

Mr. DOMENICI. I wish to applaud the subcommittee chairman, Senator SPECTER, and other members of the Appropriations subcommittee for receiving a consensus on this bill, and at the same time adhering to the important provisions of the bipartisan budget agreement.

First, let me say this bill has a very exceptional provision in it which was not part of the budget agreement but, rather, was in the Republican budget resolution, and that was to add \$5 billion for special education for the next 5 years that was for educating children with disabilities. The appropriations bill includes an additional \$775 million for this program, the biggest increase in the history of the program. This is the program that many States were critical of our Government for because we started it and committed a share of the payment and we never lived up to our commitment in the shared expenses of the program but insisted that our rules and regulations be followed by the States.

Now we are beginning to catch up. Senator JUDD GREGG was the leader of this from the State of New Hampshire, and certainly he will take a great deal of pride as this bill works its way to the President for signature—\$5 billion over the next 5 years for educating children with disabilities.

Now, Mr. President, this bill has a lot of different provisions in it for different parts of the U.S. Government, but the education funding for the United States is almost all found in this bill. While we are not a big contributor nationally to education—that is, the National Government—there are some programs that are noteworthy that we agreed in our 22-page agree-

ment, the historic agreement of the President and the Congress, to give high priority to, and I might say on all of these on education, with our bipartisan agreement, this committee lived up to those and funded them in every single instance, even though it meant much of their allocation of resources was being predetermined by this previous agreement.

Let me give a few examples. Regarding Head Start, the budget agreement called for an additional \$2.75 billion over the next 5 years; the appropriations bill provides an additional \$274 million for this program. For both these programs I have just discussed, the bill provides more funding than the President's original 1998 budget request.

Now, looking at Pell grants, which many think are very helpful in getting our young people through college—another very important bipartisan effort—the budget agreement called for an additional \$8.6 billion over the next 5 years and to raise the maximum Pell grant to students from \$2,700 to \$3,000. True to the other measures that I have discussed, the appropriations bill provides an additional \$1.4 billion for Pell grants and increased maximum grant awards from \$2,700 to \$3,000.

Finally, in the area of bilingual and immigrant education, particularly difficult for our States, the budget agreement called for \$446 million over the next 5 years, and the appropriations bill provided \$92 million of that increase in this bill.

Now, I realize many constraints were on this committee, and I want to again offer my words of thanks and congratulations for their fine work and especially for their serious effort to uphold

the bipartisan budget agreement. I believe we can all be proud of these particular increases which have such broad bipartisan support. From the standpoint of the Republicans who were part of the bipartisan agreement with the President, I think today on education we are seeing some very positive results from that effort.

Mr. President, I have changes to the budget resolution aggregates and Appropriations Committee allocation which are in order, and I ask unanimous consent they be printed in the RECORD.

There being no obligation, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

SUBMITTING CHANGES TO THE BUDGET RESOLUTION AGGREGATES AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ALLOCATION

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, section 314(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended, requires the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to adjust the appropriate budgetary aggregates and the allocation for the Appropriations Committee to reflect additional new budget authority and outlays for continuing disability reviews subject to the limitations in section 251(b)(2)(C) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act.

I hereby submit revisions to the budget authority, outlays, and deficit aggregates for fiscal year 1998 contained in sec. 101 of House Concurrent Resolution 84 in the following amounts:

	Deficit	Budget Authority	Outlays
Current aggregates	173,462,000,000	1,390,913,000,000	1,372,462,000,000
Adjustments	43,000,000	45,000,000	43,000,000
Revised aggregates	173,505,000,000	1,390,958,000,000	1,372,505,000,000

I hereby submit revisions to the 1998 Senate Appropriations Committee budget authority and outlay allocations, pursuant to sec. 302 of the Congressional Budget Act, in the following amounts:

	Budget Authority	Outlays
Current allocation:		
Defense discretionary	269,000,000,000	266,823,000,000
Nondefense discretionary	256,036,000,000	283,243,000,000
Violent crime reduction fund	5,500,000,000	3,592,000,000
Mandatory	277,312,000,000	278,725,000,000
Total allocation	807,848,000,000	832,383,000,000
Adjustments:		
Defense discretionary		
Nondefense discretionary	45,000,000	43,000,000
Violent crime reduction fund		
Mandatory		
Total allocation	45,000,000	43,000,000
Revised allocation:		
Defense discretionary	269,000,000,000	266,823,000,000
Nondefense discretionary	256,081,000,000	283,286,000,000
Violent crime reduction fund	5,500,000,000	3,592,000,000
Mandatory	277,312,000,000	278,725,000,000
Total allocation	807,893,000,000	832,426,000,000

Mr. DOMENICI. I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, have the yeas and nays been requested?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. They have not.

Mr. BOND. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the conference report.

The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Missouri [Mr. ASHCROFT], the Senator from Colorado [Mr. CAMPBELL], the Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN], and the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Missouri [Mr. ASHCROFT] would vote "nay."

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. WELLSTONE], is necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. WELLSTONE], would vote "aye."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 91, Nays 4, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 298 Leg.]

YEAS—91

Abraham	Bumpers	Daschle
Akaka	Burns	DeWine
Allard	Byrd	Dodd
Baucus	Chafee	Domenici
Bennett	Cleland	Dorgan
Biden	Coats	Durbin
Bingaman	Cochran	Enzi
Bond	Collins	Faircloth
Boxer	Conrad	Feingold
Breaux	Coverdell	Feinstein
Brownback	Craig	Ford
Bryan	D'Amato	Frist

Glenn	Kerry	Robb
Gorton	Kohl	Roberts
Graham	Kyl	Rockefeller
Gramm	Landrieu	Roth
Grams	Lautenberg	Santorum
Grassley	Leahy	Sarbanes
Gregg	Levin	Shelby
Hagel	Lieberman	Smith (OR)
Harkin	Lott	Snowe
Hatch	Lugar	Specter
Hollings	Mack	Stevens
Hutchinson	Mikulski	Thomas
Hutchison	Moseley-Braun	Thompson
Inouye	Moynihan	Thurmond
Jeffords	Murkowski	Torricelli
Johnson	Murray	Warner
Kempthorne	Nickles	Wyden
Kennedy	Reed	
Kerrey	Reid	

NAYS—4

Helms	Sessions
Inhofe	Smith (NH)

NOT VOTING—5

Ashcroft	McCain	Wellstone
Campbell	McConnell	

The conference report was agreed to. Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the conference report was agreed to. Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table. The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—
H.R. 2676

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed immediately H.R. 2676, the IRS Restructuring Act of 1997, just received from the House 2 days ago, that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I object. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. Mr. FORD. Mr. President, may we have order in the Senate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is not in order. The Senator from Nebraska has the floor.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, this piece of legislation passed the House 426 to 4.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, the Senate is still not in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. The Senate is not in order.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I thank the Chair.

This piece of legislation will do what I think everybody in the country wants us to do; that is, to change the law, and give the newly confirmed Commissioner of the IRS the authority to run the agency.

There are lots of other changes in this piece of legislation. It passed 426 to 4 in the House. It has the support of the administration.

It should be taken up as long as we are in session. It was passed, I believe, almost unanimously once Members started to look at what is in the bill.

It would enable the Commissioner to run the IRS, put together his team, to hire and fire, to provide positive incentives to reimburse employees, and es-

tablish a public board. It provides new accountability on the legislative side. It provides a basis to evaluate complexity, and provide incentives to move to electronic filing.

Almost none of the things that I have mentioned, once people look at the legislation, are regarded as controversial today. In fact, when I point it out to people at home, they say, "My gosh, I am surprised they aren't already law."

We have heard and continue to hear complaints from our citizens about the way the IRS is run. It is time for us to give the Commissioner of the IRS the authority to manage the agency and do the things that the American people are asking us to do.

As long as we are in session, I hope again that Members on the other side will look at this bill. And I will say again: I hope they will resist. I understand the Speaker is going to still try, in spite of the negative publicity, to get somewhere between \$30 and \$80 million to have the IRS conduct a 14-question opinion poll about how the IRS is being operated. Our restructuring commission spent \$20,000, and asked most of these questions. If the IRS was doing this on their own, if somebody discovered that they were going to take \$30 to \$80 million instead of doing customer service, and instead of working with taxpayers, conducting a poll asking a question, "Do you think your taxes are fair or unfair?" and then have the questionnaires mailed back to GAO—Mr. President, again the Speaker of the House has indicated that he considers a priority issue the need to appropriate somewhere between \$30 and \$80 million to have the IRS conduct a 14-question poll. That is considered a high priority.

I believe that if it was discovered that was in the bill, or that the IRS was doing this own their own, there would be 100 votes in this chamber against it—14 questions, \$30 to \$80 million. It is going to be mailed to every—

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, could we have order in the Senate? Everybody is talking all over the place. I can't hear the Senator, and he is only a few feet away.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will come to order. Will the Senator from Nebraska yield?

Mr. LOTT. Will the Senator yield for a brief question?

Mr. KERREY. Yes.

Mr. LOTT. Senator DASCHLE and I would like to be able to go over what we expect to be happening here the rest of the day, and tomorrow. I know that Senator ROTH wants to respond. Can we get some idea of how much time the Senator from Nebraska is going to have involved in this discussion?

Mr. KERREY. I would be pleased to agree to a UC to yield to the distinguished majority and Democratic leader, and then give the floor back to me. I would be pleased to do that, if you want to do a UC for that.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we be able to proceed with leader time so that we can give information to the Senators about the schedule. I know there are Senators waiting to get some information on that. If the Senator would agree to that, then we will return to his discussion to be followed by Senator ROTH.

That would be my request. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KERREY. The UC would do what again?

Mr. LOTT. That we interrupt at this point for us to have a colloquy here about what the schedule be as best we can tell, and then after that we return to the Senator's discussion uninterrupted with our remarks after his remarks to be followed by Senator ROTH's response to that.

Mr. KERREY. I have no objection. Mr. LOTT. And morning business. We would turn to morning business at that point.

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

Mr. DORGAN. Reserving the right to object, is the Senator now suggesting in his unanimous-consent request that we return to morning business immediately following the discussion by Senator ROTH and Senator KERREY?

Mr. LOTT. That is what I am suggesting.

Mr. DORGAN. Then let me say, reserving the right to object, it is my intention to inquire about when the majority leader intends to allow us to debate and perhaps get some votes on amendments on fast track. We didn't object to going to morning business yesterday. I guess we have a number of people who want to offer amendments on fast track. That has been put off and put off. In fact, the regular order would be an amendment that I have pending on fast track. So if the Senator would simply exclude the morning business request and then proceed with the discussion, I would like to try to have some understanding about when we might entertain amendments on fast track.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, let me withdraw the last part of my unanimous-consent request so we would just be asking we would do what we are going to do on the schedule and go back to this discussion and we will talk further about that. I think the information we will give Senators will answer some of the Senator's questions.

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

THE SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. For the information of all Senators, there is a move to combine the three remaining appropriations bills into one bill and to send that document to the House. The Appropriations Committee intends to meet on this immediately following these announcements. Those bills are the D.C.,