

ahead and hope that the President will work with us to reform Social Security and make it secure, to give tax cuts to hard-working Americans, and increase educational opportunity so that every child in America can get a good public education and reach his or her full potential.

ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess at 12:55.

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

Mr. COVERDELL. I yield to the distinguished Senator from New Mexico, the chairman of the Budget Committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Let me start by saying in the past the President has said the era of big government is over, and last night what he meant was that he was proposing an era of really big government and no tax cuts for the American people for 15 years. Frankly, I don't believe that will sell. I think when the American people understand what the President recommended last night, they will ask: What happened to the surplus that is not needed for Social Security, that we paid to the Government in taxes? Why don't we get some of it back?

That is the issue. They should get some of it back. We have underestimated the tax take of this country; thus, we have an excess of taxes in the coffers of the United States. Who paid that money to us? The taxpayers. They should get some or all of it back. I believe the best way to do that is an across-the-board tax cut. I don't write tax laws here, but obviously what we are talking about is equity and fairness; but, in addition, something that is very good for the American economy.

The world is in some kind of strange recessionary mood, with whole pieces of it not working. The United States has been immune from that. Now is the time to have a tax cut, and the best kind is across-the-board to make sure that we are adding to the American economy an ingredient that is apt to keep us going at this formidable rate of sustained growth and jobs and prosperity. That means a tax cut now for the American people and for the future prosperity of our country.

In addition, I suggest that people ought to look at what the President proposed to do with this surplus. I am amazed. This surplus—which is taxpayers' money, that is in excess of Social Security—the President has now decided he knows precisely how to use it. Every bit of it is spent, I say to my friend, Senator THURMOND: New programs, new ideas, new needs, even some money for Medicare. And we have never heretofore put general taxpayers' money in Medicare. So he wants to

spend it all and the taxpayers will get none of it back.

It seems to this Senator that that is a good issue to take to the public, to take to the people of this land. What do you want to do with this surplus? Do you want a bigger Government and spend more of it? Or spend all of it? Or do you want to give some of it back to the taxpayers who work hard in this land to make ends meet and truly, truly are the engines of this growth period we have had? Hard-working Americans caused this to happen. There is higher productivity because they are more skilled and their employers are using new equipment and new technology—higher productivity, more jobs.

Surplus means to me that taxpayers should get some benefit. We are going to work very hard to see to it that the people understand it and we have a real opportunity to help them if they will help us.

I yield the floor.

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from New Mexico.

PROVIDING FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION AND SUBMISSION OF STATEMENTS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Thursday and Friday it be in order for Senators to introduce legislation and to submit statements at the desk during the Senate's consideration of the articles of impeachment.

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

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 104-293, as amended by Public Law 105-277, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission to Assess the Organization of the Federal Government to Combat the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction: M. D. B. Carlisle, of Washington, D.C. and Henry D. Sokolski, of Virginia.

The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-255, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering and Technology Development: Judy L. Johnson, of Mississippi and Elaine M. Mendoza, of Texas.

The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-277, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the International Financial Institution Advisory Commission: Charles W.

Calomiris, of New York and Edwin J. Feulner, Jr., of Virginia.

The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-277, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the National Commission on Terrorism: Wayne A. Downing, of Colorado, Fred Ikle, of Maryland, and John F. Lewis, of New York.

The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 93-415, as amended by Public Law 102-586, announces the appointment of William Keith Oubre, of Mississippi, to serve as a member of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, vice Robert H. Maxwell, of Mississippi.

APPOINTMENT BY THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-83, announces the appointment of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) as a member of the National Council on the Arts.

FEDERAL NINTH CIRCUIT REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1999—S. 253

Statements on the bill, S. 2616, introduced on October 9, 1998, did not appear in the RECORD. The material follows:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself and Mr. GORTON):

S. 253. A bill to provide for the reorganization of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and for other purposes.

FEDERAL NINTH CIRCUIT REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1999

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I am pleased to be joined by my distinguished colleague from Washington, Senator SLADE GORTON, in introducing legislation that will go far in improving the consistency, predictability and coherency of case law in the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

Our bill, The Federal Ninth Circuit Reorganization Act of 1999, adopts the recommendations of a Congressionally-mandated Commission that studied the alignment of the U.S. Court of Appeals. Retired Supreme Court Justice Byron R. White, chaired the scholarly Commission.

The Commission's Report, released last December, calls for a division of the Ninth Circuit into three regionally based adjudicative divisions—the Northern, Middle, and Southern. Each of these regional divisions would maintain a majority of its judges within its region. Each division would have exclusive jurisdiction over appeals from the judicial districts within its region. Further, each division would function as a semi-autonomous decisional unit. To resolve conflicts that may develop between regions, a Circuit Division for