

adore him, respect him, and he could have won the race easily. I have a selfish reaction to this. I wanted him to run again. We in Wyoming have a unique relationship in this delegation—all Republicans, and we are all friends. I think it is especially unique that AL and I grew up in the same little town, Cody, WY—which was about 6,000—across the alley from one another. We played sports together, grew up together. I can tell a few scandalous stories, but AL has told most of them already.

Few men in Washington have the gift of skill and the gift of humor that AL SIMPSON has. He has always been that way. I can recall when I was just a kid, Milward Simpson was probably the most famous man in our little town. I can remember being so astonished that he could stand up and extemporaneously speak, and it would just flow.

So now we are here serving the Wyoming people in the Senate, and here ALAN SIMPSON is my political mentor, our senior Senator and, very selfishly, I wanted him to run again, to continue his excellent representation and clear leadership. Many of you will have your own testimony to AL SIMPSON during the coming year. But I can tell you from one who has known the SIMPSON family, I know Milward and Lorna Simpson would have been very proud of AL, both in the way he has served and will serve throughout 1996, but also as proud as only a father and a mother can be in the way he has come to and announced his decision. He announced it with courage, with class, and with a positive view for the future—the qualities that define AL and Ann Simpson.

He has 1 more year to go. No one should make a mistake or forget about that. He will do many things in that year. He will achieve much. So I will, at the end of that year, miss my good friend and mentor. All of us, I think, will miss his good western wisdom, such as "don't squat with your spurs on" and other little bits like that.

So I say to my friend, hats off to a true trail boss, good luck, and I hope you do as well as you have done in the past, my friend, AL SIMPSON.

TRIBUTE TO ALAN SIMPSON AND MARK HATFIELD

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, I would like to remark at what a diminished place this will be because of the loss of Senator SIMPSON and Senator HATFIELD, both of whom announced over the weekend that they would be leaving. There are no Senators in this body, any that I know of, who have served here who have been more distinguished than the Senator from Wyoming and the Senator from Oregon. I might say that there are none for whom I have higher personal esteem and affection than both of these Senators.

It was truly a historic weekend for both of them to announce that they were leaving the Senate. I must say, had I not myself announced that I was leaving, I would be much sadder than I am. Since I will be leaving, I will not miss them here. I despair, though, because of the vacuum that will be left in this Nation when these two very great public servants will be leaving the Senate.

I did not come for that specific purpose, Mr. President. I will later talk about my two friends. But I could not miss the opportunity when the junior Senator from Wyoming brought up the subject to say how much I share his sentiments and how great I think the loss is for the country.

THE FARM PROVISIONS OF THE RECONCILIATION BILL

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, we knew that when the farm provisions of the reconciliation bill were agreed to, they were bad for the State of Louisiana, but we had no idea how bad these provisions were for the State of Louisiana when they were passed.

The reason is, Mr. President, we had no opportunity to be involved in this, no input into the provisions of it, no ability to evaluate it, no ability to discuss it. It was in conference committee and the reconciliation bill. The chairman of the House Agriculture Committee met with the Speaker of the House and, boom, ipso facto, it was created out of the ashes in whole part without any input from anybody.

Mr. President, now we have evaluated this bill. I can tell my colleagues that the agricultural provisions of the reconciliation bill will simply destroy the cotton industry and the rice industry in the State of Louisiana.

Let me repeat that: The agricultural provisions of the reconciliation bill will destroy the rice industry and the cotton industry in the State of Louisiana.

Mr. President, these are two of our largest crops. They contribute over \$2 billion to the State of Louisiana, 7,000 direct jobs and 27,000 indirect agriculture jobs, according to Louisiana State University and the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service.

Mr. President, they have done an analysis of what the bill does for rice and cotton. They have taken a typical Louisiana rice tenant farm, which is 287 planted acres—and this takes up about 90 percent of our tenant farms in the State of Louisiana—and they have a whole series of calculations as to what the economic effect on that rice farmer will be.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the calculations which they have done in great detail both as to the comparison of net returns for cotton, net returns for rice under the conference committee, and rice gross returns under alternative farm program, that these figures be printed in the RECORD at this time.

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

COMPARISON OF NET RETURNS FOR COTTON UNDER CONFERENCE COMMITTEE FARM PROPOSAL AND EXTENSION OF CURRENT FARM BILL, LOUISIANA, 1996–2002

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Analysis Parameters							
Cotton farm acreage:							
Base acres	353	353	353	353	353	353	353
Percent of base paid	85	85	85	85	85	85	85
Acres planted (85 percent of base) ¹	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
Cotton yields:							
Louisiana actual yield	740	740	740	740	740	740	740
Louisiana program yield	722	722	722	722	722	722	722
Current program parameters:							
Target price	72.90	72.90	72.90	72.90	72.90	72.90	72.90
Loan rate	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Estimated deficiency payment	13.22	13.22	13.22	13.22	13.22	13.22	13.22
Conference program parameters:							
Estimated transition payment ²	7.93	7.53	8.06	7.74	7.09	5.71	5.50
Loan rate	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Market price level analyzed:							
1990–94 Louisiana average price	59.68	59.68	59.68	59.68	59.68	59.68	59.68
Estimated Net Returns (tenant operator)							
Current program							
Total farm market returns ³	149,720	149,720	149,720	149,720	149,720	149,720	149,720
Total farm deficiency payments	28,639	28,639	28,639	28,639	28,639	28,639	28,639
Total farm gross returns ⁴	178,359	178,359	178,359	178,359	178,359	178,359	178,359
Land rent (25 percent)	44,590	44,590	44,590	44,590	44,590	44,590	44,590
Net returns above land rent	133,769	133,769	133,769	133,769	133,769	133,769	133,769
Variable costs (\$332.73/acre)	99,836	102,831	105,916	109,093	112,366	115,737	119,209
Net returns above variable costs	33,933	30,938	27,854	24,676	21,403	18,032	14,560
Fixed costs (\$72.09/acre)	21,631	21,847	22,065	22,286	22,509	22,734	22,961