

Act, which focuses on postpartum depression, which now is more easily diagnosed, and they are looking for ways to lessen the burden that people who have postpartum depression have and the Vision Care for Kids Act and the Prenatally and Postnatally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act.

Three of the six bills in the health care package were introduced by Republicans. All these bills passed the House with extremely strong bipartisan support. Eighty-five percent of the people in the House of Representatives voted for these pieces of legislation. That is the average. Of course, the same over here. We have bipartisan support. But procedurally Republicans have supported Senator COBURN.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
H.R. 1727

Mr. REID. First, let's take a look at the Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Act, one key provision that has been obstructed. It is an important piece of legislation dealing with paralysis. This legislation would support and enhance cooperation in paralysis research, rehabilitation, and quality of life programs for people with paralysis. It authorizes grants and research funding for clinical rehabilitation of paralysis. The bill has been languishing on the Senate calendar for well more than a year and, I repeat, passed the House with extremely broad bipartisan support.

Dr. COBURN's office has indicated on several occasions that, OK, let's pass this. But we have heard that before.

I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1727, the Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Act, and the Senate proceed to its consideration, that the bill be read a third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and there be no intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object, will the Senate majority leader yield for a question?

Mr. REID. Of course.

Mr. COBURN. You sent over some 20 or 30 bills to our side. Is this one of those bills and has there been any change in what we have since our discussions?

Mr. REID. This is the exact language from the House of Representatives.

Mr. COBURN. Pending the time we get to review all of that, I will gladly accept a unanimous consent but, reserving the right to object, I will object at this time until I have a chance to look at the bills. They were given to us less than 20 minutes ago and we wish an opportunity to look at that. The majority leader has my word I will not object if that is the case.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to my friend, he has had more than a year to look at this. It is the exact bill from the House. Fine. Take a look at it. We will come back again.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
S. 1810

Mr. REID. Another bill in this package is extremely important. This bill will help ensure pregnant women and new mothers of babies with prenatal conditions will get information and support services to help prepare them for the challenges and rewards of their children.

I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 457, S. 1810, that all after the enacting clause be stricken, that an amendment at the desk consisting of subtitle (f) of title I of S. 3297 be inserted in lieu thereof, the amendment be considered and agreed to, the bill as amended be read a third time and passed, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate. The two sponsors of this legislation, Senators BROWNBACK and KENNEDY, are in favor of what we have done with the amendment that is at the desk.

I have made this amendment available to everybody for some time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object, after looking at what was sent over this morning, if there was no change to it, I will not object. Pending that, I object at this time.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
S. 1382

Mr. REID. Mr. President, now we turn to another important piece of legislation. This is what we mentioned earlier, the Lou Gehrig's disease legislation. The bill would build upon, expand, and coordinate among pre-existing ALS registries, helping to collect data essential to the study of this dread disease.

The reason this is important is the average time from discovering a person has Lou Gehrig's disease until they die is 16 months. Time is of the essence.

The bill would create a Federal advisory committee on the national ALS Registry and promote research access to ALS data. The bill passed the House 411 to 3 a year ago. Both House and Senate committees marked the bill up with bipartisan support. Senator COBURN said he wanted some changes made so we have made those changes. Each change he told us he wanted we have made. Then he asked for an additional change and we made that. Now we have made extensive changes to the bill to accommodate the concerns Senator COBURN said he had with the bill, so I hope we can get it passed.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 518, the ALS Registry Act, that all after the enacting clause be stricken, the amendment at the desk consisting of the compromise amendment based on the language of subtitle (a) of title I of S. 3297 be inserted, that the amendment be considered and agreed to and

the bill, as amended, be read a third time, passed, and the motions to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object, again, after looking at this, if what the majority leader said is accurate, I plan on supporting this. But until I have had a chance to read what was sent over this morning—I will object until that time.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
H.R. 507

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this is the Vision Care for Kids Act. What this would do is ensure that children get the vision care they need to succeed in school.

I think most everybody knows I was born in a little town and raised in a little town—no doctors, no hospital. I was born in a house, not in a hospital.

When I went away to high school, which is also a fairly small high school, I was a baseball catcher on the baseball team. When we would move inside to the gym when the weather was very bad, which was not very often in Nevada, and I would be catching, I had trouble picking up the ball. But I thought it was that way for everybody. I thought other people had trouble seeing the ball. It was not until I was a freshman in college that somebody said: You must not be able to see very well. And so as a freshman in college I got a pair of glasses. I will never forget it. I came back to my dormitory; I had never seen green on the hills. I did not know things looked that way. But with my glasses, I could see it was green now. Now I know why I could not see the ball.

That is what this is all about, so kids like me have an opportunity maybe to be able to see with glasses or whatever it takes to improve their eyesight. Is this bill going to solve all of those problems? No, but it certainly would help. It would establish a program through the Centers for Disease Control to complement and encourage existing State efforts to improve children's vision care.

I am not suggesting to anyone that I was blind. I just didn't see very well, and I didn't know that. I thought everybody was like me. But can you imagine how—I can imagine. I was there. I know. I came home, and I could not believe it. I called my friends: Look, it is green over there.

I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 507 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; that the bill be read a third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. This bill has never been before the HELP Committee. It