

around the world is transferring prohibited technology or information to Iran, and allows the President to take action against persons or entities found to be engaged in such activity. This bill also includes new steps to ensure the Russian Space Agency, which is a partner with NASA in the International Space Station project, is complying with Russia's official Iran anti-proliferation policy.

Media reports on the Iran election, held only days ago, show an encouraging shift in the attitudes of the Iranian people, a trend that we should applaud and encourage. Unfortunately, the structure of the Iranian government and its police services may well frustrate the will of the Iranian people, and the quest of its armed forces for weapon and missile technology proceeds apace. I look forward to the day on which Iran will be a good and peaceful neighbor. That day may be closer, but it has not yet arrived.

This bill is a necessary step towards our goal of nonproliferation and certainly merits a high level of bipartisan support, as well as the signature of President Clinton.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to support the Iran Nonproliferation Act.

We are faced with an historic opportunity to send a strong message to nations around the world—we will not sit by idle as goods, services or technology are transferred to Iran that contribute significantly to its ability to develop nuclear, chemical or biological weapons or ballistic or cruise missiles.

This legislation provides the Administration with useful tools to combat the spread of dangerous weapons technology and to discourage nuclear proliferation. It also enhances U.S. efforts to monitor Iranian proliferation.

This legislation demonstrates our commitment to prevent the proliferation of dangerous nuclear weapons to countries that threaten our national security as well as the security of allies—such as Israel and Europe. The Middle East is of vital strategic importance to the U.S.—and our interests and Israel's security are threatened by the continuing build-up of advanced conventional weapons by 'rogue regimes' in the region. For this reason, U.S. support for Israel must go beyond economic and military aid to Israel—it must meet the very real challenges that will face Israel and the United States in this new century, such as limiting the threats of weapons of mass destruction. It is well documented that technology provided to Iran increases its ability to develop its own intermediate range ballistic missile that is capable of reaching Israel as well as our European allies. By limiting Iran's access to such technology we can better protect these countries as well as our own troops in the Middle East and Europe.

The people of Iran demonstrated in their recent elections an overriding desire to move away from the extremism of the previous government toward reform and moderation in the future—but it is too early to tell what this change will mean in practice. I hope that it is a sign that Iran will end its missile program and its support for international terrorism. But despite this positive step, the Iran Nonproliferation Act is still vital to combat the spread of dangerous weapons technology and, in particular, to monitor nuclear weapons proliferation to Iran.

This legislation also sends a strong message to Russia that U.S. aid and scientific collaboration will be limited if Russia doesn't stop missile proliferation to Iran. U.S. funding will be substantially limited unless the President certifies that the Russian Space Agency is not transferring technology to Iran.

As the ranking member of the VA-HUD subcommittee that funds the space program, I have been a strong supporter of the International Space Station. I supported Russia's participation in the space program for three reasons:

One, their technical expertise;

Two, to build stronger links between the United States and Russia; and

Three, to ensure that Russian scientists and engineers had civilian work—so they would not sell their skills to rogue governments.

Russia has failed to live up to its promises on the space station. I have no question of Russia's technical competence. But I have strong concerns about its failure to meet its end of the bargain. Russia has not adequately funded its share of the space station, resulting in delays and a cloud of uncertainty that hovers over the entire program.

Even more troubling is Russia's role in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Russia has exported technology, material and expertise to help Iran develop ballistic missiles. These missiles could carry chemical, nuclear or biological weapons—which could reach any target within about 800 miles of Iran.

Russia's former Prime Minister Chernomyrdin promised to end this assistance. We need to make sure the new Russian government fulfills this promise. I recognize that Acting Russian President Vladimir Putin has been receptive to restricting companies that sell missile technology and equipment to Iran. I hope his intentions are translated into action. Otherwise, our cooperation with Russia—both in space and elsewhere—may end.

We live in a dangerous world—where terrorists and rogue nations are developing the most repugnant weapons of mass destruction. Our action today will send a clear message to our allies

and to our adversaries. By coming together to support this bipartisan legislation, we will demonstrate our unified commitment to limit nuclear proliferation and to create a safer more stable world.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now vote on passage of H.R. 1883.

The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 12 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Abraham	Feingold	Lugar
Akaka	Feinstein	Mack
Allard	Fitzgerald	McConnell
Ashcroft	Frist	Mikulski
Bayh	Gorton	Moynihan
Bennett	Graham	Murkowski
Biden	Gramm	Murray
Bingaman	Grams	Nickles
Bond	Grassley	Reed
Boxer	Gregg	Reid
Breaux	Hagel	Robb
Brownback	Harkin	Roberts
Bryan	Hatch	Rockefeller
Bunning	Helms	Roth
Burns	Hollings	Santorum
Byrd	Hutchinson	Sarbanes
Campbell	Hutchison	Schumer
Chafee, L.	Inhofe	Sessions
Cleland	Inouye	Shelby
Cochran	Jeffords	Smith (NH)
Collins	Johnson	Smith (OR)
Conrad	Kennedy	Snowe
Coverdell	Kerrey	Specter
Craig	Kerry	Stevens
Crapo	Kohl	Thomas
Daschle	Kyl	Thompson
DeWine	Landrieu	Thurmond
Dodd	Lautenberg	Torricelli
Domenici	Leahy	Voinovich
Dorgan	Levin	Warner
Durbin	Lieberman	Wellstone
Edwards	Lincoln	Wyden
Enzi	Lott	

NOT VOTING—2

Baucus McCain

The bill (H.R. 1883), as amended, was passed.

