

to hear from the White House. How much money is the administration willing to commit to full funding of title I and to special education needs?

They are telling us that they want to have mandatory testing. They want accountability, but they are unwilling to say whether or not they will commit the necessary resources to achieve those goals.

I hope the administration, as they urge us to get ready to pass this bill in conference, will also heed their own advice and more quickly expedite the commitments made by the President as to what resources will be provided.

It is now only a matter of a few weeks before children and their parents start to prepare to go back to school. We ought not wait much longer to get the job done.

My point of these brief remarks is to urge the administration to step up to the plate and tell us what the resources are. If they are not going to make any at all, then we ought to rethink this bill. Do not tell me the administration will mandate costs on the local community and then not have the resources to pay for it. And do not tell me that Americans will have to watch property taxes go through the ceiling because Uncle Sam tested their children every year from the third to the eighth grade without providing the resources to help communities and parents meet those greater educational goals.

Both on election reform, and on education, I hope we can get something done.

I wish the President would support election reform. I hope he will speak up and tell us what sort of resource commitments he is willing to make to support the elementary and secondary education needs of America's children.

I appreciate the indulgence of the Chair in listening to these brief remarks.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I thank the Senator from Connecticut.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:51 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. CLELAND).

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have been in conversation with my counterpart, Senator NICKLES. We both recognize the importance of moving this bill and other appropriation bills. At this time, however, after consulting with Senator NICKLES, we are not going to ask for a unanimous consent agreement that there be a time for filing of amendments.

Senator DOMENICI and I will work through these amendments. We know there are several amendments, and as soon as we get off the bankruptcy bill, Senator STABENOW is going to offer one. There may be others. Senator DOMENICI and I will work through them.

When we get to a point where we think the amendments are not coming in, we will move to third reading, and we will keep the leadership of the minority advised as to what we are doing.

I appreciate the advice and counsel and suggestions made by my friend from Oklahoma. We will do our best to abide by these.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant Republican leader.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I thank my friend and colleague, Senator REID. I appreciate his not entering a request to limit or say that all amendments would have to be filed by a certain period of time. I encourage my colleagues to work with the managers of this bill, Senator DOMENICI on our side, if they have amendments, to bring those to his attention.

It is certainly not our intention to procrastinate on this bill. We would like to see the amendments that are pending and do some homework on the amendments, consider them, take them up, pass them or defeat them, and come to final passage in the not too distant future.

I urge all of our colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, if they have amendments, to please bring those forward so we can deal with those appropriately and finish consideration of this important bill.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if my friend will yield, the other thing I would like to bring to the attention of the Senate is, as soon as we finish this bill, we move to one of President Bush's very important nominations; that is, of Mr. Graham. The agreement that has been made by the two leaders and that is now part of the Senate record is that as soon as we finish this bill, we will move to that nomination. There is a time agreement that has already been made on that matter. The sooner we finish this bill, the sooner we can get to this important nomination of President Bush.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I concur. I compliment Senator REID for bringing forward Mr. Graham's nomination. That is a very important nomination. It deals with the Office of Reg-

ulatory Affairs. It deals with the cost of regulations. You cannot go a day without seeing some regulations that have an impact in the billions and billions of dollars. It is very difficult for President Bush to deal with this issue and not have his person installed as head of the office. We will have 7 hours of debate on Mr. Graham's nomination. I look forward to that debate and to his confirmation as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I thank my two colleagues. This is reasonable. I am concerned that when we have before us an important issue such as this energy bill, which really bears a lot on where we are going in this whole area of energy—and it is very important to me and to the American people—we get the amendments in. But this idea of having them filed by a certain time I think is really tough. We need a list perhaps. But thank you very much for this little change in direction.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

BANKRUPTCY ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2001—Continued

Mr. WELLSTONE. I say to the majority whip, am I to do my amendment to the bankruptcy bill?

Mr. REID. The Senator is right. I believe the Chair would tell us that there is only one amendment to be in order, which is the amendment of the Senator from Minnesota. The Senator agreed to an hour time limit, it is my understanding. I think the Senator should move forward so we can get to the energy bill as soon as possible.

AMENDMENT NO. 977 TO AMENDMENT NO. 974

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I send amendment No. 977 to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Minnesota [Mr. WELLSTONE] proposes an amendment numbered 977 to amendment No. 974.

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

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require the General Accounting Office to conduct a study of the effects of the Act on bankruptcy filings, and for other purposes)

At the appropriate place, insert the following: