

defense, in tax relief, health care, and in finance and banking. I think we ought to move forward and make the most of those advantages that we have had.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. BAUCUS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana is recognized.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be extended for another 10 minutes.

Mrs. BOXER. Reserving the right to object, and I shall not object. I had a discussion with Senator ROTH. I ask unanimous consent that I be recognized following Senator BAUCUS. And if the majority leader comes to the floor, I will suspend. But I would take a maximum of maybe 7 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair would inquire, is the Senator asking that she be allowed to speak in morning business?

Mrs. BOXER. Correct; for 7 minutes. Then if the majority leader does come to the floor and needs it, I will suspend in the midst of that time.

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

Mrs. BOXER. Thank you very much.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

(The remarks of Mr. BAUCUS pertaining to the submission of S. Res. 207 are printed in today's RECORD under "Submission of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank the Chair. I also thank Senator ROTH for giving me this opportunity to speak about a number of subjects as in morning business.

IN HONOR OF SENATOR JOHN CHAFEE

Mrs. BOXER. As I look over at the flowers at Senator Chafee's desk, I feel a tremendous sense of loss. Senator Chafee's accomplishments are going to go down in history. They have been recounted on this floor, so I do not feel the need to go through all of his incredible accomplishments, particularly around environmental issues. I do hope we will not undo Senator Chafee's hard work on the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, Superfund, and so many of the landmark environmental bills on which he led us.

I wish to comment about Senator Chafee's kindness and his goodness as a human being and what a joy it was for me to work with him on the Environment and Public Works Committee, to attend the dinners he hosted, always in a bipartisan spirit, and how much we

are going to need that kind of spirit right now. Senator Chafee was a champion of the environment. He was a champion of a woman's right to choose, and he was a champion of sensible gun laws. On those matters, it was my great privilege to work with him, and I will miss him deeply.

THE BUDGET

Mrs. BOXER. Speaking about a bipartisan spirit, it was unnerving this morning to come to the floor and hear some of the partisan attacks I heard, mostly aimed at President Bill Clinton, in particular at his budget priorities, which Democrats share. At some point in the discussion this morning, it approached a near-hysterical level.

I will talk about what the differences are. I think we can breach those differences and resolve our problems.

Putting 100,000 teachers in the classrooms to reduce class size, everyone in America wants us to do that, I believe. We have already put 30,000 of those teachers in the classrooms, and we are simply asking to continue the program. This Republican budget would mean sending pink slips to those teachers. That is wrong. We ought to sit down and resolve it.

Secondly, in continuing our efforts to put more police on the streets, we have seen a tremendous reduction in the crime rate. We know one of the reasons is putting more community police on the streets. Surely we can find a compromise with the Republicans on this point.

Then, paying our U.N. dues. How can we lead the world if we don't at least do that, while encouraging and demanding reforms at the United Nations? I thought it was resolved. It has not been resolved. Funding peace agreements, that has not been resolved. We can't be the world leader if we don't do that.

I think these differences are important.

There are also environmental riders, giveaways to big special interests. They are wrong. We should sit down and resolve them.

The one that really is extraordinary, with the partisanship that surrounds it, is the Social Security issue. Republicans say they have a lockbox and the Democrats want to go into Social Security and destroy it. In some ways, it is rather laughable. Going back to 1994, House majority leader DICK ARMEY said: I would never have created Social Security.

If we look back at the record, we will find the Republicans voted against a retirement benefit for the people of this country when Social Security was voted on. They voted against Medicare. Now they are going forward with TV commercials telling people they are the party that is going to protect a program they didn't even like and

didn't even want. It doesn't even pass the laugh test.

Here is the deal. They have a lockbox. They say: We are never going to touch it. That is good. However, they forgot to tell you something—they have the key. They have opened it up, and they have taken \$18 billion out of it already, according to their own Congressional Budget Office. That is not BARBARA BOXER saying it. It is their own Congressional Budget Office that stated they have gone into Social Security for \$18 billion.

So why don't we just sit down and talk—talk about the legislative graveyard that has been created in the Senate. What is in there? HMO reform. People can't get the health care they need and deserve. That is in the garbage heap. Sensible gun laws, the juvenile justice bill, that is in the graveyard. They put the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in there; campaign finance reform; judicial appointments; long-term protection of Medicare and Social Security; minimum wage is in the legislative graveyard. As Senator MIKULSKI said, these were lost opportunities to us. So I feel very strongly that we have more work to do. We should sit down with the President and resolve these differences.

Lastly, I hope we can move forward on some of these judgeships. Judge Richard Paez and Marsha Berzon were nominated years ago, voted out of the committee on a bipartisan vote. Judge Paez has been waiting almost 4 years to get a vote. Marsha Berzon has been waiting almost 2 years. Later, when I get to talk about these nominees in detail, I will tell you the strong Republican support they have—Republican Congress people, Republican sheriffs, and Republican law enforcement officials in the State of California. These are good nominees.

I have put a hold on a particular nominee the majority leader wants for the TVA. I have no problem with that nominee. I voted him out of committee. He has been waiting 27 days for a vote, Marsha Berzon has been waiting 2 years, and Richard Paez has been waiting almost 4 years.

I see the majority leader on the floor, and I promised that when he arrived I would stop this talking in morning business. So I will do that. I urge everyone to come to the table in a bipartisan spirit, do the unfinished business, resolve the budget differences, and get moving with some of these appointments that have been waiting for years, simply for an up-or-down vote.

I yield the floor.

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