

cases) in the rate of new AIDS cases resulting from perinatal transmission, comparing the most recent data to 1993 data;

(2). At least 95% of women who are received at least two prenatal visits prior to 34 weeks gestation have been testing for HIV; or

(3). A Program for mandatory testing of all newborns whose mothers have not undergone prenatal HIV testing.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of the Ryan White CARE Act; I am proud to have served on the conference committee for this very vital legislation; and I am proud to be here today to speak in support of the bill's final passage. As most of us are aware, AIDS has become one of the most difficult and complicated public health threats in recent memory. For this reason, the Ryan White CARE Act is important not only for to those already infected with HIV or suffering from AIDS—as a public health bill, this legislation is important for all of us.

We've said it a number of times before, but it bears repeating: AIDS is now the leading killer of men and women ages 25 to 44. AIDS has killed over 300,000 people since the beginning of the epidemic in the early 1980's—but half of those people, 154,077, have died in the past 2 years. The Centers for Disease Control estimates that nearly 1 million people are now infected with HIV, the virus that leads to AIDS. Clearly, then, AIDS is challenging our health care system in ways it has not been challenged before.

We discussed this bill at length nearly a year ago, so I want to take a few minutes to remind my colleagues of the valuable programs they will help to support today. As I've already mentioned, the bill provides health services to those already living with AIDS. It also relieves pressure from our critical care units and emergency rooms by utilizing early intervention techniques with AIDS and HIV patients.

The programs we're reauthorizing today work at the local level, and they're cost-effective—two things we've tried hard to stay focused on in this Congress. The Ryan White CARE Act funds community based organizations to provide needed outpatient care at the local level in the most cost effective and efficient ways possible for the populations that need help the most. One study even indicated that a person receiving outpatient managed care spends 8 fewer days in the hospital than a person not receiving such care—resulting in a cost savings of over \$22,000 per person.

Dollars from the CARE Act increase the availability of critical outpatient primary care services; they provide support services; and they improve the quality of life of those living with HIV. In Vermont, CARE Act money is used primarily to provide pharmaceuticals to people with HIV and AIDS who need drugs, but cannot afford them.

Successful outpatient care keeps people out of the hospital, improves their quality of life, and saves money for the

system. When early interventions and primary care are used successfully, the health care system saves untold dollars in unused emergency health services. From a purely fiscal perspective, we cannot afford not to fund these programs.

Finally, let me remind my colleagues that this is not a disease from which we can remove ourselves so easily as we might expect. Any of us who previously felt confident we could not be touched by HIV or AIDS because AIDS affects other people must now reexamine those assumptions. Soon we will all have friends whose lives have been touched by this disease. I had the honor of hosting one of my friends, David Curtis, at a Labor Committee hearing on this bill. The face of AIDS is changing, it is affecting the people I know and the people we all know.

If we and our loved ones are affected, I know we will want adequate resources to be available to help with prescription drugs, health care and support services. The Ryan White CARE Act is an assurance that help will be available. So for my friend, David Curtis and the millions of other Americans affected by HIV, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting final passage of the Ryan White CARE Act.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the conference report be deemed adopted, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the conference report be included in the RECORD at the appropriate place.

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

The conference report was agreed to.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1996

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in adjournment until the hour of 10 a.m. on Friday, May 3; further, that immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, that no resolutions come over under the rule, the call of the calendar be dispensed with, that the morning hour be deemed expired, that there be a period for the transaction of morning business until the hour of 1 p.m. with Senators to speak for up to 5 minutes each with the following Senators to speak for the designated times: Senator COVERDELL for the first 90 minutes and Senator DASCHLE for the last 90 minutes.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, the Senate will have a period for morning business only tomorrow, and no rollcall votes will occur during Friday's session of the Senate.

Following morning business, the Senate will recess until 12 noon on Mon-

day, May 6th. Following morning business on Monday, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate turn to the consideration of Calendar No. 380, H.R. 2937, regarding White House Travel Office.

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

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, it is my hope that the Senate could dispose of the White House Travel Office bill by the close of business on Monday. I did not hear the debate between the Senator from Arkansas and the Senator from Iowa, but, hopefully, if there are problems, we can work those problems out. We hope there are not any nongermane amendments. We will see what happens. Perhaps we could find that out before or maybe on Monday because I may fill up what we call the amendment tree—I prefer not to do that—in order to keep the Senate germane to the pending issue.

There will be no rollcall votes during Monday's session of the Senate, and the Senate may be asked to consider any other legislative matters that may be cleared for action.

I know there are a number of nominations on the calendar. I have never been one to try to hold up nominations, but I would just say to the White House they have had nominations—Republican nominees have been down there for 6 to 8 months—that have not been sent to the appropriate committees. It seems to me there ought to be some reciprocity here. If they continue at the White House to say, "We are not going to send Republican nominees out," we do not find it very difficult to say, "Why should we clear nominations the White House wants?"—whether judicial nominations or any others.

So I hope we could have some understanding because I have never been one, regardless of who is in the White House, to try to hold up nominations. These nominees have families and obligations but so do the families we have sent down months and months and months ago. They are still waiting for some word from the White House. They cannot have it both ways.

