

Specter	Thompson	Wellstone
Stevens	Thurmond	Wyden

NAYS—25

Abraham	Grams	McConnell
Ashcroft	Helms	Nickles
Brown	Hutchison	Roth
Coats	Inhofe	Santorum
Coverdell	Kempthorne	Smith
Craig	Kyl	Thomas
Faircloth	Lott	Warner
Feingold	Mack	
Gramm	McCain	

The amendment (No. 4027) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on Amendment No. 4012 as amended.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a concurrent resolution to the desk providing for a conditional adjournment of Congress and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 60) providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 60) was agreed to as follows:

S. CON. RES. 60

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Thursday, May 23, 1996, Friday, May 24, 1996, or Saturday, May 25, 1996, pursuant to a motion made by the Majority Leader or his designee in accordance with this resolution, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, June 3, 1996, Tuesday, June 4, 1996 or until such time on that day as may be specified by the Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, May 23, 1996, it stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 29, 1996, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET

The Senate continued with the consideration of the concurrent resolution.

AMENDMENT NO. 4012, AS AMENDED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on agreeing to Amendment No. 4012, as amended.

The amendment (No. 4012), as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I think we have an understanding that Senator ROTH will proceed with his amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

Mr. EXON. Before Senator ROTH starts, I ask the chairman of the committee, we have how many amendments left that we are going to vote on? As I understand it, we have Byrd that requires a vote, Roth that requires a vote, and McCain, and final passage.

Mr. DOMENICI. Correct. That is what I understand.

Mr. EXON. What we have agreed to earlier, we are trying to get out of here for at least one-half hour, between 4 to 4:30. It seems to me that we could probably have final passage by no later than 5:15.

Mr. DOMENICI. I think that is probably correct, I say to the Senator.

Mr. EXON. Is that the assumption under which we are working, then? We have one more vote at least, and then go to a half-hour recess?

Mr. DOMENICI. Are we going to have a half-hour recess?

Mr. EXON. That is what I agreed to with both the majority leader and the minority leader.

Mr. DOMENICI. All right. If our leader agreed it to, I am all for it. I asked the Senator to ask him. That is fine. We are going to vote on Roth, and then recess for 30 minutes. All right.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 4025

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, the Roth resolution simply states that Congress would give Amtrak a secure and reliable source of funding for capital expenditures. The rail trust fund would be funded by transferring revenues from the 0.5-cent excise tax that is currently going into the mass transit account to a newly created rail trust fund.

While Amtrak would have \$2.8 billion for capital expenditure over 5 years, the existing \$5.4 billion surplus in the mass transit account—the mass transit would continue to have billions of dollars in excess of its anticipated appropriations.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Senator GRASSLEY wants to speak in opposition. I yield to Senator GRASSLEY 30 seconds.

Mr. GRASSLEY. This budget resolution, all 50 hours of debate and all the many hundreds of pages, is about balancing the budget, which is long overdue and it is something that we should do. The Roth amendment, the next amendment, establishes a whole new

entitlement, something we should not do.

OMB expresses concern that this new funding source for Amtrak is wrong and it takes money from your local mass transit for Amtrak, something we should not do. So why threaten the solvency of our mass transit accounts? Balance the budget. No more entitlements.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of the amendment offered by the Senator from Delaware.

As my colleagues will recall, I offered a similar amendment last year on the budget resolution. Unfortunately, we lost by one vote. I have been pressing the concept of a dedicated revenue source for Amtrak for quite some time now and I welcome the opportunity to voice this support again.

Mr. President, the resolution before us is a sense of the Senate resolution that Congress should provide Amtrak with the revenue from one-half penny of the Federal gas tax that is now directed to mass transit.

This revenue will provide Amtrak with a steady, dedicated revenue source. This is very important if Amtrak is to be able to make long-term planning decisions that will enable it to become financially viable in the future.

Amtrak is a key component of this Nation's transportation system. In my home State of Montana, many residents rely on Amtrak's service to travel to and from the State. Amtrak means jobs. It means increased access and mobility for Montanans.

And for any of you who have ever traveled on the Empire Builder through the northern tier of my State, you know the tremendous beauty along the Montana hi-line.

Some will argue that redirecting the one-half penny from mass transit to Amtrak will adversely affect mass transit programs. That is simply not true. There is an over \$5.4 billion cash surplus in excess of obligations in the mass transit account. That is more than enough to fund mass transit programs for the foreseeable future.

Mr. President, rural transportation programs seem to be constantly under attack. Rural areas are struggling. We continue to see a decline in rural transportation options—funding for rural air service, rural transit and highway programs is declining. This amendment is one small step forward in turning back this trend.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question occurs on agreeing to amendment No. 4025.

Mr. DOMENICI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Might I correct my statement? I understand that all we have agreed to—we do not have to go in recess. The next vote will occur at 4:30.

Mr. EXON. After the Roth vote.

Mr. DOMENICI. The next vote after this one will occur at 4:30. I ask unanimous consent for that.