

compensation and appropriate level of compensation within 100 days of having received the application.

In all cases, the compensation shall be paid within 20 days of the final determination.

Filing of a claim under the program will preempt all other civil remedies available under federal or state law for the same physical injury or wrongful death suffered as a result of the September 11, 2001 terrorist acts.

Payments to victims will be tax free.

Mr. LEAHY. I ask for the yeas and nays on the nominees.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The yeas and nays have been previously ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 1 minute.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HATCH. I thank the chairman of the Judiciary Committee for his solid support of Sharon Prost and Reggie Walton and for the work he has done. I also have enjoyed working with him as we have worked to fashion, along with all the people whose names he mentioned, and certainly in the House of Representatives, the law enforcement changes and terrorism laws that really need to occur. I hope we can get that done. I hope we can do it on a completely bipartisan basis. It has to be done.

We have also worked very hard on the airline bill which he has described adequately. I thank him for the efforts he is putting forth, and his staff and, of course, my staff. A number of these staff people worked all night long on some of this legislation. They deserve an awful lot of credit, along with the White House staff, staffs of both Houses, and the staff of both sides on this issue. I am very grateful that we were able to move ahead on these matters. I hope we can move ahead in a way to protect, preserve, and defend our country as it deserves to be protected, defended, and preserved.

Let's proceed to the vote.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Sharon Prost, of the District of Columbia, to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit? 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 Texas (Mr. GRAMM), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS), and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) are necessarily absent.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 282 Ex.]

YEAS—97

Akaka	Dorgan	Lugar
Allard	Durbin	McConnell
Allen	Edwards	Mikulski
Baucus	Ensign	Miller
Bayh	Enzi	Murkowski
Bennett	Feingold	Murray
Biden	Feinstein	Nelson (FL)
Bingaman	Fitzgerald	Nelson (NE)
Bond	Frist	Nickles
Boxer	Graham	Reed
Breaux	Grassley	Reid
Brownback	Gregg	Roberts
Bunning	Hagel	Rockefeller
Burns	Harkin	Santorum
Byrd	Hatch	Sarbanes
Campbell	Helms	Schumer
Cantwell	Hollings	Sessions
Carnahan	Hutchinson	Shelby
Carper	Hutchison	Smith (NH)
Chafee	Inhofe	Smith (OR)
Cleland	Inouye	Snowe
Clinton	Jeffords	Specter
Cochran	Johnson	Stabenow
Collins	Kennedy	Stevens
Conrad	Kerry	Thompson
Corzine	Kohl	Thurmond
Craig	Kyl	Torricelli
Crapo	Landrieu	Voinovich
Daschle	Leahy	Warner
Dayton	Levin	Wellstone
DeWine	Lieberman	Wyden
Dodd	Lincoln	
Domenici	Lott	

NOT VOTING—3

Gramm	McCain	Thomas
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The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. HATCH. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

VOTE ON THE NOMINATION OF REGGIE B. WALTON

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Reggie B. Walton to be a U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia? 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 Texas (Mr. GRAMM), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS) are necessarily absent.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 283 Ex.]

YEAS—97

Akaka	Cantwell	Domenici
Allard	Carnahan	Dorgan
Allen	Carper	Durbin
Baucus	Chafee	Edwards
Bayh	Cleland	Ensign
Bennett	Clinton	Enzi
Biden	Cochran	Feingold
Bingaman	Collins	Feinstein
Bond	Conrad	Fitzgerald
Boxer	Corzine	Frist
Breaux	Craig	Graham
Brownback	Crapo	Grassley
Bunning	Daschle	Gregg
Burns	Dayton	Hagel
Byrd	DeWine	Harkin
Campbell	Dodd	Hatch

Helms	Lott	Sessions
Hollings	Lugar	Shelby
Hutchinson	McConnell	Smith (NH)
Hutchison	Mikulski	Smith (OR)
Inhofe	Miller	Snowe
Inouye	Murkowski	Specter
Jeffords	Murray	Stabenow
Johnson	Nelson (FL)	Stevens
Kennedy	Nelson (NE)	Thompson
Kerry	Nickles	Thurmond
Kohl	Reed	Torricelli
Kyl	Reid	Voinovich
Landrieu	Roberts	Warner
Leahy	Rockefeller	Wellstone
Levin	Santorum	Wyden
Lieberman	Sarbanes	
Lincoln	Schumer	

NOT VOTING—3

Gramm	McCain	Thomas
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The nomination was confirmed.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the President is notified of these actions taken by the Senate.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume legislative session.

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 10:17 a.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 11:54 a.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. JOHNSON).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the majority and minority leaders have agreed that in the near future, the two managers, Senators WARNER and LEVIN, will move forward with the Defense authorization bill. The opening statements will take some time because this is such an important piece of legislation.

At some point later in the day, when the House, we hope, completes their work on the airlines legislation, which they have worked on during the night, and we worked on during the night, we will move to that. The managers understand that.

I hope that people will understand how hard these two veteran legislators—Senator LEVIN and Senator WARNER—have worked on this legislation. I personally know of the time they have spent on this bill in the past week, and prior to that they spent much more time on it. This is a very crucial time in the history of this country, and although it is always important, it is even more so now.

I hope Members will be very cautious in trying to make a Christmas tree out