

turn to H.R. 4112, the legislative appropriations bill, and the following amendments be the only amendments in order: One, a Thomas-Brownback amendment regarding nongovernmental services, and one managers' amendment. I further ask unanimous consent that debate must be concluded today, with the exception of the managers' amendment, and that any vote ordered with respect to the bill be postponed to occur at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 21. I further ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the State-Justice-Commerce appropriations bill following the conclusion of debate on the legislative appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, as I understand the proposal being put forward by the majority leader, it would not include the marriage penalty bill that I am requesting we get a vote on, that I know that he does support; we are getting some opposition from other places.

If that is, indeed, the case, I must object to this bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. LOTT. In light of the objection, I have no alternative than to call up the legislative appropriations bill and file a cloture motion.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask the Senate now turn to H.R. 4112.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The bill (H.R. 4112) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provision of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the legislative appropriations bill:

Trent Lott, Robert F. Bennett, Ted Stevens, Don Nickles, Bill Frist, Jesse Helms, Pete Domenici, Richard Shelby, Rod Grams, Kit Bond, Thomas A. Daschle, Orrin G. Hatch, Larry Craig, Strom Thurmond, Paul Coverdell, and Chuck Hagel.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, unfortunately in this case Members on our side of the aisle have insisted on an amendment that made it impossible for us to get a unanimous consent agreement as

to how to bring up a complete legislative appropriations bill. In order to expedite that legislative appropriations bill, I did, then, file a cloture motion. That vote will occur on Tuesday, July 21, at approximately 9:30 a.m.

I now ask that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

Mr. LOTT. I want to confirm that I have discussed this, of course, with Members on our side of the aisle and with Senator DASCHLE. He is aware of this. Any first-degree amendments, then, that are to be offered to the legislative appropriations bill, must be filed by 2 p.m. on Monday, July 20.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. I now ask that there 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.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— S. 1482, S. 1619, S. 442

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader, proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 436, S. 1482, and it be considered under the following limitations: 1 hour of debate equally divided on the bill; one amendment offered by Senator DURBIN, regarding reviews of criminal records, 30 minutes of debate equally divided; one amendment offered by Senator MOSELEY-BRAUN and Senator DURBIN relating to Internet predators, 30 minutes of debates equally divided; one amendment offered by Senator DODD regarding blocking software, 30 minutes of debate equally divided. No other amendments will be in order to the bill.

I further ask consent that following the expiration or yielding back of debate time, and the disposition of the above-listed amendments, the bill will be read for a third time and the Senate will proceed to a vote on passage of the bill, with no intervening action or debate.

I further ask consent that the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader, proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 437, S. 1619, and it be considered under the following limitations: 1 hour of debate equally divided on the bill, 30 minutes for Senator MURRAY; one Dodd amendment regarding America Online, 30 minutes equally divided; one Feingold amendment, text of S. 900, 30 minutes equally divided; and one relevant amendment offered by Senator BURNS, 2 hours equally divided.

I further ask unanimous consent that following the expiration or yielding back of the debate time and the disposition of the above amendments, the bill be read the third time and the Senate proceed to a vote on passage of the

bill, with no intervening action or debate.

I finally ask consent that S. 442, the Internet tax bill, be referred to the Committee on Finance, and, further, that if the bill has not been reported by July 30, it be automatically discharged from the Finance Committee and placed on the calendar.

Now, I might just say before the Chair puts the question on this agreement, this would be the process whereby we bring to the floor the Internet filtering bill, the Internet pornography bill, and the Internet tax bill.

So I did ask consent that it incorporate a process to bring all three of these very important matters to the floor of the Senate.

Mr. LEVIN. Reserving the right to object, I just state for the Record with regard to the proposal just offered, there have been ongoing efforts to clear a unanimous consent agreement on each of the items just mentioned. From the Democratic side, we can enter a unanimous consent agreement with regard to S. 442 and S. 1619.

However, at this time, we are still attempting to get clearance on a unanimous consent agreement on S. 1482, but are not in a position, today, to enter into such an agreement. If the majority leader wants to call the bill up with no agreement, then, perhaps, we can do that, but for the Record, Mr. President, the Democratic side can now enter an agreement on S. 442 and on S. 1619. If the other side is ready to do that, we can go forth.

Otherwise, I have to object to the consent request just propounded.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, did the Senator object, then?

Mr. LEVIN. Yes.

Mr. LOTT. I would like to say we have worked on it and I think we have made some progress. These are all interrelated or connected, because it does involve the Internet with regard to filtering, to keep out certain programs in our schools; and of course the tax question. There has been a lot of work that has gone on in that area, working not only with the companies that would be affected, then, the Internet companies, but working with Governors and mayors, making sure that all points of view are involved. But the pornography question is a very, very important part of it all and it does relate to the Internet. In fact, there have been indications just recently that even more pornography than what is already there is planned for the future, free and accessible to everybody.

So, for now, I think we should keep the three together, but we will continue to work with the minority and see if we can get an agreement to clear all three of them or consider just doing two of them if all else fails. I think we should not neglect any of these.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST
TIME—S. 2330

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a bill to the desk and ask that it be read a first time.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2330) to improve the access and choice of patients to quality affordable health care.

Mr. LOTT. I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

Mr. MURKOWSKI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION
ON TAIWAN

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, last week the Senate made an important statement that we support Taiwan by passing S. Con. Resolution 107. And that we are committed to her people, to her government and to her democratic way of life.

While we have made countless statements in this body before concerning Taiwan, the circumstances which led to S. Con. Res. 107 were different—markedly different—from those in the past. During the President's trip to China last month, President Clinton "clarified" his policy toward Taiwan. He indicated while in Beijing—that the United States, in agreeing to the One China policy, had agreed with China that reunification would be peaceful. Further, while in Shanghai, he went a step further and, for the first time, uttered that the United States supports the "Three Noes" long advocated by the government of the People's Republic of China. That is: the United States does not support one-Taiwan, one China; the United States does not support Taiwan independence; and the United States does not support Taiwan's membership in nation-state based international organizations.

To understand why this concerns me, Mr. President, one needs to understand the nuances of our federal law and policy toward Taiwan. It is in the Taiwan Relations Act, which was passed by Congress and signed into law by the President in 1979—back when the United States officially broke off relations with the Republic of China on Taiwan in favor of the People's Republic of China (PRC). Section 2(b)(3) states that "... the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means." We have also signed Three Joint Communiqués with the PRC which address the Taiwan question. While they all speak to the peaceful resolution of the Taiwan question, none goes so far to speak to the question of reunification.

Up to now, the saving grace of American policy toward China and Taiwan, if there were any grace to it, was the ambiguity. China did not know what the United States would do if Taiwan declared independence; or if China attacked. They thought they found out in 1996, when the President rightly sent two aircraft carriers to the Taiwan Straits to show our strength and resolve—while the Chinese conducted missile tests aimed at influencing the national presidential elections in Taiwan. But we have a whole new ballgame, now Mr. President. What a difference a day makes.

Incredible, Mr. President. The Administration then feigns innocence and insists that the President's remarks did not constitute a policy change and that our policy on Taiwan has not changed since 1979—that it is the same now as it was then. I'm sorry, but I have to expose this for what it is—a world of make believe. If you repeat something enough times, eventually people will take it as the gospel. Well not this time.

This is a policy change; and a serious one at that. Considered collectively, which I know the Chinese government is doing, it appears to be a major concession by the United States on the issue of Taiwan. As I said last Tuesday, I know the Chinese; and understand full well that they will use it to their utmost advantage. They will tell Taiwan and the Taiwanese people that if they declare independence, even if by democratic referendum (one person, one vote), that the United States will not support them. Case in point, the Washington Post article last Friday, "China Tells Taiwan to 'Face Reality' Reunification Talks Urged." Although I brought this to the Senate's attention last week, I think the point needs to be reiterated so that people are on notice. I ask unanimous consent that a copy of this article appear in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD following my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, so ordered.

(See Exhibit 1.)

Mr. MURKOWSKI. This article points out that "Chinese officials have said they plan to use the remarks as a lever to force Taiwan into political talks on reunification." So let me make sure I understand this—the leader of the greatest democratic society in the history of mankind, has tacitly agreed to a policy which, in itself, undermines democracy. How and why is this possible? Because political expediency took the place of sound policy and support for one of our strongest allies in an increasingly unstable Asian Theater. Well, Mr. President, I am afraid that these developments may have simply added to the Asian uncertainty, rather than clarified it.

In agreeing to the "Three Noes", President Clinton has effectively stated that the United States will not support Taiwan independence even if Beijing agrees to it. Is this the message

that was intended to be delivered? Think about it—the United States used to maintain the line that peaceful resolution was all that mattered because this in itself protected the rights of the 21 million people in Taiwan. If they could cut a deal with Beijing that allowed the two to go their separate ways, presumably our earlier policy would be fine with that. Personally, as the PRC becomes more open, I wouldn't rule out the possibility that an agreement could be reached. But President Clinton's remarks have ruled this possibility out—because the United States will not support an independent Taiwan. President Clinton just told the Chinese that they don't need to negotiate with Taiwan because so far as we are concerned an independent Taiwan is not an option.

Although most of my colleagues are not aware of this, there is a terrible contagion going through Taiwan right now—it is very similar to polio. Estimates are that up to one million people may be carrying this bug in some form or another, but it doesn't impact adults. Only the children. In fact, a number of children in Taiwan have died from this disease which, as I understand it, is exacerbated by the heat.

Well, Mr. President, Taiwan has applied for membership in the World Health Organization (WHO)—it is a national priority. But, even this application cannot proceed because membership in the WHO requires statehood. And that huge island off the coast of China, which we recognized officially from 1949 to 1979, doesn't have it. This is ridiculous, and it is about to get a lot worse. So, Taiwan is suffering from an epidemic which is killing children, and it can't get access from WHO specialists who might be able to help because Taiwan is not a sovereign government? Although the PRC has never controlled Taiwan, and despite the fact that Taiwan has developed a strong democracy and thriving, stable free market economy, it cannot participate in the World Health Organization. Well, Mr. President, this seems yet another time when the facts somehow lose out to the politics.

Mr. President, we have made statements reiterating our support for Taiwan, but it is time for us to back them up. The Senate should pass S. Con. Resolution 30 calling on the Administration to support Taiwan's bid to take part in international organizations; and we should expand it to include the World Health Organization. We should take every opportunity in this body to force the issue, so that our commitment to Taiwan does not ring hollow as Beijing's steps up the pressure.

EXHIBIT 1

CHINA TELLS TAIWAN TO FACE REALITY—
REUNIFICATION TALKS URGED

(By John Pomfret)

BEIJING, July 9—China urged Taiwan today to "face reality" and agree to talks on eventual reunification with China following comments by President Clinton that the United States will not support an independent Taiwan.