

Given what I heard on television from the President, and the extraordinarily broad support that I have for this already in the Senate, I do not think this will be a controversial piece of legislation. But I hope it can be considered as soon as possible to send a tangible message to our firefighters, our police officers, and our emergency personnel that we are with them and their families in their time of loss.

Finally, Mr. President, we are just realizing the full depth of the humanitarian crisis and grief and loss that has occurred. For the children who have now been orphaned, the husbands and wives who have been widowed, the parents who are facing what no parent should have to face ever—the loss of their son or their daughter—there are no words adequately to describe or express our sense of loss as a society.

I am very grateful that the city, the State, and FEMA will be on the ground with grief counseling, with psychological help, with mental health services because having been to more disasters in my life than I wished, I know that those who do not bear any visible injuries or scars carry deep and lasting wounds.

We will, as a nation, not only seek out the enemy wherever he may be, but we will also care for the grieving and the wounded. We will, I know, do everything required to provide whatever help and assistance we can as a nation.

I also hope that for those who were far away from any of the attacks on September 11, they, too, will talk with one another and comfort each other.

I was very grateful and proud to see Laura Bush, Mrs. Bush, on television today talking about the need to have an open conversation with our children, depending upon their ages, to reassure and comfort them because the binding up of our wounds as a nation goes far beyond lower Manhattan, or Arlington, VA.

We have all been stricken by this cowardly act of terrorism, but I am confident that we will respond with the same resolute purpose that has always defined us as a nation, with the same compassion that marks us as a people, and with the same resolve to not only defend ourselves wherever and whenever that is necessary, but to rebuild and reconstruct the human spirit and the physical terrain of America.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the senior Senator from New York will be recognized for 7 minutes.

Mr. SCHUMER. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, I join with my colleague in speaking of our trip that we had to New York and in what we are seeking to do here.

I fly home to New York every week. The sight I see is usually a friendly sight: first over Staten Island and the Verrazano Bridge, and then Prospect Park and my home which is on Prospect Park in Brooklyn, then the Statue of Liberty and those two tall towers that stand as symbols of New York.

We flew back with FEMA Administrator Joe Allbaugh last night. Those towers were gone. I felt violated. My city, the city we all love, had been violated. To hear the people talk about looking for their loved ones, to go down there and see a war zone, to fly in the helicopter and see these two tall towers gone—unbelievable.

Two things get us through this: First, the resilience of New Yorkers—I talked about that yesterday—and second, the words of not only sympathy but offers of help from the President, Members of both sides of this body, from all regions and, in addition, from the other body.

We have talked to the mayor and Governor. We have put together a plan. We are going to ask our colleagues for help. We are going to ask them for \$20 billion in addition to the appropriation that will come forward now. It seems like a huge sum of money, but let me catalog some of the problems.

The mayor and Governor are compiling a list. We want to move this bill quickly so that list will not be complete and this will not be a complete inventory of our needs. We will certainly have to come back.

Rescue and recovery will cost \$10 billion, according to the mayor. The subway that has collapsed under the World Trade Center Towers will cost \$1 to \$3 billion to fix. We have lost 20 million square feet of office space; 100,000 people don't have places to work. Add to that the loss of life of the brave policemen, firefighters, EMS people, those who went to work in the morning innocently. This is not a usual tragedy for a usual response. We need help. We need large help.

The President told me when I spoke with him that he would do anything he could to help. We are so glad he is coming to New York tomorrow. The mayor and Governor have expressed that, and so do we. But we need, of course, more than just expressions of sympathy and solidarity, as deeply as those are appreciated. Our financial markets are crippled. Our electricity market, our phone system, all of this is in huge trouble.

We are putting forward, Senator CLINTON and myself, a proposal. We will bring it in broad outline before our colleagues in a few minutes. We will then work on language, and hopefully it can be incorporated into the bill.

Let me just say, these are the most difficult times I have faced as an elected official. I now understand, during our valiant struggles—whether it be the Revolution, the Civil War, World War II—how brave our soldiers were to just go on despite the heavy burdens pressed upon them. I feel that a little bit myself. It is hard to get up in the morning having not slept or having had nightmares of those planes going through the towers. There are too many things to do in the day, but every one of them is essential. And go on we must.

To my colleagues and the Nation, New York desperately needs your help.

We have come before you as people who contribute greatly to our Nation in so many different ways. Now we need you. Please be there for us.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair thanks the Senators from New York.

Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:54 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. EDWARDS).

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand we are very close to working out something on the filing of amendments. The managers are working on that at this time. Awaiting their arrival, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise to applaud the managers of this bill, Senators HOLLINGS and GREGG, for focusing on a problem that simply has not received the attention it deserves in recent years. I am referring to the disturbing lack of Immigration and Naturalization Service inspectors at the land ports of entry that line our borders with Canada and Mexico. Based on an analysis of workload and workforce needs, the INS estimates that our 104 land ports of entry are staffed at a mere 49 percent of their optimal level, leading to long lines and exhausted, overworked inspectors.

The situation in my home State of Maine is even more alarming. Maine's 12 land ports of entry are staffed, on average, at 41 percent of their optimal level. This means that 71 INS inspectors must perform the work of 174 men and women. To put the problem in perspective, I point out that, last year, Maine's 71 INS border staff inspected approximately 6.75 million people who passed through our land border ports of entry in 3 million passenger vehicles, 400,000 commercial trucks, and thousands of buses and trains.

Moreover, many of these inspections are far from routine. Since 1996, the Portland, ME district of the INS—which includes 14 land border points of entry in Vermont and one in New Hampshire—has confiscated over 2,500 fraudulent documents and apprehended