

enabling the public to assess the job impacts of the various programs funded. Overall, the data demonstrate that the Recovery Act has delivered as promised by creating and saving millions of jobs across the country, and has been an essential factor in rescuing the American economy.

Well, I know the nominee is a friend and ally of the President, and I am willing to give her a vote, and I suppose she will be confirmed. But I just want to say that I think that is a bit of a Pollyannaish description of the success of the stimulus bill. It just did not meet those standards, and I do feel as though she has been less than rigorous in her understanding of these difficult financial issues that our Nation faces. So I encourage my colleagues to join me in opposing the nomination.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The 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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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 PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to a series of votes in relation to the following amendments: Vitter No. 769, as modified; Webb No. 750; Merkley No. 879, as modified with the changes that are at the desk; Brown of Ohio No. 874, as modified with the changes that are at the desk; Moran No. 815; and Grassley No. 860; that there be no amendments or points of order against any of the amendments prior to the votes other than budget points of order; that there be 2 minutes equally divided in the usual form prior to each vote; that the Vitter, Webb, Merkley, Brown, and Grassley amendments be subject to a 60 affirmative vote threshold; and that all after the first vote be 10 minutes; further, that the following amendments be considered agreed to this evening: Sanders No. 816, Coburn No. 793, and Coburn No. 798, as modified with the changes that are at the desk; finally, that the following first-degree amendments filed by Senator COBURN be in order to be called up and made pending during tomorrow's session: Nos. 794 through 797; 799 through 801; and 833.

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

The amendment (No. 816) was agreed to.

The amendments (Nos. 793 and 798), as modified, were agreed to, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 793

(Purpose: To ensure transparency in federally attended and funded conferences, including the cost to taxpayers for food, drinks, and hotel stays associated with federally funded conferences of more than \$20,000)

On page 209, after line 2 insert the following:

SEC. _____. The provisions of sections 517(c), 531, and 538 shall apply to all agencies and departments funded by divisions A, B, and C.

AMENDMENT NO. 798, AS MODIFIED

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Notwithstanding section 701, none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to purchase new passenger motor vehicles, except for national security, law enforcement needs, public transit, safety, and research: Provided further, all agencies and departments funded by divisions A, B, and C of this Act shall send to Congress at the end of the fiscal year a report containing a complete inventory of the total number of vehicles owned, permanently retired, and purchased during fiscal year 2012 as well as the total cost of the vehicle fleet, including maintenance, fuel, storage, purchasing, and leasing.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion at the desk.

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

The 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, hereby move to bring to a close the debate on amendment No. 738 to H.R. 2112, an Act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Herb Kohl, Daniel Inouye, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jack Reed, Robert Menendez, Jeff Bingaman, Barbara Mikulski, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Durbin, Sherrod Brown, Richard Blumenthal, Bernard Sanders, Robert Casey, Jr., Jeff Merkley, Patrick Leahy, Tom Harkin.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have another cloture motion at the desk.

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

The 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, hereby move to bring to a close the debate on H.R. 2112, an Act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Herb Kohl, Daniel Inouye, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jack Reed, Robert Menendez, Jeff Bingaman, Barbara Mikulski, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Durbin, Sherrod Brown, Richard Blumenthal, Bernard Sanders, Robert Casey, Jr., Jeff Merkley, Patrick Leahy, Tom Harkin.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII be waived with regard to both cloture motions.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

TRIBUTE TO CARL H. LINDNER JR.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to mourn the passing of a great American and a man who did much to benefit the people of Kentucky as well as his native Ohioans, Mr. Carl Henry Lindner Jr. Carl Lindner was greater Cincinnati's most successful entrepreneur and a self-made billionaire. He passed away this October 17. He was 92 years old.

Carl Lindner was born in Dayton, OH, in 1919, the son of a dairyman. He quit high school to help out in his father's dairy store. That store grew into United Dairy Farmers, a chain of dairy and convenience stores that many northern Kentuckians frequent to this day to buy their famous ice cream.

Mr. Lindner made much of his fortune in the banking and insurance business. His name became famous across northern Kentucky and Ohio and nationwide as the owner of the Cincinnati Reds from 1999 to 2005, when he also served as that organization's CEO. Carl Lindner also in the past bought and sold Kings Island amusement park, Provident Bank, and the Cincinnati Enquirer newspaper.

Always the optimist, Carl was famous for carrying with him cards that he would hand out to anyone he met, with motivational sayings printed on them. One frequent version of this card would read, "Only in America! Gee, am I lucky!"

Carl put his great wealth to use benefiting his community, bringing thousands of high-paying jobs to Cincinnati and northern Kentucky. He has been called a "one-man chamber of commerce."

He also generously gave millions of dollars a year to various charitable causes, including, but certainly not limited to, the Lindner Center of HOPE behavioral health center, the University of Cincinnati College of Law, the Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, the Cincinnati Reds, the Western & Southern Open, Fort Washington Way, the Bond Hill/Roselawn library, the West End YMCA, and the necklace lights on the cables of the Roebling Suspension Bridge.

I had the benefit of knowing Carl quite well. He was an amazing man, and his loss will be deeply felt by many. Elaine and I send our condolences to his wife Edyth, his sons Carl III, Craig, and Keith, his 12 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren, and many other beloved family members and friends.

The passing of Mr. Carl Henry Lindner Jr. is a true loss for the people of northern Kentucky, Ohio, and the Nation. I know my Senate colleagues join me in remembering and honoring Carl for his very American success story, his service to his community, and the example he leaves behind for others of a full life well lived.