The fact is, we do not have sufficient detail from the President to have the kind of objective independent analysis done to inform the Senate of the cost of the President’s tax-and-spending proposals.

Mr. BYRD. Absolutely. Moreover, that was a budget for 5 years. That was a 5-year plan in 1993. This is a 10-year plan. Additionally, the resolution was used in that instance to reduce deficits, not to increase them.

Finally, my good friend from New Mexico speaks of that 1993 budget as a role model. Not one of the Senators on that side of the aisle voted for it. Not one Republican in the House voted for it.

What did it do? It put the Nation on the course for reduction of the deficits and for the accumulation of huge projects, and whether or not that materialized or not is another question. But what are we so afraid of? Why is this Senate afraid to see the President’s budget?

Mr. CONRAD. We were promised the President’s budget, were we not? We were promised it was going to be here on April 2 before we took up a budget resolution on the floor. And presto disto, the next thing we know, there is no budget until April 9 when we have completed action. It is a very unusual circumstance.

If we are going to be fair and objective about comparing 1993 to now, we will see there are very significant differences. Most significant, we have had no budget markup in the committee, and there was sufficient detail on what President Clinton sent us that the Congressional Budget Office and the Joint Committee on Taxation were able to give us an objective independent analysis of the cost of the President’s spending proposals which we do not have here. We do not have them.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I thank the very able majority leader for his courtesy in calling attention to the inquiry I had previously indicated I wanted to make, and for his listening to it. I am sure he will give some consideration to it. I hope he will. And I hope all Senators will be willing to consider the request to go over until next Tuesday or Wednesday so that we might have the benefit of having the information that is in the President’s budget.

I am sure it is not very far away. It is probably on the printing presses within three blocks of this Chamber right now. If they plan to have it up here next Monday, it is available somewhere right now.

I thank the majority leader for entertaining my request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I understand the distinguished Senator from Pennsylvania is going to go next. I did not want to keep burdening Sen-
April 4, 2001, or Thursday, April 5, 2001, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2001, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Friday, April 6, 2001, Saturday, April 7, 2001, Sunday, April 8, 2001, or Monday, April 9, 2001, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, April 23, 2001, or until such time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

Mr. DOMENICI. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2001-2011—Continued

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, at the outset, let me say to the distinguished Senator from West Virginia, who holds an extraordinary record in this body, and asked me 45 minutes ago if I would mind yielding for a question, I want the RECORD to show that I agreed to yield for a question. I had no idea that the answer would be so long. Mr. President, I thought it worthy of note.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, if my dear friend will yield briefly, I might apologize to him for the questions having gone on and on and the answers and the joining by other Senators, which I think added to the importance of the question. I think we performed a service. I certainly thank the Senator most kindly.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, like the incident with the Navy plane, no apology is in order. I have worked with the distinguished Senator from West Virginia for many years when he was the Democratic leader and then majority leader, President pro tempore, and chairman of the Appropriations Committee. I greatly admire what he has done.

I sat and listened to the whole proceeding, but I thought it was worth just a minute of the Senate’s time to note I yielded for a question and 45 minutes later I got the floor.

AMENDMENT NO. 106

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Pennsylvania, Mr. SPECTER, for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MUKULSKI, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. KERRY, Mr. WELSTONE, Mr. DEWINE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SARBADES, and Ms. SNOWE proposes an amendment numbered 106.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: Increase discretionary health funding by $700,000,000)

On page 28, line 23, increase the amount by $700,000,000.

On page 28, line 24, increase the amount by $700,000,000.

On page 43, line 15, decrease the amount by $700,000,000.

On page 43, line 16, decrease the amount by $700,000,000.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, this is an amendment which adds $700 million to increase the health function in this resolution to assure that the funding for the National Institutes of Health be doubled by the year 2003 as provided for in a resolution of the Senate which goes back to 1997, a 98–0 resolution that we double the funding for the National Institutes of Health. The offset for the $700 million comes from the 920 account, I am advised, which is allowances on administrative costs across the board.

The funding for the National Institutes of Health is a priority second to none. There is nothing more important than health. The National Institutes of Health have made extraordinary progress in their efforts to combat the most serious maladies which confront Americans, and for that matter, people around the world, including, but not necessarily limited to, are Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s, epilepsy, cancer of the prostate, breast cancer, cervical cancer, leukemia, melanoma, hearing research, heart disease, stroke, AIDS, and diabetes. I could go on and on and on.

Our effort to secure this funding has been a rather bumpy road. We have managed to persevere. In 1998, Senator HARKIN and I led the attack with a resolution to add $1.1 billion to the health function and the amendment was defeated 63–37. We came back the next year, having sustained that loss for $1 billion and doubled the request to $2 billion. Again the amendment was defeated, but this time by a lesser vote of 57–41.

In those 2 years, notwithstanding the failure of our efforts to get an increase in the budget resolution, we took out our sharp pencils and as a matter of arithmetic, recalculated the extra billion in fiscal year 1998 and the $2 billion extra in fiscal year 1999. In fiscal year 2000 we, again, offered an amendment to the budget resolution, this time of $1.4 billion to the health function over and above the $600 million which had been provided by the Budget Committee. This time we lost again by a narrow vote of 47–52. Again, we found the extra funds as a matter of priority by allocating funds within the overall budget for the subcommittee which has jurisdiction over labor, health, human services, and education.

In fiscal year 2001, we offered an amendment to the budget resolution to add $1.6 billion to the health function. This time, for the first time, the budget resolution was passed 55–45. Our efforts were rewarded with increases over that 4-year period of affirmative votes: 37, to 41, to 47, and finally to 55.

This year, on February 13, Senator HARKIN and I had as additional cosponsors: Senators BREAUX, COCHRAN, COLLINS, LINS, DEWINE, FRIST, HUTCHINSON, MIKULSKI, MURRAY, SARBADES, SCHUMER, and SNOWE on S. Res. 19, the Biomedical Revitalization Resolution of 2001.

This year the administration has come forward with $2.75 billion, so it was necessary only to increase by $700 million. We could not do a figure in less than $100 million amounts under the resolution rules which would enable us to come to the $3.4 billion target which is necessary to keep us on the path to doubling the NIH budget within the 5-year period as called for in the resolution from 1997 which, as I say, passed 98–0.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time in opposition?

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, would the Senator from Pennsylvania yield for questions on my time?

Mr. SPECTER. I yield.

Mr. CONRAD. I thank the Senator from Pennsylvania for his leadership on this issue. He has brought this body a long way. We have seen it over a number of years by his persistence and persuasion. I publicly acknowledge the leadership he has provided in an area that is critically important. I have seen in the lives of some of my constituents how important the NIH can be and what an incredible contribution it has made to improving health research and extending the longevity of the American people. The Senator from Pennsylvania can be very proud of his advocacy.

As I understand the Senate’s amendment, it provides $700 million to the National Institutes of Health in the fiscal year 2002, is that correct?

Mr. SPECTER. Yes.

Mr. CONRAD. The source of funding for that would be out of the projected surplus for that year?

Mr. SPECTER. No, as I am advised by the experts, out of the 920 account which covers allowances and administrative costs.

Mr. CONRAD. If that is the case, I think it may well be we will support