

appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that a final issue of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for the 104th Congress will be published on October 21, 1996, in order to permit Members to revise and extend their remarks. And then that there will be a publication of the RECORD, and that it would be available I believe on October 23. The material is to be submitted to the Office of Official Reporters of Debate at various times but up until 3 p.m. on October 21.

I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed permission to revise and extend remarks in connection with the space program, national security, trade, civil rights, crime, agriculture, drugs, foreign policy, domestic policy, and other related subjects including research and development matters relating to my State.

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

Mr. HEFLIN. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KYL). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

FAREWELL TO "THE JUDGE"

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, the time has come that, I daresay, every Member in this Chamber, Republican as well as Democrat, hoped would never come. With the end of the 104th Congress, we must say goodbye to "The Judge"—Senator HOWELL HEFLIN.

Since he was first elected to the Senate in 1978, the senior Senator from Alabama has always shown himself to be a southern gentleman of the first order. His word is his bond; his integrity and dedication to public service is without question; and his love of country and devotion for the U.S. Senate is apparent to all who know him.

During his 18 years in the Senate, Senator HEFLIN has been respectfully called the "spokesman for Southern agriculture" for his efforts to improve the life and work of America's farmers and to preserve his State's valuable agricultural heritage.

He is also commonly and warmly referred to as "The Judge," not only for his years of service as the chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court, but for his efforts in State court reform, his extraordinary leadership in fighting crime and drug abuse, and his service on both the Senate Judiciary and Ethics Committees. Dozens of times I have observed my colleagues seek his advice on how to vote on legal issues.

Mr. President, I would like to add another characterization of "The Judge"—I think of Senator HEFLIN as "Mr. Alabama." No Senator has more cherished or more ably represented his or her State than the senior senator from Alabama. He has magnificently

and skillfully combined the national interest with the interest of his State through his support of Federal agricultural programs, America's space program, and the maintenance of a first-rate defense. Only in 1 year during his 18 years in the Senate did he fail to visit each of the 67 counties in his State in order to do what he says he likes best—"talk to the home folks."

The people of Alabama, obviously, appreciated his work and his service. Never once did he poll less than 61 percent of the vote in any election.

I will always remember "The Judge." I will always remember him as a "public servant who served with dignity, integrity and diligence, worthy of the confidence and trust that Alabamians placed" in him.

And I miss him. I will miss his folksy, southern humor. His stories of "Sockless Sam." His depictions of friends and foes alike—in his 1990 campaign, he did not run against a mere Republican, he ran against a "Gucci-shoed, Mercedes-driving, Jacuzzi-soaking, Perrier-drinking, Grey Poupon Republican."

Now the time has come. I say thank you and congratulations to Senator HEFLIN on a remarkable career in the Senate. I wish him all the best, and to his wonderful wife, "Mike," as they embark on the next phase of their lives—their return to Tusculumbia, which, "Mr. Alabama" has called "a wonderful little town to be from and best little town in America to go him to."

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 1296

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent, after consultation with the distinguished Democratic leader, that we may turn to the consideration of the conference report to accompany the Presidio bill, and when the Senate turns to the consideration of the conference report, at this time, the reading be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. On behalf of a number of my colleagues, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I obviously regret hearing the objection from the other side to dispense with the reading of the Presidio conference report. I am informed by the clerk that this would take awhile. It has been es-

timated at some 10 hours or thereabouts. Needless to say, the Senate has many very important pieces of legislation that we must enact prior to the end of the fiscal year.

This objection is an obvious indication that Members on the other side of the aisle do not intend or do not want to have this significant parks bill have consideration before this body. The objectors have been informed, it is my understanding, if they were to let the Senate turn to the conference report, that I, as leader, was to immediately ask unanimous consent that the conference report be recommitted back to the conference committee in order that the conferees could address several issues raised by the President. Consequently, since the objection was raised, that conference committee unfortunately will be unable to meet and address these concerns.

So, obviously, the will of the Members will not have been addressed, they will not have an opportunity to proceed with that. I regret that the Senate Democrats feel a need to block the Senate from enacting this massive omnibus parks bill, the single largest environmental package we have had before us that affects 41 States and includes 126 separate parks and public land matters.

Each Member will continue to work with the Democratic leader. Speaking for the leadership, Senator LOTT has indicated he will continue to work with the Democratic Members who have objections, but time is running out. So I urge all Members to rethink this objection, allow the conferees to address this very important issue.

Further, Mr. President, we are prepared—the Republicans are prepared; as chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I am prepared; our conferees are prepared—to recommit this bill to conference. We can fix the provision which the leader referred to in his statement which causes that small problem in the House.

What it was, was a small tax-related problem. As you know, most all tax issues must originate in the House, so we have taken that out. We have the report here, Mr. President, ready to go, 700 pages, the result of 2 years of work, 126 separate sections are in here, 41 States are represented in here.

We have heard from the administration, but they objected to the Utah wilderness. Utah wilderness was not included. They went ahead and initiated an action under the Antiquities Act. That is another story for another time.

Grazing was a major issue, more objection from the administration. Grazing is not in here. The Tongass issue in my State to extend a contract for 15 years so we could build a new pulp mill and save 4,000 jobs, 1,000 directly in the pulp mill by extending the contract. That mill will never be built. The existing mill will be shut down. We will lose our jobs. I do not know what those people will do. That was taken out.

Up in Minnesota, the Minnesota wilderness lakes bill was objected to by