

thought the debate was spirited. It was good on both sides of the aisle. I appreciate the advice and counsel I received on all sides as we have gone through this process. It has not been easy but it is part of the job. I take this job very seriously. I take this vote very seriously. For today, Mr. President, we did the right thing for America.

I yield the floor.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to legislative session and a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak up to 10 minutes each.

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

#### UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 2561

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 14, the Senate begin consideration of the DOD appropriations conference report; that it be considered read, and there be 60 minutes equally divided between Senator STEVENS and Senator INOUE, or their designees, with an additional 10 minutes under the control of Senator MCCAIN. I further ask unanimous consent that following the use or yielding back of the time, the conference report be laid aside, and a vote on adoption occur at 4 p.m. on Thursday.

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

#### BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN REFORM ACT OF 1999

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now begin consideration of Calendar No. 312, S. 1593.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1593) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide bipartisan campaign reform.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, before I yield the floor to the managers of this legislation, let me announce that there will be no further rollcall votes this evening. Tomorrow morning we hope to consider the Defense appropriations conference report under a short time agreement. However, that rollcall vote will be postponed to occur at 4 p.m. We will then resume consideration of the campaign finance reform bill on Thursday, and I hope that substantial progress can be made on that bill during tomorrow's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I mention to the majority leader it is now nearly 7:25 p.m. and at the request of

the majority leader and the Senator from Kentucky, he wants to begin the debate and discussion on this very important issue. The agreement that the majority leader and I have is we will have 5 days of debate and discussion. I certainly hope he doesn't consider starting at 7:25 as a day of the debate and discussion. I ask him that.

Second, this is a very important issue. Even the staff is gone. Most Members have gone. The Senate majority leader knows that. Tomorrow we have scheduled a DOD discussion and vote which would be the first interruption—although we have just gotten started—followed by a vote on the Department of Defense appropriations bill. That could have been scheduled tonight and the vote have taken place.

I hope the majority leader will understand that I will not make an opening statement tonight. I will wait until tomorrow so I have the attention of my colleagues. If the Senator from Kentucky wants to make his statement, that is fine. I know from discussions with the Senator from Wisconsin he chooses to do the same thing.

I don't think an issue such as this should be initiated at 7:30 in the evening. However, I want to assure Senator LOTT that, once we have opening statements and once we get into the amending process and votes, I will be glad to stay as late as is necessary every night including all through the weekend, if necessary.

I don't think it is appropriate for anyone to say we demand opening statements tonight on the issue, and then tomorrow morning we go back to another bill off of the issue at hand. I hope the majority leader, who has been very cooperative in helping me and has been very cooperative in bringing up this issue, understands my point of view on this particular issue.

I yield the floor.

Mr. McCONNELL. I say to my friend from Arizona, all I was hoping we could do, since this session of Congress is getting short and we have, in response to the requests of both the Senator from Arizona and the Senator from Wisconsin, taken this issue up this year in a way in which people can offer amendments, maybe we could at least get an amendment laid down tonight. Maybe there is a possibility of getting some kind of time agreement on an amendment for tomorrow so we can get into the debate.

I agree with the Senator from Arizona; I don't think there is any need for opening statements tonight. I am not planning on making one, but we desire to get started because we have a lot of Senators on both sides of the aisle desiring to offer amendments.

Mr. LOTT. So I can respond to comments of both Senators, and particularly for questions I was asked by Senator MCCAIN, I had a fixation on trying to get started on this bill today because I had committed to do so. I realize it is late, but I am sure the Senator understands how difficult it is to juggle the schedule.

We had originally thought the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty would be voted on not today but last night or certainly earlier today. I am trying to juggle the appropriations conference reports, too. I was specifically asked by a couple of Senators to have the debate in the morning and then to have the vote at 4 o'clock.

Later this week, we have to have an interruption for the HUD-VA appropriations conference report. Next week, we will have to have interruptions for the Interior appropriations conference report. I have to keep bringing in the appropriations bills. I realize that it interrupts the flow of the debate. However, that is why I have learned around here the best thing to do is to get something going and just get started, get it up so it is the pending business, and we go about our business.

I took particular interest in the Senator's offer that maybe we even consider doing this on the weekend or maybe a Saturday. I think it would get a lot of attention. We are getting down to the end of the session and I have a lot of people pulling on me to do the Religious Persecution Act, the nuclear waste bill, bankruptcy, and trade bills. I need to try to take advantage even of a couple of hours on Wednesday night if we possibly can.

If both Senators are willing to at least get started, see if we can get an agreement, see if we can have opening statements, let's get started and we will be back on it at 10:30 in the morning. I will work with both or all sides to make sure this is fully debated and amendments are offered. Remember, we are going to have amendments and we are going to have a lot of discussion. We are going to have a lot of votes. I think it is time to go forward. I hope the Senator will cooperate with me as we try to get that done.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, let me say to the majority leader, I am in deep and sincere appreciation of his efforts to resolve all of these issues and the pending legislation. I remind him, however, that some months ago we did enter into an agreement that we would have 5 days of debate and amending on the bill. I know the majority leader will stick to that agreement. Starting at 7:30 at night is not, obviously, a day of debate and discussion. I understand we may have to be interrupted. However, I also say again we expect to have the agreement adhered to.

I am deeply concerned about nuclear waste and religious freedom and all of the other issues, but we did have an agreement on this particular issue. I intend to see that we can do our best to adhere to that agreement.

Mr. LOTT. I say to the Senator, we will proceed on Carroll County, MS, time. Do you understand that?

Mr. MCCAIN. I thank the Senator from Mississippi. I am glad to entertain whatever proposal the Senator from Kentucky has at this time. I intend, along with the Senator from Wisconsin, to wait until tomorrow for our