

threat to our country is public cynicism over this institution and all of our democratic institutions.

That was harmed and, in some places, it was devastated in the past few weeks. That is something we will have a hard time with when fighting the battle again. It makes the battle to come back much harder. It is not as if we can bring this up again as we can a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. It now is something young and old people will be looking at, what happened here, and saying, does politics really matter? Why bother to vote; they do not mean what they say anyway.

I commend the Members; some of them had very tough votes in bucking their President and their leaders, for standing up and doing the right thing, doing what they said they would do. When it comes down to it, in this institution—and I suspect in every workplace in America—the bottom line comes down to you have nothing here except your word. You have nothing except your word. With respect to me and my relationship to my constituents in Pennsylvania, I find that to be a solemn vow. My word means something. And if my word is no good, then they have every right to question me and question the institution in which I serve.

So I think we did have a defeat today. We had a defeat not for the constitutional amendment. Yes, we had that defeat. We had a defeat for our in-

stitution. We had a defeat for our democracy. We had a defeat for the process that legitimizes everything we do here. And that truly is a sad thing. It is a sad day for the Senate. It is even a sadder day for this country.

I would just suggest as some anecdote to the people who feel disenfranchised as a result of what happened here that most of the people in this Senate did do what they said they were going to do, on both sides of the aisle. Most of the Members of this Senate stood up and told the public the truth when it, frankly, may have not been easy to tell the truth. And from that, I think, we should take some solace, that, in fact, most Members do stand up and say what they mean. And I hope that we can learn from this lesson, all of us learn from this lesson, the importance of having the public's faith in who we are, what we say and what we do. It matters.

We have a lot of people in this town now who seem to be pushing the edge on a lot of activities. And you see the public just does not seem—I get this question all the time—to care about all these shenanigans that go on around here. I agree. I think there are so many shenanigans going on around here they discount them at the time. They think they are all bad, and why is he any different than anyone else.

Wow, that is a dangerous sentiment in this country. That is a sentiment that gets you in trouble. We should be outraged when people do things that

are illegal, when people do things that are unethical. We should be outraged when our public officials, whom we hold up to represent us, do not meet the standards that we ourselves meet, and we should think differently about them because they do not meet those standards.

It is a sad day, but I hope that we again have learned the lesson that it is important for us to be men and women of our word. And that goes beyond any bill, any amendment, any issue that we deal with in this body. Once we understand that lesson, I think we will be a greater body and a greater country as a result.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio is recognized.

Mr. GLENN. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. GLENN pertaining to the submission of S. Res. 61 are located in today's RECORD under "Submission of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.")

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate, under the previous order, will stand adjourned until 12 noon, Wednesday, March 5, 1997.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:04 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 5, 1997, at 12 noon.