

about how all these people are supporting what they want to do. It just "ain't" true. Let me read this letter dated September 26, 2000:

TO MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE: On behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, I wish to clarify our position with regard to the current debate on the H-1B legislation and proposals unrelated to that legislation concerning legalization of certain workers already in the United States. During this afternoon's debate on this issue, there have been misleading statements as to the Chamber's position on provisions relating to updating the registry date, restoring section 245(i), and adjustments for certain Central Americans.

While the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, as part of the Essential Worker Immigration Coalition, has expressed its general support for these concepts, it strongly opposes efforts to amend the pending H-1B legislation with these provisions. These are completely separate issues and must be considered separately.

Sincerely,

R. BRUCE JOSTEN.

Executive Vice President Government Affairs.

Mr. President, it is remarkable to say all these organizations support this type of extraordinary procedural maneuvering. Because when you really look at what the organizations support, they support a regular process whereby the committee with jurisdiction holds real substantive hearings to determine what is right and what is wrong. The organizations do not support just slamming some bill that would change our immigration laws wholesale—on the floor at the last minute—for no other reason than to try to indicate that they are currying favor with certain groups in this society. In reality this so-called Latino fairness bill would undermine every one of the people who have come here legally, have earned their right to be citizens, and have abided by the rules of this country.

That is just not right. I think this type of procedural maneuvering and politicking should not occur on something where most everybody in this body agrees. And we—most everybody—agrees that this bill should pass.

Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the pending motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to suspend the rules in reference to amendment no. 4184. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN),

and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 43, nays 55, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 257 Leg.]

YEAS—43

Akaka
Baucus
Bayh
Biden
Bingaman
Boxer
Breaux
Bryan
Cleland
Conrad
Daschle
Dodd
Dorgan
Durbin
Edwards

Feingold
Graham
Harkin
Hollings
Inouye
Johnson
Kennedy
Kerrey
Kerry
Kohl
Landrieu
Lautenberg
Leahy
Levin
Lincoln

Mikulski
Miller
Moynihan
Murray
Reed
Reid
Robb
Rockefeller
Sarbanes
Schumer
Torricelli
Wellstone
Wyden

NAYS—55

Abraham
Allard
Ashcroft
Bennett
Bond
Brownback
Bunning
Burns
Byrd
Campbell
Chafee, L.
Cochran
Collins
Craig
Crapo
DeWine
Domenici
Enzi
Fitzgerald

Frist
Gorton
Gramm
Grams
Grassley
Gregg
Hagel
Hatch
Helms
Hutchinson
Hutchison
Inhofe
Jeffords
Kyl
Lott
Lugar
Mack
McCain
McConnell

Murkowski
Nickles
Roberts
Roth
Santorum
Sessions
Shelby
Smith (NH)
Smith (OR)
Snowe
Specter
Stevens
Thomas
Thompson
Thurmond
Voinovich
Warner

NOT VOTING—2

Feinstein Lieberman

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 43, the nays are 55. Two-thirds of the Senators duly chosen not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, 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.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 4178

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, amendment No. 4201 is agreed to, and amendment No. 4183, as thus amended, is agreed to.

The amendments (Nos. 4201 and 4183) were agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 4178.

Mr. HATCH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VOINOVICH). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber who desire to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 258 Leg.]

YEAS—96

Abraham
Akaka
Allard
Ashcroft
Baucus
Bayh
Bennett
Biden
Bingaman
Bond
Boxer
Breaux
Brownback
Bryan
Bunning
Burns
Byrd
Campbell
Chafee, L.
Cleland
Cochran
Collins
Conrad
Craig
Crapo
Daschle
DeWine
Dodd
Domenici
Dorgan
Durbin
Edwards

Enzi
Feingold
Fitzgerald
Frist
Gorton
Graham
Gramm
Grams
Grassley
Gregg
Hagel
Harkin
Hatch
Helms
Hutchinson
Hutchison
Inhofe
Inouye
Jeffords
Johnson
Kennedy
Kerrey
Kerry
Kohl
Kyl
Landrieu
Lautenberg
Leahy
Levin
Lincoln
Lott
Lugar

Mack
McCain
McConnell
Mikulski
Miller
Moynihan
Murkowski
Murray
Nickles
Reed
Reid
Robb
Roberts
Rockefeller
Roth
Santorum
Sarbanes
Schumer
Sessions
Shelby
Smith (NH)
Smith (OR)
Snowe
Specter
Stevens
Thomas
Thompson
Thurmond
Torricelli
Voinovich
Warner
Wyden

NAYS—2

Hollings Wellstone

NOT VOTING—2

Feinstein Lieberman

The amendment (No. 4178) was agreed to.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

NATIONAL ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2000—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now withdraw the pending motion to proceed to S. 2557.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has that right. The motion is withdrawn.

AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY ACT OF 2000—Continued

AMENDMENT NO. 4214 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4177

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 4214 at the desk to the pending first degree amendment and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT] proposes an amendment numbered 4214 to amendment No. 4177.

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

AMENDMENT NO. 4216

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now call up amendment No. 4216 at the desk to

the pending bill and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT] proposes an amendment numbered 4216.

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4217 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4216

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now call up the filed second-degree amendment No. 4217 at the desk to the pending amendment and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT] proposes an amendment numbered 4217 to amendment No. 4216.

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I move to recommit the bill back to the Judiciary Committee to report back forthwith, and I send the motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT] moves to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report back forthwith.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4269

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now send an amendment to the desk to the pending motion to recommit with instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT] proposes an amendment numbered 4269.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

Mr. LOTT. I ask for the yeas and nays on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4270 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4269

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a second-degree amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT] proposes an amendment numbered 4270 to amendment No. 4269.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

NATIONAL ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2000—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to S. 2557, regarding America's dependency on foreign oil sources.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is debatable.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The assistant minority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, before the majority leader leaves the floor, I know that he and the minority leader have had the opportunity to speak this afternoon. I haven't had an opportunity to speak since that took place.

For purposes of informing Members, could the leader give us some idea of what we can expect. We know that tomorrow is pretty well filled up. We have 7 hours set aside for the continuing resolution, but there is some progress being made on various bills. Energy and water, they are reading that now. Hopefully, that might be filed tonight.

Mr. LOTT. I might say, Mr. President, I know the Senator from Nevada helped with some of the completion efforts on that energy and water appropriations bill. We should have it ready, hopefully, to be considered tomorrow; if not tomorrow, then the first part of next week.

I yield further for his questions and then I have some answers for him.

Mr. REID. On the H-1B, we are ready to vote on it. We have tried to have a vote on the Latino and Immigrant Fairness Act. There was one this afternoon that this Senator considers a vote on that amendment. Perhaps we are arriving at a point where we can start moving some of these things because I know we are going to get out of here next Thursday or Friday.

Mr. LOTT. That sounds like an excellent suggestion to me, Mr. President.

If I could respond, of course, the Senator is correct when he noted that we have, I believe, 7 hours of time that will be consumed, if it is all used, to discuss the continuing resolution. And, of course, we would have a vote at the end of that time. Obviously, Senator REID and others have made their points on the immigration issue. The H-1B issue, hopefully, we could come to agreement to have a vote scheduled on that. And I would like to work with the minority in determining what time they would find agreeable to have that vote. Perhaps we could do that tomorrow. I am fixing to ask consent that we consider the D.C. appropriations bill, which would give us a time agreement on that, if we could get that.

On the appropriations bills, it is like all appropriations conferences. They are never closed until they are closed. There are one or two issues that are very important that are still pending on a number of them. Interior appropriations, I believe, is very close to closure. There is still discussion going on with regard to so-called lands legacy funding and the CARA conservation bill.

The Agriculture appropriations bill is very close to conclusion. Once again, we have a couple of issues that have to be dealt with in finality. One of them is how do you deal with the sanctions question. A lot of people are making suggestions and, hopefully, a compromise can be reached that satisfies the great majority of the Senate and the House, Republicans and Democrats.

We think we are very close on the HUD-VA appropriations bill. The information I get is the administration is signaling that they think that could be an acceptable bill. There might be some issues that would be considered being added to that, not necessarily appropriations bills.

The Transportation appropriations bill, I believe, is for the most part done, with one remaining issue that is very difficult to resolve. But I know the Senator from New Jersey has a very passionate feeling about that. I understand that. So there are at least four or five appropriations bills that are pretty close to being wrapped up in terms of the dollar amounts. There is about one policy issue left on each one of them.

We hope to have two or three of those done, perhaps in the House of Representatives tomorrow, and then as