Mr. LOTT. 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

UNANIMOUS CONSENT
AGREEMENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Executive Calendar No. 407, Kermit Bye to be a United States Circuit Judge, and further, that a vote occur on the nomination, immediately

to be followed by a vote on Calendar No. 409, George Daniels to be a United States District Judge, and following those back-to-back votes, the President be notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order for me to ask for the yeas and nays en bloc on these confirmations.

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I know there are a number of Senators who wish to speak in morning business. After we have this en bloc vote, we will put in a time for morning business. I see Senator SPECTER, and Senator STEVENS wants to speak, and probably Senators on the other side do. We will put in probably an hour, from 12:30 until approximately 1:30, so Senators can speak on a number of subjects.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, if the majority leader will yield, after the votes on the judges, may it be in order that Chairman HATCH and I be recognized for a couple minutes on the nominations that had been voted on?

Mr. LOTT. Is Senator HATCH here?

Mr. LEAHY. I was asking for myself, but I thought as a matter of courtesy I should include the chairman.

Mr. LOTT. I think that is a reasonable request. We need to have the vote as soon as we can. Senators are prepared to vote.

Mr. President, I amend my request and ask unanimous consent that we have 2 minutes for the chairman and 2 minutes for the ranking member following votes. I note that Senator INHOFE will probably have some comments on these nominations, and he indicated he would make those after the vote.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if the leader will yield, is the leader agreeable to extending morning business until 2 o'clock?

Mr. LOTT. Absolutely. I have no problem with that.

Mr. REID. I thank the majority leader.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

NOMINATION OF KERMIT BYE, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The nomination will be stated.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Kermit Bye, of

North Dakota, to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to recommend the confirmation of Kermit Bye for the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, and I ask my colleagues to join me and Senator DORGAN in supporting his nomination.

Kermit Bye is a native North Dakotan. He was born in the middle of a North Dakota blizzard, in a railroad section house in Hatton, North Dakota. He has distinguished himself in his career, and is widely recognized as one of the best trial lawyers in our state. Kermit Bye will be an excellent addition to the federal judiciary, and he has my strong support.

Kermit Bye would bring a wide range of experiences to the bench. Before receiving his law degree from the University of North Dakota in 1962, he worked as a milk truck driver, a radio advertising salesman, and in catalog sales at Montgomery Wards.

Soon after completing law school, Mr. Bye worked as North Dakota Deputy Securities Commissioner, and later served as Assistant United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota.

Since 1968, Mr. Bye has worked for the Vogel Law Firm and was named President of the firm in 1981. Mr. Bye has over 30 years of experience in Federal and state trial and appellate litigation. His long and distinguished career includes representing individual and corporate clients. He has tried more than 100 cases, representing both plaintiffs and defendants. He has also argued numerous appeals, including more than 20 before the Eighth Circuit. Mr. Bye has served on the Board of Governors and as the President of the State Bar Association of North Dakota.

Through his broad experience and success he has earned an excellent reputation. As an experienced litigator, Mr. Bye also has a full understanding of the appropriate role of the judiciary.

My colleague, Senator DORGAN, and I have heard from individuals across our home state, from both sides of the aisle and from all sections of the legal community, recommending Mr. Bye for this position. According to his colleagues and fellow bar members, Mr. Bye is a man of great character and qualifications.

One of his supporters is Judge Frank Magill, who Mr. Bye has been nominated to succeed on the Eighth Circuit. Judge Magill has been on senior status since April 1, 1997, and was appointed to the Eighth Circuit by President Reagan in 1986. He states in a letter to Senator HATCH: "I have had a longtime professional association with Kermit Bye. His professional competence and integrity are of the highest order. He has several decades of trial experience. I know from personal experiences that he will be an easy fit for your criterion of judicial temperament."

Mr. President, I am confident that Mr. Bye will be an outstanding addition to the federal bench. I support his confirmation and yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Kermit Bye, of North Dakota, to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit? On this question, the yeas and nays have been ordered, and the clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 13 Ex.]

YEAS—98

Abraham	Feingold	Lugar
Akaka	Feinstein	Mack
Allard	Fitzgerald	McConnell
Ashcroft	Frist	Mikulski
Bayh	Gorton	Moynihan
Bennett	Graham	Murkowski
Biden	Gramm	Murray
Bingaman	Grams	Nickles
Bond	Grassley	Reed
Boxer	Gregg	Reid
Breaux	Hagel	Robb
Brownback	Harkin	Roberts
Bryan	Hatch	Rockefeller
Bunning	Helms	Roth
Burns	Hollings	Santorum
Byrd	Hutchinson	Sarbanes
Campbell	Hutchison	Schumer
Chafee, L.	Inhofe	Sessions
Cleland	Imouye	Shelby
Cochran	Jeffords	Smith (NH)
Collins	Johnson	Smith (OR)
Conrad	Kennedy	Snowe
Coverdell	Kerrey	Specter
Craig	Kerry	Stevens
Crapo	Kohl	Thomas
Daschle	Kyl	Thompson
DeWine	Landrieu	Thurmond
Dodd	Lautenberg	Torricelli
Domenici	Leahy	Voinovich
Dorgan	Levin	Warner
Durbin	Lieberman	Wellstone
Edwards	Lincoln	Wyden
Enzi	Lott	

NOT VOTING—2

Baucus McCain

The nomination was confirmed.

NOMINATION OF GEORGE B. DANIELS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will now report the second nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of George B. Daniels, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of George B.