

more rollcall votes today. I say “obviously”; I should probably say “unfortunately.” This is the fourth week now we have been on this bill. This is the 15th day we have been on this bill. We have scores, if not hundreds, of amendments that ought to be offered and ought to be debated. We listened to countless speeches all last year from many of our Republican colleagues about how critical it was we bring up this bill. I think Senator MURKOWSKI on several occasions said: Let’s let the chips fall where they may; let’s offer amendments; let’s take up ANWR; let’s get this legislation done.

The Senator from Alaska talked today about this being another crisis, given the Iraqi situation. Here it is, 5:45 this afternoon, and we are facing a Republican filibuster on the Feinstein amendment, the so-called derivatives amendment. We are hopeful we can at long last reach a cloture vote tomorrow. They have been filibustering the derivative amendment now for some time. I don’t understand why we have yet to take up the ANWR amendment. As I said, after 15 long days of debate, we have yet to debate one of the central issues involving energy policy from the Republicans’ perspective, and that is the debate on ANWR.

It is critical we have that debate sooner rather than later. And if need be, I know some of my colleagues have actually suggested maybe they will raise the issue, that they take it up, that they offer the amendment. We would probably offer the House language.

We want to accomplish as much as possible during this work period. I have laid out, on several occasions now, our hope and expectation with regard to the legislative agenda for this work period. It is ambitious. But our Republican friends in the administration, and Republican friends in the Senate, talk about how they are unable to take up other very important pieces of legislation, including trade promotion authority and terrorist insurance.

But we find ourselves here with a Republican filibuster on the energy bill, a Republican reluctance to take up the ANWR amendment, and, at 5:45 in the afternoon, no one to offer amendments in spite of the fact that we have been on this bill now for 15 days and over 200 amendments are still pending.

So, I must say, it is a situation that has to be rectified sooner or later. There is no way we can take up all of the other important bills during this very critical work period if we do not have more cooperation and ability to address the remaining issues in this bill than what has been demonstrated so far.

It is unfortunate. It is frustrating to be at a point, after this long on the energy bill, that in my view is so far from closure on a bill that both sides have acknowledged must be completed.

I want to complete it. I know Senator REID has been working very hard to try to work on both sides to see if

we can come up with a list of amendments. But, as I say, a Republican filibuster on the derivative amendment has to end. The ANWR amendment has to be debated. We have to find some way to resolve whatever other outstanding questions there are and bring this bill to a close so we can move on to other important pieces of legislation, including border security, which, as I understand it, is supported by the administration; Republicans and Democrats support it.

We also have the election reform bill. We have nominations we would like to take up—judicial nominations. We have heard a lot about that in recent days. So there is no lack of work required of this body. Yet there are such limits on our ability to deal with all of those and other priorities, simply because we have been unable to move this bill any further along than we are this afternoon.

Mr. REID. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. DASCHLE. I will be happy to yield to the Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. I ask my friend from South Dakota, the majority leader, if he is aware that we have had speeches here in the past several weeks—we had one earlier this afternoon—of Senators saying, Why don’t we vote on ANWR? Why don’t we have an up-or-down vote on ANWR?

Is the Senator aware these speeches are being made by the other side often but no amendment is offered? Have you ever seen a procedure such as that where they complain about not having a vote but they have not offered the amendment?

Mr. DASCHLE. It is mystifying to me. We have been told for months, if not years, how critical ANWR is to some of our colleagues on the other side. Yet after 15 days we are told we still have to wait for an ANWR amendment on this energy bill.

So something doesn’t connect here. Either ANWR is not important or there is a slow-walking of the bill—inexplicably. There is an emergency, as some of our colleagues have indicated today, but there is an inability here to connect the dots. It seems to me we have to rectify that situation.

The Senator is right. You cannot give speeches and say it is important for us to finish the bill and take up ANWR and we need a vote but then fail to offer the amendment to get the vote.

I ask my colleagues to recognize how precious our time is. This is Tuesday. I have already had two or three requests for early evenings and early departure this weekend. I suspect we will get more of those throughout the week. We have to make the most of the days we are here. Let’s make the most of Wednesday, the most of Thursday. Let’s resolve these outstanding issues, let’s end the filibuster, and let’s get this job done.

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. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at 9:15 on Wednesday, April 10, the Senate resume consideration of S. 517; that the time until 9:45 a.m. be for debate prior to the cloture vote with respect to the Feinstein amendment numbered 2989, with the time equally divided and controlled in the usual form; that at 9:45 tomorrow morning the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture; and that Senators have until 9:30 a.m. for filing second-degree amendments to the Feinstein amendment.

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

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that there be a period for morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for a period of up to 5 minutes each.

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

#### THE MIDEAST CRISIS

Mrs. CARNAHAN. Madam President, last week, as people of many faiths celebrated holy days of peace, our television screens were filled with visions of horror. Young Palestinian men and women, strapping explosives to their bodies and detonating themselves in crowds of Israeli civilians, destroyed dozens of lives and with them exploded the hopes and dreams for a peaceful resolution of the Middle East crisis.

The words used to acclaim these acts are deeply troubling. The murderous bomber who killed celebrants at the Passover meal was deemed “a glorious martyr.” Such a proclamation is a cruel hoax, perpetrated by those dedicated to the destruction of the Jewish state. It comes from those who have never admitted in their hearts—and will never admit that Israel has the right to exist within secure and peaceful borders.

They unleash their hate under the banner of such groups as Hamas, and Hezbollah, the Fatah and the Al Asqa Mosque Martyrs’ Brigade.

Unfortunately, the leader of the Palestinian Authority, Yasser Arafat, is unwilling or unable to prevent the wave of assaults against Israeli civilians. For far too many years he has talked the talk of peace; but he has never walked the walk for peace.

When it has served his interest to speak of reconciliation, of compromise, of security for Israel—he has done so. But days, or even hours, later when speaking to his people, or the Arab world, he uses language that urges armed struggle, a war of liberation, and a return to conquered lands.