

consider a few housekeeping matters prior to the Senate proceeding as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the President's address.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2000

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the President's State of the Union Address, the Senate immediately stand in adjournment until 12 noon on Monday, January 31. I further ask consent that following the approval of the routine opening requests and reservation of the leaders' time, there be a period for the transaction of morning business until the hour of 2 p.m., with the time between 12 noon and 1 p.m. under the control of the Democratic leader, or his designee, and the time from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. under the control of Senator LOTT, or his designee. I further ask consent that at 2 p.m. the Senate resume the bankruptcy reform bill under the previous order.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will be in session at 8:30 p.m. tomorrow in order to proceed as a body to the House of Representatives to hear the President's address. Following his remarks, the Senate will adjourn until Monday at 12 noon. At 2 p.m., the Senate will resume the bankruptcy bill. As announced previously, no rollcall votes will occur on Monday. Any Senator who still intends to debate bankruptcy amendments should be available to debate those amendments on Monday. Any votes ordered on those amendments will be postponed to occur on Tuesday, February 1.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order following the remarks of Senators DODD, DURBIN, DASCHLE, and REID of Nevada.

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

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

SENATOR KERREY'S DECISION TO NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, last week, to my regret, my good friend, Senator BOB KERREY, announced that he will be leaving this Senate at the end of this year to return to private life. I'm sure my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will agree that his decision is a loss not only to Nebraskans, and to the Democratic party, but to the entire Senate.

Over the years, Senator KERREY has made us all laugh. More importantly, he has made us all think. He has challenged us to face the big questions of our time and to reach across party lines to find solutions.

It has been said that some people seek public office to be someone; others seek office to do something. Clearly, BOB KERREY is of the "do something" school.

Before he ever came to the Senate, he had achieved more than almost anyone I know. A pharmacist by training, he has also been a Navy SEAL, a decorated war hero, a successful entrepreneur, and a popular governor—all by the time he was 44 years old.

Perhaps even more impressive than his professional accomplishments, however, are his personal achievements.

As we all know much of the story, BOB KERREY was nearly killed 30 years ago in Vietnam. On a moonless night, while he was leading a surprise attack on North Vietnamese snipers, an enemy grenade exploded on the ground beside him, shattering his right leg, badly wounding his right hand, and piercing much of his body with shrapnel. Days later, doctors were forced to amputate his injured leg just below the knee.

For his sacrifice, Lieutenant KERREY was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the highest award our nation bestows for bravery, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

He returned from Vietnam angry and disillusioned. What he endured in Vietnam, and what he saw later at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital, where he spent nine months learning how to walk again, shook his faith—both in the war, and in the government that had sent him to it. It forced him to re-examine everything he had ever believed about his country. But slowly, out of his pain and anger and doubt, he began to acquire a new faith in this nation.

Years ago, when he was Governor of Nebraska, he described that faith to a reporter. He said, "There are . . . people who like to say, 'You know all these subsidy programs we've got? They make people lazy.' And I like to jump right in their face and say, that is an absolute lie." Government help "didn't make me lazy. It made me grateful."

It was the United States Government, he said, that fitted him with a

prosthesis and taught him to walk again. It was the government that paid for the countless operations he needed.

Later, it was the government that helped him open his first restaurant with his brother-in-law. And when that restaurant was destroyed in a tornado, it was the government—the people of the United States—that loaned them the money to rebuild.

For 4 years as Nebraska's Governor, and for the last 11 years as a Member of this Senate, BOB KERREY has fought to make sure the people of the United States, through their government, work for all Americans.

He has fought to make health care more affordable and accessible. He has fought to give entrepreneurs the chance to turn their good ideas into profitable businesses. He has fought to make sure this Nation keeps its promises to veterans.

He has fought tirelessly to preserve family farms and rural communities. As someone, like Senator KERREY, who comes from a state that is made up mostly of small towns and rural communities, I am personally grateful to him for his insistence that rural America be treated fairly.

But Senator KERREY's greatest contribution to this Senate, and to this nation, may be the fact that he is not afraid to challenge conventional wisdom.

In 1994, almost singlehandedly, he created and chaired the Bipartisan Commission on Entitlement and Tax Reform. Conventional wisdom said, don't get involved with entitlements. You can't make anyone happy; you can only make enemies. But BOB KERREY's personal experience told him that preserving Social Security and Medicare was worth taking a political risk.

He has repeatedly opposed efforts to amend our Constitution to make flag-burning a crime. It is politically risky, even for a wounded war hero, to take such a position. But Senator KERREY has taken that risk, time and time again, because—in his words, "America is a beacon of hope for the people of this world who yearn for freedom from the despotism of repressive government. This hope is diluted when we advise others that we are frightened by flag burning."

He is a genuine patriot, and a genuine American hero.

There is a story Senator KERREY has told many times about a conversation he had with his mother 30 years ago. Doctors at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital had just amputated his leg. When he awoke from surgery, his mother was standing at his bedside. "How much is left?" he asked her. His mother responded, "There's a lot left." As Senator KERREY says, "She wasn't talking about body parts. She was talking about here." She was talking about what was in his heart.

He has said that he would like to focus now on his private life. As much