very important we do this before the recess. Then if we complete action on the defense supplemental conference report, H.R. 1240 regarding child pornography, executive calendar nominations, and I think we are working together on all those, we hope to get them all done by tomorrow.

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I concur with the information that has just been provided by the distinguished majority leader. Let me say, as I understand it, at some point he will be putting into the RECORD the summary of our progress so far in our negotiations.

I think it certainly accurate to say that there is complete agreement on the add-backs. We have a number of issues that we have to raise with our caucus. That caucus will take place at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning, and I urge all Senators to be there for this very important discussion. Whether or not we have any amendments will be dependent upon our discussion there.

We have come a long way in the last day or so, and as the distinguished majority leader has indicated, there have been a lot of good-faith discussions on both sides of the aisle. I am pleased with our progress, but I think we are now at a point where this ought to be subject to a good discussion within our caucus. And we will be prepared to talk more about the specifics of this compromise as soon as that caucus is complete.

But I do hope we can finish our work as a result of our negotiations. And I am confident that, as a result of our progress, we are much closer tonight.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Democratic leader.

Mr. President, I will place in the RECORD at this point a description of the Daschle-Dole compromise, which includes the add-backs and the offsets and the total cost of the add-backs, plus total deficit reduction, in addition to paying for the add-backs.

So my colleagues will have notice, it will appear in the RECORD tomorrow morning and they will have a chance to go over it. If there are any questions, they can contact either myself or Senator DASCHLE. Hopefully, they will not have any questions.

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

Possible Daschle-Dole Compromise

[Dollars in millions]

Add-backs	*Cost*
Women, Infants, Children	$35.0
School to Work	25.0
Child Care	8.4
Head Start	42.0
Goals: 2000	60.0
Title I Education	72.5
Impact Aid	16.3
Safe and Drug-free Schools	100.0
Indian Housing	80.0
Housing Modernization	220.0
Americorps	105.0
Community Development Banks	36.0
Total	800.2

Offset	*Savings*
Foreign Operations	$25.0
HUD Section 8 Project Reserves	500.0
Airport Improvement	700.0
Libraries	10.0
Federal Admin. and Travel	225.0
Water Infrastructure	62.0
IRS	50.0
Corp. for Public Broadcasting ($3.4 in 1997)	21.6
Total	1597.0
Deficit reduction	$796.8

Addendum: Items in Dole amendment used in Defense Conference.

Foreign Ops $40.0; Legal services $15.0.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:50, p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 716. An act to amend the Fishermen's Protective Act;

H.R. 1240. An act to combat crime by enhancing the penalties for certain sexual crimes against children;

H.R. 1271. An act to provide protection for family privacy; and

H.R. 1380. An act to provide a moratorium on certain class action lawsuits relating to the Truth in Lending Act.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 716. An act to amend the Fishermen's Protective Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 1271. An act to provide protection for family privacy; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 849. An act to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to reinstate an exemption for certain bona fide hiring and retirement plans applicable to State and local firefighters and law enforcement officers; and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 510. A bill to extend the authorization for certain programs under the Native American Programs Act of 1974, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104–28).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. GLENN, and Mr. ROTH):

S. 675. A bill to provide a streamlined contracting and ordering practices for automated data processing equipment and other commercial items; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRAMS:

S. 676. A bill for the relief of D.W. Jacobson, Ronald Karkala, and Paul Bjorgen of Grand Rapides, Minnesota, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 677. A bill to repeal a redundant venue provision, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. JOHNSTON, and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 678. A bill to provide for the coordination and implementation of a national aquaculture policy for the private sector by the Secretary of Agriculture, to establish an aquaculture development and research program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. PRESSLER, Mr. LOTT, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COATS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. KERREY, Mr. BURNS, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, Mr. DASCHLE, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. 679. A bill to require that Federal agencies differentiate animial fats and vegetable oils from other oils and greases in issuing or enforcing regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HOLLINGS:

S. 680. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel *Yes Dear;* to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HELMS (for himself and Mr. MACK):

S. 681. A bill to provide for the imposition of sanctions against Columbia with respect to illegal drugs and drug trafficking; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. FORD:

S. 682. A bill to provide for the certification by the Federal Aviation Administration of airports serving commuter air carriers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. BROWN, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. SANTORUM):

S. 683. A bill to protect and enforce the equal privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States and the constitutional rights of the people to choose Senators and Representatives in Congress; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. NUNN, Mr. DODD, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. Res. 103. A resolution to proclaim the week of October 15 through October 21, 1995, as National Character Counts Week, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAMS:

S. Res. 104. A resolution referring S. 676 entitled ''A bill for the relief of D.W. Jacobson, Roland Karkala, and Paul Bjorgen of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and for other purposes''; to the chief judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a report on the bill; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. D'AMATO:

S. Res. 105. A resolution condemning Iran for the violent suppression of a protest in Teheran; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. GLENN, and Mr. ROTH):

S. 675. A bill to provide a streamlined contracting and ordering practices for automated data processing equipment and other commercial items; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

STREAMLINING LEGISLATION

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I have been fighting for more than a decade to streamline the Federal procurement system and save taxpayer dollars by encouraging the use of more off-the-shelf products. Buying commercial products can lower costs by reducing or eliminating the need for research and development. The time and effort needed to buy a product can be reduced since commercial products are readily available and can be produced on existing production lines. Because the product is already built and has been shown to work, the need for detailed design specifications and expensive testing is also reduced.

