

are proceeding is fully within the rules of the Senate. It is going to be a rough ride. We are in trench warfare, and it is going to be tough. But we are going to see the will of the Senate work one way or another. I hope, as I said earlier, my colleagues will, on the merits, take a close look at a comparison between the legislation we will produce with the unacceptable, unsatisfactory anarchy we have in immigration law today.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, would the Chair report the bill, please.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM ACT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1639, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1639) to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes.

Pending:

Reid amendment No. 1934, of a perfecting nature.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I appreciate the cooperation of all Senators, those for the bill, those who have some misgivings about the legislation. I think we are at a process here now where I am going to ask unanimous consent that the time between now and 11:30 be for debate only, equally divided between the two managers, and of the minority time, there be 10 minutes for Senator DEMINT, and that following the use of all this time, at 11:30, I be recognized.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. DEMINT. Reserving the right to object, the amendment is not yet ready. I would request that the leader keep us in morning business for the next hour. I object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The majority leader is recognized.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, having heard from my friend from South Carolina, I ask unanimous consent that the time between now and 11:30 be for morning business—we can go into morning business—and the time be equally divided between the two managers; and of the minority time there be 10 minutes for Senator DEMINT—recognizing that people can talk about im-

migration or anything they want during this period of time—and that at 11:30 I be recognized.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Hearing no objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I want the RECORD spread with this: I have told a number of my colleagues who have some misgivings about this legislation that there are no tricks being done. We are just trying to move this legislation along as quickly as we can. If anyone has a problem—as my friend just had—if we can do that, we can always change the process. I am happy to do that. So we are now in a period of morning business with the time controlled by Senator KENNEDY and Senator SPECTER.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent—if I may have the attention of the distinguished majority leader—that of the time allocated to this side of the aisle, that 15 minutes be allocated to Senator HUTCHISON.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 15 minutes of our time be allocated to the Senator from Virginia, Mr. WEBB.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### IMMIGRATION

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, the Senate today must make a choice. We can listen to the American people and support comprehensive immigration reform or we can ignore their voice and allow a dysfunctional immigration system to continue, at serious risk to our national security.

If we do not choose reform, we will perpetuate a system that allows 500,000 illegal immigrants to enter the United States each year, forces 12 million illegal immigrants to live in the shadows, and fosters a culture of fear and hatred against immigrants.

America demands change. Our bill provides the change the country needs. Change is not easy. There is much to criticize in this bill, but criticism is much easier than rolling up your sleeves and finding a solution.

The American people are growing impatient for a solution. Yesterday, the Washington Post reported that more than 1,000 bills have been introduced in the last year by State legislators fed up with congressional inaction.

States and cities are starting to step in and solve their immigration problems in their own way, regardless of the national interest. We cannot let that happen.

We are the guardians of the national interest. The national interest de-

mands action on immigration. If you are for a national immigration policy, a policy that is bipartisan in spirit and determined to succeed, then support this bill.

This bill contains the toughest and most comprehensive crackdown on illegal immigration in our Nation's history. It enhances our national security through tougher border protections. It ensures that criminals do not enter this country or receive immigration benefits. It prevents undocumented workers from obtaining jobs, and cracks down on employers who defy the law by hiring them.

This bill tackles the essential problem of providing the workers our economy needs. It will allow businesses to recruit temporary immigrants as workers—workers who will return home—if American workers and legal immigrants are not available to fill needed jobs.

This bill will allow families to plan for the future by tackling the plight of 12 million people hidden in the shadows of this country. We are giving undocumented immigrants a chance to earn legal status. People deserve this chance if they pay stiff fines, work for 8 years, pay their taxes, learning English, and go to the back of the line to wait their turn.

The American dream is a story of immigrants. We now have an opportunity to write a new chapter in the story of the American dream—an opportunity to enact tough but fair measures that protect our national security, restore the rule of law, and uphold our tradition as a nation of immigrants.

I look forward to the coming debate. Let's go forward together and achieve genuine immigration reform.

Mr. President, how much time do I have remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WHITEHOUSE). The Senator has 26 minutes, of which 15 has been dedicated to the Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I yield the remaining time to the Senator from California.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I want the Senator from Virginia to have his full 15 minutes, and then, if it is agreeable, I will have what is left.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the Senator from Virginia, the Senator from California be recognized, and the remaining time on our side be allocated to her.

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

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, I would be happy to yield, at this time, to the Senator from California, and then follow her, if she so desires.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, I would like to just take a few minutes this morning—I have spoken about this before—to address the motivations I have behind the amendment I have offered and to express my hopes that our colleagues will support this amendment. I