like partial discrimination and that we were trying to get some tricky kind of things on behalf of the Teamsters, or that we ought to do those things if some of the things we had complied with—it is totally out of whole cloth. I have never seen anybody work harder and give better leadership than the Senator from Washington with this Murray amendment. It is the Murray-Shelby amendment. It is bipartisan. It should remain so. All of this running around, I don’t want to talk, or you don’t want to talk, or whatever—that is nonsense. Put up the amendment so we can vote on the amendment and move on.

I think the Senator from Washington ought to be commended for the very studied way in which she has gone about this particular amendment and these requirements. Certainly once that gate is opened and the trucks are coming over, then they are coming over in some 27 particular spots, and we have to provide checkpoints and personnel, training, and everything else ourselves. So it is not just the Mexicans preparing themselves and so forth by January 1st, but us, too.

We don’t make January 1st the drop-dead date under the Murray amendment. We say all of these things cannot be licensed; the border cannot be opened until A, B, C, or D in the Murray amendment are complied with. That is the studied, deliberate way to go about regulating at this particular point on the appropriations bill. It is important that it be done that way rather than overall on the House side.

We are not looking for the President to veto it. President Bush is smart. He is not going to veto safety. There is nothing in this particular measure that would require a veto. Let’s get on with legislation in the particular appropriations bill.

I vetoed, like the distinguished President, for 4 years as the Governor. You wake up, and you want to work harder and give better leadership. I have never seen anybody else ourselves. So it is not just the Mexicans preparing themselves and so forth by January 1st, but us, too.

We don’t make January 1st the drop-dead date under the Murray amendment. We say all of these things cannot be licensed; the border cannot be opened until A, B, C, or D in the Murray amendment are complied with. I have had some discussions with the Republican leader, as well as with our caucus and my leadership. We have discussed just what remains to be done prior to the time we leave. I think it is fair to say we are way behind the curve with respect to being on the appropriations front. We have only completed three appropriations bills so far. I hope at the very least we can complete our work on at least two

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I know there is a discussion going on off the floor with regard to coming to some resolution on the issue of Mexican trucking. I hope we can find a way to resolve this procedurally. I applaud Senators MURRAY and SHELBY and others who reached the compromise that is now part of the bill, and I hope, whether we reach another agreement or whether we can’t reach agreement and simply have votes, we can do that. I think we have made reasonably good progress before the August recess on appropriations.

I have had some discussions with the Republican leader, as well as with our caucus and my leadership. We have discussed just what remains to be done prior to the time we leave. I think it is fair to say we are way behind the curve with respect to being on the appropriations front. We have only completed three appropriations bills so far. I hope at the very least we can complete our work on at least two more—Transportation and HUD/VA. I have indicated to Senator LEITZ that would be my desire. I have indicated to the Appropriations Committee, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, shares my view.

So my expectation and my determination is that we complete our work on those two bills. We also have two emergency issues to deal with. First is the Agriculture supplemental authorization. It has already passed in the House. I am told that the Agriculture Committee is intending to vote on it tomorrow. It would be my expectation to take it up shortly after the committee action in an effort to get it through the floor and into conference in time to bring it back prior to the time we leave. That, too, must be dealt with prior to the time we leave.

Finally, the Export Administration Act is also in peril. The act expires during the August recess. The administration has indicated that it is a high priority for them. It is a high priority for our caucus, but I think, on a bipartisan basis, Senators on both sides of the aisle have indicated a strong desire not to allow this legislation to expire in August. So it is my expectation that it, too, must be dealt with prior to the time we leave.

In addition, our Republican colleagues have expressed a strong interest in confirming additional nominees, and I have every expectation that we will be doing that as well. In the past 2 weeks, the Senate has now confirmed 77 nominees. I intend to move as many additional nominees to the floor prior to the recess as we can. I have discussed the matter with each of our Chairs, and they have volunteered extensive cooperation in bringing additional nominees to the Executive Calendar so we can move on them once the work has been done. To my knowledge, except for those nominees for whom there is a Republican hold, there are few, if any, nominees who have been on the calendar more than a couple of days. I do believe we owe every Senator the right to examine the nominees and
to ensure that they are prepared to support them. But I will press for consideration and ultimately confirmation of those nominees prior to the time we leave.

All of us have August recess plans, but we have to accomplish these four essential items, in addition to the nomination work. I want to be able to move forward and confirm before we take a vacation. I think we have a fundamental duty not only to build on what we have been able to do in the appropriations process, but also to deal with the many other additional requirements that are pending before the Senate prior to the time we leave.

So just to sum up, it is my hope, even though we are not making a lot of progress today so far on the Transportation bill, that we can complete it. I see the distinguished Chair of the subcommittee on HUD/VA on the floor. She has indicated that she knows of no significant legislative impediments to consideration of her appropriations bill. So at least those two bills will need to be addressed prior to the time we leave. And then, of course, as I said, there is the Agriculture authorization supplemental. I can't imagine that anyone would want to hold up that bill or want to delay its implementation. As I have noted, the House has already acted. It would be our hope and expectation that we cannot only act but that we can work out our differences with the House in time to assure that this bill is sent to the President before we leave. If we fail to do that, of course, we then fail to allocate the $5.5 billion committed to emergency agricultural spending in the budget.

