

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I seek recognition under leader time so I can propound a unanimous consent request and get an understanding as to how we are going to proceed at this point.

First of all, I think it is unfortunate that we see there is a delay being forced. I understand there are Senators who think we have gone late enough tonight and would like for us to resume tomorrow. It is very important we complete this work, and obviously we will not go to any other legislation until we complete this very important work of the people.

I have listened to Senators on both sides of the aisle and am trying to find a way to give Senators a chance to offer their amendments and have them considered. I hope that it will not be delayed indefinitely. Certainly that would be a subversion of the rules, but we will take a time out here and hopefully tomorrow Senators will be prepared to resume our work and bring it to a conclusion.

I believe Senator DASCHLE intends to work with me and the managers of the legislation to try to find a way to bring this debate to a reasonable conclusion. But I emphasize again, we have work we need to do this week, and if we have to go on into Friday or Saturday, I think we should be prepared to do that. Senators on both sides have indicated they would be willing to do that.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Energy Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1696 regarding construction of the World War II memorial, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1696) to expedite the construction of the World War II memorial in the District of Columbia.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise to ask the Senate to act on this, as we have just done. I am honored to do so on behalf of the few in the Senate who served in World War II, Senators INOUE and STEVENS, with great distinction, I myself with very modest service beginning in 1945 during the closing months of the war.

This memorial is long overdue in recognition of the enormous sacrifice of

the men and women of the U.S. military; and, indeed, it is a symbol of the sacrifices of an entire generation, not only those who went abroad to the battlefields but those here at home and their families.

Mr. President, our former colleague, Robert Dole, was very instrumental in seeing that the financial package and other aspects on this memorial were successful.

Mr. REID. I also say to my friend, I have been impressed with how hard you, Senator INOUE, and Senator STEVENS have worked on this important issue.

AMENDMENT NO. 745

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I understand there is an amendment at the desk submitted by Senator STEVENS and Senator INOUE, myself, and others, and I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER], for Mr. STEVENS, for himself, Mr. INOUE, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. THOMAS, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. WARNER, proposes an amendment numbered 745.

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

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide a complete substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. APPROVAL OF WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL SITE AND DESIGN.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the World War II Memorial described in plans approved by the Commission of Fine Arts on July 20, 2000 and November 16, 2000, and selected by the National Capital Planning Commission on September 21, 2000 and December 14, 2000, and in accordance with the special use permit issued by the Secretary of the Interior on January 23, 2001, and numbered NCR-NACC-5700-0103, shall be constructed expeditiously at the dedicated Rainbow Pool site in the District of Columbia in a manner consistent with such plans and permits, subject to design modifications, if any, approved in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

SEC. 2. APPLICATION OF COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.

Elements of the memorial design and construction not approved as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be considered and approved in accordance with the requirements of the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

SEC. 3. JUDICIAL REVIEW.

The decision to locate the memorial at the Rainbow Pool site in the District of Columbia and the actions by the Commission of Fine Arts on July 20, 2000 and November 16, 2000, the actions by the National Capital Planning Commission on September 21, 2000 and December 14, 2000, and the issuance of the special use permit identified in section 1 shall not be subject to judicial review.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I believe that it is time to honor the sac-

rifices of the World War II generation. Eight years after Congress authorized the construction of this memorial, and six years from the first of 22 public hearings on its site and design, the memorial's construction remains delayed by a procedural issue involving the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), one of the agencies required by law to approve the memorial, and a lawsuit filed by a small group of opponents. This legislation would remove those obstacles and require the construction process to promptly go forward.

The legislation accomplishes that goal as follows:

Through sections one and three, the site and design for the World War II Memorial are finalized, expeditious construction is directed, and the prospect of further delay through judicial challenges or other re-considerations of the selected site and design are eliminated. Section one also includes a provision regarding design modifications which is solely intended to address the highly unlikely event that a technical impossibility could occur in the course of construction that might require a limited deviation from the selected design. In light of the careful review the existing plans have already been subject to by the memorial's design, engineering, and construction management professionals, the General Services Administration (GSA), the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC), the National Park Service (NPS), the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) and the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), no exercise of this authority is expected. Moreover, as a result of these provisions, funds donated for the Memorial would not be diverted to preparation of the additional mock-up of the Memorial or further presentations on the selected design that have been requested of the NPS by NCPC to administratively redress that agency's procedural issue resolved by this legislation.

The second section directs that the procedural steps of the Commemorative Works Act shall be used for the approval of those few aspects of the Memorial not already finalized. These items are essentially the color of the granite, the flag poles, sculptural elements, the wording of the inscriptions to be placed on the memorial, and final adjustments to the level of lighting. These matters will be presented in due course by the NPS, representing the Secretary of the Interior and acting on behalf of the ABMC, to the two approving commissions designated by the Commemorative Works Act: the CFA and the NCPC.

To further place this legislation in context it is important to briefly describe the extensive, democratic deliberative process through which the site and design were selected.