

academics and fundamental skills, and students should no longer be subjected to untried and untested educational theories of instruction, rather our Nation's efforts should be geared to proven methods of instruction: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) this Congress has taken strong steps to reform our Nation's educational system and allowed States, local schools and parents more flexibility and authority over their children's education; and

(2) the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 will enable this Congress to continue its efforts to send decision making back to States, local schools, and families.

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. STEVENS. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

VOTE ON S. RES. 187

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to S. Res. 187. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) would vote "aye."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 41, nays 52, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 294 Leg.]

YEAS—41

Akaka	Edwards	Lieberman
Baucus	Feingold	Lincoln
Bayh	Feinstein	Mikulski
Biden	Graham	Moynihan
Bingaman	Harkin	Murray
Boxer	Hollings	Reed
Breaux	Inouye	Reid
Bryan	Johnson	Robb
Cleland	Kennedy	Rockefeller
Conrad	Kerry	Sarbanes
Daschle	Kerry	Schumer
Dodd	Landrieu	Wellstone
Dorgan	Lautenberg	Wyden
Durbin	Levin	

NAYS—52

Abraham	Brownback	Collins
Allard	Burns	Coverdell
Ashcroft	Byrd	Craig
Bennett	Campbell	Crapo
Bond	Cochran	DeWine

Domenici	Inhofe	Shelby
Enzi	Jeffords	Smith (NH)
Fitzgerald	Kyl	Smith (OR)
Frist	Lott	Snowe
Gorton	Lugar	Specter
Gramm	Mack	Stevens
Grams	McConnell	Thomas
Grassley	Murkowski	Thompson
Gregg	Nickles	Thurmond
Hatch	Roberts	Voinovich
Helms	Roth	Warner
Hutchinson	Santorum	
Hutchison	Sessions	

NOT VOTING—7

Bunning	Kohl	Torricelli
Chafee	Leahy	
Hagel	McCain	

The resolution (S. Res. 187) was rejected.

Mr. LOTT. I move to reconsider the vote and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I wish to comment on Senator DASCHLE's education funding legislation, S. Res. 187.

The resolution states that the funding level for the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education has been reduced to pay for other programs. I would like to set the record straight. The 302(b) allocation that was originally assigned to the Subcommittee was temporarily reduced to permit other subcommittees to mark up their bills. This was done with the intention that as these other bills moved through their conferences, additional dollars would be made available to provide the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee with the necessary resources to increase funding for education, health and labor programs.

As the Labor-HHS-Education markup proved, there was never any intention to cut 17 percent from education programs. To the contrary, the subcommittee actually recommended \$35.2 billion for education programs, an increase of \$2.3 billion over the fiscal year 1999 program level and \$537.6 million over the administration's budget request.

Instead of reducing Head Start dollars, \$5.2 billion was recommended, which increased the program \$608.5 million over fiscal year 1999 level and matching the amount requested by the President.

After school programs were doubled from \$200 to \$400 million; aid to disadvantaged children was increased by \$320 million over last year which again matched the President's request.

Instead of decreasing technology programs, \$550 million was recommended to maintain last year's program level.

The resolution also states that a \$100 million reduction would be cut from the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program. The facts are that Safe and Drug Free schools, as part of the youth violence initiative was increased by \$45 million to provide \$611 million for state grants, school coordinators and programs to promote safe learning environments for this nation's children.

To provide a free, appropriate, public education to all children, \$6.035 billion was provided to children with disabilities increasing the program \$911.5 million over last year's amount and \$585.7 million over the President's recommendation.

And finally, the subcommittee recommended a \$200 increase in the maximum Pell grant to provide \$3,325 to help disadvantaged children achieve a college education.

In closing, I wish to point out that these increases in education dollars, have been carefully balanced with savings in other areas in the bill and advance funding. The Labor-HHS-Education bill is within the discretionary spending caps set forth in the budget resolution. This fact points out once again that the findings stated in Senate Resolution 187 were not factual which is the reason I voted against it and led the effort to provide a better formula for Federal funding as reflected in the subcommittee bill.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, what is the pending business if we were to go to the pending business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. S. 625.

Mr. KENNEDY. The bankruptcy legislation?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The pending business would have been S. 625, which is the bankruptcy bill.

Mr. KENNEDY. Further reserving the right to object, if that legislation were before the Senate, would it be in order for me to offer the minimum wage as an amendment—if it were pending?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Amendments are in order, if it were pending.

Mr. KENNEDY. But, as I understand it, the leader now has indicated, by consent request, that we go to morning business, is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. KENNEDY. Further reserving the right to object, can the leader give us any idea when we will be back on the pending legislation, the bankruptcy legislation? Or when we will have an opportunity to address the issue of the minimum wage?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if the Senator will yield?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. LOTT. I would like to get to the bankruptcy reform legislation. I think that is important. We need to have this reform. The system is not working well now, and there is broad support, I think on both sides of the aisle, for bankruptcy reform. I think we could

move to the bill if we could have a full debate on bankruptcy and relevant amendments to that. We could probably even work out an agreement that would include consideration of the small businessman's and small businesswoman's needs, and minimum wage needs. But I do not think it is fair the bankruptcy reform legislation, which should be considered in and of and by itself, should become an out-basket for every amendment to be offered on every subject that has already, in many instances, been considered this year, and that it become a Christmas tree for all kinds of unrelated amendments.

