

from the Foreign Relations Committee, under the leadership of the chairman of that committee, Chairman JESSE HELMS, The Hague Convention on International Adoption.

The reason I mention it particularly tonight is that we will be taking up this implementation legislation when we return—hopefully, soon after we return. Then we will be considering a very important treaty under the same title.

There are many hundreds of leaders in Washington today from the Joint Council on International Children's Services and with the National Council for Adoption who have worked literally for years to bring us to this point.

I also commend our partners in the House, Congressman DELAHUNT from Massachusetts, Congressman BURR, and Congressman GEJDENSON from Connecticut who worked very hard on this who were terrific leaders.

Sixty-six countries participated in this ground-breaking document. There were 37 signatories, and to date 29 countries have ratified. I particularly mention Mexico and Romania as two of the earliest countries.

Since the United States receives more children in this country through adoption than all other countries combined, and since we pride ourselves on being a leader in this particular area, I think it is very significant that we step forward, pass this legislation, and ratify this treaty.

In closing, let me say it is so significant because many Senators from both sides of the aisle have worked for so many years to promote adoption in a very positive way to say basically that every child deserves a home. If their biological family is split apart or broken up by death, or disease, or tragedy, neglect, or abuse, it is our responsibility as a society to make sure those children are cared for permanently by someone who is capable of nurturing and loving.

The significance of this treaty is that now we express, in an international way, that that child should then go to their family and then to the community at large, but if no place can be found, surely there is a home somewhere on this planet for these children. There are many orphans and there are many children in limbo caught within systems in the United States and elsewhere.

I thank my colleagues and I thank Senator HELMS for his great leadership. I look forward to taking up this issue when we return because there was great committee work done and a lot of work for many years was put into this. I am convinced that millions of children now all over the world will be able to find a home and families will be able to find children once this legislation is implemented and carried out.

I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas is recognized.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Thank you very much. I thank my colleague from West

Virginia for allowing me to speak for a few minutes.

#### THE MAJORITY LEADER, TRENT LOTT

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I want to recognize the majority leader, Senator TRENT LOTT, for his great work in getting the marriage penalty bill brought up to the point where, right after we get back, I am hopeful, we will be able to vote on this piece of legislation and get it passed.

(The remarks of Mr. BROWNBACK pertaining to the introduction of S. 2449 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

#### ORGAN TRANSPLANT LEGISLATION

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have a very brief colloquy with the distinguished Senator from Vermont from the Committee on Labor, Health, Education and Pensions. It had been anticipated there would be a unanimous consent request to move forward on legislation on organ transplants which came out of the Labor Committee yesterday on a unanimous vote. I had been deeply involved in that matter when the issue came before the conference on the appropriations bill for Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. We had crafted, after a great deal of controversy, a resolution where the Secretary of Health and Human Services came especially to an evening session and we worked out what I thought were the final details on the settlement.

But as I think George Shultz said, nothing is ever settled in Washington and the matter has seen a new birth. The issue came before the Labor Committee and they have crafted a new proposal. I had intended to object. It now appears that others will object and the matter will not come forward.

I thought it useful to have a colloquy with Senator JEFFORDS where I would not raise an objection on his assurance that out of the conference the bill of the Labor Committee would not be watered down any more. That is a minimal consideration for fairness in organ transplants. In my judgment, no bill would be better than any bill which is less than the one which is out of committee.

My own personal view is that the compromise crafted in my subcommittee on appropriations on that bill is a superior approach, but I did see the wave moving toward what happened in the Labor Committee yesterday. Therefore, I will not raise an objection on the assurance from the chairman that that bill will not be reduced, modified, or weakened in any way in conference.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I thank the Senator for his statement. We had an incredibly good breakthrough in negotiations, which is why I can reassure the Sen-

ator of my belief that we don't have to worry about it being changed, with the administration about 3 o'clock the morning before last, after long negotiations, and we came to a resolution which at least I know my critics in Vermont and everyone I know has agreed is a wonderful resolution of the problem. I am hopeful we will also be able to get the holds from the other side of the aisle removed expeditiously so this can be passed.

I thank the Senator because he was a leader in this field, and the bill he brought out of the appropriations process was certainly one which was taken into consideration and utilized in the final resolution.

With Senator KENNEDY and Senator FRIST agreeing to it, with the administration, I think we have, for the first time, a real hope this very difficult area of organ transplants and how they will be utilized may have a permanent solution—at least a solution for a foreseeable length of time. A lot of it is due to the efforts of the Senator, and I appreciate it.

Mr. SPECTER. I thank my colleague from Vermont for that statement. I want to be sure I have his commitment he will not bring back a conference report to this floor which would water down in any way the bill which came out of his committee yesterday.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I give the Senator those assurances.

Mr. SPECTER. I thank my friend from Vermont, and I thank my colleague from West Virginia, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

#### THE LAST BUDGET RESOLUTION MANAGED BY SENATOR LAUTENBERG

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the conference report on the budget resolution for fiscal year 2001 has been adopted. I note that this will be the last budget resolution to be managed by my good friend from New Jersey, Senator LAUTENBERG. Senator LAUTENBERG joined the Budget Committee in 1985, 2 years after he was first elected to the Senate. Since that time, he has become an expert on the Federal budget process. He has worked hard. He has been diligent in his business.

The Bible says:

Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings.

FRANK LAUTENBERG has been diligent in his business. His mastery of Federal budget matters was aided, to a great degree, by his earlier mastery of business matters in the private sector. FRANK LAUTENBERG was one of the founding partners of a company called Automatic Data Processing. That company now employs 37,000 employees and has a market capitalization in excess of \$31 billion. Just prior to being elected to the Senate, FRANK LAUTENBERG served as both chairman and chief executive officer of that company. As a