Last fall we addressed this issue when we enacted the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act. This statute, which is the culmination of a comprehensive, 4-year review of the statutes governing the Federal procurement system, will substantially streamline the Federal procurement system and make it easier for Federal agencies to buy off-the-shelf commercial products instead of paying extra to design Government-unique products.

I am today introducing a bill to build on the achievement of that landmark legislation and further simplify the process of entering contracts and placing orders for commercial, off-the-shelf products. In particular, my bill would provide for streamlined contracting and ordering practices in multiple award schedule contracts for automated data processing equipment and other commercial items.

Mr. President, too often when we draft legislation to address a perceived problem, we ignore systems that are already in place and working well.

The multiple awards schedules are an example of a system that has served the taxpayers well. Since the 1950's, the Multiple Award Schedule Program has provided Federal agencies with a simplified method of purchasing small quantities of off-the-shelf commercial items, ranging from paper and furniture to sophisticated computer and telephone equipment. According to the General Accounting Office, the multiple award schedules cover in excess of 1.5 million line items, offered for sale by more than 4,000 vendors.

The multiple award schedules enable agencies to order small quantities of commonly used goods and services at a fair and reasonable price without going through the complex procurement process. They enable commercial companies to sell their products to a large number of potential customers without having to negotiate separate contracts with each. The taxpayers save and the vendors save.

Even so, the Multiple Award Schedule Program is not without its own problems. The negotiation of a single multiple award schedule contract can involve the review and analysis of thousands of pages of financial documents and may require hundreds of staff hours by both the government and the vendor. These paperwork demands are particularly unwelcome to commercial vendors, who complain that the negotiations are divorced from the reality of the commercial marketplace, in which prices are established by competition, not negotiation.

At the same time, the cumbersome process of negotiating multiple award schedule contracts sometimes locks in prices that turn out to be higher than the going market rate. This has been a particular problem in the case of rapidly developing products such as computer software, for which aggressive competition may cause prices to drop quickly in a short period of time.

Finally, because each vendor maintains its own price lists, it is extremely difficult for the thousands of agency officials purchasing products under the schedules to make any kind of effective comparison in vendor products and prices. As the GAO found in a June 1992 report:

> For the most part, procurement offices filled users' requests for a specific manufacturer's product without determining if other [Multiple Award Schedule] products could satisfy the requirement at a lower cost.* * * Procurement officials said that it is an unreasonable administrative burden to require buyers to consider all reasonably available suppliers and determine the lowest overall cost alternative before placing [Multiple Award Schedule]orders. They said that because many schedules have numerous suppliers offering many similar items, comparing all products and prices is too difficult and time-consuming, particularly because [Multiple Award Schedule] information is not automated.

All too often, this means that agencies continue to purchase the same products from the same vendors, even when other vendors offer better products through the schedules at lower cost.

For a number of years, I have pressed the General Services Administration to address these problems by automating the multiple award schedules, using modern computer technology to make it possible for agency officials to compare vendor products and prices. Such automation would bring real competition to the desks of individual purchasing officials, enabling them to select the best value product for their agencies' needs. Happily, such competition should also reduce or even eliminate the need for lengthy negotiations and burdensome paperwork requirements placed on vendors to ensure fair pricing.

With the enactment of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act, we now have the means to make such competition a reality. The new statute creates a system for electronic interchange of procurement information between the private sector and Federal agencies, known as the Federal Acquisition Computer Network or ''FACNET.''

FACNET provides the ideal mechanism for automating the multiple award schedules. By integrating the multiple award schedules into FACNET, GSA can take advantage of a system that is already being developed and will be in place in the near future to bring the multiple award schedules directly to the desks of purchasing officials throughout the Government.

The bill I am introducing today would require the General Services Administration to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by FACNET to bring the multiple award schedules on-line. Under the bill, GSA would be required to establish a system to provide Governmentwide, on-line access to products and services that are available for ordering through the multiple award schedules, and to establish that system as an element of FACNET.

Once the Administrator has determined that the required computer systems have been implemented, it should be possible to reduce or even eliminate the need for lengthy negotiations and burdensome paperwork requirements placed on vendors to ensure fair pricing. Accordingly, the bill would establish a pilot program, under which direct competition at the user level would substitute for lengthy and paperintensive price negotiations with vendors.

The pilot program would sunset after 4 years, to give Congress an opportunity to evaluate the impact of the new approach on competition, on prices, on paperwork requirements, and on the small business community. A GAO review of the pilot program would be required to address these issues, as well.

Mr. President, I am well aware that we have just completed a complete overhaul of the Federal procurement laws. I tend to agree with those who believe that it would be a mistake to reopen issues directly addressed by last year's legislation without first giving the procurement community an opportunity to absorb the changes we have already made.

However, the change contemplated by the bill that I am introducing today is simple, feasible, and will save money and effort for both contractors and the