

where they are at the moment, let them come to the budgeting process and make their request just like everyone else has to for the budgeting process here in Congress.

The earmark reforms in this bill are important, and we shouldn't allow the executive branch to undermine them. We owe it to our constituents to make sure earmarks are carried out as intended by this body in accordance with our earmarks disclosure rules.

To conclude, this amendment simply reinforces the earmark reforms in a very straightforward way. It will ensure that earmarks are only spent for the stated purpose for which they were approved. It will put an end to unaccountable skimming of earmarks and require that any unspent earmarked funds will be used for deficit reduction.

This amendment protects our constituents and the American taxpayer. It strengthens the underlying bill by providing a guarantee that earmarks will be spent only as the Senate intends, for the purpose for which they were approved, in accordance with the earmark reforms. I believe the underlying bill is incomplete without my amendment, and I urge my colleagues to adopt it.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MENENDEZ). Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

JOINT LEADERSHIP AGREEMENT ON COMMITTEE FUNDING

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, before we proceed to the resolutions appointing our committee membership, I want to thank the majority leader for his assistance in working on this joint leadership agreement. As was agreed to in the 108th Congress, we have included language which keeps the current minority staff salary baseline from going below the allocation in the 109th if those funds are available. Given the possibility of a continuing resolution, the majority leader and the chairman of the Rules Committee have agreed to provide each ranking member, if requested, an allocation equal to 49 percent of the 10 percent that was available to the chairman in the 109th Congress. I would further say that this money is available out of existing funds and is not considered as supplemental funds above the current funding levels.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I concur with the remarks of the Republican leader. The baseline was not reduced for Democratic staff in the 108th Congress. This agreement allows for that same accommodation for the Republican side in the 110th, if that money is

available. Further, since additional funds may not be available, we have agreed that each ranking member will be allocated the amount mentioned above, if they so request, and those funds will be made available from existing funds provided by the Rules Committee.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a letter signed by the two leaders be printed in the RECORD.

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

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

JOINT LEADERSHIP LETTER

We mutually commit to the following for the 110th Congress:

The budgets of the Committees of the Senate, including Joint and Special Committees, and all other subgroups, shall be apportioned to reflect the ratio of the Senate as of, and effective on this date, with up to an additional ten percent (10%), to be allocated to the Chairmen for administrative expenses, to be determined by the Rules Committee, with the total administrative expenses allocation for all Committees not to exceed historic levels. The additional administrative expenses described above shall be available to be expended by a Committee Chairman, after consultation with the Ranking Member of the Committee. Funds for committee expenses shall be available to Chairmen consistent with the Senate rules and practices of the 109th Congress. No committee budget shall be allocated to reduce the Republican staff salary baseline below that of fiscal year 2006 if that money is available. The Chairman and Ranking Member of any committee may, by mutual agreement, modify the apportionment of Committee funding, including the additional ten percent (10%) allocated for administrative expenses, referenced in this letter. The division of Committee office space shall be commensurate with this funding agreement.

CONSTITUTING THE MAJORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 27, which is at the desk; that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 27) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 27

Resolved, That the following shall constitute the majority party's membership on the following committees for the One Hundred Tenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, and FORESTRY: Mr. Harkin (Chairman), Mr. Leahy, Mr. Conrad, Mr. Baucus, Mrs. Lincoln, Ms. Stabenow, Mr. Nelson (Nebraska), Mr. Salazar, Mr. Brown, Mr. Casey, and Ms. Klobuchar.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS: Mr. Byrd (Chairman), Mr. Inouye, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Harkin, Ms. Mikulski, Mr. Kohl, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Dorgan, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Landrieu, Mr. Reed, Mr. Lautenberg, and Mr. Nelson (Nebraska).

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES: Mr. Levin (Chairman), Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Byrd, Mr. Lieberman, Mr. Reed, Mr. Akaka, Mr. Nelson (Florida), Mr. Nelson (Nebraska), Mr. Bayh, Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Pryor, Mr. Webb, and Mrs. McCaskill.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS: Mr. Dodd (Chairman), Mr. Johnson, Mr. Reed, Mr. Schumer, Mr. Bayh, Mr. Carper, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Akaka, Mr. Brown, Mr. Casey, and Mr. Tester.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION: Mr. Inouye (Chairman), Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Kerry, Mr. Dorgan, Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Nelson (Florida), Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Lautenberg, Mr. Pryor, Mr. Carper, Mrs. McCaskill, and Ms. Klobuchar.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES: Mr. Bingaman (Chairman), Mr. Akaka, Mr. Dorgan, Mr. Wyden, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Landrieu, Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Salazar, Mr. Menendez, Mrs. Lincoln, Mr. Sanders, and Mr. Tester.

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mrs. Boxer (Chairman), Mr. Baucus, Mr. Lieberman, Mr. Carper, Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Lautenberg, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Sanders, Ms. Klobuchar, and Mr. Whitehouse.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE: Mr. Baucus (Chairman), Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Conrad, Mr. Bingaman, Mr. Kerry, Mrs. Lincoln, Mr. Wyden, Mr. Schumer, Ms. Stabenow, Ms. Cantwell, and Mr. Salazar.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS: Mr. Biden (Chairman), Mr. Dodd, Mr. Kerry, Mr. Feingold, Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Nelson (Florida), Mr. Obama, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Casey, and Mr. Webb.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS: Mr. Kennedy (Chairman), Mr. Dodd, Mr. Harkin, Ms. Mikulski, Mr. Bingaman, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Reed, Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Obama, Mr. Sanders, and Mr. Brown.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS: Mr. Lieberman (Chairman), Mr. Levin, Mr. Akaka, Mr. Carper, Mr. Pryor, Ms. Landrieu, Mr. Obama, Mrs. McCaskill, and Mr. Tester.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY: Mr. Leahy (Chairman), Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Biden, Mr. Kohl, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Feingold, Mr. Schumer, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Cardin, and Mr. Whitehouse.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE: Mr. Rockefeller, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Wyden, Mr. Bayh, Ms. Mikulski, Mr. Feingold, Mr. Nelson (Florida), Mr. Whitehouse, and Mr. Levin (ex officio).

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET: Mr. Conrad (Chairman), Mrs. Murray, Mr. Wyden, Mr. Feingold, Mr. Byrd, Mr. Nelson (Florida), Ms. Stabenow, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Lautenberg, Mr. Sanders, and Mr. Whitehouse.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION: Mrs. Feinstein (Chairman), Mr. Dodd, Mr. Byrd, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Schumer, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Nelson (Nebraska), Mr. Reid, Mrs. Murray, and Mr. Pryor.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Mr. Kerry (Chairman), Mr. Levin, Mr. Harkin, Mr. Lieberman, Ms. Landrieu, Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Bayh, Mr. Pryor, Mr. Cardin, and Mr. Tester.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS: Mr. Akaka (Chairman), Mr. Rockefeller, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Obama, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Brown, Mr. Webb, and Mr. Tester.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING: Mr. Kohl (Chairman), Mr. Wyden, Mrs. Lincoln, Mr. Bayh, Mr. Carper, Mr. Nelson (Florida), Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Salazar, Mr. Casey, Mrs. McCaskill, and Mr. Whitehouse.

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE: Mr. Schumer (Chairman), Mr. Kennedy, Mr.