West Virginia was ravaged last week by its worst flooding in years. Homes were destroyed, businesses and infrastructure were shut down and, most tragically, lives were lost. The outpouring of support thus far has been truly heartwarming; however, much is still needed in order to rebuild our communities. That is why I am asking my colleagues, our staffs, and our friends to support this resolution and to participate in a clothing drive that will give aid to the victims of this tragedy. I am proud to be joined by our distinguished senior Senator, Robert C. Byrd, in our effort to help West Virginians. Our drive can only be successful if the resolution before us is passed, and if we each give what we can.

Immediately following the floods, I visited some of the areas hardest hit. Although I had this clothing and food distribution before I was still taken aback by dissolved roads, collapsed homes, and splintered bridges. Fortunately, the clean-up process is already underway as federal disaster relief pours in. Organizations such as the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army have provided for residents’ immediate needs, while agencies such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, begin processing damage claims. Governor Wise and state agencies are working hard to reach out to communities struggling to cope with the aftermath of the flooding. Working together, federal, state, and local officials can begin the crucial work to rebuild our communities.

Yet, much remains to be done. Today, Sharon and I will visit more of the state. With us, we will take the prayers and well-wishes we have been given. We will also present generous donations such as the Pepsi Cola Company. While I am in the state, my staff will organize a clothing drive to replace some of the items lost in the floods. Clothing of all kinds is needed as residents rebuild their homes and their lives. Many have lost everything and, as they return to work and school, will need the basic items we all take for granted. Moreover, as the winter months approach and the season brings rugged weather, victims will also find themselves in need of cold-weather clothing and shoes. Once the clothing is collected at Capitol Hill, United Airlines will transport all of the donations to West Virginia and the National Guard will help distribute the clothing to families in need. These are just two examples of the generosity displayed by companies and by individuals who wish to help. Each of them has my deep gratitude.

Of course, in the rush to move on and rebuild, we cannot forget about those lost. I am very sorry for the loss of Bonnie Shumate and Bradley Jenkins, and my heart goes out to their families and friends. Though rebuilding will serve as a challenge for the average West Virginian, grieving will, of course, prove far more difficult for the Shumates and the Jenkins. It has been said that there is light at the end of every tunnel. Considering the awesome amount of support provided to date for the flood victims in West Virginia, I would have to agree. Let us continue this support by committing to and participating in a clothing drive for the people affected by the flood. On behalf of the Mountain State, thank you.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements and supporting documents be printed in the Record.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the resolution was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 134) is located in today's Record under "Submitted Resolutions."

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2001

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 9 a.m. tomorrow, July 17.

I further ask consent that on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate resume consideration of the Bankruptcy Reform Act; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 to 2:15 for the weekly party conferences.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, therefore, on Tuesday the Senate will convene at 9 a.m. and resume consideration of the Bankruptcy Reform Act under a previous order. There will be 3 hours of debate on cloture on the Bankruptcy Reform Act, which will cause us to vote around 12 noon. We expect to return to the Energy and Water Appropriations Act on Tuesday, with rollcall votes expected into the evening.

In the morning I am going to renew my request that there be a time certain for filing amendments. The reason this is so important is we are not going to be on this bill tomorrow. That will give staff time to work on the amendments that people think are important.

Some certainly are important. So I am going to renew that request tomorrow morning, and I hope Senators on both sides of the aisle will allow us to go forward.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. KYL. Madam President, let me say I appreciate what the Senator from Nevada said about the reforms that Senators Domenici, Murkowski, and I effectuated with respect to the Department of Energy. It was a time of some confusion, and reasonable people could differ about what we did there. But I think it is working out well. I appreciate that the Senator from Nevada is now very much in support of that. Earlier when I spoke, I did not use the name of the Senator from Nevada but I did thank the Democratic leadership for allowing nominations with such alacrity last week. I think there were 54 nominations and I think I mentioned that I hoped we could continue with that progress during the next couple of weeks. I wanted the Senator from Nevada to know I paid him a compliment today as well.

Mr. REID. I say to my colleague, if he will yield, I watched his statement from my office, and I appreciate that very much. I say to my friend from Arizona, it is important we move these nominations. There are a few that cause problems, but very few. And you will know about those. The rest of them we need to move forward to have better government.

I think it is very unfair that the system has become so complicated, so burdensome, that we are having trouble getting good people to take these jobs. It is amazing to me the quality of the people who served in the Clinton administration and those who are now willing to serve the Bush administration with all they have to go through.

I look forward to working with my friend from Arizona to move as many of these as quickly as we can. As I told my friend on Friday, we had one person with a little problem and we just went around that, took care of everybody else. Even those we have problems with, they deserve their day in court, so to speak. So I appreciate the comments of the Senator from Arizona. I appreciate his cooperation in allowing us to have this bill on the floor.

Mr. KYL. I thank the Senator from Nevada.

Madam President, will the Chair advise me when I have gone 5 minutes. I do not want to impinge anymore on the time of the Senator from Oregon.

UNITED STATES-CHINA RELATIONS

Mr. KYL. Madam President, I wanted to speak briefly about the decision