

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

THE DEFICIT

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin. Mr. President, I realize a number of people in this Chamber are asking why I am doing this. First of all, I think it is important for everybody to realize that—and I certainly mean no offense to anybody in this Chamber—I did not run for the Senate because I wanted to be a Senator. I ran for the Senate because I realized we are bankrupting this Nation.

I think the evidence is quite clear, if we take a look at the budget deficit for just the last 3 years: \$1.4 trillion, \$1.3 trillion, and for this year estimates as high as \$1.65 trillion. We have incurred over \$4 trillion worth of debt in just the last 3 years, and our Nation's debt stands at \$14.3 trillion. We have reached our debt limit. Our debt is almost the size of our entire economy.

I have been watching Washington for 32 years from Oshkosh, WI, and I realized that Washington was pretty broken. I have been here now for 6 months, and I haven't seen anything here that convinces me otherwise.

The Senate has not passed a budget for over 2 years. Of the six pieces of legislation we have passed—only six pieces of legislation we have passed from this Chamber have actually become law, and of those six three dealt with last year's business. They were pieces of legislation dealing with this year's budget that should have been passed last summer.

The bottom line is the Senate is fiddling while America is going bankrupt.

As I mentioned, the debt ceiling has now been reached. What are we doing about it? The answer is virtually nothing. We are scheduled to go on recess next week. We should not be doing that. We should be staying in session.

We should be debating. We should be developing a budget. Bottom line, all we are doing is waiting for the results of a negotiation between a limited number of people, conducted behind closed doors, far away from the view of any American citizen.

Is this the process we are going to rely on to prevent the bankruptcy of America? Is this on what we are placing the future of America? I hope not.

The Senate needs to get back to work. We need to pass a budget. It should not be that hard. American families do it every day. They figure out what their income is and they figure out how to learn to live within their means. The U.S. Government needs to figure out how to live within its means as well.

Let me kind of start the process by naming a figure. I would start with \$2.6 trillion. That is the amount of money President Obama, in his budget, says we will receive in revenue to the Federal Government next year—\$2.6 trillion. It is \$800 billion more than we spent just 10 years ago.

It would pay for 100 percent of the interest payment, which is \$256 billion. It would pay for all of Social Security, which is \$760 billion. That totals \$1 trillion. There would be \$1.6 trillion to pay for all other essentials: defense, security, health and safety spending.

If that is not enough—and, again, that would be living within our means—then what I believe is required is every Member of Congress, members of the administration should come down into congressional committees, and they need to, in the open, justify how much they want to spend, how much they are willing to borrow, and how much debt they are willing to pile on the backs of our children, our grandchildren, and our great-grandchildren because that is what we are doing to this country.

So tonight I will leave the floor. But unless the Senate gets serious about addressing the No. 1 problem facing this Nation—our debt and deficit—I will definitely be back. I will exercise my full rights. I will do everything in my power to prevent the bankrupting of America.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:35 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 29, 2011, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN MALCOLM BALES, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE REBECCA A. GREGORY, RESIGNED.

KENNETH MAGIDSON, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE DONALD J. DEGABRIELLE, JR., RESIGNED.

ROBERT LEE PITMAN, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHNNY KEANE SUTTON, TERM EXPIRED.

SARAH RUTH SALDANA, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE RICHARD B. ROPER, III, RESIGNED.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 28, 2011:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAMES MICHAEL COLE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL, TO WHICH POSITION HE WAS APPOINTED DURING THE LAST RECESS OF THE SENATE.

VIRGINIA A. SEITZ, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.

LISA O. MONACO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.