

Breaux	Graham	Lieberman
Bryan	Harkin	Mikulski
Byrd	Heflin	Moseley-Braun
Conrad	Inouye	Moynihan
D'Amato	Johnston	Murray
Daschle	Kennedy	Pell
Dodd	Kerrey	Reid
Dorgan	Kerry	Robb
Feingold	Kohl	Rockefeller
Feinstein	Lautenberg	Sarbanes
Ford	Leahy	Simon
Glenn	Levin	Wellstone

NAYS—57

Abraham	Frist	McCain
Ashcroft	Gorton	McConnell
Bennett	Gramm	Murkowski
Bond	Grams	Nickles
Brown	Grassley	Nunn
Bumpers	Gregg	Packwood
Burns	Hatch	Pressler
Campbell	Hatfield	Pryor
Chafee	Helms	Roth
Coats	Hollings	Santorum
Cochran	Hutchison	Shelby
Cohen	Inhofe	Smith
Coverdell	Jeffords	Snowe
Craig	Kassebaum	Specter
DeWine	Kempthorne	Stevens
Dole	Kyl	Thomas
Domenici	Lott	Thompson
Exon	Lugar	Thurmond
Faircloth	Mack	Warner

NOT VOTING—1

Simpson

So the motion to lay on the table the amendment (No. 331) was rejected.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOLE. 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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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. DOLE. Mr. President, the question is on what?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the amendment of the Senator from Kansas.

Mr. KENNEDY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, as I have stated earlier, many of us want to get about the business of the appropriations bill. But it has been the decision of the Senator from Kansas to offer an amendment that affects the quality of life of hundreds of thousands of workers in this country.

As I stated earlier in the day, it is amazing to me that this institution has debated mainly two issues. One has been unfunded mandates, and the second is the balanced budget amendment. And now the first issue that comes before us affecting working people is to limit their rights and liberties in the workplace. If this amendment were to be passed tonight, millions of workers would be affected by it. Their working conditions would not be enhanced. Their wages would not be increased.

The well being of the children of those workers will not be enhanced. Their parents will not have a greater assurance of where we are going and where the Contract With America is going.

So it is an extraordinary fact that the first measure before us affecting

working families is to diminish their rights and interests.

I am quite prepared to go forward, as we did earlier, with debate about the Executive order and its importance to working families. We have no interest in prolonging consideration of the underlying bill. But we do believe that this is a matter of considerable importance, and there are Senators who want to be heard.

Mr. 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. STEVENS. 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. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak on a matter separate and apart from the existing bill for a period of about 7 or 8 minutes.

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

RURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I want to bring to the attention of the Senate a demonstration that is currently taking place in the rotunda of the Russell Senate Office Building. I urge all Members of the Senate and their staffs to stop by and see this exhibit.

It is a demonstration of a new satellite telecommunications technology and the potential for advancing telecommunications to rural areas.

The satellite technology demonstrated in the rotunda is just one of the new applications that is coming on line in the near future. Telemedicine is one of the applications that I hope it will help bring to the farthest reaches of my State.

As I think the Senate knows, Alaska is one-fifth the size of the Continental United States. We have been using satellite technology to communicate with remote Alaskan communities since the 1970's, and in many of those communities, we have only one village health aide. Using the advanced digital technology that is now becoming available—and it is used in this demonstration—it will be possible for that nurse to send medical images to hospitals in Anchorage, or even to what we call the lower 48 States, for review by a doctor, something that cannot be done today. In these remote clinics, staffed by people who just have high school education, we are going to be able to take medicine, good telemedicine, directly to the villages.

Eventually, I hope to see even more advanced telemedicine applications like the remote surgery that is being developed by the joint civilian and military medical teams today. At the rotunda demonstration, there is also a

telemedicine display, and I hope other Senators will stop by and take time to look at this display.

There are a lot of other possibilities to this type of technology. Tele-education and telecommunicating are two that come to mind.

Recently, I heard of a person who is moving his family to an island in southeastern Alaska where he is going to install advanced telecommunications facilities to allow him to continue to run his business in another State. When that same technology comes down in price, as I am sure it will, I am very hopeful that others will gladly do the same thing and come enjoy our State year round.

Finally, I want to point out that this demonstration of modern technology will allow anyone who comes by to be instantly updated on the status of the last great race on Earth. That is the Iditarod. The Iditarod is going on now. The race is 1,049 miles, from Anchorage to Nome, in the middle of winter by dogsled. Each day at 2 p.m., I receive a call over this new technology that is in the Russell Building from Susan Butcher, a four-time winner of the Iditarod. She is going point to point along the trail. She is not a contestant this year. She is reporting on the race from remote checkpoints where mushers are required to rest each day. The reason she is not in the race is because she is expecting her first child and decided not to be involved in the Iditarod this year.

The demonstration will be in the Russell rotunda until next Tuesday, March 14. It is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each weekday, and we will have a reception there on Monday evening. It is my hope that other Members of the Senate and staff will come by and see the potential of telecommunications to rural areas, such as we have in Alaska. It is a very informational, very educational demonstration, and I personally invite everyone to stop by.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DOMENICI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMPSON). The Senator from New Mexico.

CBO ESTIMATE OF PRESIDENT'S BUDGET

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I apologize to the Senate for my voice, but I have a cold. Nonetheless, I have something to share with you that I think is important.

Today, the Congressional Budget Office has given their estimate of the President's budget or, might I say, reestimate. The Congressional Budget Office released its analysis of the President's budgetary proposals for 1996. The analysis debunks the President's claim that his budget holds the deficit in line at about \$200 billion by revealing a total lack of restraint in the President's budget.

Using CBO's economic and technical assumptions, the deficit would climb from \$177 billion in 1995 to \$276 billion in 2000. That is a 55-percent increase in that period of time over what the President estimates and has told the American people.

Even under the administration's favored measure, the deficit, as a percentage of the gross domestic product, will rise from 2.5 percent in 1995 to 3.3 percent in the year 2000, a rather significant increase.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the President's budget policies will result in higher deficits than the administration projected of nearly \$200 billion over 1995 to the year 2000. It will be \$200 billion higher; on average, \$35 billion a year.

Although the difference in the economic forecasts of the Congressional Budget Office and the administration are not great, the Congressional Budget Office's slower economic growth—the assumptions that they have—reduce the revenue take by about \$65 billion.

On the spending side, the Congressional Budget Office agrees that growth in Medicare and Medicaid has slowed. It is not as optimistic as the OMB because the CBO estimates that \$79 billion higher will be the cost of Medicare and Medicaid over these years.

They also estimate that the President is \$27 billion low in the estimate of housing assistance and \$10 billion low on unemployment compensation. That merely points out the President's budget not only did nothing, which all of you said, took no difficult steps, bit no difficult bullets, but underestimates the deficit by about \$35 billion for each of the years from now until the year 2000, a 55-percent increase in the deficit. That cries out for real action.

I only regret that we will not have the balanced budget amendment to help us when we undertake this ordeal. But I am reminded over the past 4 or 5 days, some on the other side have told us that we do not need the balanced budget amendment to balance the budget. I hope when we present a way of doing it, they will support that without the balanced budget amendment as a hammer from the people of this country.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND RESCIS-SIONS ACT

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair, without objection, directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on amendment No. 331 to the committee amendment to H.R. 889, the supplemental appropriations bill.

Hank BROWN, NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM, JOHN ASHCROFT, JON KYL, LAUCH FAIRCLOTH, DON NICKLES, STROM THURMOND, DAN COATS, JUDD GREGG, SLADE GORTON, BOB DOLE, CHUCK GRASSLEY, CRAIG THOMAS, CONRAD BURNS, TRENT LOTT, MIKE DEWINE, PETE DOMENICI.

Mr. KENNEDY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I understand that the exact time for the vote on the cloture motion will be determined by the majority and minority leaders, but I would expect that the vote will be sometime next Monday. Am I roughly correct?

Mr. DOLE. The Senator is correct. It will not be on Saturday.

Mr. KENNEDY. And I imagine the exact time will be established by the leaders.

Mr. President, I look forward to the opportunity to vote on the amendment at that time. I will urge my colleagues to vote in opposition to the amendment. It seems to me that this is legislation on an appropriations bill. It is an amendment that is unrelated to the underlying measure. It is an important public policy issue and question.

I have tried over the course of the debate to raise the particular fact that the first measure that we are considering in this Chamber affecting working people is basically to diminish their rights, their hopes, their opportunities. A number of us have been struggling to try to find ways to enhance the lives, the opportunities, and the resources of working families because I think that is a core issue for the future of our country and for the millions of Americans, over 100 million Americans, who go to work every day.

Many of these workers face diminished incomes, increasing concern about the quality of life for themselves and their families. They are looking to the future with increasing concern about the schools their children attend, the services of which are being cut back on the Contract With America. There will be cutbacks in the school lunch program, cutbacks in summer jobs, and cutbacks that are being recommended in the Budget Committees for the student loan programs and the work study programs. These are programs that benefit working families.

So the working families of this country watching this debate tonight are not going to have a great deal of satisfaction about the Kassebaum amendment and I hope they understand why we are resisting it.

One of the important measures which we will have an opportunity to consider, hopefully earlier in the session rather than later, will be the proposed increase in the minimum wage. That is something that can make an important difference in the lives of working families in this country, to recognize that work is important, that work ought to be rewarded, that men and women who are prepared to play by the rules and work the 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, ought to be able to have a living wage. The proposal that the President has suggested would not restore the minimum wage to the purchasing power that it had at other times, but nonetheless would make a very important and significant difference to those families.

A number of those families will be here tomorrow at 10 a.m., in the Russell caucus room, on March 10, 1995, at 10 a.m.

The Secretary of Labor, Secretary Reich, and the mayor of Baltimore, Kurt Schmoke, will both be there, as will a number of business owners, economists and others at a forum on the minimum wage. We will learn about what is happening to working families in Main Street America.

In the plants and factories, in the small shops, what are the real conditions that are out there? Earlier in the day we discussed the profile of many of the workers who had been permanently replaced by strikebreakers.

But let me just take a few more moments of the Senate's time to talk about some of those who have been replaced, some of the workers who have been replaced. These are the kind of "special interests" that I am standing up for tonight and will stand up for, because their lives, and similar workers' lives, can be affected by whether we continue the President's Executive order or whether that is undermined by legislative action.

I am thinking of Francis Atilano, 58 who was hired by Diamond Walnut in September 1978.

I worked for them until the strike began, I was replaced by a new employee.

The strike has caused many changes in our lives. I have been very depressed about losing my job and not knowing what will happen in the future. I have been under a doctor's care for depression.

I had hoped that maybe I could retire from Diamond Walnut in the future with a pension. Now I don't know what we will do since my husband's low paying job has no pension plan.

We at the present time are having a very hard time trying to make ends meet. We have our youngest son whom we are trying to get through college, so he will not have to struggle with life as we have.

The depression even sets in more whenever I think of our 6 children and 19 grandchildren. While I was employed I was able to buy them a little gift once in awhile, and