I also hope that we could still work out some agreement—we made a tentative suggestion to our colleagues on the other side with reference to the minimum wage. I will ask Senator LOTT to try to meet again early next week with Senator DASCHLE or his designee to see if we can work out some time to take up that matter, either as a part of something else, which I will not speculate what it might be, or have separate votes, parallel votes on our proposal and a Democratic proposal, because we would like to proceed with the legislation and not have nongermane amendments at every turn. It took us 8 days to complete an immigration bill that probably should have taken 3 days, and I hope that we can catch up. We need to catch up so we can hopefully enjoy a recess or a few days off the end of this month. We have

a number of bills we think should be completed prior to that time.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h-276k, as amended, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate delegation to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group during the 2d session of the 104th Congress, to be held in southeast Alaska May 10-14, 1996:

The Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. CHAFEE]; the Senator from Utah [Mr. HATCH]; the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. PRYOR]; the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. PRESSLER]; the Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY]; the Senator from Washington [Mr. GORTON]; the Senator from Vermont [Mr. JEFFORDS]; the Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK]; the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS]; the Senator from Utah [Mr. BENNETT]; the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. INHOFE]; the Senator from Ohio [Mr. DEWINE], and the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS].

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h-276k, as amended, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate delegation to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group during the 2d session of the 104th Congress to be held in Mexico May 3-5, 1996:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI]; the Senator from Colorado [Mr. BROWN]; and the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL].

Mr. DOLE. I will be happy to yield the floor or yield to the Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. PRYOR. I thank the Chair. I thank the distinguished majority leader for yielding.

PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. PRYOR. Once again I should have been here a few moments ago because it was my understanding that one of my colleagues, and perhaps even the majority leader himself, made some reference to the appointment of judges by President Clinton.

Mr. DOLE. Not today.

Mr. PRYOR. I did not hear the majority leader.

Mr. DOLE. I did not make any reference today to the appointment of judges, but I did make a reference to the fact that judges in the second and ninth circuits have been reaching for some way to find a constitutional right to die, and I thought that should be decided by the legislative branch.

Mr. PRYOR. I see. Notwithstanding the majority leader's assurances that he has not talked about President Clinton's appointments to the bench, Mr. President, I think the record should fairly reflect what the facts are about this. I really appreciate the majority leader yielding to me for a moment.

The appointments of President Clinton's judges—in fact, almost two-thirds of President Clinton's judicial appoint-

ments—have received the American Bar Association's highest rating: "Well qualified," the highest percentage of any of his three predecessors.

Second, U.S. News and World Report is saying with regard to President Clinton's appointments to the bench, and I quote, "Centrism is carrying the day."

Third, even Senator HATCH, our colleague and friend from Utah, our distinguished chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, has as recently as August 3, 1995, Mr. President, stated at a confirmation hearing, and I quote:

I wish to compliment the administration for the type of people they are sending to us. It is making our job much easier.

That is a direct quote from the distinguished chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Senator Orrin HATCH of Utah. Only two more comments, because I know the distinguished majority leader may be needing to get on.

Only 3—only 3—of the 185 judges in the lower Federal court appointed by President Clinton have been even the subject of contested votes. They did not even have a vote—only three have been subjected to a contested vote in the Judiciary Committee or in this Chamber. I think this is a remarkable record.

Finally, Mr. President, let me say that the Senate has approved unanimously with the consent of all Republicans 182 of 185 lower court Federal judges President Clinton has nominated and were ultimately approved for the bench.

So I think from time to time it is necessary for us to put the facts out in the RECORD, and I am very, very grateful for the understanding and the opportunity the majority leader has given me to make this record.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I appreciate that. I would only say the fact that they got the highest rating by the American Bar Association worries me even more. It is nothing but a liberal advocacy group, and that should indicate what kind of judges are being given these very high ratings. The more liberal you are, the higher rating you get from the American Bar Association.

It is customary, it has been in Democratic and Republican administrations, to honor a President's nominees unless there was some reason—sometimes you do not know until after they have, in this case, been on the bench and made a few rulings to see precisely which direction they can go, but we will be happy to accommodate the Senator from Arkansas if he would like to have all these contested in the future. I do not know how many judicial nominees are on the calendar now.

So I would just say, obviously, the President has a right to appoint the judges that he believes more or less follow his philosophy and others would have the right to appoint those who follow their philosophy. That debate will probably continue.

LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, it is also my hope that we can complete action on the Billy Dale matter on Tuesday, and then also Amtrak authorization which is, as I understand, not particularly controversial, and the firefighters discrimination bill, S. 849. We hope we might be able to reach a time agreement on the firefighters discrimination bill. I think it has broad bipartisan support. I know the Senator from Vermont [Mr. JEFFORDS] has an amendment; the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY] has an amendment. There are three or four amendments on each side. Some will be adopted, some will be defeated. But I would like to complete action on that bill early next week so that we can move on to other matters before the week is out.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, if the majority leader will answer a question, I would appreciate it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DOLE. I will be happy to yield to the Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. PRYOR. I am wondering—I guess we are calling the compensation measure, the Travelgate issue, Billy Dale—which is fine. I think we will just call it the Billy Dale legislation.

Mr. DOLE. I do not have a number.

Mr. PRYOR. I wonder if the majority leader might be favorably disposed to any kind of amendment to that which might set up a fund to ultimately compensate those people regarding the Whitewater matter who may have been called here or called to Little Rock or called to some grand jury, to help them be compensated for their legal fees, if they were not a target of the investigation, not a subject of the investigation, and are found to be destitute and cannot pay their legal bills. I wonder if the majority leader would look kindly on such an amendment.

Mr. DOLE. I would certainly look kindly on having the Senate Judiciary Committee considering that. I think Senator HATCH would be very receptive.

My view is, if someone who is not a target is not only inconvenienced but must go out and hire counsel, there should be some recompense. I do not care whether it is Whitewater or whatever it may be.

So I would certainly, if I could work with the Senator from Arkansas and encourage the Senator from Utah, Senator HATCH, to immediately go to work on it, perhaps we can work out something.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished majority leader.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. DOLE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:02 p.m., adjourned until Friday, May 3, 1996, at 10 a.m.