

the importance of the intelligence authorization bill and what it means to the security of our country, but we have not been able to work out exactly how to proceed on that either.

Then on Wednesday, we had indicated we would go to the China PNTR issue. Indications had been that there would be resistance to moving forward on the motion to proceed, and I would have to file cloture on that, with that cloture motion then ripening on Friday. So we would go ahead and go to that and get over the first hurdle in being able to complete the China trade legislation when we come back in September.

We had hoped to go to the Executive Calendar and get some nominations completed this week and also consider some additional judges that might be reported from the Judiciary Committee during the week.

All of that right now is in abeyance. We have not been able to get an agreement on how to proceed at this time. I think that is unfortunate because we do have 4, 4½ days this week in which we need to make real progress on appropriations bills and other issues, as well as the China trade legislation.

If we cannot get an agreement here in the next couple of hours or so, then I will have to try to proceed to one of the appropriations bills and the intelligence authorization bill, and perhaps even file cloture on them. Both of those will then ripen on Wednesday. Of course, if cloture is obtained, then we will be on those bills, which will then get tangled up in the China permanent normal trade relations issue. So this is not a good way to proceed, but that may be our only alternative.

But I have talked to Senator DASCHLE this morning. I have talked to Senator HATCH. We will continue to work with Senators on both sides of the aisle to see if we can find a way to make some good progress this week, because this is the last week before the August recess, and it will have an effect on what we are able to do in September.

REMEMBERING SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I rise at this time to talk about our beloved friend, Senator Paul Coverdell of Georgia. I had hoped to be able to make some further comments last week, after it fell my duty to come to the floor and announce his very untimely death, but I just could not do it because I was so emotionally disturbed and grieving over the loss of this good friend.

I guess maybe the week and the services in Georgia on Saturday have helped me come to peace with this very difficult loss and to say a fond farewell to my good friend from Georgia. But I wanted to speak now because I felt, even this morning, a void for this

week; Paul will not be here. He will not be here saying, What can we do next? How can I help? He was willing to work with all of the Republicans and all of the Democrats, going over to the Democratic side of the aisle and seeking out Senator HARRY REID or Senator TORRICELLI, trying to find some way to make a bipartisan piece of legislation possible. So we will have a void this week.

But, as I was thinking about it a few moments ago, there will be a void forever in the Senate with the loss of Paul Coverdell because his was an unfinished symphony. A lot more beautiful sounds were going to come from that somewhat uncertain trumpet from Georgia.

Folks have talked about his flailing hands and his squeaky voice, but that is what really made Senator Coverdell all the more attractive. He was not always as smooth as some of us like to think we might be, but he was always effective. Maybe it was because of the way he presented his speeches and the way he came across in his daily relationships with all of us.

The Chaplain of the Senate, Lloyd Ogilvie, at the church services in memory of Paul Coverdell on Saturday, referred to him as a peacemaker. And maybe this is a good time of the year to be thinking about the beatitudes because I think it really did describe Paul. Even though he felt very strongly about the issues he believed in or that he was opposed to, he was always binding up everybody else's wounds. He would find a way to make peace and get results.

I thought the Chaplain's description of him as a peacemaker was apropos. When I did my Bible study this morning, I came to that particular passage, "Blessed is the peacemaker." Again I thought, that is just one more message about Paul and the great job he did in the Senate.

I met Paul years ago actually, way back in the 1970s when there was a very fledgling Republican Party in Georgia. We didn't have much of a Republican Party at that time in my State, but we were beginning to make progress. Maybe Georgia was even a little bit behind us. I remember going down to Atlanta and then having to go to Albany, GA, to attend events, then back into Atlanta. It was one of those occasions where a number of Congressmen and Senators came in for a fly around the State, and then we all came back in for the big dinner. It was logistically hard to orchestrate. Then I finally met the maestro; the maestro was Paul Coverdell.

Typically, I learned later, it was the way he would work. He had five or six of us come in. We went to five or six different places in the State like spokes on a wheel. We came back. We had dinner. It was a very effective event. Everything worked like clock-

work. It worked like clockwork because Paul Coverdell was making it happen.

