

The Lugar amendment has much less in it than I have in mine.

Mr. REID. Madam President, will the Senator yield for a unanimous consent request?

Mr. HARKIN. Yes.

Mr. REID. This has been cleared with the chairman and ranking member of the committee. Following this unanimous consent agreement, anyone who wants to talk on this amendment can talk as long as they wish tonight.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate resumes consideration of S. 1731 tomorrow morning, Wednesday, December 12, there be 60 minutes of debate prior to a vote in relation to the Lugar amendment No. 2473 with the time equally divided and controlled in the usual form, that no second-degree amendments be in order, nor to the language proposed to be stricken prior to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I appreciate very much the Senator yielding for this important matter.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I understand we will come in tomorrow morning and I will make my comments at that time on the Lugar amendment.

Mr. REID. Madam President, if the Senator will yield, the unanimous consent agreement didn't call for it, but the Senate will come in at 9:30 tomorrow morning, and the Senator from Iowa and the Senator from Indiana, Mr. LUGAR, will control the time.

Mr. HARKIN. There will be 1 hour for debate from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. equally divided, and the vote will occur on the Lugar amendment at 10:30 tomorrow morning?

Mr. REID. Yes.

Mr. HARKIN. I thank the leader. I will have more to say about this tomorrow morning.

But the Lugar amendment takes away all of the programs that we have for farmers and gives them a voucher by which they can go out and purchase a whole farm revenue insurance program which will give them a guarantee of up to 80 percent. They can contribute an amount at least equal to the amount of the voucher to a risk management stabilization account, and they can redeem the voucher for cash payment and use the payment to carry out one or more risk management strategies that are sufficient to guarantee a net income from all agricultural enterprises of at least 80 percent.

That is pretty convoluted. Quite frankly, at a time when our farmers are just about at their wit's end right now to take what we carefully fashioned in a bipartisan fashion—and this is a bipartisan bill that we have on the floor—and just throw it out for an experiment, I think we just can't do that right now. That would disrupt all of agriculture and it would disrupt the mar-

kets. It would be chaos. The adoption of the Lugar amendment would just mean chaos. The markets would not know what to do. Farmers would not know what to do. Bankers would not know what to do. A farmer going in to get a loan early next year for seed and fertilizer or maybe to buy a piece of equipment or get the necessary funds to farm—that is the way people farm. They go in and get the credit. The banker says: I don't know what to do because I do not know what kind of program there is. With the Lugar amendment, they would have absolutely no idea what they would be doing.

I think the Lugar amendment is probably something you put out there to debate and people talk about it and they think about it. Maybe you massage it around for a while, but it is not something you just do all of a sudden and leap off the deep end.

We cannot take our loan rates down to 1 percent. We cannot do away with direct payments. We can't take away all of the price supports over the next 5 years for dairy and for peanuts, sugar and everything else. That would be catastrophic.

While I applaud Senator LUGAR for his strong support—and I know it is genuine and sincere—for nutrition and nutrition programs, the way he has gone about getting the money by devastating the commodity title is in no one's best interest. It is not in the best interests of low-income families; it is not in the best interests of our farm families; and certainly it is not in the best interests of our country.

I reserve my remarks for tomorrow morning. 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. SESSIONS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to be allowed to proceed as in morning business for 15 minutes.

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

(The remarks of Mr. SESSIONS pertaining to the introduction of S. 1804 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

Mr. PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the previous order with respect to the debate time on the Lugar amendment No. 2473 be modified to provide for a reduction of 10 minutes—5 minutes from each side—with the remaining provision remaining in effect.

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, we will vote at approximately 10:20 tomorrow morning, maybe 10:25.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for morning business, with Senators allowed to speak therein for a period not to exceed 5 minutes.

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

MODIFICATION OF COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE RULES

Mr. HOLLINGS. Madam President, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation has adopted modified rules governing its procedures for the 107th Congress. Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, on behalf of myself and Senator MCCAIN, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the Committee rules be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RULES OF THE U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION I. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. The regular meeting dates of the Committee shall be the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman as he may deem necessary or pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 3 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

2. Meetings of the Committee, or any Subcommittee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or series of meetings by the Committee, or any Subcommittee, on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in subparagraphs (A) through (F) would require the meeting to be closed, followed immediately by a record vote in open session by a majority of the members of the Committee, or any Subcommittee, when it is determined that the matter to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings—

(A) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(B) will relate solely to matters of Committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(C) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure