listed above may very well be meritori-
ous and deserving of support and fund-
ing, but the process we are fol-
lowing does not provide an approp-
riate forum for assessing their rela-
tive merit compared to the many other
important programs for which non-emer-
gency dollars should be made available. I
think even some of the poten-
tial recipients of these non-emer-
gency programs would agree that they
should be considered in the normal ap-
propriations and authorization proc-
esses.

There is one special interest provi-
sion of the Republican proposal that I
would like to discuss further and that I
intend to address directly in an
amendment later in the debate. The
Republican proposal gives the already
heavily subsidized sugar industry one
more perk—relief from paying a minus-
fund assessment that costs American con-
sumers over $1.4 billion a year in high-
er sugar prices at the store. The spon-
sors of the proposal make no claim
that this provision is in any way re-
lated to a disaster or drought-related
economic crisis in the sugar industry
that would merit its inclusion in this
emergency farm aid bill. Its inclusion
simply adds one more perk to the al-
ready broad array of special subsidies
for big sugar companies.

I intend to offer an amendment later
during the debate on this bill to termi-
nate taxpayer support of the sugar in-
dustry. If the Republican farm aid pro-
posal is adopted, as I expect it will be,
I will include in my amendment a pro-
posal to strike this newly created perk
for big sugar.

Mr. President, I am going to support
the more modest Republican proposal,
regardless of the outcome of my amen-
dment to eliminate the inequi-
table and unnecessary sugar subsidies.
But I do so only because of the real
economic hardship faced by many of
our nation’s farmers and their families.
I abhor the continuing practice of at-
tacking pork-barrel spending to any
and every bill that comes before the
Senate, especially when real disasters
are cynically exploited to designate
pork as emergency spending. This kind
of fiscal irresponsibility undermines the
balanced budget and hinders debt
reduction efforts. It exacerbates the need
to preserve and protect Social Security
and Medicare, and threatens efforts to
provide meaningful tax relief to Amer-
ican families.

Once again, I can only hope that the
final farm aid proposal will be targeted
only at those in need—America’s farm-
ers. I urge the conference on this legisla-
tion to eliminate the provisions that
solely benefit special interests who
have once again managed to turn need-
ed emergency relief into opportunism.
I also urge the conferees to seek offsets
for the additional spending in this bill,
to avoid again dipping into the Social
Security surplus and putting our bal-
anced budget at risk.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the in-
formation of all Senators, there will be
no further votes this evening. The dis-
ussion regarding the dairy issue will
occur from 9 a.m. until 9:40 a.m. on
Wednesday, with the cloture vote oc-
curring at approximately 9:45 a.m.

Assuming cloture is not invoked on
Wednesday morning, I anticipate the
Senate will resume consideration of
the pending Ashcroft amendment,
which is an amendment to the disaster
amendment by Senators HARKIN and
DASCHLE.

Also, if an opportunity does present
itself, I understand that there will be
another disaster-related amendment by
Senator ROBERTS and Senator SANTORUM. Of course, that will be in
line behind the other amendments be-
cause of procedure. But at the appro-
priate time there is a plan by those two
Senators, and others, to offer another
amendment.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Having said that, I now
ask unanimous consent that there be a
period of morning business with Sen-
ators permitted to speak for up to 10
minutes each.

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

Mr. LOTT. I yield the floor, Mr. Pres-
ident.

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

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask
that Mr. Sean McLuskie, Mr. Adam
Foslid, and Ms. Brooke Russ of my of-
fice be granted the privilege of the
floor for the duration of the Agri-
culture appropriations bill.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the
United States were communicated to
the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his
secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding
Officer laid before the Senate messages
from the President of the United
States submitting sundry nominations
which were referred to the appropriate
committees.

(The nominations received today are
printed at the end of the Senate pro-
ceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:30 p.m., a message from the
House of Representatives, delivered by
Mr. Berry, one of its reading clerks,
announced that the House has passed
the following bills, with amendment, in
which it requests the concurrence of
the Senate:

S. 606. An act for the relief of Global
Exploitation and Development Corpora-
tion, Kerr-McGee Corporation, and Kerr-McGee Chem-
ical, LLC (successor to Kerr-McGee Chemical
Corporation), and for other purposes.

S. 1297. An act to amend statutory dam-
ages provisions of title 17, United States
Code.

The message also announced that
the House has passed the following bills,
in which it requests the concurrence of
the Senate:

H.R. 211. An act to designate the Federal
building and United States courthouse loc-
ated at West 920 Riverside Avenue in Spo-
kane, Washington, as the “Thomas S. Foley
Federal Building and United States Court-
house,” and the plaza at the south entrance
of such building and courthouse as the “Wal-
ter F. Horan Plaza.”

