

and the United States shall not consent to the transfer of any person extradited to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka by the United States to said International Criminal Court unless the Statute establishing that Court has entered into force for the United States by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, as required by Article II, section 2 of the United States Constitution.

(b) DECLARATION.—The Senate's advice and consent is subject to the following declaration, which shall be binding on the President:

TREATY INTERPRETATION.—The Senate affirms the applicability to all treaties of the constitutionally based principles of treaty interpretation set forth in Condition (1) of the resolution of ratification of the INF Treaty, approved by the Senate on May 27, 1988, and Condition (8) of the resolution of ratification of the Document Agreed Among the States Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, approved by the Senate on May 14, 1997.

(c) PROVISOS.—The resolution of ratification is subject to the following proviso, which shall not be included in the instrument of ratification to be signed by the President:

SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION.—Nothing in this Treaty requires or authorizes legislation or other action by the United States of America that is prohibited by the Constitution of the United States as interpreted by the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. A division has been requested.

Senators in favor of the ratification of this treaty, please raise their hand. (After a pause.) Those opposed will raise their hands.

With two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the affirmative, the resolution of ratification is agreed to.

#### INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION

The resolution of ratification was read as follows:

*Resolved, (two thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),* That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), Adopted at the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations at Rome on November 17, 1997 (Treaty Doc. 106-23), referred to in this resolution of ratification as "the amended Convention," subject to the understandings of subsection (a), the declaration of subsection (b) and the provisos of subsection (c).

(a) UNDERSTANDINGS.—The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following understandings, which shall be included in the instrument of ratification of the amended Convention and shall be binding on the President:

(1) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.—The United States understands that nothing in the amended Convention is to be interpreted in a manner inconsistent with, or alters the terms or effect of, the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary or Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) or other relevant international agreements.

(2) AUTHORITY TO TAKE MEASURES AGAINST PESTS.—The United States understands that nothing in the amended Convention limits the authority of the United States, consistent with the SPS Agreement, to take sanitary or phytosanitary measures against any pest to protect the environment or human, animal, or plant life or health.

(3) ARTICLE XX ("TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE").—The United States understands that the provisions of Article XX entail no binding obligation to appropriate funds for technical assistance.

(b) DECLARATION.—The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following declaration:

TREATY INTERPRETATION.—The Senate affirms the applicability to all treaties of the constitutionally based principles of treaty interpretation set forth in Condition (1) of the resolution of ratification of the INF Treaty, approved by the Senate on May 27, 1988, and Condition (8) of the resolution of ratification of the Document Agreed Among the State Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, approved by the Senate on May 14, 1997.

(c) PROVISOS.—The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following provisos:

(1) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—One year after the date the amended Convention enters into force for the United States, and annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall provide a report on Convention implementation to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate setting forth at least the following:

(A) a discussion of the sanitary or phytosanitary standard-setting activities of the IPPC during the previous year;

(B) a discussion of the sanitary or phytosanitary standards under consideration or planned for consideration by the IPPC in the coming year;

(C) information about the budget of the IPPC in the previous fiscal year; and

(D) a list of countries which have ratified or accepted the amended Convention, including dates and related particulars.

(2) SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION.—Nothing in the amended Convention requires or authorizes legislation or other action by the United States of America that is prohibited by the Constitution of the United States as interpreted by the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. A division has been requested.

Senators in favor of the ratification of this treaty, please raise their hand. (After a pause.) Those opposed will raise their hands.

With two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the affirmative, the resolution of ratification is agreed to.

Mr. THOMAS. I thank the Presiding Officer, the Senator from West Virginia, and the clerk.

By the way, just for information, these treaties were all approved by the Foreign Relations Committee on October 4 and 5.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

Mr. THOMAS. 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. 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.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for 15 minutes for the purpose of introducing legislation.

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

Mr. ALLARD. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. ALLARD pertaining to the introduction of S. 3213 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of my time and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAPO). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BRYAN. 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. BRYAN. Mr. President, may I inquire as to whether it would be appropriate at this point to request to speak as in morning business for a period of time not to exceed 8 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That would be appropriate.

Mr. BRYAN. I make that request.

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

#### REFORM OF MEDICARE

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I am now in my last days of serving the people of the State of Nevada as a U.S. Senator. It is a role in which I am proud and privileged to have had an opportunity to serve. I am also very proud of the opportunity I have had to serve as a member of the Finance Committee, the committee with jurisdiction over the Medicare program.

Having said that, I am greatly troubled by this body's failure to take action on several fronts as it relates to Medicare. I am disappointed that we failed to act on Medicare coverage for prescription drugs as well as the proposed payment changes in the so-called BBA relief bill, a piece of legislation that deals with provider payment enhancements to those services and companies that provide service to Medicare patients.

The impact of Medicare over the past 35 years cannot be overemphasized. Prior to enactment of Medicare in 1965, fewer than half the seniors in America had any kind of health care coverage at all. Today, as a result of Medicare's enactment, 99 percent do. As a result, health care for the Nation's seniors has been improved and the burden of health care costs for them has been greatly ameliorated. But a Medicare program without prescription drug coverage does not meet the promise we made to seniors in 1965.

In 1965, the Medicare program roughly paralleled what was available in the private sector. Today, as all of us know, prescription drugs play such a vital role, a greatly enhanced role in