In those days, as I recall, he was in the State legislature, in the State senate. They had three Republicans. He was the minority leader. They had a minority whip and they had a whipee. There were three of them. That is the way he used to describe his powerful role in the senate, although, as I came to find out a lot later, he was a very effective member of the State senate, working as always both sides of the aisle, even though he only had three in his party in the State senate at that time.

Of course, he went on to work in the Bush administration in the Peace Corps. I wasn't quite sure what that meant, but I am sure he did a great job at the Peace Corps. I remember then supporting him when he actually ran for the Senate in 1992. I wasn't that intimately involved in the campaign but knew him to be a good man. I remember making a pitch for him both here and in Georgia.

When I really got to know him was when he came to the Senate. Almost immediately he started throwing himself into the fray, whatever was going on. I remember we had the Clinton health care plan. I think he made 147 appearances in one State or another, on one occasion or another, against the Government takeover of health care. He felt passionately about it. He took off on the trail with Senator PHIL GRAMM and Senator JOHN McCAIN. They had a lot to do with the eventual, and in my opinion, appropriate demise of that legislation. I learned that he wouldn't just talk a good game or wouldn't just give direction; he would put his body on the line. He would go anywhere, anytime to see that the message was delivered.

Immediately he started saying: If we are going to do this in a positive way, if we are going to be fighting this legislation, how are we going to get our message out? He would be persistent about it. He would follow you around and keep wanting to talk about it. I remember he actually instigated meetings, at that time between the Speaker of the House and me, first as whip and then as majority leader, in which he would get the two of us together. He would have charts. Here he is from Georgia in probably his fourth year in the Senate, and he is using charts to explain the situation to the Speaker of the House and the majority leader. Only we listened because he had thought about it; he was organized. He had some ideas.

I remember one occasion he said: You have to come to Atlanta.

I said: I don't want to come to Atlanta.

He said: Just come for lunch; Newt and I want to sit and talk with you.

So I flew down. We had lunch. He had charts and he had a video this time. He

talked about how we should be planning our strategy. Then we flew back. I thought about that many times, in a way, the temerity of that. But that was Paul. Nobody objected. Nobody took it as a threat. Nobody worried he was stepping on their turf. And thank goodness, somebody was thinking and planning. That was Paul.

Then after that, of course, he got involved as a member of the leadership team. I really liked that because I can remember very early on I realized that if there was a task that needed to be performed that nobody else would do, I could call on Paul; he would be glad to do it. I can remember going down the leadership line: Would you have the time to do this? Do you have the staff to do this? It would come down to the third person. He always sat at the other end of the leadership table. I would get to Paul, having had three turndowns, and Paul would say: Sure, I'll do it.

Very quickly I developed the moniker for Paul of "Mikey." I like to nickname Senators. Most of them wouldn't like for me to talk about it publicly. But Paul actually kind of liked being called Mikey. Mikey came from the television cereal commercial where the two kids are pushing a bowl of cereal back and forth saying: You eat it; no, you eat it. Finally, they push it to the third little boy and say: Give it to Mikey; he will try anything.

That was the way Paul was. When all the other great leaders of the Senate were not willing to take the time, not willing to do the dirty, difficult, time-consuming job, Mikey would do it. I remember every time I called him Mikey, he would break out in a big smile. Tricia, my wife, picked it up, too. We liked to talk to Nancy about how sorry we were to have kept him tied up a little extra, too, sometimes in the Senate. But Mikey had his work to do. So it was a very affectionate term I had for him, and it described him so perfectly.

He was not a funny, ha-ha sort of guy, but he was willing to laugh. He had a sense of humor. He was willing to laugh at himself, which really made him attractive. He was self-effacing. There was no grandeur there. He was, as PHIL GRAMM said in his remarks at the services Saturday—I believe it was PHIL—or as somebody said: An ordinary man with extraordinary talents. He was willing to work hard to make up for whatever he lacked in some other way. He surely was loyal. I never had to worry about anything I said or asked Paul to do being used in an inappropriate way against me or against anybody else. He would handle it properly. And he was sensitive. He was always sensitive: Did I do the right thing? Did this Senator react some uncertain way?

