

we will certainly give you ample notice ahead of time what the amendment will be.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I thought the idea behind this agreement we painstakingly entered into over a number of weeks of negotiations with the Senator from Arizona was that there would be an opportunity for lots of amendments. Now here we are on a Monday night, getting ready—the majority leader wants us to have a vote in the morning—I am hearing that the other side doesn't want to lay down an amendment.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, if my colleague will yield, we went through this discussion on the Domenici proposal. It may very well be that we will offer something that would accommodate what the Senator from New Mexico is proposing. If that could be worked out, that may be the next amendment. I think we might be able to do that. If we are unable to do that, obviously we will have another amendment to offer right away. I know the leader indicated that on tomorrow he would like to have a vote by 12:30. If we come in at 9:30, we will have an amendment to offer, and we will be right on the schedule that the leader laid out some days ago.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, just to respond to the last comment of Senator DODD, that is the point. We want to make sure, if you are going to take advantage of the opportunity to offer an amendment tonight, fine, or we will have one the first thing in the morning. But we had an agreement that we would do these by regular order of 3 hours. So hopefully you will either have one in the morning or we will be prepared to go with one on this side.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, since there seems to be so much interest in accommodating Senator DOMENICI, might it not be possible for everyone to agree that Senator DOMENICI's modified amendment would be the first one up in the morning?

Mr. DODD. I object to that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to the majority leader and to my friend from Kentucky that the Senator from Connecticut has been busy.

I think the amendment—and we will be happy to discuss it in more detail with the Senator from Kentucky—will be offered by Senators CORZINE, KOHL, and TORRICELLI. It will probably deal with the same subject matter that was discussed all day today.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I think we have done some good work today. We had some good opening statements and considered an amendment. Obviously, the people involved could do a little work this evening.

We will be prepared. At 9:30 tomorrow, we will have an amendment, and we will be ready to vote on it by 12:30, before the respective conferences meet.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I had prepared to offer a unanimous consent that when we come in, at 9:45 in the morning the pending business would be the modified Domenici amendment.

If they are going to work on this tonight, we will be glad to work with you on that. But we have to keep this process going forward.

Just one thing on the substance. I think it is going to be a sad commentary if we don't address this issue of candidates being able to put unlimited amounts of money in their races without the opponents having some way to at least be competitive.

I hope the Senate will find a way to come together on this issue. I know it has the support of both sides of the aisle. It is going to be a bad start of getting to a proper conclusion to this legislation if we don't address this issue. I would encourage both sides to work on this overnight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine is recognized.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I voted to table Senator DOMENICI's amendment not because I was not sympathetic with the same. And I give him great credit for bringing up a real problem in our campaign finance system of very wealthy candidates being able to self-finance their races. That discourages a lot of otherwise very qualified people from even running for office in the first place.

I commend the Senator from New Mexico for bringing up an important issue. I did not support his amendment because I disagreed with some of the provisions in it. I believe, however, that the amendment he is likely to propose with Senator DEWINE is a far superior amendment.

I think it was very unfortunate that the Senator from New Mexico was not allowed unanimous consent to modify his amendment. That is very unusual. Members usually are allowed to modify their own amendments. I think it is very unfortunate that did not occur in this case. It does not bode well for the debate on this issue for us to start off like that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I can certainly understand the frustration of some of our colleagues as we have attempted to work through the first day of what is an unusual unanimous consent agreement. We are used to a little more flexibility on amendments. I think when we entered into this unanimous consent agreement, our entire purpose was to ensure that we could move amendments along. That was the whole idea—that we would make sure that in the process of moving amendments along, we would accommodate Senators.

I hope that unanimous consent agreements, to demonstrate a little more practicality, could be agreed to in the future because I think we will actually accommodate rather than impede our

ability to take up and address this bill in a meaningful way.

In that regard, I ask unanimous consent that I or my designee be recognized tomorrow morning as debate on the legislation is again convened in order to offer an amendment.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Reserving the right to object.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if the Senator will yield under his reservation, first of all, I appreciate what Senator DASCHLE had to say about allowing Senators to modify their own amendments. We need to continue to honor that practice.

Second, I don't see any problem with his request. If he does not act on his right, then we will be able to reclaim and move forward on our side. I don't see a problem with that under the circumstances.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, for the information of my colleagues, in consultation with our ranking member, I suggest that our amendment will deal with the millionaires amendment.

The Durbin approach I think is one with which many of us could be comfortable. I understand they are talking now about ways in which to address some of the differences between Senator DURBIN and Senator DOMENICI. But that will be the subject of an amendment we will offer at 9:30 in the morning.

I yield the floor.

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

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of routine morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

#### BANKRUPTCY REFORM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have a few clarifying comments regarding the bankruptcy reform bill which the Senate passed last week. During the debate on the small business provisions in S. 420, Senator KERRY erroneously characterized how the National Bankruptcy Review Commission voted on the small business changes that were contained in the bill. Senator KERRY maintained that the provisions were controversial and passed by a narrow 5-4 vote. This was not true. In fact, the National Bankruptcy Review Commission voted for these provisions by a vote of 8-1.

I also want to clarify another point in the bankruptcy legislation. Senator SCHUMER offered an amendment in committee and then on the floor that changed a provision in the bill that prohibited corporate entities in Chapter 11 from discharging fraud debts in bankruptcy. I opposed this amendment since I think that corporations should not be able to commit fraud and get away with it by filing for bankruptcy.