

MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2002

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.J. Res. 78, the continuing resolution, just received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 78) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read a third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 78) was read the third time and passed.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1833

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I understand that a bill introduced earlier today by Senator COLLINS is at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1833) to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to qualified organ procurement organizations.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will remain at the desk.

ORDER FOR RECORD TO REMAIN OPEN

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the RECORD remain open today until 4 p.m. for the introduction of legislation and the submission of statements.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2001

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 12:30 p.m., Monday, December 17; that on Monday, immediately following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed ex-

pired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and that there then be a period for morning business until 1 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. DASCHLE. For the information of the Senate, as previously announced, no rollcall votes will occur on Monday. The next vote will occur on Tuesday, December 18, at 11 a.m.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate today, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned as under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator SESSIONS.

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

Mr. DASCHLE. I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama is recognized.

MONEY SPENT UNWISELY

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, one thing we need to do a better job of in this Congress—and we do have oversight and appropriations authority for all moneys that are expended—is to make sure that those moneys have been spent wisely, efficiently, and that the taxpayers' interests are protected with the same degree of fidelity that homeowners and families protect theirs, as small business people protect theirs. We don't always do that. We spend such big sums of money that sometimes we think small matters are not that significant.

I had the responsibility a few years ago as Attorney General of Alabama to take over an office that was financially out of control. We had a huge debt facing the office the year I took office. We had to reduce personnel, substantially cut back on all kinds of things, and to reorganize the office. When it was over, even though we had lost some good people—no career people, thank goodness, but almost a third of the office, those who were political appointees; that office has never gotten close to the same number of people that it had—what we found was that working together we actually improved productivity. We did a great job. The people worked hard. They reorganized. They had a new vision.

We have a false impression that money is the only thing that answers a problem around here. Always the an-

swer is, just give it more money. And we in Congress say: We did what we could; that is somebody else's problem.

I have initiated a program I call "Integrity Watch." It is a program in which I take time periodically to analyze bad fiscal management expenditure practices in our Government and to highlight those. The one today I take no real pleasure in. It was a sad, confusing story, but it is appropriate for the taxpayers to know the final outcome, to see what has happened, to be aware of how much it has cost us in expenditures.

Many people remember the decision by General Shinseki, Chief of Staff of the Army, to change the berets to give everybody a black beret. He set a deadline of this year, only a few months away from that date, and he had to find a whole lot of berets in a hurry. Under the Berry amendment, the Federal law requires that all clothing items be manufactured within the United States except in times of armed conflict.

What happened with the deadline that was given was, the Defense Logistics Agency, that had been delegated the authority way down the line to grant waivers of the Berry amendment, found itself in a position where they did not have sufficient American manufacturers to meet that deadline. And so based on this artificial goal by the Chief of Staff of the Army, General Shinseki, they set about to get the berets wherever they could. They issued waivers and started getting berets from all over.

They got 925,000 of them made from China, by the Communist government. Other countries were called on and agreed to manufacture in this rushed process. When that all became public and there were complaints about the beret decision to begin with and all these factors came up, there was quite an uproar. The result was that the military admitted that they had not complied at least with the spirit of the Berry amendment, that they should not utilize the Chinese-made black berets, worth \$6.5 million, and so they stored them. They paid for them. They stored them. So we now have 925,000 black berets valued at \$6.5 million not being utilized. Hopefully, some other army in the world might buy them from us, but we are certainly going to take a big hit on that.

Another thing that we learned: Some of this information came about as a result of my request to the General Accounting Office that does audits for the Congress and other agencies to determine how moneys are being spent. We just got this audit back earlier this week. The General Accounting Office report indicates a number of other things that happened.

GAO declared that the military, in order to meet its deadline, chose to shortcut normal contracting procedures. They found, for example, that