

shrapnel or a toxic defoliant. In each case, the wound is real, and so is our obligation to help the veteran who suffers it.

We also need more research into our health concerns of Vietnam vets.

In all, more than 682,000 Vietnam and Vietnam-era veterans are now disabled as a result of their military service.

And a respected study by the independent Research Triangle Institute estimates that more than 960,000 men who fought in Vietnam and 1,900 women—nearly one in three Vietnam veterans—suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder. For some, the effects are few and fleeting. For others, they are chronic and debilitating.

So as we mark this 20th anniversary of the end of our Nation's most painful period this century, let us remember the words of Abraham Lincoln as he spoke them in his second inaugural to the Nation still grieving from another terrible war that divided our Nation. He said:

Let us strive to finish the work that we are in, to bind up the Nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace.

Let us show our thanks to Vietnam veterans this week, next week, and at all times in the future by pledging to give the Department of Veterans Affairs the resources it needs to keep the promises we made to all Vietnam veterans.

Let us show our thanks by strengthening community-based veterans health care centers, by making a commitment to keep veterans centers vital and independent. These centers do not duplicate the work of VA hospitals. They serve different people with different needs, and we ought to maintain them.

Finally, Mr. President, it is time for this Nation to move toward normalizing relations with Vietnam. I know the arguments against normalization, and I sympathize with them. I understand that the prospect of restoring diplomatic ties with Vietnam is painful to many Americans, especially those who have friends and family members among those who remain unaccounted for in Vietnam.

Experience has shown that it is precisely by expanding our ties with Vietnam that we are most likely to learn what happened to soldiers who never returned.

In the years when we had no contact with Vietnam, we made no progress on the question of those missing in action.

So I stand with my colleagues, Senator MCCAIN, Senator BOND, Senator KERRY of Massachusetts, and others on both sides of the aisle in urging that we move cautiously toward a fuller dialog with Vietnam in order to secure answers for the families and healing for our Nation.

We can never repay Sgt. Raymond Adams and Specialist Steven Trant or any of the other 58,000 Americans who

lost their lives in Vietnam, but we can show our respect and our gratitude, and we can continue the effort to bind up the Nation's wounds from a war that, in some ways, still divides us.

MEASURE READ FOR THE FIRST TIME—S. 761

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I understand that S. 761, introduced earlier today by myself and Senator BIDEN, is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 761) to improve the ability of the United States to respond to the international terrorist threat.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask for the second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is an objection. This bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

Is the Democratic leader finished?

Mr. DASCHLE. Yes.

APPOINTMENT BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d-276g, as amended, appoints the following Senators as Members of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group during the first session of the 104th Congress, to be held in Huntsville, ON, Canada, May 18-22, 1995:

The Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY], and the Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON].

COMMONSENSE PRODUCT LIABILITY AND LEGAL REFORM ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senate will resume the pending business, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 956) to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, and for other purposes.

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from Alaska, I suggest the absence of a quorum. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 690 TO AMENDMENT NO. 596

(Purpose: To provide for a uniform product liability law and to provide assurance of access to certain biomaterials)

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL], for himself and Mr. DOLE, proposes an amendment numbered 690 to amendment No. 596.

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent further reading be dispensed.

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

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair 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 the pending substitute amendment to H.R. 956, the product liability bill:

Slade Gorton, Dan Coats, Richard G. Lugar, John Ashcroft, Rod Grams, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Judd Gregg, Strom Thurmond, Jay Rockefeller, Trent Lott, Rick Santorum, Larry E. Craig, Bob Smith, Don Nickles, R.F. Bennett, John McCain, Connie Mack.

Mr. COVERDELL. 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.

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

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair 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 the pending substitute amendment to H.R. 956, the product liability bill:

Slade Gorton, Dan Coats, Richard G. Lugar, John Ashcroft, Rod Grams, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Judd Gregg, Strom Thurmond, Jay Rockefeller, Trent Lott, Rick Santorum, Larry E. Craig,