

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. I will be happy, in a moment, to yield to whomever the Chair recognizes. But we are getting lots of inquiries because I know that there is a request to have a rollcall vote. That has not yet been propounded. In fairness to our colleagues who have work to do, as everyone here on the floor has, we started this debate shortly after 2 o'clock this afternoon, and I think in fairness it would be a good idea if I could ask the Senator from Delaware how long the Senator from Delaware thinks the debate might go? I wonder if the Senator from Delaware would answer that question?

If the Senator from Delaware could answer the question as to how much longer he needs? Obviously, he has as much time as he requires. There is a request for a rollcall vote I know.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, in response to my friend's question, and in response to his counsel, I will seek no more time. I, frankly, was going to attempt a filibuster on this bill but I think—I am not being facetious when I say this—the wisdom of the chairman is correct. I probably would end up no better off, even if I succeed, in terms of what would come out of a continuing resolution.

But I will tell the chairman, although I am not going to pursue any strategy other than voting "no" on this legislation and on a continuing resolution, I am hoping to convince some of our colleagues, notwithstanding the fact we will have passed this legislation today, and I expect it will pass, that we get a supplemental to, in fact, give us an opportunity to work out things we are working out with the Senator from Oregon. But I do not seek recognition beyond voting "yes" or "no" when the time comes.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. I thank the Senator very much. Mr. President, I wonder if I might yield to the distinguished Senator from Rhode Island, and I ask unanimous consent I be able to yield up to 3 minutes or 4 minutes, as the Senator needs, and still retain the floor.

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

The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, my purpose for rising was to congratulate and thank the Senator from Delaware for underlining this point. Those of us living on the east coast in the corridor have it as part of our lives. It has been in my own life. I know what it means to many millions of people.

The book to which he referred, which was written about 30 years ago on this subject, is still pretty well current, because in this 30 years so little progress has truly been made. I look forward to the day, while I may not be here, but I look forward to the day in the not too distant future where we will have high-speed railroads, really high speeds, as our friends in Europe have, speeding around the country to the different cities of our great land.

In this regard, I am struck by the number of States that are traversed by the high-speed railroad. And, from a political viewpoint for both parties, about a fifth of the electoral votes in the United States are traversed by the high-speed railroad. I hope that will help spur on support.

I have some regrets about retiring myself. I look forward to visiting Washington in the years to come on a high-speed railroad.

I thank the Chair.

Mr. LAUTENBERG addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, by agreement with our colleagues on the Republican side, I now ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate? If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the conference report accompanying H.R. 3675, the Transportation appropriations bill for fiscal year 1997. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG] is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 85, nays 14, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 294 Leg.]

YEAS—85

Abraham	Glenn	McCain
Akaka	Gorton	McConnell
Ashcroft	Graham	Mikulski
Baucus	Gramm	Moseley-Braun
Bennett	Grams	Moynihan
Bond	Grassley	Murkowski
Boxer	Harkin	Murray
Bradley	Hatch	Nickles
Breaux	Hatfield	Nunn
Bumpers	Heflin	Pell
Burns	Helms	Pressler
Campbell	Hollings	Pryor
Chafee	Hutchison	Robb
Coats	Inhofe	Rockefeller
Cochran	Inouye	Santorum
Cohen	Jeffords	Sarbanes
Conrad	Johnston	Shelby
Coverdell	Kassebaum	Simon
Craig	Kempthorne	Simpson
D'Amato	Kennedy	Snowe
Daschle	Kerrey	Stevens
DeWine	Kerry	Thomas
Domenici	Kohl	Thompson
Faircloth	Lautenberg	Thurmond
Feingold	Leahy	Warner
Feinstein	Levin	Wellstone
Ford	Lott	Wyden
Frahm	Lugar	
Frist	Mack	

NAYS—14

Biden	Dodd	Reid
Bingaman	Dorgan	Roth
Brown	Exon	Smith
Bryan	Kyl	Specter
Byrd	Lieberman	

NOT VOTING—1

Gregg

The conference report was agreed to.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

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

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, there will be no further votes during today's session.

The Senate will now begin consideration, though, of S. 39, the Magnuson Fisheries Act, under a previous unanimous-consent agreement reached in August. Any votes ordered with respect to that bill will be stacked to occur at 11 a.m. on Thursday.

Also, during the session of the Senate on Thursday, I expect the Senate to consider the Merchant Marine Act, H.R. 1350, possibly the pipeline safety bill, and any other calendar items that may be cleared for action. The Senate may also consider available appropriations bills conference reports, if agreements can be reached with respect to amendments in order on those.

I know a lot of work has been put into this Magnuson fisheries bill. I think it is a very good piece of legislation, and it is very important for fisheries and conservation all over our country—the Northeast, Northwest, the Gulf of Mexico. I see the Senator from Massachusetts here. He has worked on it, and, obviously, the Senators from Washington, and Senator STEVENS, of course, has been very instrumental in this legislation. I commend one and all that have been involved in it.

It would have been a real travesty if we would have left this very important piece of fisheries legislation on the table. I hope you can get it done tonight. I assume there could be as many as three votes tomorrow. I assume most of the amendments have been worked out, and I know you will continue to work on that.

I yield the floor.

#### SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 39) to amend the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act to authorize appropriations, to provide for sustainable fisheries, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the "Sustainable Fisheries Act".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

*Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.*