trade adjustment assistance applications will be quicker and more effective.

Our fourth objective was to recognize the direct correlation between job dislocation, job training, and economic development, especially in communities that have been hit hard by trade. Currently, trade adjustment assistance focuses specifically on individual retraining, but does not address the possibility that unemployment might be so high in a community that jobs are not available once an individual has completed a training program.

To fix this problem, we created a community Trade Adjustment Assistance Program, based at the Department of Commerce, specifically designed to provide strategic planning assistance and economic development funding to communities that have suffered substantially from a trade-related economic downturn. Significantly, this is a bottom-up approach, as we emphasized the responsibility of local agencies and organizations to create a community-based recovery plan that fits the economic needs of their region.

Our fifth objective was to help family farmers and ranchers. At present, trade adjustment assistance is available for employees of agricultural firms, but only when they become unemployed. This doesn't help family farmers and ranchers since they can't lose their job, there is no way for them to become eligible for trade adjustment assistance.

We fix this problem by offering trade adjustment assistance allowances to family farmers and ranchers but allow them to opt out of the training program. This allows them to keep their land and get through the hard times that come as a result of international trade.

The administration has focused their efforts on obtaining fast-track authority, stating that it is necessary for the United States to continue its leadership role in the international system. I do not disagree with the view that new, more comprehensive trade agreements will help U.S. corporations become more competitive in the international market. I am prepared to vote for an acceptable fast-track bill, as I think it is a valuable tool in opening the markets of other countries. But I will vote for fast-track only if a strong Trade Adjustment Assistance Program is part of the package. I think it is unacceptable to move forward on new trade agreements if we do not address the problems that American workers and communities face at this time.

I look forward to working with my colleagues and the administration to get a meaningful trade package through the Senate and to the President for signature.

I yield the floor and 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. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I heard the senior Senator from Utah speak this afternoon. I wanted to respond to what he said, but I didn't have that opportunity because of the intervening events. The Senator from Utah and I are good friends. I think the world of Senator HATCH. But I think on this issue regarding trade he is absolutely wrong. I say that because the trade bill has been laid down. There are a number of important issues in it. In fact, one of the few things I really support is what is being done to try to protect the steelworkers.

First of all, what is in this bill is very modest. It covers 1 year of retirement for steelworkers. When these people worked in the steel mills, they were promised they would have retirement benefits. Those retirement benefits are now gone. I bet those bosses who worked at the steel companies have pensions.

The people who oppose this legislation, and have a filibuster going on it now, should do what they have to do. If they don't like that part of the bill, move to strike it. Let's debate it on the floor and find out who has the most votes. Don't filibuster the bill. This is a bill the President says is a most important bill. I don't necessarily agree with his priorities, but that is what he said.

So it seems somewhat unusual to me that members of his own party are holding up this legislation. The first amendment is up and we cannot vote on it; there is a filibuster. We have all been through the energy bill, and we know how long that was held up. We were finally able to pass that. We want to bring up hate crimes; they will not let us do that.

Terrorism insurance, I have spoken on this floor several times about the importance of that terrorism insurance. Realtors, developers, bankers, and people in the financial markets say that is extremely important.

The Secretary of the Treasury for the United States testified this week that if that is not passed, it will have at least a 1-percent effect on the gross domestic product of this country. Now, my friend, the Presiding Officer, Senator REED, is chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, which renders reports to the Senate on a frequent basis about the state of the economy of this country. Whether the Secretary is right or not, I think it is something we should take into consideration.

We on the Democratic side have agreed to have this legislation go forward. We have tried everything we can to bring it to the floor. We have even agreed to have four amendments. So I hope everybody understands that we want this legislation to go forward. There isn't a single Democrat holding up this legislation.

I hope the President and the people who work with him will send a message to the Republican Senators that this terrorism insurance should be passed. I hope we can get that done as quickly as possible. People are awaiting construction projects, some are even talking about stopping some of it. We have a large shopping center in Las Vegas, one of the largest construction projects; it is in a mall. There are a lot of stores there. They are talking about stopping in the middle of construction because they can't get a continuation of their insurance.

So I hope the President will do that during the break we have. We don't need to be involved in a filibuster on the trade legislation. We need to move forward with hate crimes, terrorism insurance, and so many other items. I hope we can do that as soon as possible.

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. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, momentarily we will take up a unanimous consent request that will accommodate a debate on the farm bill conference report. As I understand it, the distinguished Republican leader is on his way to the Chamber. Let me comment briefly on a couple of scheduling matters.

I know the assistant Democratic leader has talked on several occasions and has offered unanimous consent agreements on terrorism insurance. We would be prepared, once again, to offer a unanimous consent agreement on terrorism insurance, but I hear our Republican colleagues continue to object. We have said on many occasions we are prepared to go to the floor procedurally, have a debate on any one of a number of questions relating directly or indirectly to terrorism insurance, but for whatever reason, our Republican colleagues continue to refuse to allow that debate and that consideration. This has been an ongoing effort.

We have made many attempts to satisfy those certain Senators on the other side who proclaim interest and support for terrorism insurance, but we have been unable to satisfy their obstruction—I use that word with full appreciation of its definition—their obstruction when it comes to an important matter such as this. We will continue to try to talk with our colleagues in an effort to come to some conclusion procedurally, but I must say there is growing frustration on our part that we have not been able to proceed.

The same could be said for the conference report on the farm bill. I have

attempted to bring the bill up throughout the day. I must say, Senator LOTT deserves commendation in his efforts to work with those who have threatened filibusters on the legislation. We received a letter from the President today urging the Senate to send the bill to the President as soon as possible. That was my hope today, that we would have a bill to send to the President. But as I now understand it, our Republican colleagues, rather than filibustering the bill, will ask for a substantial amount of additional time.

We will ask unanimous consent they have 6 hours on Tuesday and 6 hours on Wednesday to talk about a conference report. So we will accommodate that request and we will proceed with that unanimous consent request as soon as the Republican leader comes to the floor.

I have been getting calls today from the administration urging us to complete our work on trade as well. But as my colleagues know, there are those Senators on the other side who currently are filibustering the trade bill, the trade package. So we have a filibuster on trade and trade adjustment assistance, a quasi-filibuster on the farm bill, and I guess you could call it a filibuster on terrorism insurance—at least an unwillingness to proceed to terrorism insurance.

These issues are important. We hear oftentimes our colleagues talk about how they wish we could accomplish more on the Senate floor. I advise my colleagues, this is one reason it is difficult to accomplish more, when we don't get any more cooperation than that.

I do appreciate the work the Republican leader has invested in getting us at least to this point. I am prepared to entertain the unanimous consent request as soon as he comes to the floor.

I might say that the schedule next week will include not only this elongated debate on a conference report relating to the farm bill but the trade bill. The schedule will include, of course, the debate on Tuesday for 6 hours. We will then go back to the trade bill. The debate on the farm conference report will pick up again on Wednesday, beginning at around 9:30. Our expectation would be that we would then complete debate by Wednesday afternoon with, again, the expectation we would come back to the trade bill and attempt to move and consider additional amendments.

Because there are no vote scheduled on Monday, we will be in a pro forma session on Monday. There will be no votes, and I would not expect any debate on the trade bill on Monday.

That is the schedule. My desire is to dual-track other issues as they become available. I realize the possibility is not very significant, but if we could reach an agreement procedurally on terrorism insurance, of course we would bring that up. We have other confirmation questions we would want to raise and certainly would be prepared to have votes on those as well. In addition, as legislation becomes available that does not involve a great deal of controversy, it would be my hope that we could take that up, as well, on a dual track.

I remind my colleagues, we do have to make every effort to accommodate the May 16 deadline on the Andean Trade Preferences Act. If we fail, obviously all of the conditions involving the trade barriers that existed prior to the enactment of TPA kick back in. We would hate to see that. I hope we can avoid that. We will cross that bridge when we come to it.

Therefore, it is important we use all of that time available to us next week, outside of this consideration of the farm bill, to continue TPA, TAA consideration.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

FOSTERING HUMANE TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print in the RECORD remarks I made before the U.S. Humane Society.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

REMARKS BY U.S. SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD, AT THE U.S. HUMANE SOCIETY, WASHINGTON, D.C.

From ancient days, before the ink of history, man has held dominion over the animals. Should we be able to peer through the mist of those distant times, we might witness the process by which man turned from gatherer to hunter, and, skill permitting, began to use the flesh of animals as a source of food and survival in a cold world full of danger and a perilous future. Later, the relationship of man and animals began to evolve through so-called domestication, and animals became a more reliable source of food. A partnership of sorts was formed in which animals came to bear the brunt of labor and the title ''Beasts of Burden''.

Over this same stretch of time, man developed social compacts from which sprang the seeds of modern civilization, and which led to pursuits of philosophy, and an emphasis on morality. The process was slow in development and uneven in allocation among and within societies. Even today, attitudes and actions persist that run counter to a higher understanding about the value of life and the lives of all things. For better or worse, man is destined to rule this world, and with that charge comes the heavy responsibility of benevolent custody and faithful husbandry to all creatures found within nature. To fail in that duty is to denigrate the sanctity of all life. Choices in our treatment of animals are a good barometer of how well we are carrying out our stewardship of God's beautiful world. Man may choose to rule this world, or attempt to do so, but for all his worry over property rights among his own species, it is well to remember that it is only God who holds title to this planet.

Maintaining civilization sometimes seems a process of constant struggle with those who, either because of ignorance or a deliberate scheme, would prefer to stress efficiency and materialism over more elusive concepts. To balance those forces, those of us who hear a different drummer must educate, legislate, and promulgate better understandings and guidelines aimed at bringing mankind into closer harmony with nature. The Congress embodies the collective will of the American people, and those of us who serve there recognize that our duty is to the people in our states. But, we also have a duty to safeguard the spirit of this Nation and all that it represents in terms of philosophy and ideals, as well as law. You honor me this evening for my work in pursuit of these higher objectives, and I am very grateful.

Your organization works to enrich the condition of man by improving his relationship with nature, and in particular, his relationship with the animal kingdom. You bring to the public discourse a better understanding of the conditions in which animals exist and, unfortunately in many instances, of the inhumane manner in which they are treated. You remind us all that animals share this planet with us, and that their space, their comfort, and their lives are not without importance. You remind us of man's higher purpose in the larger universe. Public debate is enriched by your participation, and the lives of God's creatures greatly benefit because of your contributions.

Animals are man's fellow occupants on this blue-green ball, slowly spinning through eternity, and they enlighten and enliven our lives in many ways. They provide us companionship and friendship. They ward off loneliness. They assist the blind. They protect us. They help maintain the balance of nature. While there are those who object to the practice, they feed us. They benefit us in ways we don't even recognize. In return, it is our duty to ensure that their lives and, in some cases, their deaths, are free from unnecessary discomfort. Animals, deserve our respect because, they, too, are creatures of God. Combating cruelty and apathy towards the welfare of animals is a high and moral calling. I commend you for your altruism, and I am proud to count myself among your number. We cannot correct all the problems overnight, but we can make changes today, and we can make changes tomorrow. We have come a long way towards the goal of fostering more humane treatment for animals, but we still have much to do.

This evening, together we pause to reflect on our achievements and to contemplate future strategies. I am humbled by your recognition of my work, your encouragement, and the hope that our efforts may inspire others to a more sublime level of humanity through empathy with the animals with which we share this lovely world.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I am pleased to join several of my distinguished colleagues in support of S. 2439, the Human Cloning Prohibition Act of 2002, that will outlaw the reproductive cloning of human beings, and at the same time promote critical medical research. During my consideration of the new and emerging areas of regenerative medicine, including nuclear transplantation technologies, two basic principles have guided my thoughts. First, as someone who has taken a pro-life stance, I believe that Congress should pursue policies that encourage the development of life-saving treatments. Second, nuclear transplantation research, if performed under the strictest