

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—
S. 2061

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 429, S. 2061, the OB/GYN medical malpractice bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

HEALTHY MOTHERS AND
HEALTHY BABIES ACCESS TO
CARE ACT OF 2003—MOTION TO
PROCEED

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, with that objection, I now move to proceed to the consideration of S. 2061, the OB/GYN medical malpractice bill, and I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 429, S. 2061, a bill to improve women's access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the delivery of obstetrical and gynecological services.

Bill Frist, Judd Gregg, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Lisa Murkowski, Susan Collins, Elizabeth Dole, Michael B. Enzi, James Inhofe, John Ensign, Craig Thomas, John Cornyn, Pat Roberts, Sam Brownback, Orrin Hatch, Chuck Grassley, Mitch McConnell, Jon Kyl.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the live quorum under rule XXII be waived, and I ask unanimous consent that this vote occur at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24.

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

PENSION FUNDING EQUITY ACT OF
2003

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 3108, the pensions bill, and that the Senate insist upon its amendment, request a conference with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on behalf of the Senate at a ratio of 3 to 2.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CHAMBLISS) appointed Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. KENNEDY conferees on the part of the Senate.

WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL
ADDRESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the resolution of the Senate of January 24, 1901, on Monday, February 23, 2004, immediately following the prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, and disposition of the Journal, the traditional reading of Washington's Farewell Address take place.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to the order of the Senate on January 24, 1901, as modified by the order of February 12, 2004, appoints the Senator from Louisiana, Mr. BREAU, to read Washington's Farewell Address on Monday, February 23, 2004.

The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, after consultation with the members of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and the Committee on Aging, pursuant to Public Law 100-175, as amended by Public Laws 102-375, 103-171, and 106-501, appoints the following individuals as members of the Policy Committee to the White House Conference on Aging:

The Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF SAMUEL W.
BODMAN TO BE DEPUTY SEC-
RETARY OF THE TREASURY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the nomination of Samuel W. Bodman to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, which was reported by the Finance Committee today. I further ask unanimous consent that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

Samuel W. Bodman, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

COMMENDING THE CARROLL
COLLEGE FIGHTING SAINTS

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

now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 303, submitted by Senators BURNS and BAUCUS earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant journal clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 303) commending the Carroll College Fighting Saints football team for winning the 2003 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national football championship game.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the Carroll College Fighting Saints and to congratulate them on their second consecutive NAIA National Championship.

The Fighting Saints won their second straight NAIA National Championship by defeating Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rangers. And what was the score? 41 to 28.

We were very worried what kind of game this was going to be, and I was just elated when we broke the game open early and just kept the feet to the fire of the other team and we won by a large margin.

Mr. NICKLES. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. BAUCUS. To the Senator from Oklahoma, I am sure this is a very sensitive topic for him and I would be glad to yield to the Senator.

Mr. NICKLES. We have been in mourning over the terrible upset at the hands of—is it the Montana Rangers?

Mr. BAUCUS. Saints.

Mr. NICKLES. Montana Saints. Is that an acronym?

Mr. BAUCUS. Saints generally prevail.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I did not usually put Montana and saints in the same sentence, but I understand the Montana Saints prevailed and I wish to congratulate the Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. I appreciate that. It is the Carroll College Fighting Saints. I might say the University of Montana has won AA national championships a couple of times in the last several years, too. We love football in Montana. I think—I know as much as people in Oklahoma love football, with the Sooners and the great history Oklahoma has had in football.

I might say, too, although the game was magical—it is always magical when you win—magic really did not play a large part in the Fighting Saints' victory. It was just good old-fashioned hard work and teamwork. Coach Van Diest is one very special guy, a Montanan, a real basic down-to-Earth guy who inspires such teamwork, just working together, hard work, making sure nobody takes credit for anything. This is a team game. We all work together to get this done.

When you meet the coach and see the team practice with him, it is very apparent. They are very humble. That is why we were very worried about this

game with Oklahoma. We don't take anything for granted. I am so proud of the team.

It is hard work on the football field. It is hard work in the weight room. It is hard work in the classroom. These are great guys, led by a group of very honorable young men through a solid season and an incredible string of 12 playoff games. Mike was one of five coaches to receive the American Football Coaches Association Coach of the Year award, one of five in the Nation, because he is such an inspirational, hard-working, no-nonsense, wonderful guy, representing the high caliber of the team and of Carroll College. We are extremely proud.

I might say, too, I am proud because this is my hometown. The Saints are from a college in Helena, MT. I thank the Saints, thank Coach Van Diest, thank them all for their hard work.

