

again, frighten the American people. The best way to take that away is for the President to work with us. Are we asking for the impossible?

There have been efforts to amend this FISA legislation. In title I, there are probably five or six amendments we would want to vote on. Title II, which deals with immunity, Senators DODD and FEINGOLD for a long time have said they wish to have a vote on that. That is not unreasonable. Many of us support that. I can't imagine why we can't move forward on that, unless this is something the President wants to ratchet up so that he has something to frighten the American people about on Monday night when he gives his State of the Union, that we are not protecting the American people. We are protecting the American people, just as this young man, Josh, was, whom the Republican leader talked about. I wrote a letter, as I indicated, to the Gaul family a couple of days ago.

We need to enter into a new era of bipartisanship where we are not frightening the American people but we are trying to work with the American people, to move out of some of the areas in which we find ourselves bogged down. I hope this year will allow us to do that.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2556

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand S. 2556 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2556) to extend the provisions of the Protect America Act of 2007 for an additional 30 days.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to this bill at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

FISA

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, just one further observation with regard to my friend's remarks.

The Bond-Rockefeller bill is exactly the way we ought to be doing our business. It came out of the Intelligence Committee 13 to 2. It is supported on a bipartisan basis. It is supported by the President of the United States. We have a product that was carefully negotiated by Senator BOND and Senator ROCKEFELLER, approved by the Intelligence Committee 13 to 2, and supported by the President of the United States. That is my definition of a bipartisan accomplishment. Now the question is, Can we finish the job and get a signature?

This is not about frightening the American people. The American people should be frightened, and remember full well what happened on 9/11. They also remember with gratitude that it has not happened again for 6 years. The reason for it, obviously, is we have been on offense, going after the terrorists where they are, and we have improved our defense.

An integral part of protecting the homeland is the measure before us, carefully crafted on a bipartisan basis, supported by the President of the United States. If we want to finish the job and have a bipartisan accomplishment that all of us can be proud of, the way to do that is to pass this bill, send it to the House, urge them to take it up and pass it, and send it to the President, who awaits it to affix his signature.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is no question that Senator ROCKEFELLER and Senator BOND have worked hard on this legislation. Also, we have had good work from Senator LEAHY and Senator SPECTER of the Judiciary Committee. Senator ROCKEFELLER wants a piece of legislation to pass very badly. He does not support cloture in this effort that is going to take place on Monday because he believes the bill needs to be changed. Just because there is a bill that comes out of committee doesn't mean we shouldn't deal with it here on the floor. Senator ROCKEFELLER is not going to support cloture on this bill on Monday. It is a decision he made, and he has made it because we have not had the opportunity to do things to this piece of legislation that he believes should happen. It is a rare piece of legislation that comes out of one of these major committees that comes to the floor that doesn't require some improvement.

So it is simply unfair to say that Senator ROCKEFELLER and Senator BOND's piece of legislation should go through as if it were written in script on top of some big mountain. It was written in a committee room with a lot of discussion and votes, and some of the amendments passed, some didn't. It came to the floor. We all are happy it came to the floor. But at this time, even Senator ROCKEFELLER believes there should be changes in it, and he will not support cloture, as he told me last night, because he feels it has been handled so poorly by the minority here on the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Missouri is recognized.

FISA AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2007

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, we are on the FISA bill, I believe. Has the bill been reported? Is it before us?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. It has not yet been reported.

The clerk will report the pending business by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2248) to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, to modernize and streamline the provisions of that Act, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Rockefeller/Bond amendment No. 3911, in the nature of a substitute.

Feingold/Dodd amendment No. 3909 (to amendment No. 3911), to require that certain records be submitted to Congress.

Bond amendment No. 3916 (to amendment No. 3909), of a perfecting nature.

Reid amendment No. 3918 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Rockefeller/Bond amendment No. 3911), relative to the extension of the Protect America Act of 2007.

IRAQ

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I wish to address the FISA bill. I also commend our majority and minority leaders on their statements about the lives that have been lost by our brave troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

I believe there are a couple of comments that are appropriate.

Number 1, it was said that General Petraeus said the war is not going to be won militarily. That is the key point which General Petraeus has brought to the battle. There is a kinetic and nonkinetic impact of the counterinsurgency strategy that General Petraeus has laid out and that is showing such great progress in Iraq.

Today, the news is not dominated by Iraq. Those people who have been criticizing it don't talk about it because General Petraeus's strategy is working. It is not just the surge; it is the strategy, the counterinsurgency strategy, or COIN, as it is sometimes called. That involves clearing, holding, and building.

There is a real difference between the approach we took right after the fall of Saddam Hussein, which has been hazily called the "whack a mole" theory—we would go out, send our troops out, trying to keep a small footprint. We would also send our troops out where there was an al-Qaida stronghold and try to suppress them, and then we would leave. The problem is that al-Qaida would come back, and they would take vengeance on anybody thought to have cooperated. That strategy, apparently pushed by those who felt it would be—we wanted to maintain a small footprint and not appear to be taking an occupier's role—was not working.

General Petraeus expanded upon the usual doctrines of counterinsurgency, and he brought a new approach beginning over a year ago. He said: We will send in troops to clear areas, working with the Iraqi security forces. When they clear an area, they will stay there to maintain security—that is clear—and then hold. And holding involves the U.S. forces working with the Iraqi