S. RES. 2

Resolved, That a committee consisting of two Senators be appointed to join such committee as may be appointed by the House of Representatives to wait upon the President of the United States and inform him that a quorum of each House is assembled and that the Congress is ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

SENATE RESOLUTION 3—RELATIVE TO FIXING THE HOUR OF DAILY MEETING

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and passed.

S. RES. 3

Resolved, That the hour of daily meeting of the Senate be 12 o'clock meridian unless otherwise ordered.

SENATE RESOLUTION 4—RELATIVE TO ELECTING SENATOR STROM THURMOND AS PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and passed.

S. RES. 4

Resolved, That Strom Thurmond, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, be, and he is hereby, elected President of the Senate pro tempore, to hold office during the pleasure of the Senate, in accordance with rule I, paragraph 1, of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

SENATE RESOLUTION 5—RELATIVE TO NOTIFYING THE PRESIDENT OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and passed.

S. RES. 5

Resolved, That the President of the United States be notified of the election of Strom Thurmond, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, as President pro tempore.

SENATE RESOLUTION 6—RELATIVE TO NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and passed.

S. RES. 6

Resolved, That the House of Representatives be notified of the election of Strom Thurmond, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, as President pro tempore.

SENATE RESOLUTION 7—COMMENDING SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD FOR 50 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. SARBANES) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and passed.

S. RES. 7

Whereas, the Honorable Robert C. Byrd has dutifully and faithfully served the people of West Virginia since January 8, 1947;

Whereas, for 50 years, he had dedicated himself to improving the lives and welfare of the people of West Virginia and the United States,

Whereas, his 50-year commitment to public service has been one of total dedication to serving the people of his beloved state and to the highest ideals of public service,

Whereas, he has held more legislative offices than anyone else in the history of his state, and is the longest serving Senator in the history of his state: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the U.S. Senate congratulates the Honorable Robert C. Byrd, the senior Senator from West Virginia, for his 50 years of public service to the people of West Virginia and to the United States of America.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Senator Robert C. Byrd.

SENATE RESOLUTION 8—GRANTING FLOOR PRIVILEGES

Mr. DASCHLE submitted the following resolution; which was considered and passed.

S. RES. 8

Resolved, That an employee in the office of Senator Max Cleland, to be designated from time to time by Senator Cleland, shall have the privilege of the Senate floor during any period when Senator Cleland is in the Senate chamber during the 105th Congress.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO MEET

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 7, 1997 at 4 p.m. to hold a closed business meeting.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to acknowledge the Sons of the American Revolution, Gen. David Humphreys Branch, and the East Haven Historical Society. In a combined effort, these three groups have placed a marker on the northeast corner of the East Haven Town Green as a memorial to the Marquis de Lafayette, general in the Continental Army. General Lafayette and his troops camped on that site en route to support the American and French forces at Providence, RI, on July 26, 1778.

The dedication took place on May 27, 1996, in observance of Memorial Day. The ceremony included planes from the Connecticut Air National Guard flying overhead. Mayor Henry Luzzi of East Haven introduced State Representative Michael P. Lawlor, 99th District, as the guest speaker. Representative Lawlor spoke of General Lafayette's concern for our newly formed Government and his firm dedication to the cause of freedom. General Lafayette served at his own expense as a volunteer using his personal funds to supply the troops under his command and soon reached virtual bankruptcy. Additionally, he forged a friendship between two nations which has lasted to the present time. When he died in 1834, soil from each of the individual United States was placed on his grave. I commend the Sons of the American Revolution, Gen. David Humphreys Branch, and the East Haven Historical Society for their efforts and dedication to preserving the history of the United States.

MONITORING THE NEW LINE-ITEM VETO AUTHORITY

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, on the first of January, the clock began ticking on an historic 8-year experiment. The Line-Item Veto Act became effective on that date, a law that provides the President with significant new authority to cancel discretionary spending and new entitlement spending, along with an extremely limited ability to cancel new spending done through the Tax Code.

Though the version enacted was flawed in several ways, I supported this new authority to provide the President with some additional flexibility to eliminate inappropriate spending. I do not believe the line-item veto is the whole answer to our deficit problem, or even most of the answer, but it certainly can be part of the answer.

A key part of the new Presidential authority is the sunset clause. Unless Congress renews this authority, it will expire. The sunset clause will put the burden on those who want to retain the authority to demonstrate the experiment has worked.

Mr. President, though the continuing Federal budget deficits justify granting this temporary authority to the President on a trial basis, there are many extremely serious issues surrounding this proposal that merit close monitoring over the next several years. At the time I voted for the final version of this new authority last year, I announced my intention to form a line-item veto watchdog project to regularly monitor how this new law is implemented over the next 8 years, and I am pleased to take this opportunity to report on that project.

Mr. President, joining me in this line-item veto watchdog project are a number of distinguished observers of Federal policymaking, including Norman Ornstein of the American Enterprise Institute, Stephen Moore of the CATO Institute, and Demetri Coupanis on behalf of the Concord Coalition. In addition, several individuals from my home State of Wisconsin have also agreed to participate in the project. They include State Senator Lynn Adelman, State Representative Dave Travis, and attorney Fred Wade of Madison. Each of those three individuals has a deep interest in the partial veto authority granted to Wisconsin's