

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the concurrent resolution, as amended. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 56, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 108 Leg.]

YEAS—56

Alexander	Crapo	McConnell
Allard	DeWine	Miller
Allen	Dole	Murkowski
Baucus	Domenici	Nelson (NE)
Bayh	Ensign	Nickles
Bennett	Enzi	Roberts
Bond	Fitzgerald	Santorum
Breaux	Frist	Sessions
Brownback	Graham (SC)	Shelby
Bunning	Grassley	Smith
Burns	Gregg	Snowe
Campbell	Hagel	Specter
Chafee	Hatch	Stevens
Chambliss	Hutchison	Sununu
Cochran	Inhofe	Talent
Coleman	Kyl	Thomas
Collins	Landrieu	Thomas
Cornyn	Lott	Voivovich
Craig	Lugar	Warner

NAYS—44

Akaka	Edwards	Lieberman
Biden	Feingold	Lincoln
Bingaman	Feinstein	McCain
Boxer	Graham (FL)	Mikulski
Byrd	Harkin	Murray
Cantwell	Hollings	Nelson (FL)
Carper	Inouye	Pryor
Clinton	Jeffords	Reed
Conrad	Johnson	Reid
Corzine	Kennedy	Rockefeller
Daschle	Kerry	Sarbanes
Dayton	Kohl	Schumer
Dodd	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Dorgan	Leahy	Wyden
Durbin	Levin	

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 23), as amended, was agreed to, as follows:

(The concurrent resolution will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENZI). The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I wish to thank all of our colleagues for their cooperation. We did finish the budget resolution by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, as we committed to do. That would not have happened if it had not been for the cooperation certainly of Senator CONRAD and his staff.

I wish to thank Mary Naylor and their entire team, as well as Hazen Marshall, Stacey Hughes, Beth Felder, and our team. The staffs had to work extremely hard over the weekend. This lasted about 2 or 3 days longer than is usual for the budget process. I hope maybe we can streamline it next year a little bit more.

I thank all the staff for their hard work. They put in a lot of hours. We produced a product that is not perfect but it is a significant improvement over no budget. Again, I thank my colleagues for their cooperation.

I ask unanimous consent that a list of staff Democrats and Republicans be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Amy Angelier; Lauren Baylor; Dan Brandt, Economist; Cara Duckworth; Beth Smerko

Felder; Ron Floyd; Megan Hauck; Jim Hearn; Jody Hernandez; Stacey Hughes; Rachel Jones; Don Kent; Hazen Marshall; David Myers; Maureen O'Neill; and David Ortega.

Gayle Osterberg; Anne Oswald; David Pappone; Roy Phillips; Cheri Reidy; Margaret Stewart; Bob Taylor; Jennifer Winkler; Lee Greenwood; Letitia Fletcher; Tim Nolan; Lynne Seymour; George Woodall; Shelley Amdur; Steve Bailey; and Rock Cheung, Jr. Jim Esquea; Tim Galvin; Lawrence Hershon; Jim Horney; Mike Jones; Erin Keogh; Lisa Konwinski; Sarah Kuehl; Jessie LaVine; Stu Nagurka; Mary Naylor; Koby Noel; Steve Posner; Lee Price; John Righter; Dakota Rudesill; and Barry Strumpf.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, first, I congratulate the chairman of our committee on successfully passing a budget resolution. As strongly as I disagree with the contents of this resolution, I feel equally as strongly about the way this process was conducted, and the chairman's leadership both in the committee and on the floor in terms of the tone that he set and in terms of the attitude he brought to the job. It makes a big difference, and we appreciate it.

I will now take a moment to thank staff: Mary Naylor, my staff director; Jim Horney and Sue Nelson, my deputy staff directors; Lisa Konwinski, my counsel; Shelley Amdur, who handles education and appropriations; along with John Righter, who is our chief numbers man and handles appropriations as well; Steve Bailey, who does taxes; Sarah Kuehl, who handles Social Security and transportation; Jim Esquea, who handles Medicaid, welfare, and veterans; Tim Galvin, who handles agriculture; Mike Jones, homeland security and energy issues; Dakota Rudesill, who handles defense; Rock Cheung, international affairs; Lee Price, our chief economist; Koby Noel, our chart master—as my colleagues know, we produced a lot of charts—and Stu Nagurka and Steve Posner, in charge of communications for me; and Jessie Lavine, Erin Keogh, and Lawrence Hershon, our staff assistants. We appreciate very much their hard work.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 95; all after the resolving clause is stricken and the text of S. Con. Res. 23 is inserted in lieu thereof, the resolution is adopted, the Senate insists on its amendment and requests a conference with the House, and the Chair appoints conferees.

The Presiding Officer (Mr. ENZI) appointed Mr. NICKLES, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. SARBANES, conferees on the part of the Senate.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95), as amended, was agreed to.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CONRAD. I now ask there be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FITZGERALD). Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I rise today with great honor and pride to pay tribute to the men and women of our Armed Forces, tens of thousands of whom are deployed right now in the Middle East in military action against Iraq. I encourage all my colleagues in the Senate, and in the Congress, that we take a few moments out of each and every one of our days we are engaged in this conflict to come to the floor and speak to our constituents, speak to the American people, and speak to the servicemen and servicewomen who are so valiantly out there defending our freedoms and this great country that we believe in. We are going to take a few moments here today to talk about how important are these men and women in service to our country. We would like to encourage, again, all Members of Congress to come to the floor and spend a few minutes out of their day or out of their week to talk about the incredible lives of these individuals who are there on our behalf, defending our freedom.

Over the course of the last week, since hostilities began in earnest on March 19, our troops have made tremendous progress toward the objectives of their mission. At the same time, we have seen a few setbacks, but these do not detract from what has been accomplished. For that, we have no one to thank but the courageous, hard-working men and women of the American service arm and the coalition of Armed Forces.

We hear a great deal about the technology behind this war—missiles, aircraft, telecommunications devices, weaponry, and other equipment of battle. But we should all remember that even the best equipment and the best technology is of little value without the best soldiers and commanders to make it useful.

Today we have over 230,000 troops representing air, sea, and land forces in the theater, with our allies in the coalition contributing an additional 45,000. These young men and women are serving in a wide variety of capacities but with a unifying mission—to liberate the Iraqi people from the brutal regime of Saddam Hussein, and to destroy his weapons of mass destruction which threaten our globe. They are separated from their families and their friends, placing themselves in great personal danger in order to provide for a safer, more secure world for all of us.

I myself have a young man from my staff who is serving in the Middle East.