse. I have contacted the Attorney General about these chronic problems, but I have not even received the courtesy of a response.

With a new Administration next year, I hope we can fundamentally reform the I.N.S. We must make it responsive to the people.

In the meantime, the President should cooperate with the Congress, and promote reasonable solutions to the problems faced by legal immigrants. At the same time, he should devote his attention to addressing the fundamental problems regarding how immigrants are treated by his own administration every single day.

GEN. RICHARD LAWSON, USAF: IN THE STYLE OF CINCINNATUS

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the great success and continuing strength of the United States as a republic is due in no small part to the willingness of our citizens to be soldiers and, no less important, of our soldiers to be citizens.

One such soldier-citizen is General Richard L. Lawson, late of the Air

Force of the United States, now on the verge of a second retirement, this time from a productive career in public life.

On active duty as General Lawson, he held positions of trust at the highest levels of responsibility in planning and executing the military elements of U.S. foreign policy during times of great tension.

As Dick Lawson, the envoy plenipotentiary from the most basic of America's basic industries to the councils of government that include this Senate, he has made useful and durable contributions to policies that make the Nation more secure and energy independent.

Richard Lawson is, in fundamental ways, exceptional, if not unique.

He is one of few individuals to hold every enlisted and commissioned rank in the military structure from enlistee of bottom rank to the four-star grade that signifies overall command. He may well be the only one to have done this between two services—to rise step-by-step from buck private to regimental sergeant major in the Army National Guard of Iowa; and then, when commissioned into the Air Force, from second lieutenant to general.

Highlights of General Lawson's Air Force career include the following: military assistant at the White House under two Presidents; Commander, Eighth Air Force; Director of Plans and Policy for the Joint Chiefs of Staff; U.S. representative to the military committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance; Chief of staff at Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Powers in Europe; and, finally, command of the day-to-day activities and deployments of all services in the U.S. European Command, the deputy commander-in-chief.

During his span of service, some important national and international developments included the following: the making of plans and the acquisition of means to re-establish U.S. strength and flexibility and deterrence; the restoration of cordiality among the NATO allies.

General Lawson left active service in 1986. Early the next year, while figuratively behind the plow, like Cincinnatus, he was approached by a delegation of coal industry leaders. They found him, in fact, clearing undergrowth on his acreage in the Virginia countryside. They called him again into service, and he again responded.

In the 14 years since then, Dick Lawson has presided over the unification of what once was both a profusion and a confusion of voices that sought to speak for mining. He first blended together within the National Coal Association all elements of the coal industry. More recently, he joined the many elements of mining represented by coal, metals and minerals producers. With the union of the coal association and the American Mining Congress to form the National Mining Association, two voices became one.

It has been America's good fortune to have leaders which exhibit true faith and allegiance to the general welfare and the blessings of liberty.

One such leader is Richard L. Lawson. I personally thank him for his efforts, for his patriotism, and for his vision.

His 40 years of combined military duty is rich with decorations and honors. It includes the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, and the Legion of Merit. On the level of personal service, it includes the Soldier's Medal that recognizes an act of courage not involving an armed enemy; and the Air Medal and the Bronze Star that reflect combat duty in the Vietnam War.

We owe a debt of gratitude to men like General Lawson, who give so freely and so much to this great nation. May this nation always be blessed with such citizens.

God give us men!

A time like this demands strong minds,
great hearts, true faith, and ready hands.
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will not lie.
Men who can stand before a demagogue
And brave his treacherous flatteries without
winking.

Tall men, sun—crowned;
Who live above the fog,
In public duty and in private thinking.
For while the rabble with its thumbworn
creeds,

It's large professions and its little deeds,
mingles in selfish strife,
Lo! Freedom weeps!
Wrong rules the land and waiting justice
sleeps.

God give us men!

Men who serve not for selfish booty;
But real men, courageous, who flinch not at
duty.

Men of dependable character;
Men of sterling worth;
Then wrongs will be redressed, and right will
rule the earth.

God Give us Men!

SENATOR PATRICK MOYNIHAN'S RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the finest scholars to have graced the United States Senate, Senator DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN. As all of you know, our esteemed colleague from New York will soon be retiring from the Senate after 24 years.

Senator MOYNIHAN has a rich history of public service. Beginning his political career as a member of Averell Harriman's gubernatorial campaign staff in 1954, Senator MOYNIHAN used his vast intellect to build one of the most expansive political resumes of the 20th century. To attempt to list every position ever held by my colleague would take entirely too long. However, some of the highlights of his political career include serving in the Cabinet or sub-Cabinet of Presidents Kennedy, John-

son, Nixon, and Ford, serving as a U.S. Ambassador to India, and as a U.S. Representative to the United Nations. In 1976, he again represented the U.S. as President of the United Nations Security Council. It is important to note that Senator MOYNIHAN accomplished all of this prior to his tenure in the Senate.

Though anyone would be impressed with such an extensive biography, Senator MOYNIHAN has not limited himself to the political arena. He has served in the United States Navy, taught at some of the most elite schools in the Nation, authored or edited 18 books, and has served on numerous boards and committees. An exhaustive lifestyle few could endure has resulted in Senator MOYNIHAN's receipt of some of the most prestigious national awards, and 62 honorary degrees.

The Senate will not be the same without my esteemed colleague from the Empire State, and I would like to express my gratitude for his service to this Nation. I wish him and his wife Liz health, happiness, and success in all of their future endeavors.

SENATOR BOB KERREY'S RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to bid farewell to a true American hero. Senator J. ROBERT KERREY will be retiring from the United States Senate after dedicating the last twelve years to representing the fine state of Nebraska.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have had the opportunity to serve with several distinguished patriots. However, few have displayed the commitment and ability of Senator BOB KERREY.

After graduating from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1966, BOB set his aspirations high, earning a prestigious slot on one of America's most elite fighting forces, the Navy Seals. While serving this Nation in Vietnam, BOB demonstrated the valor, leadership, and selflessness deserving of the Congressional Medal of Honor. The Medal of Honor is the highest medal awarded by the United States and is reserved for those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty, at the risk of their own life, to perform a deed of personal bravery or self-sacrifice.

Upon his return to the States after the war, BOB built a thriving business with unwavering determination. After proving himself an able businessman, he decided to pursue a career in public service. In 1982, he was sworn in as Governor of the Cornhusker State. During his four year tenure, he used his vast financial knowledge to turn a three percent deficit into a seven percent surplus.

BOB changed roles but continued his public service, when he won a seat in the U.S. Senate in 1988. Admired by his constituents for his countless contribu-

tions to furthering education and assisting small farmers, he was re-elected in 1994.

It has been a privilege to serve along side this American patriot, and I am pleased that I had the opportunity to work with him on the Armed Services Committee. I wish him and his two children, Benjamin and Lindsey, health, happiness, and success in all their future endeavors.

SENATOR CONNIE MACK'S RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has made countless contributions to the state of Florida and to this Nation during his tenure in the United States Senate, Senator CONNIE MACK. Senator MACK has decided to retire after serving two successful terms in the Senate.

Prior to his entrance into public service, CONNIE spent 16 years as a local banker. During this time, he established himself as a civic leader in his Florida community and helped spearhead an effort to build a much needed local hospital. Recognizing that as a member of Congress he could do much more to help not only his local community, but the entire nation as well, he decided to run for a seat in the House of Representatives.

While serving three terms in the House, CONNIE built a reputation as someone who could get things done. It was soon obvious to many familiar with this aspiring politician that his talents would best serve this nation in the United States Senate. Running on a platform of "less taxing, less spending, less government, more freedom," CONNIE MACK was embraced by the Florida voters and was sworn in as the junior Senator for the Sunshine State in January 1989.

Senator MACK was soon recognized by his colleagues as a man with a solid work ethic of uncompromising integrity. In 1996, he was chosen by his Republican colleagues as Chairman of the Republican Conference, and he retained this post for the rest of his time in office. He fought intensely for his constituents, and they repaid him in 1994 when they re-elected him with 70 percent of the vote—the first Republican in Florida to be re-elected to the United States Senate.

During CONNIE's tenure in the Senate, he has used his extensive banking experience to frame landmark legislation which modernized our banking laws and helped prepare our financial system for the global market of the 21st century. A fierce opponent of government waste, he advocates deficit reduction and cutting congressional spending.

CONNIE's most admirable trait is his determination to overcome tragedy. His family's battle with cancer catalyzed the young Senator to push a legislative agenda focused on eliminating this destructive disease. Senator MACK