

Daschle	Hutchinson	Nickles
DeWine	Hutchison	Reed
Dodd	Inhofe	Reid
Domenici	Inouye	Robb
Dorgan	Jeffords	Rockefeller
Durbin	Johnson	Roth
Faircloth	Kennedy	Santorum
Feingold	Kerrey	Sarbanes
Feinstein	Kerry	Sessions
Ford	Kohl	Shelby
Frist	Landrieu	Smith, Bob
Glenn	Levin	Smith, Gordon H
Gorton	Lieberman	Snowe
Graham	Lott	Specter
Gramm	Lugar	Stevens
Grams	McCain	Thompson
Grassley	McConnell	Thurmond
Gregg	Mikulski	Torricelli
Hagel	Moseley-Braun	Warner
Harkin	Moynihn	Wellstone
Helms	Murkowski	Wyden
Hollings	Murray	

NAYS—15

Allard	Coats	Kyl
Bennett	Craig	Lautenberg
Bond	Enzi	Mack
Brownback	Hatch	Roberts
Campbell	Kempthorne	Thomas

NOT VOTING—2

Breaux	Leahy
--------	-------

The resolution (S. Res. 55) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 55

Whereas, during the last few months farm milk prices have experienced substantial volatility, dropping precipitously from \$15.37 per hundredweight in September, 1996 to \$11.34 per hundredweight in December, 1996;

Whereas, the price of cheese at the National Cheese Exchange in Green Bay, Wisconsin influences milk prices paid to farmers because of its use in the Department of Agriculture's Basic Formula Price under Federal Milk Marketing Orders;

Whereas, less than one percent of the cheese produced in the United States is sold on the National Cheese Exchange and the Exchange acts as a reference price for as much as 95 percent of the commercial bulk cheese sales in the nation; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the Sense of the Senate of the United States that the Secretary of Agriculture should consider acting immediately pursuant to his legal authority to modify the Basic Formula Price for dairy by replacing the National Cheese Exchange as a factor to be considered in setting the Basic Formula Price.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that upon the conclusion of Senator HOLLINGS' remarks, the period for morning business be extended with Senators permitted to speak therein for 5 minutes each, except Senator DORGAN for 30 minutes, Senator KERREY for 15 minutes, Senator DOMENICI for up to 30 minutes, and Senator GRAMM for up to 15 minutes.

I want to emphasize that Senator HOLLINGS goes forward with his remarks. I want to thank Members again for your cooperation in getting this vote done, and I want to confirm, as we have already notified Members as they come in, this is the last vote this week. There will be a vote at 5:30 on Monday.

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

(By unanimous consent, the remarks of Mr. HOLLINGS appear at an earlier point of today's RECORD.)

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Under the previous order, the Senator from North Dakota has 30 minutes reserved.

The Senator from North Dakota is recognized.

(The remarks of Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. KERRY pertaining to the introduction of S. 331 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, we have seen the specter this week of our colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle proposing to exempt additional programs from the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution: Social Security, emergency spending, veterans programs, housing programs, education, health and welfare programs, college aid and training programs, law enforcement programs, the Tennessee Valley Authority, highways, bridges, dams, roads, buildings, and it goes on and on. Given how far afield we have gone in this debate, I wanted to very briefly try to remind the Senate and those who are following this debate what this debate is about. This debate is about families making hard decisions at their kitchen table, trying to make ends meet. So I thought I would look today, at 28 years ago, the last year that we had a balanced budget in America.

The last time we had a balanced budget was in 1969. If you look at the front page of the Washington Post for Thursday, February 13, 1969, you can see that not very much happened in the world 28 years ago today when we had a balanced budget. But there was some very exciting news that day. The very exciting news was not on the front page; the very exciting news was in the want ads. I would like just to review what America looked like the last time we had a balanced budget.

Dale City is a city 25 miles south of Washington. It is sort of a middle-class neighborhood. In Dale City, 28 years ago today, when we had a balanced budget, they were advertising new homes that were selling between \$18,600 and \$38,000 apiece. In the richest county in America, Montgomery County, 28

years ago, when we had our last balanced budget, they were advertising new homes in Walnut Hill for \$32,500.

And 28 years of deficit spending later, they are still running want ads. They ran them today. The want ads today show that houses in the suburbs of Northern Virginia are selling between \$230,000 and \$340,000 apiece, and in Montgomery County they are selling for \$270,000 a piece.

The newspaper of 28 years ago today did not have any news on the front page worthy of being remembered, but it had want ads worthy of being remembered.

A Chevrolet Impala could be bought for \$51 a month, and you had it paid off in 3 years. That was 28 years ago today, the last time we had a balanced budget. Today, to buy a Chevrolet Cavalier, it costs you \$194 a month, and you have to pay for 6 years to pay it off.

There was not much exciting news on the front page of the paper 28 years ago today, when we had a balanced budget, but there was exciting news in the want ads. You could buy a new Good-year tire for \$8.75 apiece. Now, in fact, there is an ad today for \$24.99. But my guess is, 28 years ago and today, if you went out to get the \$8 tires then or the \$24 tires today, you would find that they did not fit your car. But look at what has happened to the base tire in terms of expenses.

