

[Rollcall Vote No. 203 Leg.]

YEAS—100

Akaka	Domenici	McConnell
Alexander	Dorgan	Menendez
Allard	Durbin	Mikulski
Allen	Ensign	Murkowski
Baucus	Enzi	Murray
Bayh	Feingold	Nelson (FL)
Bennett	Feinstein	Nelson (NE)
Biden	Frist	Obama
Bingaman	Graham	Pryor
Bond	Grassley	Reed
Boxer	Gregg	Reid
Brownback	Hagel	Roberts
Bunning	Harkin	Rockefeller
Burns	Hatch	Salazar
Burr	Hutchison	Santorum
Byrd	Inhofe	Sarbanes
Cantwell	Inouye	Schumer
Carper	Isakson	Sessions
Chafee	Jeffords	Shelby
Chambliss	Johnson	Smith
Clinton	Kennedy	Snowe
Coburn	Kerry	Specter
Cochran	Kohl	Stabenow
Coleman	Kyl	Stevens
Collins	Landrieu	Sununu
Conrad	Lautenberg	Talent
Cornyn	Leahy	Thomas
Craig	Levin	Thune
Crapo	Lieberman	Vitter
Dayton	Lincoln	Lott
DeMint	Lott	Voinovich
DeWine	Lugar	Warner
Dodd	Martinez	Wyden
Dole	McCain	

The bill (H.R. 5441), as amended, was passed.

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD)

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. WARNER. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CORNYN). The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, for the next few minutes, we will be getting unanimous consents on two issues that will outline what we will be doing during the early to mid part of next week.

Before doing that, I move that the Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees.

The motion was agreed to, and the Presiding Officer appointed Mr. GREGG, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BYRD, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID of Nevada, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN conferees on the part of the Senate.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—
S. 728

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in a few moments, we will be doing a unanimous consent request on water resources development as well as stem cells. Before doing that, I turn to my colleague, the Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, let me tell you something about what is about to happen if the unanimous consent request goes through. It is a significant bill. We have been working on it now during the last three authorizations, since the year 2000. Now, for 3 years, we

have been working on this bill. We have had incredible cooperation, as everybody in the Chamber knows. It is always difficult to get something like this through, but it is necessary to keep this country moving.

I will single out the members of the committee. I chair the Environment and Public Works Committee: Senators THUNE, DEMINT, VITTER, WARNER, ISAKSON, CHAFEE, MURKOWSKI. And Senator VOINOVICH of Ohio has been particularly helpful on this. He has a lot of interest in this bill. Of course, more than anybody else on the Republican side, Senator BOND, who is chairman of the subcommittee, has been very helpful.

The big four in this case, of course, would be Senators BOND, BAUCUS, JEFFORDS, and myself. We have worked closely together to overcome some of the obstacles. Early on, there were several holds on this bill because it is complicated. It is one that almost is of the magnitude of the Transportation reauthorization bill. But we had several people who had concerns and we worked with them, including Senator SNOWE, who was nice enough to help us with some of the facets she had objections to; Senator SESSIONS; Senator MCCAIN; and, of course, the Democratic members of the committee who worked so well, including Senator CARPER and Senator LIEBERMAN, and Senators CLINTON, LAUTENBERG, and OBAMA. Everybody was there working together. It was quite an undertaking to get us to the point where we are today.

I will single out several others. Senator GREGG had some concerns also. Probably one of the persons I was really gratified to work with is Senator FEINGOLD, the Senator from Wisconsin. I thank him for his cooperation. He had a number of amendments that I thought would be more than we could really handle. We had to get the number down to a certain number that is workable so we could have a time agreement to get this bill passed. I thank Senator FEINGOLD for his cooperation and for agreeing to offer limited amendments under short time agreements. If he wanted to be hard to get along with, he could have had long agreements and this would have gone into many nights. He didn't do that. He agreed to short time agreements, which will make this possible to pass. His willingness to work with us is very much appreciated by me.

Over the past few months, he consistently has been helpful and responsive in working on the WRDA bill. I thank the Senator from Wisconsin for his cooperation.

This is going to be the first time that we have a lot that we need to authorize the Corps of Engineers to do in navigation flight control and environmental restoration. This bill will allow us to do that. I thank everybody for his or her cooperation. Let's go forward.

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, on Tuesday, July 18, the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 93, S. 728.

I further ask that the committee-reported amendments be withdrawn and the managers' substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to as original text for the purposes of further amendment and that the only other amendments in order be the following, the text of which are at the desk, with specified time agreements equally divided in the usual form:

BOXER, Folsom Dam, 1 hour; FEINGOLD-MCCAIN, mitigation standards, 1 hour; FEINGOLD-MCCAIN, peer review, 4 hours; INHOFE-BOND, independent reviews, 1 hour; INHOFE, fiscal transparency, 1 hour; MCCAIN-FEINGOLD, prioritization report, 2 hours; MCCAIN-FEINGOLD, chief of engineers, 1 hour; NELSON of Florida, water projects, 1 hour; SPECTER, Federal hopper dredges, 1 hour.

I ask unanimous consent that there be 2 hours of general debate on the bill, and that following the disposition of amendments and the use or yielding back of time, the bill, as amended, be read the third time, and the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 166, H.R. 2864, the House companion, and that all after the enacting clause be stricken and the text of S. 728, as amended, be inserted thereof; that the bill, as amended, be read the third time and the Senate proceed to a vote on passage, and S. 728 be returned to the Senate calendar.

I further ask that no points of order be waived by virtue of this agreement.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, first, I want the RECORD spread with the fact that the Senate can work together. This is an example of that. Senator BOXER and Senator INHOFE are polar opposites politically. I don't know if we could find two stranger people to work together on a bill than the two of these Senators. But this is a bill that takes cooperation and building consensus. That is what they have done.

This is not a Republican bill, it is not a Democratic bill, it is a bill for the Senate. I also want the RECORD to reflect that Senator FEINGOLD, who has three amendments on here, is a person who is dedicated to looking at the substance of legislation. I express publicly my appreciation for his cooperation and for allowing us to get to this point. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we are currently talking to some other Senators about the water resources bill, so I will have more to say about that later. In the meantime, I will go on to other business.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now 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.

IRAQ

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today marks a significant milestone for Iraq—and for coalition forces. According to Ambassador Khalilzad, Muthanna will become the first province in which civilian Iraqis take charge of Iraqi security forces in that province. For the first time, the day-to-day security of the Iraqi people living in Muthanna will be in the hands of a civilian Iraqi.

For the half million people living in Muthanna, this means a tangible change in the security and governance of the province. Since 2003, American and coalition forces—the Australians, the British, and the Japanese—have worked together to ensure the security of Muthanna. But beginning today, the Governor of Muthanna will assume supervision of all provincial police. National police and Iraqi army troops within the province will remain under the national control of Prime Minister Jawad al-Maliki.

The provincial Iraqi police service will assume the lead for domestic security in Muthanna. Multinational forces will move out of all urban areas in Muthanna and assume a supporting role. They will provide transition assistance teams and remain postured to assist but only at the approval of Prime Minister al-Maliki.

But more importantly, the handover of Muthanna is a critical step in the chain of events leading to Iraq standing entirely on its own. It marks a new phase in the history of Iraq. It means the increasingly capable Iraqi security forces and Government are ready to operate independently—and to replace coalition forces. And it means the President's strategy for Iraq is working.

Before March 2003, Iraq was a sworn enemy of the United States. The people of Iraq suffered under the oppression of a tyrant. Today, that tyrant is behind bars, and the world is safer and more secure for it.

Iraq's Government has transitioned from a brutal dictatorship to a democracy in which all Iraqis have a voice. Last year, millions of Iraqis defied the threats of the terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, streaming to the poll in three national elections. Iraq's Sunni population participated in greater numbers each time. And just over a month ago,

we eliminated the shadow cast by al-Zarqawi.

The Iraqi security forces are growing, as are their capabilities and responsibilities. In July of 2004, there were no operational Iraqi Army division or brigade headquarters. In just 2 years, 2 divisions, 14 brigades, and 57 battalions control their own area of responsibility; 28 authorized national police units are in the fight with 10 battalions in the lead. Over 264,000 trained and equipped Iraqi security forces are taking the battle to the enemy.

