

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I understand what the majority leader is saying, what he is trying to do. But if he continued to push these amendments over to a piece of legislation at a later time, then you are going to have all these amendments that are waiting, and your colleagues will want to bring them up, and then your colleagues will be asked not to bring it up on that one.

So we go through here with this constrained time that we find ourselves with, and the inability to bring amendments. I understand what the majority leader wants to do. I have no fault with what he is trying to do except we are trying to work out some amendments that we think are important. Just like your side, we are going to let ours try to work them out.

So I will object.

Mr. LOTT. I understand that. I know every individual Senator can demand his or her right to offer amendments. But I would have to say, I am very concerned that the Senate is getting more and more into a position where we try to rewrite or write bills on the floor of the Senate. One of the basic tenets I was told about when I came over to the Senate is, if you have a bad bill, don't think you are going to fix it on the floor of the Senate. When you have something like a drug czar reauthorization—I know there are a lot of drug-related amendments that are sort of pent up and Members want to offer them, but it seems to me we ought to just reauthorize that office—it is not a big, complicated bill—and allow the drug czar to do his job.

But we will keep working and hopefully find a way to get a limited amount of time and limited amendments on that issue.

PRODUCT LIABILITY REFORM ACT OF 1997

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent the Senate turn to Calendar No. 90, S. 648, the Product Liability Reform Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. FORD. Reserving the right to object, I do object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. I move to proceed to S. 648 and send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provision of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 90, S. 648, the products liability bill:

Trent Lott, Don Nickles, Slade Gorton, Phil Gramm, John McCain, Spencer Abraham, Daniel Coats, Richard G. Lugar, Lauch Faircloth, John H. Chafee, Sam Brownback, Ted Stevens,

Jon Kyl, Jeff Sessions, Michael B. Enzi, and Judd Gregg.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote occur at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 7, and the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

Mr. LOTT. Then, for the information of all Senators, this cloture vote will occur at 9:30 on Tuesday, July 7, when we return from the Fourth of July recess. It will be the first vote of that week back from the recess. If cloture is invoked, the Senate could be asked to remain in session into the night in order to reduce the 30 hours provided postcloture.

I now withdraw the motion.

TASK FORCE ON ECONOMIC SANCTIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, Senator DASCHLE and I have been talking about a task force to consider the question of economic sanctions, how they are put in place, how they are dealt with, both in the short term and over the long term. We have discussed this matter with Secretary of State Albright.

I think there is feeling on both sides of the aisle that perhaps the proclivity to place sanctions, economic sanctions on countries around the world repeatedly, and with not a clear way of ending those, has become a problem, at least one we should think very carefully about to see if there is a way we can deal with some of the pending legislation in this area, like, for instance, the Glenn amendment that was applicable in the case of India and, I believe, Pakistan with the Pressler amendment, and a number of other instances.

On the longer term, I think we need to have a task force to give thought, how we do this, when we do it, and even when we end it. I have discussed it with a number of Senators on our side of the aisle who work in this area of foreign policy and deal with the question of sanctions, and so I am satisfied we can have a good group and this will be a bipartisan group. So I want to announce we are agreeing to create a task force on economic sanctions to examine this whole area.

I wanted to have a short-term mandate, though, not just the broader policy questions, but to examine what we can do or what should be done about sanctions on India and Pakistan as a result of their nuclear programs. With the recent stories of nuclear tests in south Asia, it is important to look at the U.S. sanctions laws and how they affect our ability to de-escalate the nuclear arms race in the region.

I have asked the task force to make recommendations to the Senate leadership by July 15, 1998, on sanctions relating to these two countries—India and Pakistan. We will also ask this task force to examine overall issues related to sanctions, legislation, and implementation.

I have asked the task force to report back to the Senate leadership by September 1, 1998, on the following issues:

What constitutes a sanction?

There are many categories of legislative and executive branch action, using economic sanctions in an effort to support policy goals, including restrictions on U.S. Government funds, conditions on the export of sensitive technology, and limitations on normal commercial activity.

What sanctions are now in place? And what flexibility is provided in these different sanctions? That would be a second question.

Third: How should success be assessed in determining the effectiveness of these sanctions? When have we done what we wanted to achieve, and then can perhaps remove them?

Fourth: How should policy goals be defined in considering and implementing these sanctions?

Are effective procedures in place now to ensure coordination between the executive and legislative branches for the consideration and imposition of sanctions?

I have to say, I think the answer to that question is no; there is not adequate coordination and communication between the executive and legislative branches in this area of sanctions.

Are effective procedures in place for oversight and monitoring of the executive branch compliance and implementation of existing sanctions?

I have been stunned by some of the instances that I have seen with regard to Russia and with China where clearly sanctions were called for, should have been almost automatic by the administration, and it did not happen. Why not? And so we need to think about that.

Should there be a unique Senate floor or committee procedure for considering sanctions legislation?

Answering all of these questions in the limited timeframe will not be easy, but I am confident this very distinguished and qualified bipartisan group can come up with some very good recommendations. And I hope that the Senate will reserve its judgment and not act in this area until we see what will come out of the task force recommendations.

The task force will include 18 Members and will be chaired by the distinguished Senator from Kentucky, Senator MCCONNELL. He is chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. The cochair will be Senator BIDEN. The task force will also include Senators HELMS, BAUCUS, LUGAR, DODD, D'AMATO, GLENN, MACK, KERRY, KYL, LEAHY, WARNER, LEVIN, HUTCHINSON, LIEBERMAN, ROBERTS, and MOYNIHAN. I think you can see this is a very distinguished group. And I know they will have some very important recommendations to the Senate.

