

What irony, warning that: . . . deep benefit cuts, tax increases, or "massive" federal debt are inevitable unless Congress allows the personal retirement accounts the White House favors.

I have always believed it is inappropriate to say I told you so, but, I told you so. When we had the budget debate, the proposal I put before our colleagues protected the Social Security and Medicare trust funds in each and every year, but, more than that, set aside \$750 billion out of the surpluses of today to prepay some of the Social Security liability tomorrow. This administration said no. This administration turned their back on an opportunity not only to protect the Social Security and Medicare trust funds in each and every year but, more than that, to set aside money to prepay part of the liability that is coming, which they now say threatens massive debt, tax increases, or deep benefit cuts.

Where were they when just months ago we had that exact debate? They didn't know this? We all knew it. We all knew that is where we were headed. Yet Mr. Lindsey, as the chief economic adviser to the President, and the rest of this economic team, plunged ahead with a budget and tax plan that never added up, that doesn't add up, that risks putting us back into the budget ditch, and now are misrepresenting my record by trying to assert that I favor tax increases at a time of economic downturn when my record shows absolutely to the contrary, that I proposed a far bigger tax cut this year than did the administration.

Finally, for them to assert that my budget plan meant more resources going to the Federal Government—nonsense. The budget proposal I put before our colleagues continued to shrink the role of the Federal Government, from 18 percent of gross domestic product today to 16.4 percent of gross domestic product at the end of this budget period, the lowest level of GDP since 1951.

Mr. Lindsey, that is my record. Those are my positions. No attempt by you to distort them or misrepresent them is acceptable.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Florida, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

#### RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Florida, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:09 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 12:13 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. LANDRIEU).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Louisiana, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll. The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### JACKIE M. CLEGG

Mr. BENNETT. Madam President, I take the floor to join some of my other colleagues on the Banking Committee to express my admiration for and thanks to Jackie Clegg, who is serving her last day as Vice Chairman of the Export-Import Bank. Jackie Clegg might otherwise be known somewhere as Mrs. Chris Dodd. She began her career on the Banking Committee, where she met Senator DODD, as a staffer for my predecessor, Jake Garn from Utah. She is a Utah alumna in Washington, of whom we are all very proud.

She has performed expert service as a member of the Banking Committee staff and now in her new assignment on the Export-Import Bank. We wish her well as she ends her career there.

I wish to note that Jackie has her priorities straight. One of the reasons she is leaving the Export-Import Bank is because she is expecting a child. It will be her first. It will also be Senator DODD's first. I wish them both well in their new anticipated careers as parents.

Jackie understands the importance of a family, and her willingness to give public service has been greatly appreciated, and her willingness now to give a different kind of service that perhaps will have a longer lasting impact as she prepares to bear and raise a child will be something for which she should be congratulated also.

I join with the other members of the Banking Committee in saying to Jackie as she ends her service with the Export-Import Bank: Well done. We are grateful for your service. We are grateful for your leadership. We are grateful for the expenditure of your talents on behalf of your country.

I say to her and CHRIS: Good luck and best wishes as you embark on the sea of parenthood. My wife and I have had six children. We now have 16 grandchildren. And we tell you, Jackie and CHRIS, it is very much worth it.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. AKAKA). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I wish to rise for a few moments today before we adjourn the Senate for the weekend to speak about one of the appropriations bills that we are going to be dealing with when we return next week and that we will work on through this summer session into the fall. That appropriations bill is the District of Columbia appropriations, which I have the great honor and privilege and opportunity to serve now as Chair, along with my distinguished colleague from Ohio, Senator DEWINE, the ranking member. He and I have worked together very closely for the last several months on that appropriations committee. With the change in leadership, I find myself as Chair of this important committee. I want to spend a minute talking about that role and about some of the responsibilities that I see coming along with that role.

First, let me say that Senator DEWINE and I have been in close communication on many issues that are important to the District. I have great respect for the Mayor and members of the city council, and for Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON for the great work she does for the District. I look forward to working with them, along with the business leaders, the community leaders, and the labor leaders in the city to help this city be all that it can be and all that it should be.

I am a supporter of home rule and am a supporter of city leaders making decisions for themselves in great measure about how this city should be run, and I have great confidence in the ability of those leaders that I just mentioned.

Particularly, I share the Mayor's vision for this city in large measure. But one of the things that Senator DEWINE and I, and others, have spoken about—there are many Members of the Senate and the House, not the least of whom is the Senator from West Virginia, Mr. ROBERT BYRD, the Senator from Ohio, Mr. VOINOVICH, and the Senator from Illinois, Mr. DURBIN, all of whom play a vital role in the oversight, if you will, of the District of Columbia. I have shared many of my thoughts with them about proceeding in this particular role.

I want to outline a few issues that I would like to focus on and that I will be conducting hearings on—and the many discussions with Members of Congress on some of these issues.

One is the proper role of the chief financial officer. I think it is the cornerstone of our post-Control-Board reform. The District has made tremendous progress—4 years of surpluses, 4