The Export Administration Act, of course, is also something we need to consider. I see the Chair of the Banking Committee, whose jurisdiction it is, and he has indicated as well his desire to cooperate and move forward in a bipartisan way to ensure that we attain that goal.

So we have a lot of work to do in 2 weeks. I expect we are going to stay in late Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights. I think it is important for us to make full use of this week, and we will be doing so. If I am required to file cloture on Transportation by the end of the day, I will do so. I am withholding that at this point because I hope that some accommodation can be reached on a vote on whatever amendments may be offered on Mexican trucking. But we have to get on with our work. We simply can't afford these long delays throughout the week.

IN MEMORY OF OFFICERS GIBSON AND CHESTNUT

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, in about a minute we will be observing a moment of silence in memory of Officers Gibson and Chestnut.

As my colleagues will recall, it was 3 years ago to the minute these unfortunate and tragic deaths occurred. I ask at the appropriate time, which is now, that we observe a moment of silence.

(The Senate observed a moment of silence.)

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I appreciate my colleagues' and everyone's attention. If I may say for a moment, I remember this day 3 years ago as if it occurred just yesterday. I did not know Officers Gibson and Chestnut personally, but I knew them, and as we all recognize, we take for granted all too often the tremendous service provided to us by our police and by those who guard our security each and every day.

The loss of life under circumstances such as this is all the more tragic when you appreciate their dedication to public service, their commitment to our good health and security, and the recognition that their families still grieve their loss.

I know I speak on behalf of the entire Senate in wishing the families of Detective Gibson and Officer Chestnut our very best and most heartfelt wishes and recognition of their tremendous dedication to public service and their commitment to us and to all those who survive and continue to work each and every day, in keeping with the spirit and dedication that they so ably demonstrated.

Mr. LEAHY. Will the distinguished leader yield?

Mr. DASCHLE. I will be happy to yield.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I associate myself with the words of our distinguished leader. I came over to the Senate for the express purpose of this moment.

Like the distinguished leader, I recall this tragedy. I had just arrived in Vermont on that day, and I recall when the police officers in the airport said: Senator, have you heard what happened? Any of us who has served in law enforcement has a sense of what goes through everybody's mind.

I thought of Officer Chestnut who just a few days before as I was going through the door stopped me and said my wife had just gone through. We were at some event up here. I do not even remember now what the event was. He said: I sent your wife on up. He said as a joke. You must be late because you are behind her. That is a family thing.

Detective Gibson traveled with different groups I had been with when we had hearings outside Washington and had gone with Senators on different events. A lot of times we were around when there would be dignitaries up here, and he would recognize the different Senators. It was always the same thing: He would see us or a family member: Here, come on through; and he would take care of us.

It can sometimes be very easy to take for granted the law enforcement around the Capitol. There is a significant law enforcement presence. It is, as the distinguished leader said, like family. We see them and are with them, and yet when something such as this happens, you realize they are the line of defense between us and that tiny, tiny, tiny fraction of people in this country who would do injury, not to us individually but to really the symbols of our Government.

I thank the distinguished leader for his words. I know they are words that will be joined by Senators on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. SARBANES. Will the distinguished Senator yield?

Mr. DASCHLE. I will be happy to yield.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I thank the leader for offering this moment of silence in honor of Detective Gibson and Officer Chestnut and the sacrifice they made. It represents the sacrifice so many men and women make each day in the Capitol so that the Nation's business is transacted.

I know both their families, of course, and I know how much the loss impacted them, how deeply they felt it. It is very fitting and appropriate that we should just bring our business to a halt, pause, and remember their tremendous contribution, their tremendous sacrifice, and that of many others who work here each and every day. I thank the leader for doing this.

Mr. DASCHLE. I thank the Senator. Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I personally associate myself with the leader's remarks and that of my two colleagues. I also knew Officer Chestnut. He was a Prince George's County guy. In fact, he was days from retirement. He would probably be fishing on the Chesapeake Bay now with his grandchildren.

As we remark and express our gratitude for the men and women who protect us every day, we all need to think about their spouses, and we need to think about their children. They would not be here without their love and support. This is why, as we honor those who protect us, we also remember the families who support them so they can do so.

I thank the leader for pausing, and God bless the souls of those men, and God bless the men and women who protect us and their families.

Mr. DASCHLE. I yield to the Senator from Vermont.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I had occasion with four distinguished Senators to travel through Vermont. We have Detective Gibson and Officer Chestnut travel with us to ensure our security. They were wonderful and most efficient. In fact, it is not easy to maneuver four Senators around and keep track of them and their spouses and keep them on schedule. It was very satisfying to feel closer to them under those circumstances. They were two wonderful men. I feel a certain sadness of the memories connected with