I will be glad to yield to the Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I thank the leader.

I suppose there is not a single Member of this body, I would say to the majority leader, who has been very consistent on this subject. Sometimes Members have felt that sanctions were inappropriate except in their particular area of interest where they thought sanctions might make sense. I confess to being entirely inconsistent, too, myself, I say to my friend from Mississippi, having supported sanctions in South Africa and opposed them in China and other places. So none of us have a consistent pattern here.

I think it is very important to try to pull together the best thinking available from Senators on both sides of the aisle to see whether there is some kind of coherent way to go forward in this field.

So I thank the majority leader for his understanding of the importance to try to pull us together in this complicated area. And I assure him I will do my best to try to give everybody an opportunity to have their say. And we will certainly meet the deadlines. I say to the distinguished majority leader, the deadlines will be met, with or without consensus, I cannot say at this point. But I look forward to working on this assignment. I thank the majority leader for the opportunity.

Mr. LOTT. I thank you, I say to Senator MCCONNELL.

I do note that Senator DASCHLE and I have been communicating on this back and forth the last 2 weeks. I am sorry he is not able to be here now. But this is an example of how we do come together and work very carefully and sensibly, hopefully, when it comes to foreign policy questions. And he certainly wanted to go forward with this. I am glad we were able to make this announcement this afternoon.

I do have a series of bills I believe we can deal with before we adjourn for the week.

I know Senator FORD here is on behalf of the Democratic leader. So we can go through these pretty quickly.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2236

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2236) to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, and for other purposes.

Mr. LOTT. I object to further proceedings on this bill at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public

Law 105-186, appoints the following Senators to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States: The Senator from New York (Mr. D'AMATO), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER).

APPOINTMENTS BY THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 105-186, appoints the following Senators to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States: The Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD).

Mr. LOTT. I should note that these appointments are to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets. The members will be Senator D'AMATO of New York, Senator SPECTER of Pennsylvania, Senator BOXER of California, and Senator DODD of Connecticut.

VITIATION OF TITLE AMENDMENT—H.R. 3616

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to vitiate the title amendment to H.R. 3616.

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

NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN AU- THORIZATION ACT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of calendar No. 383, S. 2073.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2073) to authorize appropriations for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment on page five, so as to make the bill read:

S. 2073

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) For 14 years, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (referred to in this section as the "Center") has—

(A) served as the national resource center and clearinghouse congressionally mandated under the provisions of the Missing Children's Assistance Act of 1984; and

(B) worked in partnership with the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of State, and many other

agencies in the effort to find missing children and prevent child victimization.

(2) Congress has given the Center, which is a private non-profit corporation, unique powers and resources, such as having access to the National Crime Information Center of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System.

(3) Since 1987, the Center has operated the National Child Pornography Tipline, in conjunction with the United States Customs Service and the United States Postal Inspection Service and, beginning this year, the Center established a new CyberTipline on child exploitation, thus becoming "the 911 for the Internet".

(4) In light of statistics that time is of the essence in cases of child abduction, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in February of 1997 created a new NCIC child abduction ("CA") flag to provide the Center immediate notification in the most serious cases, resulting in 642 "CA" notifications to the Center and helping the Center to have its highest recovery rate in history.

(5) The Center has established a national and increasingly worldwide network, linking the Center online with each of the missing children clearinghouses operated by the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, as well as with Scotland Yard in the United Kingdom, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, INTERPOL headquarters in Lyon, France, and others, which has enabled the Center to transmit images and information regarding missing children to law enforcement across the United States and around the world instantly.

(6) From its inception in 1984 through March 31, 1998, the Center has—

(A) handled 1,203,974 calls through its 24-hour toll-free hotline (1-800-THE-LOST) and currently averages 700 calls per day;

(B) trained 146,284 law enforcement, criminal and juvenile justice, and healthcare professionals in child sexual exploitation and missing child case detection, identification, investigation, and prevention;

(C) disseminated 15,491,344 free publications to citizens and professionals; and

(D) worked with law enforcement on the cases of 59,481 missing children, resulting in the recovery of 40,180 children.

(7) The demand for the services of the Center is growing dramatically, as evidenced by the fact that in 1997, the Center handled 129,100 calls, an all-time record, and by the fact that its new Internet website (www.missingkids.com) receives 1,500,000 "hits" every day, and is linked with hundreds of other websites to provide real-time images of breaking cases of missing children, helping to cause such results as a police officer in Puerto Rico searching the Center's website and working with the Center to identify and recover a child abducted as an infant from her home in San Diego, California, 7 years earlier.

(8) In 1997, the Center provided policy training to 256 police chiefs and sheriffs from 50 States and Guam at its new Jimmy Ryce Law Enforcement Training Center.

(9) The programs of the Center have had a remarkable impact, such as in the fight against infant abductions in partnership with the healthcare industry, during which the Center has performed 668 onsite hospital walk-throughs and inspections, and trained 45,065 hospital administrators, nurses, and security personnel, and thereby helped to reduce infant abductions in the United States by 82 percent.

(10) The Center is now playing a significant role in international child abduction cases, serving as a representative of the Department of State at cases under The Hague Convention, and successfully resolving the cases