

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

The result was announced—yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 129 Leg.]

YEAS—97

Abraham	Feingold	Lugar
Akaka	Feinstein	Mack
Allard	Fitzgerald	McCain
Ashcroft	Frist	McConnell
Baucus	Gorton	Mikulski
Bayh	Graham	Murkowski
Bennett	Gramm	Murray
Biden	Grams	Nickles
Bingaman	Grassley	Reed
Bond	Gregg	Reid
Boxer	Hagel	Robb
Breaux	Harkin	Roberts
Brownback	Hatch	Roth
Bryan	Helms	Santorum
Bunning	Hollings	Sarbanes
Burns	Hutchinson	Schumer
Byrd	Hutchison	Sessions
Campbell	Inhofe	Shelby
Chafee, L.	Inouye	Smith (NH)
Cleland	Jeffords	Smith (OR)
Cochran	Johnson	Snowe
Collins	Kennedy	Specter
Conrad	Kerrey	Stevens
Coverdell	Kerry	Thomas
Craig	Kohl	Thompson
Crapo	Kyl	Thurmond
Daschle	Landrieu	Torricelli
DeWine	Lautenberg	Voinovich
Dodd	Leahy	Warner
Dorgan	Levin	Wellstone
Durbin	Lieberman	Wyden
Edwards	Lincoln	
Enzi	Lott	

NOT VOTING—3

Domenici	Moynihan	Rockefeller
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The amendment (No. 3428) was agreed to.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3426

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be agreed to, which is the committee substitute for the House bill, and the amendment be treated as original text for purposes of further amendment, and that no points of order be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3426) was agreed to.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate resumes the Transportation bill at 9:45 a.m. in the morning, Senator VOINOVICH be recognized to offer his amendment regarding passenger rail flexibility.

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

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, in light of this agreement, on behalf of the leader, I announce that there will be no further rollcall votes tonight.

It is the hope of the managers—Senator LAUTENBERG and I—that this bill will be passed by 1 p.m. on Thursday, tomorrow. All Members have a lot in this Transportation appropriations bill. I hope all Members who have amendments will come forward. A lot

of Members are already coming. We are working them out. If we work together, I think we can work this out tomorrow.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I thought there was supposed to be a time agreement for a vote on the amendment of Senator VOINOVICH. Was that not in the agreement?

Mr. SHELBY. It is not.

Mr. STEVENS. I hope early in the morning we can get an agreement for a specific time so we can move this bill forward. The other body is working on the Health and Human Services bill. We have already reported that bill out of committee. We were able to take that bill up. We also have the foreign assistance bill that will be ready to be taken up on the floor as soon as the House passes it. I hope we will be able to finish this bill early tomorrow afternoon.

I thought we were going to get an agreement to vote on the Voinovich amendment early tomorrow morning. But I hope we will be able to meet early in the morning and get some timeframe on that amendment. I hope my friends on the other side will agree with that.

We are coming in at 9:45, and the Voinovich amendment will be the first amendment. But there is no time limit to vote on it.

We are hopeful we can finish this bill sometime early in the afternoon, at 1 o'clock or so, go back to the Defense bill, and be ready to take up another appropriations bill on Friday morning, the next day.

I hope the parties will consider doing what we did in the Defense bill and set a time limit for when these amendments that were listed in this agreement will be filed tomorrow so we can take a look at them and, hopefully, work many of them out without a vote.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to the managers of the bill and to the chairman of the full committee that on our side, in regards to the Transportation appropriations bill, we believe we are in very good shape to move forward just as quickly as the other side. We had one amendment we were concerned about that would take a lot of time, but the Senator stated that it will not be offered.

We are at a point where we think, if the Voinovich amendment doesn't take very long, we can finish this fairly quickly.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

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

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

BROADBAND TAX INCENTIVE BILL

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise to today in support of a bill I introduced last week along with my friend Senator MOYNIHAN and 26 other members on both sides of the aisle. The bill, S. 2698, the Broadband Internet Access Act of 2000, crates tax incentives for the deployment of broadband (high-speed) Internet services to rural, low-income, and residential areas.

This bill will ensure that all Americans gain timely and equitable access to the Internet over current and future generations of broadband capability.

The legislation provides graduated tax credits to companies that bring qualified telecommunication capabilities to targeted areas. It grants a 10-percent credit for expenditures on equipment that provide a bandwidth of 1.5 million bits per second (mbps) to subscribers in rural and low-income areas, and a 20-percent credit for delivery of 22 mbps to these customers and other residential subscribers.

This bill has been endorsed by a number of organizations, including Bell Atlantic, MCI/Worldcom, Corning Incorporated, the National Telephone Cooperative Association, the Association for Local Telecommunications Services, the United States Distance Learning Association, and the Imaging Science and Information Systems Center at Georgetown University Medical Center.

Mr. President, in a few short years, the Internet has grown exponentially to become a mass medium used daily by over 100 million people worldwide. The explosion of information technology has created opportunities undreamed of by previous generations. In my home state of Montana, companies such as Healthdirectory.com and Vanns.com are taking advantage of the global markets made possible by the stunning reach of the Internet.

The pace of broadband deployment to rural America must be accelerated for electronic commerce to meet its full potential, however. Broadband access is an important to our small businesses in Montana as water is to agribusiness.

I am aware of all of the recent discussion regarding the "digital divide" and I am very concerned that the pace of broadband deployment is greater in urban than rural areas. However, there is some positive and exciting news on this front as well. The reality on the ground shows that some of the "gloom and doom" scenarios are far from the case. By pooling their limited resources, Montana's independent and cooperative telephone companies are doing great things. I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.