Twenty-eight years ago today, the public was buying pork. And our Government was beginning to go on a binge of pork that would last 28 years. Pork chops at Giant 28 years ago today were 89 cents a pound. Pork chops at A&P 28 years ago today, as advertised in the Post, were 89 cents a pound. Pork chops at Safeway 28 years ago today, when we had a balanced budget, were 89 cents a pound. Today, in the Washington Post, Safeway boneless pork chops are \$3.99 a pound. Mr. President, 28 years ago there was not a big headline in the paper, but there should have been. The big headline in the paper should have been, "Budget Balanced This Year for the Last Year in 28 Years."

Our colleagues say: Well, things are going great. It's wonderful. We ought to exempt the budget from itself. There's no reason to quit spending. But I think anybody who looks at what was in the paper 28 years ago today and what is in the paper today has to conclude that there have been a lot of changes in the 28 years since we have had a balanced budget and that many of those changes are not trends that we want to continue.

Finally, tomorrow is Valentine's Day. Twenty-eight years ago today you could buy this Whitman deluxe red foil heart assortment, 1 pound of candy, for \$2.66. After 28 years of deficit spending here in Washington, it costs \$8.79.

Mr. President, maybe some of our colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle could say: Well, don't worry about housing costs up from \$18,000 to

\$230,000 and don't worry about automobile costs up from a monthly payment of \$51 to a monthly payment of \$248. Maybe they could say: Don't worry about the price of tires and don't worry about pork. But when the cost of love is exploding, the time has come to stop deficit spending. That is what this debate is about. I wanted to remind my colleagues before we all left for our work period at home.

[Data erroneously printed here has been deleted by direction of the Senate Official Reporters of Debates.]

THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I want to talk about an issue of enormous importance to our national security and express my hope that during the course of the next week, while the U.S. Senate is out of session, Senators will focus on and think hard about our responsibilities with respect to the Chemical Weapons Convention. More than 100 years of international efforts to ban chemical weapons, 100 years of effort, culminated January 13, 1993, in the final days of the Bush administration when the United States of America signed the Chemical Weapons Convention as one of the original signatories.

I hope my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will focus closely on the efforts of former President Bush, former National Security Adviser General Scowcroft, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Powell, and so many other people whose bona fides with respect to issues of national security I do not believe have ever been at issue. They all worked hard and fought hard to bring this Convention to a successful conclusion.

Since the time the United States signed it as one of the original signatories, 160 other nations have joined in signing it. That is 161, I might say, out of a total of 190 independent states that

compose the world community of nations.

Immediately after the signing, the process of ratification by the signatories began. The convention was submitted to the U.S. Senate for its advice and consent in November 1993, and multiple hearings have been held by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the Armed Services Committee, the Intelligence Committee, and the Judiciary Committee during both the 103d and the 104th Congresses. As of January 27, 1997, 68 nations have already ratified the Convention, but not the United States of America that helped lead the effort of its creation.

This Convention provides that it will take force and its provisions will become applicable to party nations 180 days following its ratification by the 65th nation. The 65th ratification occurred late last year, so the clock is now ticking toward the date on which it enters into force. The Convention will enter into force on April 29 of this year, just a little more than 2 months after we return from the recess period that begins later today.

It is important to understand the provisions of the Convention, especially when measured against that date. The Convention bans the development, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons by its signatories. It also requires the destruction of virtually all chemical weapons and production facilities.

This treaty also provides the most extensive, most intrusive verification regime of any arms control treaty yet negotiated, extending its coverage not only to governmental and military but also to civilian facilities.

The fact is that this verification package provides, in the end, increased security to the United States. That verification package includes instrument monitoring, both routine and random inspections, and challenge inspections for sites that are suspected of chemical weapons storage or production. The Convention also requires export controls and reporting requirements on chemicals that can be used as warfare agents and their precursors.

In order to implement its provisions and to administer them on an ongoing basis, the Convention establishes the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, or the OPCW. This organization is permanently charged with ensuring compliance with the Convention's requirements and with monitoring the chemical industry and the chemical production throughout the world. The Convention's preparatory commission, which is located in The Hague, is currently determining precisely how the permanent organization is going to be structured and how the Convention is going to be implemented.

Every State that ratifies that Convention has to complete the destruction of chemical weapons agents, munitions and production facilities within 10 years of the Convention's entry into force, or its date of ratification, whichever comes earlier.

I would like to describe what the treaty accomplishes in terms of control of chemicals and their precursors and monitoring and tracking of those chemicals and precursors.

The Convention establishes three lists, or schedules as they are called, of chemical warfare agents and their precursor chemicals. These are arranged in the order of their importance to chemical weapons production and the extent of their legitimate peaceful or commercial uses.

The OPCW Technical Secretariat will update those schedules as needed and as circumstances change. And the production, the use, or the transfer of any chemicals on these schedules above set minimal amounts must be projected prospectively by the manufacturers and subsequently reported annually to the OPCW.

Any facility that makes use of or is capable of producing scheduled chemicals has to register with the OPCW, as do facilities that produce over 30 metric tons annually of a discrete chemical containing phosphorous, sulphur or fluorine.