

Utah wilderness problem, pass this bill, without that attached to it.

I think we could all go home as Republicans and Democrats and be proud of what we have done. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 2 minutes.

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I support the comments of my colleague on the Presidio. I have lived all my life one block from the Presidio. I know it well. The Presidio bill is predicated on something that is unique. It is a private-public partnership whereby the more than 500 historic buildings and the additional buildings would be leased out, with a hope that over a 15-year-period it would be able to make public areas of the Presidio self-supporting.

Having said this, I am hopeful that every Member of this body could realize the longer it takes to get a bill, the more in jeopardy that plan becomes. Because of the rains, because of the fact that many of these buildings are now boarded up, they are subject to intrusion, to vandalism; they are subject to the absence of an adequate policing authority on that 1,500-acre post. The Presidio, by each day of delay, is placed in jeopardy.

I am also hopeful, and I address these remarks to the distinguished majority leader, that he would be willing to become a party to negotiations which I think can go on, on the subject of the Utah wilderness, so that we might be able to get an agreement that would be satisfactory to the two Senators from Utah, as well. I think it is possible. I think that every area is not the same as Yellowstone or Yosemite. They have certain unique characteristics which need to have attention, as well.

I am hopeful, Mr. Leader, that in the ensuing days, perhaps under your auspice, there might be negotiations which could be carried out. At least we should try and see if we cannot get some agreement which can either enable the package to move ahead as a package, or enable the Presidio, something which my colleague just said, does have unanimous consent in this body, to move ahead.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I am happy to indicate for the record that I would be pleased to try to be helpful in an effort to resolve the differences. Obviously, the one big difference is the Utah wilderness provision. The other projects, I understand, are not particularly controversial. I indicate that I am happy to be of help, or to take the leadership and try to bring people together. I have already spoken briefly to the distinguished Senator from Alaska, Senator MURKOWSKI. It is the hope in the next few days we can make some progress.

LEGISLATIVE LINE-ITEM VETO ACT OF 1995—CONFERENCE REPORT

The Senate continued with consideration of the conference report.

Mr. DOLE. I understand the distinguished Senator from West Virginia is on his way to the floor. Hopefully, we can have the agreement before we commence the debate on the line-item veto because debate is 10 hours in the agreement. We would like to have it immediately start taking effect. If we speak for an hour or two beforehand, that would be an additional time.

The Senator from New Mexico will be here, as will others who are interested in this issue. Hopefully, we will not use the full 10 hours, have a vote early this evening, and then take up the farm bill conference report tonight.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, do I understand that we are awaiting the approval of the other side for the unanimous consent?

Mr. DOLE. Senator BYRD.

Mr. MCCAIN. If I could, Mr. Leader, while we are waiting for Senator BYRD, I express my appreciation for the work of Senator LOTT, who brought together some very different views on this issue. He did, I think, a magnificent job in reconciling the differences that we had on this side of the aisle.

I also want to thank the Senators from Alaska and New Mexico who obviously have a very deep and abiding interest, given their responsibilities as chairmen of the respective committees. Again, I also thank you for your leadership in making this nearly come to reality.

I understand that Senator BYRD will have certain motions to be made on this issue.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, before we enter into the time agreement, while Senator MCCAIN and Senator COATS are on the floor, I want to congratulate them. This has been a long and arduous effort on both their parts. They have been single minded and resourceful about wanting to get line-item veto in as part of the legislation that Congress passed, and pass on some additional authority to the President.

I think the bill we have come up with, while there are some compromises from their original stand and certainly some from the original stand of the bill that left the Senate floor, I think we have a good bill. I think history is going to be made some time before too late in the evening, and it will be passed here in the Senate.

I think it is a well-rounded bill. It is a little broader than the original concept of line-item veto, but overall, I extend my hearty congratulation and most sincere feelings to them about their efforts, the two Senators who have led this cause.

I also want to comment on what our distinguished whip did. I want to say thanks to Senator LOTT. It was not as easy as some think to put this together. He brought us together. I want to thank our distinguished majority

leader because he actually said to the whip, "Let's get it done." Our distinguished whip takes that kind of a challenge as a serious one, and it did not take too long for us to get the job done.

With that, until Senator BYRD arrives, unless someone else wants the floor, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll. The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I understand that Senator SNOWE from Maine wants to address the Senate with reference to the death of Senator Muskie.

I yield the floor.

Mr. MOYNIHAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York is recognized.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I will take just a moment of the Senate's time to prepare for a general debate. I ask unanimous consent that I may proceed for 4 minutes as in morning business.

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

THE EPA STUDY ON ACID RAIN

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, New York State, or upstate New York, has been shocked—I think that is a fair term—and finds itself in near disbelief to learn that the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] has closed the Ithaca station, which is part of a broad network of monitoring stations that collect data critical to understanding the impact of acid rain on the Adirondack Preserve. There is little enough institutional memory around Washington, but one should think the EPA would know that the concern about acid rain began with the disappearance of trout from a number of lakes in the higher Adirondacks. This was a puzzle and, in the end, it was resolved by a fish biologist at Cornell University, Dr. Carl Scofield, who traced the cycle: acid rain caused by increasingly acidified air released aluminum from the granite surrounding the lakes. That aluminum leached into the lakes and was absorbed into fish gills. The fish died.

In 1980, I obtained approval of legislation—the Acid Precipitation Act—which was based on a bill I introduced here in the Congress the year before. My bill was incorporated as title VII into the Energy Security Act of 1980—Public Law 96-294—and directed the EPA to study, over a 10-year period, just what was going on—not to panic, not to go screaming to high Heaven that the skies were opening with awful substances that would burn holes in our children's heads, and things like that—but just to say, "What is this?"