

cover agriculture, services, and other key trade issues. Many of these issues are sensitive, and even controversial.

We must be confident that we will see everything that is negotiated in the new round before it can become law. The legislation Senator CONRAD and I wrote that is part of the Africa trade bill requires full disclosure to Congress of all agreements or understandings with a foreign government relating to agricultural trade negotiations—what we refer to here as agricultural trade negotiations, objectives, and consultation.

Anyway, our provision says that any such agreement or understanding that is not disclosed to Congress before legislation implementing a trade agreement is introduced in the Congress shall not become law. In other words, if Congress doesn't know about the agreement, it should not become law. That is very simple. It is very clear. It is a restatement of the principle of full disclosure. It is consistent with Congress' constitutional responsibility for foreign commerce, but I understand the administration opposes this common-sense provision. They want it removed from the bill.

Mr. President, it says in the Conrad-Grassley bill, no secret side deals. The Congress agreed that there should be fully submitted to Congress all of the provisions of any negotiations that must be approved by Congress. I don't know why the administration wants this language removed from the trade bill, but this is what they have sent to the conferees in the Congress of the United States. They list this section that says no secret side deals. They are suggesting we strike this subsection.

We cannot let this happen. I will do everything I can to make sure this physical disclosure provision becomes the law of the land when the House and Senate conferees finally consider the African trade bill. I believe our Government should live by the same standards we expect from farmers in my hometown of New Hartford, IA, or any businessman in Des Moines, IA. Tell us exactly what you mean. Show us everything in the agreement. Act in good faith.

I ask my colleagues to support this provision and vote for it when it comes back from the conference committee so we have physical disclosure of everything so Congress isn't asked to vote on something that is secret, that we don't know anything about. If we do that, we are violating our constitutional responsibility to the people of this country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous agreement the Senator from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

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#### GOOD NEWS FOR RURAL NEW YORK

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today I am happy to say there is good news in the omnibus budget bill for rural New

Yorkers in two ways. The Satellite Home Viewer Act will finally allow rural residents in rural areas to receive local television programming, and the dairy language in the omnibus final package allows both option 1-A and the New England Dairy Compact to continue. Let me touch on both of these. It is clearly two dollops of good news for rural New Yorkers.

On the satellite bill, I have had constituent after constituent in areas such as Allegany County and Chenango County and Steuben County and Ulster County, throughout New York State in rural areas, tell me all of a sudden they were unable to receive over the air signals to receive local satellite programming. Imagine being cut off. Imagine for years depending on the weather reports before you took your kids to school or because you are a farmer and then not being able to get them. Imagine having your local news shows cut off. Imagine not being able to see things your family was accustomed to seeing, all because of a court action.

Today, that bill, that court action, is being overruled in the omnibus act. I am delighted to say half a million New York residents will now be able to get their local signal from their satellite which they were not able to do before—half a million people, all back the way they should be.

I hope we will continue the progress of the Satellite Home Viewer Act. The Federal provision was taken out. I understand the Senate Banking Committee plans to hold hearings next year to ensure that multiservice providers are encouraged to extend competition. I want to work with my colleagues to make sure my constituents in upstate rural New York, central New York, the west and southern tier, and in the north country have the same viewing options as those in downstate.

The other bit of good news, of course, is the dairy language in the final bill. First, I know some of my colleagues from Wisconsin and Minnesota have labored long and hard on behalf of their constituents in this regard. I salute their hard work, their tenacity, and their diligence. I heard the Senator from Minnesota say the average dairy farm in his State has 60 cows. It is no different in New York. We don't have large farms, by and large. We shouldn't be pitting one against the other. Without 1-A and without the dairy compact we would have had desperate times in rural New York for our dairy farmers. We are the third largest dairy State. Dairy is a vital industry in much of New York.

If option 1-B were allowed to be implemented, New York would experience the single largest loss of any State, \$30.5 million a year. Compacts, of course, are necessary. The 1-A option passed both Houses. This is not something being done in the dark of night and not being debated. Both Houses, after full debate, passed both compacts.

I say with all due respect to my colleagues from Minnesota and Wisconsin,

it is they who seek to thwart the will of the majority of the House and the Senate when they try at the last minute to stop an omnibus bill from going through. We need this compact.

In New York and New England, the price of milk has not risen by more than 4 cents over the national average in every given year. I say to my downstate constituents, to keep an industry vital to all New Yorkers going, is it worth it to pay that 4 cents? Almost everyone says yes. With senior citizen centers, WIC, and other types of good programs being exempt, this is a worthy piece of legislation. I think it is a good day for the dairy farmers of New York.

It is not all we wanted; I admit that. We want New York to be added to the Northeast Dairy Compact, and we will fight like the devil to make that happen in future years. Without 1-A and the existing dairy compact, which still benefits New York dairy farms in the north country and places such as Washington and Warren Counties and in central New York, those areas without the New England Dairy Compact, we would have suffered dramatically. Adding insult to injury, not having option 1-A would have been devastating.

In the last decade, New York State has lost one-third of its dairy farms, 13,000 to 8,600. The dairy compact and option 1-A will help my State and region retain this vital and cherished industry. I believe that can be done not at the expense of our counterparts in the Midwest.

In conclusion, it is a good day for rural New Yorkers in this omnibus bill. No. 1, the Satellite Home Viewer Act will allow half a million New York families to receive local signal once again; and, an extension of the dairy compact, as well as extension of option 1-A, will allow our dairy farmers who have been struggling over the last decade to have a better chance to survive, to grow, and to prosper in one of the industries most vital to all of New York State.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous agreement, the Senator from Maine is recognized.

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#### SENATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ms. COLLINS. For the information of all of our colleagues, I inform Senators that we are still working out some last-minute issues that will then allow the Senate to move a number of important bills that have been cleared on both sides. While we are waiting for these last-minute glitches to be resolved, I want to take this opportunity to respond to some of the comments made by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle this morning.

I am disappointed in some of the process, and I do not support all of the provisions of the omnibus appropriations bill which we will consider later this day, but I very much disagree with the assertions made by some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle