Mrs. KASSEBAUM. Mr. President, I say how very grateful I am to so many for all of the efforts that have gone into making the passage of the House insurance reform possible tonight.

It is not possible to name all the names, and I ask unanimous consent they be printed in the RECORD.

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

Labor Committee: Dean Rosen, Susan Hattan, Anne Kuo, David Naxon, Lauren Ewers.

Finance Committee Majority: John Talisman, Patti McClanahan, David Dodoff, Laird Burnett, Kefi Land.

Majority Leader: Annette Guarisco, Vicki Hart, Susan Connett.

Minority Leader: Rima Cohen.

Joint Committee on Taxation: Ken Kles, Mary Schmitt, Carolyn Smith, Cecily Rock, Brian Graff, Judy Xanthopoulos.

Congressional Research Service: Beth Fuchs, Mary Schmitt, Kathleen Swendiman, Jennifer O'Sullivan, Celinda Franco.

Thank you to the staff of: House Ways and Means Committee—particularly Chip Kahn, Elise Gemeinhardt, and Kathy Means; House Commerce Committee—Howard Cohan, Melody Harned; House Economic Opportunities Committee—Russ Mueller; Congressional Budget Office Staff; House and Senate Legislative Counsels—particularly Bill Baird, Ed Grossman, John Goetcher, and Julie Miller.

Mrs. KASSEBAUM. Without the dedicated efforts of our staff, it would not have been possible. I mention Dean Rosen, Susan Hattan of my staff, and David Naxon and Lauren Ewers of Senator Kennedy’s staff, and many others who have spent countless time and effort.

It is an important piece of legislation. I am very proud we have accomplished it in a bipartisan fashion. It could not have been done without them.

Senator KENNEDY mentioned the minimum wage legislation which we will be voting on as well, in back-to-back votes. I will speak after those votes on something I regard very important to the success of both welfare reform and the minimum wage, and that is job training programs.

Without our willingness to be more innovative and skillful in how we handle job training programs, we will not succeed with the type of welfare reform that is required. It enables us to have skilled young people and retrained older people entering our job markets. I think that is an important component of the success of these bills.

I yield any remaining time, but say again how very much I am proud and gratified I am to all who have had a hand in the passage of this legislation.

CORRECTING THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3103

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to the previous order, the Chair announces the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 208, just received from the House.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 208) was deemed agreed to.

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996—CONFERENCE REPORT

The Senate continued with the consideration of the conference report.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the conference report on H.R. 3103. The yeas and nays have not been ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the minimum wage increase, H.R. 3448, the Small Business Tax Equity Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays have been ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the conference report on H.R. 3103.

The yeas and nays have been ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Washington [Mrs. MURRAY] and the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. PRYOR], are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 264 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Abraham
Abaka
Ashcroft
Baucus
Bennett
Biden
Bingaman
Bond
Boxer
Braun
Brown
Byrd
Campbell
Chafee
CotU
Cooper
Cochran
Conrad
Coville
Craig
D’Amato
Daschle
DeWine
Dodd
Domenici
Dorgan
Durbin
Faircloth
Feinberg

Not Voting—2

Murray
Pryor

The conference report was agreed to.
Mr. BREAUX. I move to reconsider the vote.

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

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

SMALL BUSINESS JOB PROTECTION ACT OF 1996—CONFERENCE REPORT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report the conference report to accompany H.R. 3448.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill H.R. 3448 to provide tax relief for small businesses by providing employers opportunities to increase the take-home pay of workers, to amend the Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947 relating to the payment of wages to employees who use employer-owned vehicles, and to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the minimum wage rate and to prevent job loss by providing flexibility to employers in complying with minimum wage and overtime requirements under that Act, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses this report, signed by a majority of the conference.

(The conference report is printed in the House proceedings of the RECORD of August 1, 1996.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the adoption of the conference report. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Washington [Mrs. MURRAY], and the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. PRYOR], are necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. Will the Senator yield to me?

Mr. KENNEDY. Can I ask for order, Mr. President?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will come to order. Will Senators remove audible conversations to the Cloakroom?

The Chair recognizes the Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, will the Senator yield me 10 seconds?

Mr. KENNEDY. I yield.

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I would like for the record to reflect that our good friend, Senator DASCHLE, who has been enormously important, and also the minimum wage legislation on children's issues and Senator MIKULSKI, has been enormously important, and also the minimum wage legislation on women in our society.

To Senator BREAUX for his help in making the compromise possible.

And to all the others who helped.

I also thank all of my staff who worked so tirelessly: David Nxon who has done such an extraordinary job over many years and has devoted the better part of his life to trying to improve quality health for American people. I think all of us at this time are mindful of the extraordinary quality of individuals on our staff who really make such an enormous difference in the legislative achievements and for changes in policy.

To Dick Littlefield, our overall staff director for his tirelessness in both of these endeavors; Lauren Ewers, who has been a key member of our health staff; Jim Manley; Dennis Kelleher, Sue Castleberry, April Savoy, Brian Moran.

I, too, want to thank Dean Rosen and Susan Hattan of Senator KASSEBAUM's staff.

I think we have been fortunate on our committee to have Republican and Democratic staff. There have been extremely important and cooperative, and have high talent on both sides of the aisle. Senator MOYNIHAN's staff, Laird Burnett and Jon Talsman, have been enormously helpful.

Finally, I also thank Minority Leader GEPHARDT in the House of Representatives for his strong support and advocacy in working with all of our friends and Members of our party.

Congressman DINGELL, Congressman WAXMAN and the others in the House who participated in the conference committee. I am grateful to all of them.

With respect to the minimum wage, this uphill effort against the odds could not have succeeded without the leadership and support of Secretary of Labor Bob Reich and the contributions of his Department. Many people there lent us their expertise, but let me single out Assistant Secretary Geri Palast, Chief Economist Lisa Lynch, John Fraser at the Wage and Hour Administration, and Seth Harris at the Office of Policy.

Many organizations made a difference in this effort, but I want especially to thank the U.S. Catholic Conference, the Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Mon Valley Unemployed Peace Movement, Business and Professional Women USA for all of their help.

As always, the AFL-CIO and its unions worked very hard for this legislation,