

either fast-track negotiating authority from Congress or a new round of trade talks.

To get a world Trade Organization deal, Mr. Zoellick, would have to make concessions to poor countries that would so infuriate Congress that lawmakers would't grant fast-track authority. To get fast track, which would allow President Bush to negotiate trade deals that Congress could approve or reject, but not amend, he would have to make concessions to liberal Democrats that would so anger poorer countries that they wouldn't open new trade talks.

On Monday, Mr. Zoellick announced his decision to a group of ministers and delegates at the convention center in Doha, where the WTO was meeting. The U.S., he said, would cede to their demands to allow negotiations on America's hated antidumping laws, which punish other countries that "dump" products on the U.S. market at below cost.

Bill Klinefelter, the United Steelworkers of America representative who sent to Doha to keep Mr. Zoellick from negotiating on U.S. antidumping laws, was furious. Mr. Zoellick, he said, could "kiss fast track goodbye. He's never getting it now."

The irony is that without fast track, Mr. Zoellick won't be able to conclude the trade talks launched at the WTO meeting. Trade envoys hope to wrap up the talks in three years, though few really believe they will finish that early.

Thursday, lawmakers were still digesting the details of the Doha agreement. Republicans praised it and said they still plan to try to get fast track. House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R., Ill.) said he still hopes to bring fast-track authority to a vote the week after Thanksgiving. But there is little chance of passage without some support from moderate Democrats—and few were cheering.

Mr. Zoellick's fast-track proposal "was not tenable before Doha, and it's even less tenable after Doha," said Rep Sander Levin, (D., Mich.) the only lawmaker who attended the WTO meeting.

House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt (D., Mo.) told reporters Mr. Zoellick's concessions were "negative in terms of getting agreement on" fast track. "They put on the table for negotiation our antidumping laws," he said. "We are in the middle of a steel crisis now in terms of losing sales and losing capacity in our steel system."

The U.S. steel industry is one of the biggest beneficiaries of antidumping laws, so lawmakers from steel states don't want to see those laws weakened. Mr. Zoellick's decision "is a stunning betrayal of America's workers," said Rep. Peter Visclosky (D., Ind.) vice chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus. "Putting our trade laws on the table flies in the face of fair trade and totally disregards the expressed will of Congress that our trade laws not be negotiated away."

Before going to Qatar, Mr. Zoellick said he was fed up with Democrats' demands for more concessions on fast track. He pointed to his decision to allow a big steel trade case to go forward, which could temporarily shutter the U.S. market to some foreign steel. He said his fast-track proposal also addressed labor and environmental concerns of Democrats. "At some point, people are going to have to decide if they can take yes for an answer," Mr. Zoellick said.

Some moderate Democrats defended Mr. Zoellick's concessions on steel and said they still hope to salvage fast track. "The challenge is making sure everyone understands the provisions," said Rep. Calvin Dooley (D., Calif.).

In Doha, Mr. Zoellick steadfastly protected America's textile industry. He repeatedly turned down demands from India and Pakistan that the U.S. import more clothing.

That decision was looking almost fortuitous, but it clearly won't be enough to bring about converts on fast track: Burlington Industries Inc., Greensboro, N.C., filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection and blamed it on cheap imports. Burlington Chief Executive George W. Henderson specifically cited the U.S. government as a culprit, saying it used the textile industry as a bargaining chip in international relations.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

AVIATION SECURITY ACT CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the Senate earlier today approved a conference report that will increase security substantially at our Nation's airports. And this is a good step—a good step—toward restoring the American people's confidence in their own safety. And it is a good step forward in rejuvenating our economy, the American economy.

This is very fine legislation. But I wish to remind ourselves that a few days ago we had a golden opportunity to enact other very fine legislation that would go far in rejuvenating the hope, the faith, and the confidence in the minds of the American people that the Government was looking out for their security, for their welfare. And I refer to that amendment which Senator HARRY REID, the distinguished Democratic whip in this body, and the distinguished majority leader, Mr. DASCHLE, and Senator HOLLINGS, and other Senators and I offered, to guarantee, to a much greater extent than I have to explain today, the defense of our homeland, homeland defense.

That legislation was rejected by the minority in this body. So while we congratulate ourselves—and rightly so—on enacting legislation dealing with safety at our airports, safety to the travelers on airplanes, that does not bring an end to the threat of bioterrorism.

The legislation we passed today will not provide for smallpox vaccines and anthrax antibiotics. My amendment a few days ago, the homeland defense amendment to the so-called stimulus bill, would provide for smallpox vaccine, would provide money, \$4 billion, to end the threat of bioterrorism.

Our Republican friends rejected it. I hear that some of the House conferees don't want to have any conferences over there in which the majority leader, Senator DASCHLE, or Senator ROBERT BYRD are in attendance. They don't want to hold any conferences, I hear. I read that in the paper, that certain Members of the other body have said: We don't want Senator DASCHLE and Senator ROBERT BYRD to be in the room when we are talking about homeland defense.

Will this legislation provide for smallpox vaccine and anthrax antibiotics? No. But our legislation which we offered the other day would have. It was turned down. The Republicans said: No, no, no.

The bill we passed today doesn't improve the training of our doctors and nurses, but that \$15 billion homeland defense amendment would have improved the training of our doctors and nurses, would have expanded the capacity of local hospitals and medical labs.

The legislation we passed today is good legislation, but it leaves much work to be done. Of course, nobody ever told us that that legislation was the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end, of homeland security legislation. I am not making that charge. But I am talking about some other homeland security provisions that were in the amendment which I offered at the time Mr. MAX BAUCUS, the Senator from Montana, was offering his tax legislation.

Does the legislation we passed today provide counterterrorism training for our local police and fire departments? Does it give them access to new resources and equipment so that they are prepared to respond to possible future terrorist attacks? Does it tighten security at our borders and at our shipping ports? Does it provide for better protection of our food supply against possible biological attack? Sadly, the answer to these questions is a resounding no, no, no.

We in Congress have a responsibility to provide for the common defense. That is what the preamble to the Constitution mentions, among other things: Provide for the common defense. We have a responsibility to provide resources to prevent future potential terrorist attacks and to ensure rapid response should another attack, God forbid, occur. We have a job to do.

While we are at home on Thanksgiving Day, we should give thanks for our many blessings, but we should also be thinking about the job that is still left undone. We have work to do.

To date we have been unable to do that job because of partisan gridlock. What a sad commentary on the Senate. What a sad commentary on the Congress. When we return from the Thanksgiving break, we will refocus. We will be back, Lord willing. We will be back. We will refocus on homeland security, homeland defense. I hope we can make the same kind of rapid bipartisan progress to improve our defenses here at home as we have achieved today in airport security.

I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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