

Clearly, this is an issue that has America's attention. The idea that so much progress has been made in the cloning area, and that we have doctors or scientists already threatening to clone human beings, is a very serious matter from a scientific, medical, moral and ethical standpoint. I don't think we can afford to set this issue aside without some immediate consideration and some immediate attention.

I am very pleased that the Senators that are involved on both sides of the aisle are obviously very concerned, very thoughtful, and would like to get an agreement.

I am particularly pleased that one of the leaders on our side of the aisle is Dr. BILL FRIST of Tennessee, one of the Senators who knows the most about questions of science. He would never want us to sacrifice appropriate advancements in science and medical achievement in any way. The difference is he really knows what he's talking about. So, while there are some disagreements about how far to go, what would be appropriate, what would not be appropriate, a lot of good work has been done.

It seems to me that the thing to do is to go forward. Let's have a continued debate in addition to what we have already heard from a half dozen or seven Senators or so. Let's have other Senators become informed, read the debate we have already had, think about this issue, study the bills, and make recommendations. If there are amendments by the Senator from California, I think they should be offered. Let's debate them and let's think about them.

This is an issue whose time has come—maybe sooner than we would have ever dreamed, and maybe in a lot of ways we had not anticipated this. But if we don't act, what could be the result? Do we want to allow the possibility of human cloning to go forward? I don't think so. Leaders in the scientific and medical communities, and others, have already indicated their concerns about that. The President of the United States has made it very clear in an early statement that he wanted to make sure that this human cloning did not occur. So I urge the Senate—we can go forward with deliberate speed, which is always the case, but we should go forward and not have this pigeon-holed somewhere in the bowels of the building for weeks or months while time and events pass us by.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk so that we can proceed to the very serious legislation on the issue of cloning.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to S. 1601 regarding human cloning.

Trent Lott, Christopher S. Bond, Bill Frist, Spencer Abraham, Michael B. Enzi, James Inhofe, Slade Gorton, Sam Brownback, Don Nickles, Chuck Hagel, Rick Santorum, Judd Gregg, Rod Grams, Larry E. Craig, Jesse Helms, and Jon Kyl.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I emphasize once again that this is only to end debate on the motion to proceed. Could we at least go to the substance of the bill, and then we can make a judgment about whether we have had enough discussion, whether we know enough, or whether we have amended it appropriately. We have no option at this point other than to file cloture.

For the information of all Senators, the vote will occur on Tuesday, February 10, at a time to be determined by the majority leader after discussion with Senators on both sides of the issue and with the minority leader.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

Mr. LOTT. I now withdraw the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to proceed will be withdrawn.

CLOTURE MOTION

NOMINATION OF DAVID SATCHER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, AND SURGEON GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now resume the nomination of David Satcher in order for me to file a cloture motion on the nomination.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of David Satcher, of Tennessee, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, Medical Director of the Public Health Service, and Surgeon General of the Public Health Service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the cloture motion.

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provision of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar Nos. 338 and 339, the nomination of David Satcher to be Assistant Secretary of HHS and to be Surgeon General.

Trent Lott, James Jeffords, Richard Lugar, Conrad Burns, Arlen Specter, Frank H. Murkowski, Ted Stevens, Ted Kennedy, Olympia J. Snowe, Susan Collins, Tom Daschle, Paul Wellstone, Herb Kohl, Christopher Dodd, Chuck Robb, Tim Johnson, and Tom Harkin.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote occur at 11 a.m. on Thursday, February 10, with the mandatory quorum being

waived and, further, that if cloture is invoked, the Senate proceed to an immediate vote on the confirmation of David Satcher to be Assistant Secretary of HHS and Surgeon General, all without any intervening action or debate. I further ask that following the vote, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I further ask that there be up to 6 hours for debate on the nomination on Monday, February 9, to be equally divided between Senators JEFFORDS and ASHCROFT, and that there be 1 hour, equally divided in the same fashion, on Tuesday morning.

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

Mr. LOTT. Once again, Mr. President, regarding this matter, I want to make it clear that there is no intent to rush to judgment here. This nomination has been pending for quite some time. There is strong support for this nomination on both sides of the aisle, and there are legitimate concerns about this nominee. I had indicated yesterday that we would not go forward to a vote until requested information from the Centers for Disease Control had been received, as requested by the Senator from Missouri, Senator ASHCROFT. I had FAXed that list to the Secretary of HHS, Secretary Shalala, and talked to her subsequently on the telephone. I had been told that there were seven items listed. One of them had already been provided, one was on the way, and the other five were being pursued. I believe that most of that information now has been obtained. If not, there is time for it to be received Saturday, Sunday, or Monday before we get to vote on Tuesday.

I urge the White House, the Centers for Disease Control, and everybody involved, to make that information available. It was inferred that, well, it might be used against him. I don't know what the information is. It may be used against him. If it is out there and in the public record or should be in the public record, we need to know that, and we will make a decision.

We have had time given to this nomination in that it has been pending a long time, and now we have had debate pointing out where the problems are and pointing out the assets of this nominee. I think we should not delay it any further. It would be my intent to vote for cloture, which I don't always do, but I think once you have had adequate time—in fact, I rarely do it, but I think this nominee should have a vote on his nomination. So if we in fact do come to a final vote on cloture, I will vote for cloture. That does not indicate how I would vote on final passage. I will make that final decision based on all the information made available before the vote occurs. But I think we should bring it to a conclusion.