

Mr. President, this is a responsible bill. It cuts funding and contributes to deficit reduction. It provides emergency funding which is urgently needed to assist victims of disasters. It makes long overdue reforms and corrections in programs which need fixing. And this bill needs to be enacted without further delay. I urge the White House to set politics aside, and begin working with us to make this conference agreement law.

#### INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I would ask the Senator from Missouri three questions about the provisions in this bill on the auto emissions inspection and maintenance program required by the Clean Air Act. The bill would prevent EPA from apply an automatic 50 percent discount in emissions credits for State programs that included test-and-repair, as opposed to test-only, stations. It is my understanding that the bill requires EPA to examine each program a State has submitted and assign the appropriate emissions credits. Based on various features of a State's program, EPA might assign emissions credits equal to 100 percent of a test-only program. Or EPA might find the appropriate credit is only 75 percent or 25 percent, depending on how a State program is structured. Is that a correct reading of the bill?

Mr. BOND. The Senator is correct. EPA is to examine the entirety of each State inspection and maintenance program and is to assign the appropriate emissions credits based on the actual program the State submits. No automatic discounting factors should apply and the determination of the appropriate emissions credits should be based on good science and engineering analysis.

Mr. CHAFEE. The report language accompanying this bill indicates that EPA may give a State up to 2 years to make a demonstration that justifies the credits it is seeking. Is EPA required to grant a 2-year demonstration period to every State that requests it?

Mr. BOND. No. The 2-year period to demonstrate the effectiveness of a State program may be granted by EPA, if the Agency believes it to be reasonable. This allows the Agency to implement the inspection and maintenance requirements in a more flexible way. But unreasonable proposals that surely would not merit the emissions credits claimed need not be granted a 2-year demonstration period. It is not an automatic extension for any and all inspection and maintenance programs that may be submitted by the States.

Mr. CHAFEE. Finally, I would ask whether this provision affects any other aspect of the plan submissions and attainment demonstrations that States are to make under the Clean Air Act?

Mr. BOND. No. The sole purpose of this language is to prevent EPA from requiring States to adopt enhanced inspection and maintenance programs based on the I/M240, test-only model

and to prevent EPA from automatically discounting programs that use test-and-repair stations by a factor of 50 percent. The language has no other effect on State obligations under the Clean Air Act.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask first of all to yield back the balance of time under the order of the Senator from West Virginia.

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

Mr. COCHRAN. Does that conclude the authority under the conference report, under the order previously entered?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are still 6 minutes for the Senator from Minnesota, Mr. WELLSTONE.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I yield the time back on behalf of the Senator from Minnesota.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of routine morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

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

#### TRIBUTE TO LES ASPIN

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I knew Les Aspin for 25 years. In 1970, I was a junior in high school in Janesville, WI, when I signed up as a volunteer on Les' first campaign for the First Congressional District seat in Wisconsin. He won that election after a tough recount in the primary, defeated the incumbent Congressman.

I then interned in his Janesville, WI, Post Office basement office in 1971 and in 1972 during the summers. During the next quarter century, we had a continuing friendship, as he carved out a distinguished career in the United States House of Representatives, eventually rising to become the chairman of the Armed Services Committee while I prepared for and began my own career.

By temperament and training, Les Aspin was a man who listened to ideas and demanded facts. His mind was trained at some of the best educational institutions in the world: Yale, Oxford, and MIT.

Sometimes the conclusions he reached after thoroughly probing a problem were not welcomed by all who heard them, but they were always the product of a rigorous and honest intellectual process. Les Aspin enjoyed the successes and endured the setbacks common to all Members who choose a career in public service.

His service was marked by unflagging dedication. I believe he always did what he thought was right and he always did his best.

One thing was readily apparent. He came from our strong Wisconsin reformist tradition. He was long an oppo-

nent of waste and fraud and abuse in Government, including but certainly not limited, to the military.

He fought against junk telephone calls as well as junkets. He unearthed cost overruns in big-ticket weapons projects, punched holes in corporate propaganda campaigns, and dragged some highly questionable foreign business practices out into the spotlight.

He also criticized the insular environment that enveloped the Defense Department and the defense industry that fostered the waste of taxpayers' money.

Along the way, Les Aspin became recognized as one of the Congress' leading experts on military policy. I would say one of the leading experts of any time in the history of our Congress.

Les Aspin served his country diligently in many capacities. As an Army captain, he worked as an analyst in the Pentagon; he served on the staff of President John Kennedy's Council of Economic Advisors; he represented Wisconsinites for 22 years in Congress; he enthusiastically took on the giant task of steering the Defense Department into the uncharted waters of the post-cold war era.

When Les Aspin suffered his fatal stroke, he was chairing the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, working with his friend and colleague, CIA director John Deutch, on needed reforms in our intelligence communities.

Mr. President, Les Aspin was a man I deeply respected and admired. As I look back at the fact that my own entry into politics began in his first campaign for office in 1970, I feel a profound sense of loss at his passing. He was a good friend and a dedicated public servant. Far too soon we have lost an exceptional human being.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

#### WAS CONGRESS IRRESPONSIBLE? THE VOTERS HAVE SAID YES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, before turning to today's bad news and it is terrible about the Federal debt, let us go through our pop quiz routine once more. You remember—one question, one answer:

Question: How many million dollars in \$1 trillion? While you are arriving at an answer, let us acknowledge that it was the U.S. Congress that ran up the Federal debt that now exceeds \$4.8 trillion.

To be exact, as of the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, May 23, the Federal debt—down to the penny—stood at \$4,885,334,984,188.51, meaning that every man, woman, and child in America now owes \$18,544.81 computed on a per capita basis.

Mr. President, how many million in a trillion? There are a million million in a trillion, and the Federal debt now exceeds four million million, 885 billion dollars. Get the picture?