

wealthy man. People who are on unemployment benefits, without exception, are not wealthy. They are people who were depending on a check to come when payday came. Payday came, and they had no job. The unemployed are a pet project of mine. I would say that the unemployed don't have the advocates, the lobbyists that a lot of other groups have, but they are as important.

Is it a pet project to help businesses weather the storm of this downturn? I don't think so. Is it a pet project to help people pay for their heating bills? And if there is something negative about that term, I plead guilty. Is it a pet project to help families avoid foreclosure? If the answer is yes, we know that a majority of the Senate is in favor of these pet projects. We know that a majority of the Senate supports these pet projects and will defend these projects.

I hope there are enough of my friends on the other side of the aisle who will step forward and do the right thing and support this bipartisan plan that will help stimulate the economy.

I am not naive enough not to know that when this bill leaves here, whatever shape it is, it goes to a conference with the House. The President will be heavily involved in that. It will have the stamp of approval of the House and the Senate. But pressure is building, and that is why a majority of the Senate of the United States believes that this Senate stimulus package is a good piece of legislation. We have already established tonight, through the words of the Republican leader, that the House package is far from perfect, because he has acknowledged that he wants to change that. If we stand together on this bill—and Senators BAUCUS and GRASSLEY have stood together—we can achieve something today that will make our economy stronger and make the American people proud that we have not forgotten the unemployed, that we have not forgotten the military folks who have given so much, and the seniors.

I still often want to call my mother. I used to call my mother every day. She was a Social Security recipient. I know I can't call my mother, even though I want to on many occasions. But I do know that if she got this check like we are trying to give her and others similarly situated, she would spend that money if she were alive. She would have that money spent in a matter of a few days. So this is the right thing to do.

The Senate should feel good that right now a bipartisan group of Senators, Democrats and Republicans, reported a bill out of the Senate Finance Committee and, after having done so, a bipartisan group of Democratic Senators and Republican Senators have joined together to say: Let's give the economy a boost. That is what this legislation will do.

Our time has expired, or it will in a minute or so.

Mr. President, as usual, we have people who want to get out of here and people who want to stay here. So we

are going to wait until the time expires. So I will ask that we have a quorum call. There is just a minute or so left.

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

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

CLOTURE MOTION

Under the previous order, pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on amendment No. 3983 to H.R. 5140, the economic stimulus bill.

Herb Kohl, Max Baucus, Mark L. Pryor, Byron L. Dorgan, Robert Menendez, Jon Tester, Christopher J. Dodd, Barbara A. Mikulski, Joseph I. Lieberman, Frank R. Lautenberg, Daniel K. Akaka, Sheldon Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Richard Durbin, Claire McCaskill, Harry Reid.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call is waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on amendment No. 3983, offered by the Senator from Nevada, Mr. REID, to H.R. 5140, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. KYL. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 58, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 8 Leg.]

YEAS—58

Akaka	Durbin	Murray
Baucus	Feingold	Nelson (FL)
Bayh	Feinstein	Nelson (NE)
Biden	Grassley	Obama
Bingaman	Harkin	Pryor
Boxer	Inouye	Reed
Brown	Johnson	Rockefeller
Byrd	Kennedy	Salazar
Cantwell	Kerry	Sanders
Cardin	Klobuchar	Schumer
Carper	Kohl	Smith
Casey	Landrieu	Snowe
Clinton	Lautenberg	Specter
Coleman	Leahy	Stabenow
Collins	Levin	Tester
Conrad	Lieberman	Webb
Dodd	Lincoln	Whitehouse
Dole	McCaskill	Wyden
Domenici	Menendez	
Dorgan	Mikulski	

NAYS—41

Alexander	Cornyn	Isakson
Allard	Craig	Kyl
Barrasso	Crapo	Lugar
Bennett	DeMint	Martinez
Bond	Ensign	McConnell
Brownback	Enzi	Murkowski
Bunning	Graham	Reid
Burr	Hatch	Roberts
Chambliss	Hagel	Sessions
Coburn	Hatch	Shelby
Cochran	Hutchinson	Stevens
Corker	Inhofe	

Sununu Thune Vitter Voinovich Warner Wicker

NOT VOTING—1

McCain

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 58, the nays are 41. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to reconsider is entered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, first, let me express my appreciation to everyone who took my calls, who listened to Democrats and Republicans asking them to vote for this very important stimulus package. It was a good debate. The American people would have been better for having done this, but I appreciate the bipartisan nature of this vote. Fifty-nine Senators joined together to do what they thought was the right thing for the country.

I will have before the evening is out, in fact shortly, a conversation with the Republican leader in the immediate future this evening to let him know what I intend to do in the near future and not so near. So pending my conversation with the Republican leader, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CANTWELL). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASEY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. 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.

RECOGNIZING EDWARD J. MOLITOR, SR.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, Ed Molitor has been coaching basketball at Palatine High School for so long that when the local paper reported on his retirement, the sports trivia question it ran included the name of his predecessor.

When Ed Molitor was in college, he went to a playoff game between two Chicago high school basketball teams—DuSable and DePaul Academy. He credits this game with altering the course of his life.

At the time, Ed Molitor was a premed student at St. Procopius College. When he wasn't consumed with his studies, he helped a friend coach basketball at an elementary school on the