

in the creation of about 40,000 new jobs in my own State of Tennessee.

Australia is a very important market. Tennesseans exported more to Australia than to France last year. Tennessean companies exported \$225 million to Australia, which is approximately a 10-percent increase from 1999.

The bill itself is even more than increasing business opportunities. Australia indeed is one of our most steadfast allies and a key partner in the war on terror. I had the opportunity to talk to the Prime Minister of Australia last night after completion of the bill and thanked him for that support of the broad coalition that has been assembled across the world to fight this war on terror.

Australians have fought beside Americans in every major conflict in the last 100 years, and this agreement strengthens that already close bond forged between two old friends.

Thirdly, this week the Senate took an important step with respect to the FSC/ETI, the JOBS bill, by sending it to conference. The Senate had passed a bill. The House had passed a bill. There

had been obstruction to going to conference, but we came to an agreement yesterday and the bill has been sent to conference. It is timely legislation. Every month we do not pass the legislation there is a 1-percent Euro tax or a tariff increase each and every month. It is now at 9 percent. That is unfair. It is unfair to consumers and it is unfair to manufacturers.

Once we work this bill through conference and the President signs it and it becomes law, it will create jobs. So there has been real progress in that regard.

Fourthly, this week we passed H.R. 4363, the Helping Hands for Homeownership Act. This bill came out of the Banking Committee, which is chaired by Senator SHELBY, and it will go to the President's desk.

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#### PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. As we look ahead to Monday, we will consider the nomination of William Myers to be a U.S. circuit judge for the Ninth Circuit. A few moments ago, I filed a cloture petition

on the judicial nomination because of the objection to a time agreement that was expressed from the other side of the aisle. That vote will occur at 2:15 on Tuesday. Therefore, there will be no rollcall votes on Monday. Senators should come to the floor during Monday's session to debate this nomination.

As we all know, next week will be the final week prior to the recess. It will be a very busy week. It should be a very productive week. I ask in advance for everyone's patience and cooperation as we wrap up our work for this legislative period.

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ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 1 P.M.  
MONDAY, JULY 19, 2004

Mr. FRIST. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:45 p.m., adjourned until Monday, July 19, 2004, at 1 p.m.