

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. KOHL] proposes amendments en bloc numbered 2234, 2225, and 2226 to amendment No. 1908.

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendments be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendments are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 2234

(Purpose: To provide funding for the Office of Inspector General to conduct inspections of the national organic program)

On page 8, line 2, before the period, insert the following: “: *Provided*, That of the amount made available for the Office of Inspector General to conduct investigations such sums as are necessary shall be made available for the inspection of the national organic program established under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2225

(Purpose: To allow State and local governments to participate in the conservation reserve program)

On page 85, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

SEC. 7. Section 1001(f)(6)(A) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308(f)(6)(A)) is amended by inserting “(other than the conservation reserve program established under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of this Act)” before the period at the end.

AMENDMENT NO. 2226

(Purpose: To prohibit funds made available under this Act from being used to enforce a travel or conference policy that prohibits an event from being held in a location based on a perception that the location is a resort or vacation destination)

On page 85, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

SEC. 745. No agency or department of the United States may use funds made available under this Act to enforce a travel or conference policy that prohibits an event from being held in a certain location based on a perception that the location is a resort or vacation destination.

Mr. KOHL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2234

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, the Leahy amendment No. 2234 has been approved on both sides, and I urge its adoption.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there further debate on the amendment?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 2234) was agreed to.

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. BROWNBACK. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I seek to clarify with the chairman an effort across two States to address the growing issue of bovine tuberculosis.

I have asked the subcommittee to provide funds for a joint effort between the University of Minnesota and Michigan State University in support of research to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and ultimately eradicate the disease from cattle, deer, and other wildlife. My colleagues from Michigan and I understand the negative economic impacts bovine tuberculosis impose on our States’ agricultural industries. In fact, agriculture is the second largest industry in both States, and this research is key to protecting our economies.

However, it is my understanding that this research effort may have been mistakenly associated with Michigan’s ongoing eradication efforts.

Mr. KOHL. I thank the Senator from Minnesota for bringing to my attention this issue. I understand the importance of the joint research effort on bovine tuberculosis taking place at the University of Minnesota and Michigan State University.

I will work with Senator KLOBUCHAR to ensure that the bovine tuberculosis joint university research program is addressed as the fiscal year 2010 Agriculture appropriations bill moves through the legislative process.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I congratulate the chairman for crafting a strong fiscal year 2010 Agriculture appropriations bill and thank him for his efforts to assist me on this important initiative.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise to offer for the RECORD, the Budget Committee’s official scoring of S. 1406, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2010.

The bill, as reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, provides \$23.1 billion in discretionary budget authority for fiscal year 2010, which will result in new outlays of \$17.7 billion. When outlays from prior-year budget authority are taken into account, non-emergency discretionary outlays for the bill will total \$24.9 billion.

The Senate-reported bill matches its section 302(b) allocation for budget authority and for outlays.

The bill is not subject to any budget points of order.

I ask unanimous consent that the table displaying the Budget Committee scoring of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1406, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

[Spending comparisons—Senate-Reported Bill (in millions of dollars)]

General purpose

Senate-Reported Bill:	
Budget Authority .....	23,050
Outlays .....	24,886
Senate 302(b) Allocation:	
Budget Authority .....	23,050
Outlays .....	24,886
House-Passed Bill:	
Budget Authority .....	22,900
Outlays .....	24,686
President’s Request:	
Budget Authority .....	22,819
Outlays .....	24,743
Senate-Reported Bill Compared To:	
Senate 302(b) allocation:	
Budget Authority .....	—
Outlays .....	—
House-Passed Bill:	
Budget Authority .....	150
Outlays .....	200
President’s Request:	
Budget Authority .....	231
Outlays .....	143

Note: Table does not include 2010 outlays stemming from emergency budget authority provided in the 2009 Supplemental Appropriations Act (P. 1102).

Mr. KOHL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KOHL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

HEALTH CARE REFORM

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise today to address a topic we have been debating for many weeks and months but especially the last couple of weeks, and that is health care. We have spent a good deal of time in Washington talking about the details of various provisions, the different ideas that have been introduced in bills and through the work of the committee.

I happen to be a member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, known by the acronym “HELP.” In our committee, we