I remember asking him to come and help us on the floor on issues he cared

about. He really cared about education. He wanted education savings accounts. He believed it would help parents with children in school. He believed it would help low-income parents have the ability to save just a little bit of their money, just a little bit to help their children with clothes or computers or tutoring. If we ever find a way to pass that legislation, instead of education savings accounts, it should be the Coverdell savings accounts. That would be an appropriate memorial and monument to Paul Coverdell. He believed in it. It wasn't a partisan political thing. It was something he thought would make a difference.

As for drugs, I remember him following me around in the well heckling me about the need to pay more attention to the drug running in the Gulf of Mexico area across the borders in the Southwest. The Senator from Arizona worked with him on that issue. I remember his commitment to trying to be helpful to the Government in Colombia to fight drug terrorism there. He was passionate about it because he felt it threatened our country, threatened our very sovereignty, and it threatened our children. Once again, as with education, he saw it in terms of what it was doing or could do to our children. Again, he was involved.

One of the last discussions I had with him was on the intelligence authorization bill. There is a provision in it which he didn't particularly like. He was determined to have a way to make his case on that. In his memory, we will make sure his case is made by Senator KYL, Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator DEWINE, perhaps others. He really would dig into issues and make a difference.

I also called on him at times when there really was nobody else who could take the time to do the job.

He worked with us for a solid week on the floor on the Labor, HHS, Education appropriations bill. I came in one day and found that we had over 200 amendments pending. Somebody had to take the time to work with both sides to begin to get those amendments reduced, accepted, eliminated, withdrawn, or whatever. To his credit, Senator SPECTER said: I would like to have Paul spend time helping me with this. Other leadership members were involved in other issues. I could not be here. Senator NICKLES could not be here. We had other things we had to do. Within a short period of time, the 200 became 50. Before the week was out, it was done.

Senator REID will tell you that Paul really made the difference. He didn't just hang out on this side of the aisle; he was rummaging around on the other side trying to see if we could work through it. I remember at the end of the week he was a little pale and, obviously, a little stressed. He came to my office and said: Boy, do I understand a little bit better what your job entails.

Well, he was able to do it because nobody felt threatened by Paul. He wasn't getting in my hair, stepping on Senator NICKLES' turf, or inappropriately shoving amendments away. He was working with everybody involved. Nobody got mad. Nobody got even. It is sort of a unique thing for a Senator to be able to do that.

So I guess I will be trying to find another "Mikey." But I don't think there is one. And so as I thought about doing this speech, I tried to find some statement, some poem, something that would pay a final appropriate treatment to Senator Coverdell. I came across a passage from a poem, "The Comfort of Friends," by William Penn.

He said:

They that love beyond the world
Cannot be separated by it.
Death cannot kill what never dies,
Nor can spirits ever be divided
That love and live in the same divine principle:

[Because that is] the root and record of their friendship.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I thank the leader for his comments and his very strong feelings about friends, people with whom he has worked.

I had a little different experience, I guess, with Paul Coverdell in that he was here when I came. So I was not in this business of leadership with him. Indeed, he took time to spend time with those of us who were new and to say: How can I help you? How can we work together? This was the kind of man that Paul Coverdell was. Certainly, he was an image that each of us should seek to perpetuate—that of caring, that of really feeling strongly about issues, and then, of course, being willing to do something about it. So I want to share with the leader my sorrow and sadness in not having Paul Coverdell here with us. I extend our condolences to his family.

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I want to take some time today to talk about some of the things we are doing, some of the goals I hope we have, and the position we find ourselves in now as we come down to the last week prior to the August recess.

When we come back from the August recess, we will have, I suppose, about 20 working days to finish this 2-year session of Congress, the 106th session. We will have a great deal to do. As we go forward, as we take a look at the day-to-day tasks and activities that we have before us, I hope always that we look at where we want to go and what the goals are.

Sometimes I feel as if we get wrapped up in the day-to-day operations and the day-to-day problems and we lose sight