Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Brown amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; the motions to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 4924) was agreed to.

The amendment (printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”) was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time. The bill (H.R. 6517), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, in light of the generosity of the Republican leader and the assistant majority leader, 30 seconds.

This agreement among Senator CASEY, Senator KYL, Senator MCCAIN, and me will make a difference in restoring TAA, trade adjustment, and the health care tax credit, in addition to the Andean trade references and some other things that will make a difference.

But it will make a difference. It will mean that 50,000 people don’t lose their health insurance the first of the year. I am appreciative of all who have been part of this.

I will yield to Senator CASEY for a moment. I thank the leaders for their generosity.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I thank Senator Brown, as well as Senators McCain and Kyl, for entering into this agreement. It extends this for a short period of time. It is important as it relates to manufacturing jobs in a State such as ours, where we have lost over 200,000 in less than a decade. I am sure that number corresponds to other States’ losses. We are grateful for this extension. We have more work to do.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO BILLY PIPER

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, over the course of the last two decades I have had the honor of watching a very smart, but very green young man from Louisville grow into one of the finest people you could ever work with or call a friend.

There is almost no hat that Billy Piper has not worn in the 19 years he has worked in my office—from driver, to mailroom staffer, to legislative aide, to campaign worker, all the way up to chief of staff.

He’s done it all. And in the course of doing it all, he became indispensable to me. And that’s why it is so hard to say goodbye. But Billy has simply given too much of himself to leave without a proper send-off.

One of Billy’s defining traits is that he deflects praise. This morning I would like to deny him the chance.

A native of Louisville, Billy attended the Kentucky Country Day school and then moved to Virginia to attend the University of Richmond. He spent a semester here in Washington studying public policy and politics and did an internship with Senator Lugar’s office, which he liked so much he decided to look for a permanent job on the Hill. And I would like to thank Senator Lugar today for inspiring Billy to public service.

Billy was so eager to take a job in my office, in fact, that he agreed to be a driver even after he learned I had a stick shift—which he didn’t know how to drive. His knowledge of Washington, D.C., streets wasn’t that much better. But he decided the best way to learn both was by driving around a U.S. Senator. Our first day on the road was a little rough. But ever since he mastered the clutch, Billy hasn’t made a misstep since. When he wasn’t driving, Billy sorted the mail that came into the office. And it didn’t take long for me to see this young man had a lot of potential, so I gave him more and more responsibility.

He became a legislative correspondent, handling military and foreign affairs. And in 1996 I asked him to be the finance director for my reelection campaign. Without hesitation, Billy left a secure position and his home for an extremely hard campaign job on the road. It wasn’t an easy job. And in any campaign, there’s no guarantee of victory. But Billy excelled at it, as usual, and at every task I’ve given him since.

Ask other members of my staff to describe Billy and they will tell you he’s not only a friend, but a teacher and a mentor.

Lots of people come to Capitol Hill with good intentions and wanting to do the right thing—but not all of them learn how to get things done. In my office, the road to mastery of any job usually ran through Billy Piper. First of all, Billy puts everyone at ease, from the college student applying for an internship to heads of state. He treats everyone the same, regardless of their station. He also refuses to take praise, and even if he does, he’s usually eager to deflect it onto the rest of the team. He’s also got a wicked sense of humor. It’s a regular part of the day to hear laughter pealing from Billy’s office.

Billy became the chief of staff in my personal office toward the end of 2002. And for the last 8 years, he has shown first-class leadership as the steady...