Iraq now has a free and independent media. Thousands of reconstruction projects are in the works, slowly but surely strengthening Iraq's infrastructure and economy. And a fully constitutional national Unity government representing all Iraqi people is finally in place.

Many challenges remain ahead. But today is an important step toward a free, democratic, and prosperous Iraq governed by the rule of law. We—the United States and our coalition allies—must continue to train and equip Iraqi security and police forces to ensure Iraq's 17 other provinces are fully prepared to follow in Muthanna's footsteps. As Iraqi forces stand in, coalition forces will step aside, and we will be one step closer to bringing our troops home.

In a region plagued by radicalism and instability, today's transfer is a critical milestone. It means we are one step closer to peace and stability, and it means Iraq is one step closer to assuming its rightful place in the global community of democratic nations.

CONDEMNING THE ACTS OF WAR PERPETRATED AGAINST ISRAEL BY HEZBOLLAH FORCES

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I rise because of the recent attacks on Israel. The most recently breaking news: rocket attacks on the city of Haifa in Israel, which clearly represents an escalation of the attack from Lebanon. Therefore, I do rise to condemn the acts of war perpetrated against the nation of Israel by Hezbollah forces operating in southern Lebanon.

Dozens of Katyusha rockets were fired at northern Israel on Wednesday and Thursday, and additional salvos have continued to rain down. Israeli soldiers were attacked as they attempted to respond to this unprovoked assault across an internationally recognized border. As a result of this aggression, eight Israeli soldiers are dead, two more are prisoners of Hezbollah, and the citizens of northern Israel are living in fear.

I call on the international community to support Israel in its attempts to end terrorist operations in southern Lebanon, free the captive soldiers, and restore its territorial security.

In the name of peace, Israeli forces withdrew from all Lebanese territory in the year 2000. The United Nations recognized this withdrawal as fully

compliant with all relative Security Council resolutions. Unfortunately, the government in Beirut has not done its part to ensure that this disengagement enhanced the security of both nations.

It is not surprising since 14 members of Lebanon's parliament and two cabinet ministers are members of Hezbollah. The Lebanese Government, which refuses to crack down on these terrorists, must be held accountable. In addition, Syria and Iran, whose governments sponsor Hezbollah's activities, must be condemned and, if they do not cease this support, sanctioned harshly.

I regret to say we will probably witness more violence in the days and weeks ahead. Many innocent people on both sides of the border will likely suffer. It is incumbent on the United States and the international community to stand by Israel as she fights foreign-sponsored aggression on her borders, aggression that no sovereign nation could possibly be expected to tolerate.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I was dismayed to hear of the recent reprehensible actions taken by the terrorist group Hezbollah, in kidnapping two Israeli soldiers. This is an act of cowardice and also grimly unsurprising. Supported by both Syria and Iran, Hezbollah has, for almost a quarter of a century, targeted freedom; whether that be U.S. marines in 1983 in Beirut, U.S. airmen in the Khobar Towers tragedy, or repeated deadly attacks against innocent Israelis and ongoing weapons' stockpiling. Besides regularly supplying weapons to Hezbollah, Iran and Syria are also responsible for donating an estimated \$100 million per year to Hezbollah. The Lebanese government, of which Hezbollah is an active part, bears a full measure of responsibility for this act of war against Israel, and Israel has a right, under international law, to take actions necessary to rescue her sons. Israel fully withdrew from southern Lebanon in May 2000. This move by Israel was certified by the U.N. Security Council as having met the requirements of U.N. Security Council Resolution 425, which called for an Israeli withdrawal and for Lebanon to assert control over the area vacated by Israel.

The appropriate, reasonable and legal response to the brutality and dishonor of terrorism is proactive self-defense. We would do no different were these young men our own. Israel continues to be a force for freedom and democracy and as a friend and ally to the United States, deserves our full backing during this difficult time. Furthermore, as this body has reaffirmed time and again, we fully reject and denounce the terrorist activities fomented by both Iran and Syria. It is my fervent hope that those who dictate the activities of Hezbollah, both inside Lebanon and outside its borders, will quickly see the futility of this course of action, and make a move for peace and stability rather than chaos and war.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise today to talk briefly about the