

My amendment does the latter, not the former. I do not oppose the former. I understand that there is lots of opposition to going to the 60 votes. I presume that there is even opposition to have a have majority to even waive having CBO even do some estimating.

It seems to me, Mr. President, that it is one thing to have a supermajority that we are going to go ahead even though we do not fund the mandate. But it seems to me that we cannot intellectually and honestly approach the subject of public policy without knowing what that cost is.

My amendment would simply make it more difficult for this body to avoid even finding out what a particular mandate is going to cost. I would like to have that be a supermajority because it seems to me that there is no way we can defend passing mandates or maybe even any other public policy without knowing what that cost is.

I will have, Mr. President, further to say on each of these amendments at a future time this afternoon and particularly on the first amendment that I have sent to the desk. Senator SNOWE, the new Senator from the State of Maine, has been very helpful to me on this amendment and she would like to speak a few minutes on that amendment. I yield the floor.

Mr. WELLSTONE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who seeks recognition?

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, if there is no other Senator on the floor to offer an amendment, I ask unanimous consent to speak no more than 5 minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Minnesota? Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONVEYING SADNESS, SYMPATHY, AND OUTRAGE

Mr. WELLSTONE. I thank the Chair. Mr. President, sometimes we speak on the floor of the Senate—Democrats and Republicans—not because we have an amendment to offer, not because it is our legislative agenda, but because we just cannot be silent and we feel that it is important as Senators, given the honor of being Senators, to speak about those issues and those peoples that we feel very strongly about.

In today's New York Times, there is a picture that tells more than a thousand words:

A friend of Sgt. Maya Kopstein, a 19-year-old victim of a suicide bombing, mourned at her grave yesterday and held the flag from her coffin.

Mr. President, 19 Israelis were murdered in a Palestinian suicide bombing. All but one of these soldiers were barely old enough to vote.

This one young woman over here in this picture, as I talked with a very close friend of mine—we become close with the staff we work with—my legislative director, Mike Epstein, said: "Just look at her face, this young

woman, young girl. It looks as if she's saying, 'What kind of a world do I live in?'"

Israelis murdered, " * * * all but one of them soldiers barely old enough to vote."

I have three children, and my youngest is now 22. These were children who were murdered. I do not know when all this violence will stop, but I want to speak on the floor of the Senate today—and I did have a chance to also talk to the Israeli Ambassador—to convey not only my sadness and sympathy but also my outrage. I believe that this is a sentiment that I express for all Senators, and I send this to the people of Israel. I want them to know that all of us care fiercely about what has happened, that all of us, on both sides of the aisle, condemn murder.

And, Mr. President, I today hope and pray—I use those words carefully but I think those words apply—I hope and pray that the Israelis, Palestinians, all of the peoples in the Middle East, find a way, first of all for security and protection, to stop this, and, second of all, a way to move forward—to move forward—with the peace process. There has to come a day when children are not murdering children. There has to come a day when this violence ends. There has to come a day of reconciliation.

The sad thing is that the extremists have figured out the most effective way of trying to destroy this process. The extremists have figured out perhaps the most effective way of trying to make sure that there never will be peace. But my hope and my prayer today is for all of the families of all of these young people that have been murdered. My hope and prayer today is for the Israelis and the Palestinians, and for all the people in the Middle East—that there will be reconciliation. And as an American Senator and as an American Jewish Senator, I want to speak on the floor to express these sentiments. I want my country to be as helpful as possible, our Government to be as helpful as possible at this time. I want us to extend our friendship and our support to Israel. I never want any of us to turn our gaze away from this kind of outrageous slaughter of young people, of children.

Murder, Mr. President, is never legitimate. Murder by anyone is never legitimate.

I yield the floor.

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

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

UNFUNDED MANDATE REFORM ACT

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

AMENDMENT NOS. 209 AND 210, EN BLOC

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be laid aside so that I may send to the desk two amendments, which I will send en bloc. Discussion on these will occur at a later time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Idaho [Mr. KEMPTHORNE] proposes amendments numbered 209 and 210, en bloc.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendments be dispensed with.

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

The amendments are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 209

(Purpose: To provide an exemption for legislation that reauthorizes appropriations and does not cause a net increase in direct costs of mandates to State, local, and tribal governments)

On page 26, after line 5, insert the following new subsection:

"() LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply to any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that reauthorizes appropriations, or that amends existing authorizations of appropriations, to carry out any statute if adoption of the bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report—

"(1) would not result in a net increase in the aggregate amount of direct costs of Federal intergovernmental mandates; and

"(2)(A) would not result in a net reduction or elimination of authorization of appropriations for Federal financial assistance that would be provided to States, local governments, or tribal governments for use to comply with any Federal intergovernmental mandate; or

"(B) in the case of any net reduction or elimination of authorizations of appropriations for such Federal financial assistance that would result from such enactment, would reduce the duties imposed by the Federal intergovernmental mandate by a corresponding amount."

AMENDMENT NO. 210

(Purpose: To make technical corrections, and for other purposes)

(The text of the amendment is located in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, we will discuss those two amendments or call them up at a later time.

AMENDMENT NO. 211

(Purpose: To make technical corrections, and for other purposes)

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to send to the desk an amendment by Mr. KEMPTHORNE for Mr. DOLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendment will be set aside and the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows: