

The bottom line is this bill does not add to the deficit or debt because this bill is paid for. That is not my claim; that is the finding of the Congressional Budget Office, which says over the first 5 years this bill has a modest surplus of \$67 million. And over the life of the bill, the 10-year projections that we are required to comply with, this bill saves \$110 million.

I conclude by again thanking the chairman for his vision, thanking his staff for their incredible dedication, and thanking the ranking member, Senator CHAMBLISS, whom I call Cool Hand Luke. You couldn't have a better guy in the pit, and it is a pit at times when you are writing a bill of this magnitude and this complexity and this importance. But he always kept his calm, and that helped enormously in these negotiations. And to his outstanding staff, we thank you. Thank you for being willing to serve in public life. We know you could make much more money some other place, but you have made an enormous contribution to this country.

Finally, to Jim Miller, who is my lead negotiator, my very special, personal thanks for extraordinary dedication, for doing something good for the country and my State.

I hope my colleagues will vote to override the President's ill-considered veto.

I yield the floor.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I see the hour is just about upon us to start our vote. Again, I also want to thank our staffs, our great staffs who have worked so hard on this legislation for so many months: Martha Scott Poindexter and Vernie Hubert, I see over here, and Mark Halverson, and all the rest of the staff who are here in the chamber. I mentioned them by name before, and I can't thank them enough for all their hard work. It has been a long endeavor, and they have worked so hard, I hope they will be able to take a vacation.

Again, to Senator CHAMBLISS, I cannot thank him enough for a great working relationship and helping to pull this bill through. Now we look ahead to next year and the child nutrition bill, as well as to other matters before us. I also thank Senator CHAMBLISS for his care and his concern, discussing with me—not only today but other times—the serious situation in the State of Iowa.

We are hurting bad. It is hard to describe it, what is happening in Iowa. This farm bill will put some new policies in place, including the new permanent disaster program we have included, and others in agriculture, such as for conservation of our soil and water, so we will be able to get through this terrible crisis we are facing in the State of Iowa right now, to recover, to rebuild, and to come back even stronger and prepared for the future.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The question is, Shall the bill pass, the objections of the President of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding? The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant journal clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCAIN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. STABENOW). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 80, nays 14, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 151 Leg.]

YEAS—80

Akaka	Dole	Menendez
Alexander	Dorgan	Mikulski
Allard	Durbin	Murray
Barrasso	Enzi	Nelson (FL)
Baucus	Feingold	Nelson (NE)
Bayh	Feinstein	Pryor
Biden	Graham	Reid
Bingaman	Grassley	Roberts
Bond	Harkin	Rockefeller
Boxer	Hatch	Salazar
Brown	Hutchison	Sanders
Brownback	Inhofe	Schumer
Bunning	Inouye	Sessions
Burr	Isakson	Shelby
Cantwell	Johnson	Smith
Cardin	Kerry	Snowe
Carper	Klobuchar	Specter
Casey	Kohl	Stabenow
Chambliss	Landrieu	Stevens
Cochran	Lautenberg	Tester
Coleman	Leahy	Thune
Conrad	Levin	Vitter
Corker	Lieberman	Warner
Cornyn	Lincoln	Webb
Craig	Martinez	Wicker
Crapo	McCaskill	Wyden
Dodd	McConnell	

NAYS—14

Bennett	Gregg	Reed
Coburn	Hagel	Sununu
Collins	Kyl	Voinovich
DeMint	Lugar	Whitehouse
Ensign	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—6

Byrd	Domenici	McCain
Clinton	Kennedy	Obama

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 80 and the nays are 14. Two-thirds of the Senators present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the bill, on reconsideration, is passed, the objections of the President of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, this has been a difficult week. We have spent a lot of time in quorum calls. There has been a tremendous number of speeches. All have been good. I have enjoyed every one of them. But we have been working very hard to move to something on which we can work together. The housing bill has been brought to us by two of our most experienced legisla-

tors—Senators DODD and SHELBY. They both served in the House of Representatives. They are experienced. They understand how Capitol Hill works. Senator McCONNELL and I have met with them, and we are now at a point, after a long discussion with them—they have had conversations with the administration; I have not had any, but they have—where Members should be advised that tomorrow morning at 9:30, as soon as the admiral completes his prayer and Senator McCONNELL and I have anything to say, we are going to move immediately to the housing bill. There has been agreement with the managers, with Senator McCONNELL and with me, that we are going to legislate on this bill. There will be amendments offered, and we will have amendments debated. We hope we can have some votes scheduled tomorrow. We are going to work, everybody should be advised, on Friday. Monday is a nonvote day. We have a lot of work we need to do on Monday.

I advise everyone, the break before the Fourth of July starts a week from the day after tomorrow. In that short week, we have 4 days. We have to make sure we complete this housing bill. We will have to take a run at seeing if FISA can be completed. Either the House is going to send us a bill or we have a message here from them and we will work on that. We also have the little piece of legislation, the supplemental appropriations bill. The House is going to have a rule on that tomorrow. We have permission, as I understand it, from the Republican leadership in the House that they can do a same-day rule. That matter will come to us sometime tomorrow night or Friday.

We have a lot to do. We all want to go home for the Fourth of July, and we all need to go home. We have parades and constituents to see. It is an important time. We spend a lot of time here, and it is important we get back to the States during the week rather than only on weekends. I think the Republican leader and I have an agreement on how we will proceed on the housing bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, let me echo the remarks of the majority leader. We are going to have an opportunity tomorrow to legislate like the Senate has long been accustomed to legislating. We are actually going to offer amendments. They are going to be related to the bill, and we are going to get started. The majority leader and I and Senator DODD and SHELBY all agree on how we ought to go forward. I hope Members on both sides who have amendments that are related to the subject matter will get them out early. Let's process them. Let's have the votes, and let's let the Senate work its will.

We also have the other items the majority leader has indicated we need to address before the recess. We will work

diligently to get passage on all those matters. There will be a lot of cooperation on this side of the aisle, and I am confident there will be on the other side of the aisle so we can have a productive workweek before the Fourth of July break.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. If I could say one or two additional things, I received a letter from, I think, nine Republican Senators and their request was totally valid. They said this is a big piece of legislation. Don't rush into it. I advise all Senators who sent me that letter, the legislation has been available all day. I hope they and their staffs looked through it. If there are provisions in it they think should be changed, that is what tomorrow and the next day and Monday will be all about.

While we have a good attendance in the Chamber, during July, there are no Monday no-vote days. In July, we are going to work all the work period. We also have a weekend that we have scheduled that we are going to be in session, July 25 we are going to be in session. Everyone has a lot of notice now to not plan anything for that weekend. We have work we need to do. I will be in close touch with the Republican leader tomorrow and on Monday, before we start our last rush, but everyone will have a good idea of what we are going to do in the next work period. Right now it is a little bit in flux, but we know there are things we have to complete.

This, of course, is the last vote for today. We will start tomorrow morning. Hopefully, we will have some votes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

STRATEGIC ECONOMIC DIALOG WITH CHINA

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, today the administration is concluding its much-heralded fourth session of the strategic economic dialog with officials from the Chinese Government. Obviously, there have been three of these previous to this, when Secretary Paulson, Secretary of the Treasury, the brain of the Bush administration's economic policy, a very successful Wall Street banker who came to Washington amid all kinds of plaudits from at least Wall Street and many of the newspaper publishers and editors who side with Wall Street on most issues—Secretary Paulson is an honorable, decent man. He went to China again to engage in these strategic economic dialogs.

The big announcement today from these strategic economic dialogs, SEDs, is an agreement to begin negotiations for a bilateral investment treaty. That is all he has agreed to do with the Chinese, is to talk about how

we can help American investors in China get a fair shake from the Chinese Government. Of all the pressing issues we are currently facing in our bilateral relationship with China, Secretary Paulson chose to emphasize issues, frankly, that only stand to benefit the largest investors, the largest mutual funds, the largest hedge funds, the people on Wall Street who have benefitted the most from this global economy, the largest corporations that are outsourcing jobs to China. That is who benefits from these four strategic economic dialogs.

The focus on improving the Chinese stock market and increasing opportunities for foreign investors in China only stands to benefit major U.S. investors and large American companies that are considering moving offshore to China.

Secretary Paulson should have focused on issues that hurt American workers, the impact of the undervalued Chinese currency—part of the work of the junior Senator from Michigan in the Finance Committee—and Secretary Paulson should have been working to fix the lack of effective intellectual property rights enforcement in China, should have worked to correct the soaring bilateral trade deficit of \$57 billion—\$57 billion just for the first quarter of this year, up 20 percent over last year and on pace to set another record high, \$57 billion. That means—doing the math quickly—\$600 million or \$700 million. Every single day, we buy \$600 million or \$700 million of imports from China more than we sell to China—every single day. You do not think that is a big reason plants close in Tiffin and Fostoria and Zanesville and Cleveland, and in Lansing, Kalamazoo, and Detroit, MI?

Instead, Secretary Paulson is looking out for investors rather than workers, rather than communities—communities such as Mansfield and Portsmouth and Chillicothe. When a plant closes, firefighters are laid off, police officers are laid off, teachers are laid off. Quality of life diminishes every time we lose these jobs to China.

I would hope Secretary Paulson would consider the needs of the vast majority of Americans who would be better served by a different set of priorities, a different trade relation with China, not trying to fix the Chinese stock market and help U.S. investors and large corporations in the United States that are only looking for more offshoring opportunities. Yet, as the administration concludes its fourth Strategic Economic Dialogue, it has become clear that the SED has been an exercise in talking with no action.

Since the first SED in December 2006—he has done a couple of these every year—the U.S. trade deficit with China has grown \$25 billion per year. We have lost 581,000 manufacturing jobs. There have been at least 457—think about this—457 “Made in China” recalls by the Consumer Product Safety Commission. That is not counting

what happened with heparin, the contaminated ingredients that went into a drug that killed several people in Toledo, OH. It is not even counting that. That is 457 “Made in China” products recalled by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

New Government reports, from various agencies, have given us new information that poses challenges to our relationship with China. The EPA—get this—it does not affect my part of the country quite as much—estimates that 25 percent of California's air pollution comes directly from China.

The State Department, meanwhile, released its annual “Trafficking in Persons Report,” which found significant problems with forced labor, including forced child labor, in the People's Republic of China. This is the fourth year in a row that China was put on a “watch list” of countries that could face sanctions if they do not improve their record on trafficking in persons. So where does it talk about this in the Strategic Economic Dialogue? Secretary Paulson wants to help American investors, wants to help U.S. companies that are going to go offshore, wants to help strengthen and repair the Chinese stock market. There is nothing about consumer product safety recalls, nothing about currency devaluation costing us jobs, nothing about trafficking in people and what that means to children and what that means to families.

In December 2006, when the Bush administration announced the Strategic Economic Dialogue with China, nearly 2 years ago, Treasury Secretary Paulson said the SED would focus on five specific areas. These were his own promises. These are not my opinions. These are not my advice or my counsel or my suggestions. These are what Secretary Paulson said he would focus on:

No. 1, the first was “Managing financial and macroeconomic cycles.”

China utilizes numerous questionable subsidies to artificially boost production, including \$27 billion in energy subsidies since 2000 for steel producers. Think about how uncompetitive that is and what it does to our steel industry and what it does to global warming because they do not have the same environmental rules and regulations on their steel industry as we rightly—rightly—have on our steel industry. Chinese steel production has increased more than 50 percent in the last 4 years. Steel exports to the United States are 129 percent higher than they were 3 years ago. That is more than twice as much steel imports from China to the United States.

The second was “Developing human capital.”

As I just mentioned, China's human rights abuses are notorious, as are their woefully inadequate labor conditions in many factories—not to mention child labor and all they do that way.

Third—one of Secretary Paulson's focuses of his five specific areas—“the benefits of trade and open markets.”