We may give Oklahoma a few points the next time we play them. We wish them well, too.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 303) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 303

Whereas the Carroll College Fighting Saints football team won the 2003 NAIA national championship game and its second straight national championship by defeating the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rangers by a score of 41 to 28 at the Jim Carroll Stadium in Savannah, Tennessee, on December 20, 2003;

Whereas the Fighting Saints won 15 straight games, going undefeated in the 2003 regular season to win the Frontier Conference Championship and progressing through 4 rounds of playoffs;

Whereas head coach Mike Van Diest led the Fighting Saints to their second straight championship in his fifth season as head coach and was 1 of 5 coaches to receive the American Football Coaches Association Coach of the Year award;

Whereas Fighting Saints quarterback Tyler Emmert was named NAIA Player of the Year and offensive MVP for the championship game;

Whereas wide receiver Mark Gallik was named NAIA Football.net Offensive Player of the Year;

Whereas both Emmert and Gallik were named to the NAIA First Team All-American;

Whereas 2 players were named to the NAIA Second Team All-American—Spencer Schmitz and Marcus Atkinson—and 4 players received NAIA Honorable Mention All-American honors—Regan Mack, Rhett Crites, Nate Chiovaro, and Brett Birmingham;

Whereas 7 Fighting Saints were named as NAIA All-America Scholar Athletes—Kyle Baker, D.J. Dearcorn, Tyler Emmert, Kevin McCutcheon, Matt Peterson, A.J. Porrini, and Zach Zawacki; and

Whereas the Carroll College community, including the Carroll College Athletic De-

partment, students, administration, board of trustees, faculty, and alumni, the city of Helena, and the entire State of Montana, are to be congratulated for their continuous support of the Carroll College football team: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Carroll College Fighting Saints football team for winning the 2003 NAIA national championship;

(2) recognizes the achievements of all the players, coaches, support staff, and fans who were instrumental in helping Carroll College during the 2003 season; and

(3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the president of Carroll College.

POVERTY REDUCTION AND PREVENTION ACT

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 414, S. 1786.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant journal clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1786) to revise and extend the Community Services Block Grant Act, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, and the Assets for Independence Act.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(Strike the part shown in black brackets and insert the part shown in italic.)

S. 1786

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

[(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Poverty Reduction and Prevention Act”.

[(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

[Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT ACT

[Sec. 101. Purposes.

[Sec. 102. Definitions.

[Sec. 103. Authorization of appropriations.

[Sec. 104. Establishment of program.

[Sec. 105. Use of funds.

[Sec. 106. Application and plan.

[Sec. 107. Designation of eligible entities in underserved areas.

[Sec. 108. Tripartite boards.

[Sec. 109. Training, technical assistance, and other activities.

[Sec. 110. Monitoring.

[Sec. 111. Corrective action; termination and reduction of funding.

[Sec. 112. Fiscal controls, audits, and withholding.

[Sec. 113. Accountability and reporting requirement.

[Sec. 114. Limitations on use of funds.

[Sec. 115. Operational rule.

[Sec. 116. Discretionary authority of the secretary.

[Sec. 117. Community food and nutrition programs.

[Sec. 118. National or regional programs designed to provide instructional activities for low-income youth.

[Sec. 119. Short title and conforming amendments.

TITLE II—LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

[Sec. 201. Short title.

[Sec. 202. Reauthorization.

[Sec. 203. Natural disasters and other emergencies.

[Sec. 204. Residential Energy Assistance Challenge option.

[Sec. 205. Report to Congress.

TITLE III—ASSETS FOR INDEPENDENCE ACT

[Sec. 301. Short title.

[Sec. 302. Reauthorization of the Assets for Independence Act.

TITLE I—COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT ACT

SEC. 101. PURPOSES.

Section 672 of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9901) is amended to read as follows:

SEC. 672. PURPOSES.

“(A) The purpose of this subtitle is to reduce poverty—

“(1) by strengthening and coordinating local efforts to expand opportunities for individuals and families to become economically self-sufficient and to improve and revitalize the communities in which low-income Americans live, by providing resources to States for support of local eligible entities and their partners to—

“(A) plan, coordinate, and mobilize a broad range of Federal, State, local, and private assistance or investment in such a manner as to use these resources effectively to reduce poverty and in initiatives that are responsive to specific local needs and conditions;

“(B) organize multiple services that meet the needs of low-income families and individuals, especially low-wage workers and their families, and that assist them in developing the assets and skills needed to become self-sustaining while ensuring that these services are provided efficiently, in appropriate combinations, and in effective sequence; and

“(C) design and implement comprehensive approaches to assist individuals transitioning from the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program to work;

“(2) by improving and revitalizing the communities in which low-income Americans live by providing resources to—

“(A) broaden the financial resource base of initiatives and projects directed to the elimination of poverty and the re-development of the low-income community, including partnerships with non-governmental and governmental institutions to develop the community assets and services that reduce poverty, such as—

“(i) other private, charitable, neighborhood-based, and religious organizations;

“(ii) individual citizens, and businesses, labor, and professional groups, who are able to influence the quantity and quality of opportunities and services for the poor; and

“(iii) local government leadership; and

“(B) coordinate or create community-wide assets and services that will have a significant, measurable impact on the causes of poverty in the community and that will help families and individuals to achieve economic self-sufficiency, and test innovative, community-based approaches to attacking the causes and effects of poverty and of community breakdown, including—

“(i) innovative initiatives to prevent and reverse loss of investment, jobs, public services, and infrastructure in low- and moderate-income communities; and

“(ii) innovative partnerships to develop the assets and services that reduce poverty, as provided for in subparagraph (A); and