

YIELDING BACK OF MORNING  
BUSINESS TIME

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, the Senate will now yield back the 2 hours of morning business.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. THOMAS. On behalf of the majority leader, I expect the Senate to be prepared to adjourn for the week. Obviously there will be no further rollcall votes today. The Senate will reconvene at noon on Monday, February 22, following the President's Day recess.

On that Monday, Senator VOINOVICH will be recognized at noon for the reading of Washington's Farewell Address. Following the address, and a period for morning business, the Senate will begin debate on S. 4, the Soldiers', Sailors', Airmen's and Marines' Bill of Rights Act of 1999. No votes will occur on Monday, the 22nd. However, Senators should be prepared for votes to begin as early as Tuesday morning.

On behalf of the majority leader, I wish all Senators a restful recess, and I look forward to the beginning of what we believe to be a productive legislative period.

AUTHORIZATION FOR APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE, THE MAJORITY LEADER, AND THE MINORITY LEADER

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding any adjournment or recess of the Senate until Monday, February 22, 1999, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, the majority leader of the Senate, and the minority leader of the Senate be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

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

COMMENDING JUNE ELLENOFF  
O'NEILL

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 39 submitted by Senators DOMENICI and LAUTENBERG.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:  
A resolution (S. Res. 39) commending June Ellenoff O'Neill for her service to Congress and to the Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 39) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 39

Whereas Dr. June Ellenoff O'Neill has served as the Director of the Congressional Budget Office since March of 1995;

Whereas she previously served in that office in its early years from 1976 to 1979 as the Chief of the Human Resources Cost Estimates Unit and has held numerous positions within the Executive Branch of the Federal Government, within academia, and at respected private research institutions;

Whereas she has been recognized as a leader within the economics profession by her election as Vice President of the American Economics Association and has been published in numerous books, monographs, and articles addressing important issues of public policy and economics;

Whereas during her tenure as Director, an unprecedented period that saw budget deficits turning to surpluses, she has continued to encourage the highest standards of analytical excellence within the staff of the Congressional Budget Office while maintaining the independent and nonpartisan character of the organization;

Whereas she has improved and expanded Congress and the general public's access to the Congressional Budget Office's work product by establishing a web site for the organization;

Whereas she has actively promoted the importance of a budget process to a democratic society by participating in and encouraging her staff to participate in educational and foreign exchange programs;

Whereas she has performed her duties as Director with courage, grace, and intelligence; and

Whereas she has earned the respect and esteem of the United States Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the United States commends Dr. June Ellenoff O'Neill for her dedicated, faithful, and outstanding service to her country and to the Senate.

COMMENDING JAMES L. BLUM

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 40 submitted by Senators DOMENICI and LAUTENBERG.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:  
A resolution (S. Res. 40) commending James L. Blum for his service to Congress and to the Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THOMAS. I ask unanimous consent, Mr. President, that the resolution

be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 40) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 40

Whereas James L. Blum has served as the Deputy Director of the Congressional Budget Office since December of 1991;

Whereas he has served in that office since its creation in 1975: from 1975 to 1991 as the Assistant Director for Budget Analysis and in the post of Acting Director from December 1987 to March of 1989;

Whereas prior to his tenure at the Congressional Budget Office, he has held numerous positions within the Executive Branch of the Federal Government including the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Labor;

Whereas he is internationally recognized for his expertise in budget and finance;

Whereas he has instilled professionalism and integrity in generations of staff at the Congressional Budget Office by his personal conduct and leadership and has encouraged high standards of scholarship and clarity of presentation from them;

Whereas he was the 1990 recipient of the Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership;

Whereas he has performed his various duties within the Congressional Budget Office with intelligence while displaying calm leadership;

Whereas he possesses irreplaceable institutional knowledge which has been indispensable to the effective functioning of the Congressional Budget Office extending over a period of almost 25 years; and

Whereas he has earned the respect and esteem of the United States Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the United States commends James L. Blum for his many years of dedicated, faithful, and outstanding service to his country and to the Senate.

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE FOR THE  
SERVICE OF FRANCIS L. BURK, JR.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 41 submitted by Senator THURMOND, and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 41) expressing the gratitude of the United States Senate for the service of Francis L. Burk, Jr., Legislative Counsel of the United States Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise to commend Mr. Frank Burk, the Legislative Counsel of the Senate, who retired on December 31, 1998, after serving in the Senate for more than 28