

MURRAY for her leadership and for including so many of these important reforms in our bill.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Maryland for her remarks, her contributions to our committee, her bipartisan leadership, and her effective leadership both in higher education and in elementary and secondary education.

I enjoyed listening to the remarks of the Senator from Colorado, the former Denver school superintendent, who has added so much to our committee.

I congratulate the Senator from Mississippi for his contribution to the amendment on which we are about to vote.

We will have one rollcall vote on the Reed-Cochran amendment, and then we will have two votes following that, which will be voice votes.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2085

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). Under the previous order, the question now occurs on amendment No. 2085, offered by the Senator from Washington, Mrs. MURRAY, for Mr. REED.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 222 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Alexander	Durbin	McCaskill
Ayotte	Enzi	McConnell
Baldwin	Ernst	Menendez
Barrasso	Feinstein	Merkley
Bennet	Fischer	Mikulski
Blumenthal	Flake	Moran
Blunt	Franken	Murkowski
Booker	Gardner	Murphy
Boozman	Gillibrand	Murray
Boxer	Graham	Nelson
Brown	Grassley	Paul
Burr	Hatch	Perdue
Cantwell	Heinrich	Peters
Capito	Heitkamp	Portman
Cardin	Heller	Reed
Carper	Hirono	Reid
Casey	Hoeven	Risch
Cassidy	Inhofe	Roberts
Coats	Isakson	Rounds
Cochran	Johnson	Sanders
Collins	Kaine	Sasse
Coons	Kirk	Schatz
Corker	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott
Cotton	Leahy	Sessions
Crapo	Lee	Shaheen
Cruz	Manchin	Shelby
Daines	Markey	Stabenow
Donnelly	McCain	Sullivan

Tester	Udall	Whitehouse
Thune	Vitter	Wicker
Tillis	Warner	Wyden
Toomey	Warren	

NOT VOTING—2

King Rubio

The amendment (No. 2085) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2086

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question now occurs on agreeing to amendment No. 2086, offered by the Senator from Washington, Mrs. MURRAY, for Mr. WARNER.

The amendment (No. 2086) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2078

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question now occurs on agreeing to amendment No. 2078, offered by the Senator from Tennessee, Mr. ALEXANDER, for Mr. ROUNDS.

The amendment (No. 2078) was agreed to.

RECESS

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

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:48 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. SCOTT).

EVERY CHILD ACHIEVES ACT OF 2015—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the distinguished Senator from the State of Ohio, Mr. BROWN, be recognized at the conclusion of my remarks.

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

TRAGEDY IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, before I make my remarks, I would like to commend the Presiding Officer and Senator GRAHAM and the people of the great State of South Carolina on the way they have handled the terrible tragedy that took place in their State.

I know time and again we have all heard on the floor of the Senate and in conversations we have had in private the amazing mercy and grace shown by the families of the victims of the terrible tragedy that took place, but equally as well the great way in which the elected officials in the State of South Carolina, led by the Presiding Officer and Senator GRAHAM, have caused a terrible event to be a learning experience for all of America and an example for the way in which tragedy should be dealt with. I want the Presiding Officer to know how much I personally appreciate it, but I know I speak on behalf of all of the people of Georgia as well.

Mr. President, I will speak briefly about two subjects.

Mr. President, I am one of the two people left in the Congress who had

something to do with No Child Left Behind. The other one is JOHN BOEHNER, the Speaker of the House. I will never forget that night in 2001, in the basement of the Capitol, after the conference committee finally came to an agreement on No Child Left Behind—us talking about how proud we were of what we had done but more how we knew that if we did not get it fixed by the end of the sixth year, it would go from being a positive change in education to a negative.

It is now 13 years later. We have gone 7 years without a reauthorization. What became a good goal of meeting adequate yearly progress, setting standards for schools, and remediating schools that were in trouble has become a bill where 80 percent of the school systems in America have to ask for waivers to even operate. It is a bill that no longer is doing what it was intended to do for the education of our children.

I commend Senator ALEXANDER and Senator MURRAY for the unbelievably good work they have done to bring the new reform of the ESEA to the floor of the Senate today. I participated in all the hearings, as did the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer knows what I know: that we brought about compromise and common sense. We created a bill that is good for children, good for educators, and good for America.

First and foremost, it gets us out of the national school board business, which is Chairman ALEXANDER's favorite statement for the Department of Education.

People forget that the U.S. Department of Education is not mentioned anywhere in the Constitution of the United States. It is mentioned in two places. One is in title I in the Civil Rights Act of the 1960s when we provided funds for free and reduced-price lunches for poor students to give them a leg up and second in 1978 when, in the Carter administration, we passed what was known as Public Law 94-192, which created special needs children benefits or what is known as the Individuals with Disabilities Act. Those are the only two places in statute that the Federal Government has a role. Senator MURRAY and Senator ALEXANDER have seen to it that we recognize that fact.

We enhance education where we are supposed to, but we turn it back over to the States, where it belongs and where it should be.

Secondly, one of the big buzzwords in bad brand labels that have taken place in education is Common Core. Common Core is a lot of things to a lot of people, but most importantly for many people it is a Federal mandate of standards, it is a homogenization of standards, and it is a mandate the American people do not like.

This bill ensures there will be no Common Core mandate by the Federal Government to the States and ensures local control of curriculum from beginning to end.