

the focus of this administration largely disappearing from a high priority to a very low priority, showing very clearly that when you focus and when you direct resources on a problem of this nature, you can have a substantial impact. We were beginning to show the real results of the availability of these drugs on the streets, and, of course, if they are on the streets, then there is an opportunity for our young people to have access to them.

Perhaps 820,000 of the new crop of youthful marijuana smokers will eventually try cocaine. That is a statistic that has just come from a study done by the Senate Judiciary Committee, published by the chairman, ORRIN HATCH—a horrible statistic, in light of the fact that we are now being told by the criminologists of our country, "Get braced, America, for the greatest juvenile crime wave in the history of our country." What is it driven by? In part, it is driven by drugs, or the desire to have access to them and, therefore, the willingness to commit crimes to have the resources to pay for them. These are horrible statistics that we must become aware of.

I am so pleased today that the Senator from Georgia has taken this special order to speak to this issue. I say, Mr. President, thank you for waking up. But shame on you for turning your back, in the last 3 years, on an initiative that was working well and removing drugs from our streets and was creating a better environment for our youth.

Better late than never? I hope so, because I think the American people want it, and I certainly hope this President will focus the resources of our Government, once again, toward aggressive interdiction and a program worthy of this country in getting drugs off of our streets and making the environment in which our children live a safer place. I yield the remainder of my time.

(Mr. CRAIG assumed the chair.)

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, how much time remains?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has 4 minutes remaining.

Mr. COVERDELL. Thank you, Mr. President. I thank the Senator from Idaho for his remarks on this terribly important issue. If we can just step back for a moment and try to put this situation into perspective, it began with the inauguration of President Clinton. The first sign from the White House was the suspension of the preemployment drug testing program at the White House of the United States. From that moment on, the message became clearer and clearer. We have heard all the statistics that have emanated since—a shutting down of the policy of interdiction, law enforcement, and education saying to America's youth that drugs are harmful.

The result of these changed policies are these: America's youth today no longer think drugs are dangerous. That

statistic has plummeted. So it should come as no surprise to any of us that usage has skyrocketed. They no longer are afraid because of signals like no more drug testing or, "Let us legalize drugs," or, "Let us shut the drug czar's office down," or do not mention drugs at all in 3 years. So that pulpit is shut off, the resources are shut off, our youngsters no longer think it is a problem, and they start exploring drugs. The result is that we have gone from just under 2 million using them to almost 4 million. So that means that 2 million American families and 2 million teenagers' lives are stunted or put at risk as a result of these policies that have been changed.

Mr. President, in closing, the ripple effect of this is stunning. I was with President Zedillo of Mexico a couple of weeks ago, and he said that the drug lords' attack on his country is the single greatest threat of national security to that nation. I say, further, Mr. President, that drugs in the narco operations are the single greatest threat to the security of the democracies in our hemisphere.

Mr. President, in closing, I say that this is the first time a war has ever been declared on children age 8 to 12 years old. What a disgusting, evil force we stand against. This is a war we cannot afford to lose.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The clerk continued calling the roll.

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

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

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—S. 1708

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1708) to amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify the remedial jurisdiction of inferior Federal courts.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings on this matter at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be placed on the calendar under rule XIV.

Mr. KENNEDY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, as I understand the floor situation, we will

now return for a continued discussion on the immigration bill, and then at 5 o'clock, the time has been designated for a vote on cloture relating to a matter on that immigration bill. Am I correct?

IMMIGRATION CONTROL FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1996

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 1664, and under a previous order, at the hour of 5 p.m., the clerk will report a motion to invoke cloture.

The clerk will state the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1664) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to increase control over immigration to the United States by increasing border patrol and investigative personnel and detention facilities, improving the system used by employers to verify citizenship or work-authorized alien status, increasing penalties for alien smuggling and document fraud, and reforming asylum, exclusion, and deportation law and procedures; to reduce the use of welfare by aliens; and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Dole (for Simpson) amendment No. 3743, of a perfecting nature.

Dole (for Simpson) amendment No. 3744 (to amendment No. 3743), of a perfecting nature.

Dole motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report back forthwith.

Lott amendment No. 3745 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit), to require the report to Congress on detention space to state the amount of detention space available in each of the preceding 10 years.

Dole modified Amendment No. 3746 (to amendment No. 3745), to authorize the use of volunteers to assist in the administration of naturalization programs, port of entry adjudications, and criminal alien removal.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I was wondering if we could ask my friend from Arizona if we could divide the time between now and then between the two parties. I do not know how many other speakers we are going to have, but there may be some at the end. Just as a way of proceeding, maybe we can do that. If there is a reservation about it, I will continue to inquire of the Senator about some evenness in time. We might not approach that as an issue, but, more often than not, just before we get to the debate, a number of Senators would like to speak. I would like to see if we can reach some kind of way of allocating the time fairly and perhaps permitting Senators on both sides to make increasingly brief comments as we get closer to the time.

Mr. KYL. I do not have any objection to that. I know the Senator from Nevada wants to speak on unrelated matters now. Perhaps as we get further into that, the precise nature in which we can proceed may be more apparent to us later than it is now. I have no objection.