been detonated so our troops could disarm them. Those things have happened. I think the joint security stations have been very successful in Baghdad. Instead of our troops going out and coming back into the green zone at night, they stay and get to know and develop close, intimate relationships with the Iraqi security forces and their families. That has had a tremendously positive effect.

The future will be difficult in the fight against terrorism. It is not a sprint, it is a marathon. We have to remain vigilant, determined, and strong. I want our troops to come home as badly as anybody. When you think about the consequences of losing this thing, all it would take for these people who are crying out about their feelings and saying let's get out of Iraq, all it would take is one successful terrorist attack similar to those that have been stopped through this joint effort. We would have to pay dearly.

I hope people will sit back and realize we have access to information the general public doesn't have. Sure, the polls show the majority of people would like to have our troops come back. I would, too, but when you ask the questions and give them the alternatives, they would rather win this war than resign from it.

FAIRNESS DOCTRINE

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I am pleased to cosponsor, with Senator COLEMAN, an amendment to prohibit the reimplementation of the Fairness Doctrine.

As we may remember, over the past few weeks, the Fairness Doctrine has received a lot of attention. Some Senators spoke about the need to reinstitute this doctrine. The Fairness Doctrine is a regulation the Federal Communications Commission developed to require FCC-licensed broadcasters to provide contrasting viewpoints on controversial issues. However, the FCC conducted a review of this regulation in 1985, concluding that ''we no longer believe that the Fairness Doctrine serves the public interest.'' In explaining why the FCC reached this conclusion, they wrote:

> The interest of the public is fully served by the multiplicity of voices in the marketplace today and that the intrusion by Government into the content of programming unnecessarily restricts the journalistic freedoms of broadcasters.

The FCC's refusal to enforce the Fairness Doctrine was later upheld in the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Why would a regulation that was found to be unnecessary over 20 years ago be controversial today? Well, we found out why. On June 22, the Center for American Progress issued a report called ''The Structural Imbalance of Political Talk Radio.'' Keep in mind that the Center for American Progress is a liberal think tank funded by George Soros and led by John Podesta and a lot of former Clinton White House people in it. The report issued was authored, in part, by a former Clinton White House adviser. This report, not surprisingly, found that 91 percent—I believe this to be true—of political talk radio programming was conservative and 9 percent was progressive or liberal. However, what is surprising is the report suggested antifree market and antifree speech recommendations to supposedly provide balance in talk radio programming. There is a very controversial statement I made in the presence of a couple of our fellow Senators not too long ago when they were talking about the fact that there is so much conservative bias in talk radio. I said it is market driven. That is what America is all about. It is market driven. There is no market for the progressive or liberal programming.

I remember when the DOD was trying to feed the American Forces Radio and television services in the Armed Forces Network and have 50 percent of the programming be liberal. We fought that out on the floor of the Senate and we won because freedom of speech is more important. Consequently, we have gone back and let them decide—our troops—as to the programming they want. It is all done in a fair way so our troops at least can hear what they want to hear over talk radio.

This is for those people who think they have balanced political talk radio. This is a report on that subject. As I go through this, first of all, it identifies the problem they consider—conservative bias. That is what the American people want. It says:

> If commercial radio broadcasters are unwilling to abide by these regulatory standards or the FCC is unable to effectively regulate in the public interest, a spectrum use fee should be levied on owners to directly support local, regional, and national broadcasting.

That is this report. In other words, they are saying not only do these people who, because of their popularity, because of the content and the way they deliver it—not only would they lose their programs, but they would also have to give money to support public broadcasting. This is the most outrageous thing I have ever seen.

I don't think this can happen in America. When you get John Podesta and the former Clinton White House team and their minds set to doing something, they are smart people, and I don't take this lightly. I ask as many people as possible to support our efforts to pass legislation to stop any effort to reinstitute the Fairness Doctrine. I think we should call it something else, such as the Government-run broadcasting.

With that, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 1585

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate resumes consideration tomorrow of Senator WEBB's amendment No. 2012, that the second-degree amendment be withdrawn and there be 4 hours for debate equally divided in the usual form on that amendment, and that at the conclusion or yielding back of that 4 hours, the Senate vote, without intervening action, on the Webb amendment.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. MCCONNELL. Reserving the right to object, I say to my good friend the majority leader, this amendment was just laid down a couple hours ago. The chairman of the committee and the ranking member of the committee were not even here today. The ranking member will be here tomorrow. He has not even had an opportunity to make his opening statement. We wish to offer a side by side, probably to be offered by Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM, a member of the committee. I was hoping we might be able to enter into a consent agreement that gave us a chance for an alternative, which is frequently the way these things are handled.

Bearing that in mind, Mr. President, I am constrained to object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, my friend has stated he would object to 4 hours, and I assume the same answer would be to 6 hours or 8 hours; is that right, I say to my friend.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I say to my friend the majority leader, yes, at the moment. I am hopeful we can work out an agreement under which we could have a side by side, which is the way these things are often done in the Senate.

Mr. REID. I understand that. Mr. President, what I suggest then is this: Senator LEVIN has been here all day. He didn't give his opening statement because he was occupied doing other business. He is here now. He was here all today in the Senate. I talked with him earlier this morning. What I suggest then is we get an agreement that if, in fact, I file cloture tomorrow, we can have a cloture vote on Wednesday. That way we wouldn't do it tonight. We will work with the minority leader. I think there is a strong possibility we could do side by sides. We wouldn't lose anything by waiting until tomorrow to see if we can work out some agreement.

What I am asking is that rather than my filing cloture tonight, hopefully I won't have to do it tomorrow, but if I did on this amendment, rather than waiting until Thursday to vote on it, could I have an agreement from my