

rollcall vote on Tuesday at approximately 12 noon. That vote most likely will be in relation to an amendment to the energy bill.

I wish everyone a safe recess, and I look forward to working with everyone following this recess.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass? The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote "nay".

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 202 Leg.]

YEAS—53

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

NAYS—44

Akaka	Dorgan	Lieberman
Baucus	Durbin	Lincoln
Bayh	Ensign	Mikulski
Biden	Feingold	Murray
Bingaman	Feinstein	Nelson (FL)
Boxer	Graham (FL)	Nelson (NE)
Byrd	Harkin	Pryor
Cantwell	Hollings	Reed (RI)
Carper	Inouye	Reid (NV)
Clinton	Johnson	Rockefeller
Conrad	Kohl	Sarbanes
Corzine	Landrieu	Schumer
Daschle	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Dayton	Leahy	Wyden
Dodd	Levin	

NOT VOTING—3

Edwards	Kennedy	Kerry
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The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 51) was passed.

Mr. FRIST. I move to reconsider that vote and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent when the Senate receives from the House the companion to S. 1050, the Defense authorization bill, the Senate proceed to its consideration at a time

determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader; provided further that all after the enacting clause be stricken and the text of S. 1050 as passed be inserted in lieu thereof; and further, any other amendments in order be: Warner, two amendments regarding BRAC; Dorgan-Lott, BRAC amendment, 30 minutes equally divided, no second degrees; Kennedy-Cornyn-Brownback-McCain, immigration, 30 minutes, equally divided; Reid-Inhofe, concurrent receipts; that the amendments be subject to relevant second degrees under the same debate limitation except where noted.

I further ask consent that following the disposition of the above mentioned amendments, the bill be read the third time and the Senate then proceed to a vote on passage of the House measure, as amended; finally, I ask that the Senate then insist on its amendment, requesting a conference with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to 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.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I think the Senator from West Virginia requested 20 minutes and I ask the unanimous consent request be modified to accommodate Senator BYRD's request.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I will ask unanimous consent that the Senator from New Hampshire have 5 minutes, followed by Senator BYRD for 20 minutes, followed by Senators BOND and TALENT for 10 minutes, and prior to the Senator from New Hampshire, 30 seconds to Senator SPECTER.

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

PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFICIARIES FROM COLA CUTS

Mr. SPECTER. I ask unanimous consent that the Daschle amendment numbered 834 be modified to be placed in the form of a Senate resolution; that the resolution, be adopted the preamble be adopted, with a motion to reconsider being laid upon the table.

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

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, this resolution provides that Social Security cost-of-living adjustments shall be maintained.

I thank the Chair. I thank my colleagues. I thank the Democratic leader.

The resolution (S. Res. 155) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 155

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that:

(1) Social Security provides a relatively modest insurance benefit for seniors—many of whom rely on Social Security for part or all of their monthly income. Without Social Security, forty-eight percent of beneficiaries would be in poverty today.

(2) In order to protect benefit levels against inflation, Social Security beneficiaries receive an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) based on Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

(3) The January 2003 COLA provided only a 1.4 percent increase in Social Security benefits, increasing the average monthly benefit for all retired workers by only \$13 (from \$882 to \$895).

(4) Annual growth in Medicare premiums and out-of-pocket health care costs for retired individuals on fixed incomes far exceeded the small COLA increases provided to Social Security beneficiaries.

(5) Reducing COLAs will disproportionately harm low-income Social Security beneficiaries and push millions of seniors into poverty.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that Social Security cost-of-living adjustments should not be reduced.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

MEDICARE VISION REHABILITATION SERVICES ACT OF 2003

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. President, today I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the Medicare Vision Rehabilitation Services Act of 2003. This is legislation I introduced in the Senate this past week to deal with vision impairment, one of the most common disabilities affecting seniors today.

Millions of Americans currently have impaired vision. The number of people in the United States with vision impairments continues to increase. The vision impairment is a loss of vision that is not correctable by standard glasses, contact lenses, medicine or surgery. One of the leading causes of vision impairment and blindness in the United States is age-related disease and that is why it is important we begin to deal with this serious illness under our Medicare system.

Vision rehabilitation assists individuals with this serious vision loss so they can safely navigate in their own homes and within their local environments. Vision rehabilitation services help people avoid medication errors, help them cook and use kitchen utensils safely, and help avoid burns and falls; in short, help them to be more independent in their own community and enable them to enjoy a better quality of life.

Importantly, vision rehabilitation services promote safety and that all-important independence for our elderly. This legislation would ensure that Medicare coverage for vision rehab