

Mullen, Admiral, U.S. Navy, Chief of Naval Operations; T. Michael Moseley, General, U.S. Air Force, Chief of Staff; James T. Conway, General, U.S. Marine Corps, Commandant of the Marine Corps, be printed in the RECORD.

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

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF,
Washington, DC, April 2, 2007.

Hon. THAD COCHRAN,
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR COCHRAN: On behalf of the Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen of our Armed Forces and their families, please accept our thanks and appreciation for continuing to provide the necessary resources and legislation to fight the Long War.

With the increasing pace of operations and materiel needs in Iraq and Afghanistan, we ask that the Congress expeditiously complete its work on the Fiscal Year 2007 Emergency Supplemental. Timely receipt of this funding is critical to military readiness and force generation as we prosecute the war on terror. Given the current status of this legislation, we are particularly concerned that funding could be significantly delayed.

Without approval of the supplemental funds in April, the Armed Services will be forced to take increasingly disruptive measures in order to sustain combat operations. The impacts on readiness and quality of life could be profound. We will have to implement spending restrictions and reprogram billions of dollars. Reprogramming is a short-term, cost-inefficient solution that wastes our limited resources. Spending restrictions will delay and disrupt our follow-on forces as they prepare for war, possibly compromising future readiness and strategic agility. Furthermore, these restrictions increase the burden on service members and their families during this time of war.

Thank you again for your unwavering support of our service members and their families. We are grateful for your steadfast interest in providing them the best equipment, the best training and a quality of life equal to the quality of their service. We look forward to working with you on measures to enhance our Nation's security.

Sincerely,

PETER J. SCHOOMAKER,
General, U.S. Army,
Chief of Staff.

MICHAEL G. MULLEN,
Admiral, U.S. Navy,
Chief of Naval Operations.

T. MICHAEL MOSELEY,
General, U.S. Air
Force, Chief of Staff.

JAMES T. CONWAY,
General, U.S. Marine
Corps, Commandant
of the Marine Corps.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of the time available on this side.

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

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING
BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

COURT SECURITY IMPROVEMENT
ACT OF 2007

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume consideration of S. 378, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 378) to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect judges, prosecutors, witnesses, victims, and their family members and for other purposes.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today we continue to debate and consider the Court Security Improvement Act of 2007. It should not be a struggle to enact this broadly supported consensus legislation. We made some progress yesterday but failed to get to final passage of this important legislation. I hope we can get there later today.

I would like to thank the majority leader for his support and leadership on this bill. Senator REID knows all too well about the need for greater court security since the last courthouse tragedy occurred in Nevada. Nobody has been a stronger supporter of this legislation. He helped us pass similar protections twice last year. It is no surprise to me that yesterday he met with the head of the U.S. Marshals Service. Sadly, they reported a 17 percent increase in attacks this year. We cannot delay our response any further in the face of this trend.

Senator DURBIN, our assistant majority leader, has been consistently dedicated to getting this legislation passed. The tragic murder of Judge Lefkow's husband and mother in her home State of Illinois serves as a terrible reminder of why we need this legislation. Senator DURBIN has worked tirelessly to prevent any further tragedies from befalling our Federal judges.

As I have noted before, this legislation has broad bipartisan support. Yesterday Senator CORNYN gave a powerful statement in support of this legislation. Senator CORNYN is a former member of his State's judiciary. I urge Members to consider his views and support for these important provisions providing for increased security. Even the White House has issued a supportive Statement of Administration Policy.

Yesterday a number of amendments were filed, but none of them was relevant to the important purpose of court security. There will be other opportunities to consider worthwhile amendments. I look forward to working with Senator COBURN on Department of Justice reauthorization later this year.

We made some progress yesterday. The Senate adopted the Kyl-Feinstein amendment that was adopted in committee. I thank Senator SPECTER for working with me on an important managers' amendment. That amendment

made several technical fixes and clarified our treatment and protection of magistrate judges and the Tax Court judges.

Last night after significant debate we had a vote on an amendment offered by Senator COBURN. Regretfully, it took from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for the Senator from Oklahoma to be ready to offer his amendment. Once offered we dealt with it promptly.

I would like to thank Senator WHITEHOUSE for helping me manage this bill yesterday. His eloquent words in support of this legislation were much appreciated.

I thank Senators KLOBUCHAR and BROWN for helping me manage this legislation today during the Judiciary Committee's oversight hearing with Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

I hope that today we can finish our work on this important legislation.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I understand the Senator from Nevada has an amendment he wishes to offer.

AMENDMENT NO. 897.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 897.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. ENSIGN] proposes an amendment numbered 897.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for the appointment of additional Federal circuit judges, to divide the Ninth Judicial Circuit of the United States into 2 circuits, and for other purposes)

At the end of the bill, add the following:

TITLE VI: NINTH CIRCUIT SPLIT

SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "The Circuit Court of Appeals Restructuring and Modernization Act of 2007".

SEC. 602. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) FORMER NINTH CIRCUIT.—The term "former ninth circuit" means the ninth judicial circuit of the United States as in existence on the day before the effective date of this title.

(2) NEW NINTH CIRCUIT.—The term "new ninth circuit" means the ninth judicial circuit of the United States established by the amendment made by section 603(2)(A).

(3) TWELFTH CIRCUIT.—The term "twelfth circuit" means the twelfth judicial circuit of the United States established by the amendment made by section 603(2)(B).

SEC. 603. NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF CIRCUITS.

Section 41 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding the table, by striking "thirteen" and inserting "fourteen"; and

(2) in the table—

(A) by striking the item relating to the ninth circuit and inserting the following:

"Ninth California, Guam, Hawaii, Northern Mariana Islands."

and