That is why I moved to a cloture vote because I wanted to get up bankruptcy reform. I would like to go to that. I will be glad to work out some sort of agreement as to how that bill will be considered. But I do not think we have the time right now, with the appropriations bills we have to complete before the end of the fiscal year. Hopefully, the last one, the 13th one, will be up—it will be up on Wednesday. We will be on that bill until we complete it. Hopefully, we will complete it by midnight on Thursday night, which would be the 13th bill. It would be only about the third time in the last 15 or 20 years we will have passed all appropriations bills through the Senate by the end of the fiscal year.

So that has been our focus. We have been focusing on the appropriations bills. We will have a conference report in the morning we will need to vote on, the Energy and Water appropriations bill. We will continue to move those bills and the conference reports through. When we get through with that process, then we will look back to what the legislative schedule is going to be. I hope we can come to agreement on how that would be considered.

Mr. KENNEDY. Just further reserving the right to object, of course, we did not give a clear indication whether we would have the opportunity to vote on an increase in the minimum wage. We have seen Members vote for an increase in their own pay, their salaries, for some \$4,400. We have doubled the President's salary. We voted for an increase for the military, which I strongly support, and also for Government employees.

I wonder when we will be able to enter into some kind of agreement on the minimum wage. I do not think it will take a great deal of time. We will be glad to do it of an evening, if it would be more convenient for the leadership, working out the schedule. But we have not had the opportunity for the Senate to express its will. We would like to at least get some indication from the leader as to when we might be able to do this, since the days are moving along and still many workers, who are working 40 hours a week, 52 weeks of the year, have not partici-

pated in the very substantial economic progress and are looking to the Senate to see whether we will address this issue.

Can the leader help us at all, in terms of indicating when we might have some chance to address that?

Mr. LOTT. I can't at this time because we must focus on the appropriations bills through the remainder of this week. I will need to discuss this with Senator DASCHLE and Senator KENNEDY and see if we can come up with a way we can handle that issue without it opening up the door to all kinds of other issues that, in many instances, for instance, we may have already considered in the Senate.

Having said that, whatever we do, I want to make sure we do it in such a way that entry-level workers, people who do come into restaurants and other small businesses, don't wind up losing their jobs. That is important to them. Also, that we do not wind up doing it in such a way that small businessmen and small businesswomen cannot continue to stay in business.

So I think we have to find a way to offset the costs, particularly for small businessmen and small businesswomen who are working on a very small margin of profit. I know I have heard from some. I remember one lady in particular, outside of Atlanta—I think maybe in Marietta—who had a sweet shop. She basically said: If you do this again without some sort of offsets, I cannot make up the difference anymore myself.

So we have to make sure it is a balanced approach when we do consider this and however we consider it.

However, the answer to your question is any time you and Senator DASCHLE want to sit down and seriously discuss a way to get this done, I will be ready to do it, once we get through the appropriations process, which will be done, hopefully, at the end of this week.

Mr. KENNEDY. I have no objection.

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

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ANNIVERSARY OF SUBMISSION OF COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY TO SENATE FOR RATIFICATION

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, as many of my colleagues know, September 23rd was the 2-year anniversary of submission of the Comprehensive

Test Ban Treaty to the US Senate for ratification.

Both Republican and Democratic presidents over the span of 4 decades have worked to enhance our national security by negotiating limits on nuclear testing. Progress has been slow and halting, but the inescapable logic of improving security by banning nuclear tests has prevailed. The successful negotiation of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, signed by 152 countries, was the culmination of these decades of effort on the part of the United States. Ratification and entry into force of this treaty is in our best interest and in the best interest of nuclear non-proliferation and international stability.

Mr. President, I have urged the Committee on Foreign Relations to hold hearings on this treaty. I know the Chairman has concerns about the treaty. I hope he will air them in a forum that will allow discussion of his concerns and those of other Members of the Committee. And I urge the Majority Leader to bring this treaty to the Senate floor. Time is of the essence on this matter. America has been the world leader on this issue and was the primary architect of this treaty. We have an obligation to take up this treaty in the Senate, to educate ourselves on its provisions and to debate the merits of its ratification. The eyes of the world are on our actions as the 44 countries who have ratified the treaty prepare to meet on October 6th in Vienna, Austria, to discuss implementation of the treaty. I would vastly prefer that the United States were sitting as a party at that meeting. But at a minimum, we should use this opportunity to make progress on the treaty here in the Senate.

We have an obligation to future generations to improve the national security of our nation. It would be irresponsible of us to let slip out of our grasp a very important tool in the fight against nuclear proliferation.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, September 24, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,638,915,059,997.81 (Five trillion, six hundred thirty-eight billion, nine hundred fifteen million, fifty-nine thousand, nine hundred ninety-seven dollars and eighty-one cents).

One year ago, September 24, 1998, the Federal debt stood at \$5,523,268,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred twenty-three billion, two hundred sixty-eight million).

Fifteen years ago, September 24, 1984, the Federal debt stood at \$1,566,734,000,000 (One trillion, five hundred sixty-six billion, seven hundred thirty-four million).

Twenty-five years ago, September 24, 1974, the Federal debt stood at