H.R. 695. An act to direct the Secretary
of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior
to convey an administrative site in San Juan
County, New Mexico, to San Juan College.

H.R. 747. An act to protect the permanent
trust funds of the State of Arizona from ero-
sion due to inflation and modify the basis on
which distributions are made from those
funds.

H.R. 1094. An act to amend the Federal Re-
serve Act to broaden the range of discount
window loans which may be used as collat-
eral for Federal reserve notes.

H.R. 1194. An act to authorize the Secre-
tary of the Interior to transfer administra-
tive jurisdiction over land within the bound-
aries of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt
National Historic Site to the Archivist of the
United States for the construction of a vis-
itor center.

H.R. 1152. An act to amend the Foreign As-
sistance Act of 1961 to target assistance to
support the economic and political independ-
ence of the countries of the South Caucasus
and Central Asia.

H.R. 1218. An act to amend the Office of
Federal Procurement Policy Act and the
Miller Act, relating to payment protections
agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2587) making improvements for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreement of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as managers of the conference on the part of the House:
Mr. ISTOOR, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. TAHITI, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. SUNDUNU, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. DIXON, Mr. MOLLOHAN, and Mr. OBEY.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:
H.R. 1094. An act to amend the Federal Reserve Act to broaden the range of discount window loans which may be used as collateral for Federal reserve notes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
H.R. 1442. An act to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to continue and extend authority for transfers to State and local governments of certain property for law enforcement, public safety, and emergency response purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.
H.R. 2614. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Act to make improvements to the certified development company program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
H.R. 2615. An act to amend the Small Business Act to make improvements to the general business loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

The message further announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2488) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to sections 105 and 211 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2000, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as managers of the conference on the part of the House:
For consideration of the House bill, and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. ARCHER, Mr. ARMY, Mr. CRANE, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. STARK.
As additional conferees for consideration of sections 313, 315–16, 318, 325, 335, 338, 341–42, 344–45, 351, 362–63, 365, 369, 371, 381, 1261, 1305, and 1406 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. GOODLING, Mr. BOEINER, and Mr. CLAY.
The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of section 591(a)(2) of the Foreign Operation, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1999 (112 Stat. 2681–210) the Minority Leader appoints the following individuals to the National Commission on Terrorism: Ms. Juliette N. Kayyem of Cambridge, Massachusetts.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hanrahan, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:
S. 890. An act to amend the Clean Air Act to remove flammable fuels from the list of substances with respect to which reporting and other activities are required under the risk management plan program, and for other purposes.
The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

At 6:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hanrahan, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2587) making improvements for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreement of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as managers of the conference on the part of the House:
Mr. ISTOOR, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. TAHITI, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. SUNDUNU, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. DIXON, Mr. MOLLOHAN, and Mr. OBEY.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read twice and placed on the calendar:
H.R. 211. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at West 920 Riverside Avenue in Spokane, Washington, as the "Thomas S. Foley United States Courthouse", and the plaza at the south entrance of such building and courthouse as the "Walter F. Horan Plaza''.
H.R. 690. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to convey an administrative site in San Juan County, New Mexico, to San Juan College.
H.R. 2614. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Act to make improvements to the certified development company program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
H.R. 2615. An act to amend the Small Business Act to make improvements to the general business loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:
By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. INOUYE):
S. 1329. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to Nye County, Nevada, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106–133).
By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. GOODLING, Mr. BOEINER, and Mr. CLAY.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:
By Mr. THOMPSON, for the Committee on Governmental Affairs: Earl E. Devaney, of Massachusetts, to be Inspector General, Department of the Interior.
(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:
By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DOOLEY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. INOUYE, and Mrs. MURRAY):
S. 1475. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to provide incentive grants to improve the quality of child care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
By Mr. STEVENS, Mr. INOUYE, and Mr. AKAKA:
S. 1476. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an increase in payments for physician services provided in health professional shortage areas in Alaska and Hawaii; to the Committee on Finance.
By Mr. ROHR:
S. 1477. A bill to reduce traffic congestion, promote economic development, and improve the quality of life in the metropolitan Washington region; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.
By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. INOUYE):
S. 1478. A bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide equitable access for foster care and adoption services for Indian children in tribal areas; to the Committee on Finance.
By Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr.