To the Senator's family, his wife Harriet, his daughters, his grandchildren, his great grandchildren, and certainly to all of his many, many friends, we offer our sympathy and our prayers. William Fulbright truly was a gentleman, a scholar, a statesman, a national leader who made a substantial and indelible mark on this country. We will never forget him.

THE NOMINATION OF DR. HENRY FOSTER

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I would like to talk for just a moment about the nomination of Dr. Henry W. Foster, J.r., to be Surgeon General of the United States. No one could deny that Dr. Foster has had a distinguished career both in terms of his service as a practicing physician as well as his contributions as a medical educator and community leader. No one can deny that.

For the last two decades now, Dr. Foster has served in the department of obstetrics and gynecology at Meharry Medical College where he has helped to train some of our Nation's finest doctors. At Meharry, Dr. Foster has demonstrated his vast leadership abilities by serving not only as professor and chairman of the department, but also as dean of the school of medicine and the acting president of the college.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Foster has been a clear voice for personal responsibility. His work on teen pregnancy prevention has been a valuable contribution at a time when we are struggling desperately to identify effective solutions to this nationwide problem.

The "I Have a Future" program which Dr. Foster developed and directed was chosen by President Bush as one of his "thousand points of light." The program stresses abstinence. It engages communities in helping teenagers make positive decisions about their future.

Dr. Foster is endorsed by the American Medical Association, the Association of Schools of Public Health, the National Medical Association, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. He has been endorsed by Dr. Sullivan, Secretary of Health and Human Services under President Bush.

I have no doubt that this man's background makes him well qualified to be Surgeon General, and to his great and distinguished career and many contributions to society have now been clouded by his opponents' attempts to turn this nomination into a debate about abortion. But this debate is not about abortion. No doctor in this country should be disqualified from consideration for the post of Surgeon General for performing a legal medical procedure.

This debate is about qualifications. Dr. Foster is the President's choice for the position of Surgeon General. He is qualified for this position and I daresay most people know that today. Of course, the Senate has a constitutional advice and consent role. Any remaining questions about this nominee should be dealt with during the confirmation process where they belong. This is what we do with every nomination, and it is critically important.

I must say, this town can be pretty mean. I hope, as we consider this nominee, that Dr. Foster is a man who has come forward to serve his country at the request of the President of the United States to serve in an important role. It is a role to help children, to help families, to make as positive a contribution as possible in what time he may have left.

We ought to respect that. We ought to be careful about what we say and about asking people to join in public service if every time they accept the call to public service they are beaten down, and ultimately characterized as people they are not. Let us be careful about that.

Let us also recognize if we are going to deal in a bipartisan manner, as we have attempted to do on a whole array of issues, it must be a two-way street. Democrats and Republicans need to work with one another. But if this becomes a one-way street, if this becomes a partisan issue, that sends a clear message, it seems to me, about what expectations the majority may have as they look to us for cooperation on many issues in the future.

This man deserves confirmation. This man deserves our support. And I hope we will all give it to him.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a suspension of the rules for a period of 10 minutes each.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill, pursuant to the order of February 9, 1995, was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

S. 383. A bill to provide for the establishment of policy on the deployment by the United States of an antiballistic missile system and of advanced theater missile defense systems; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. HELMS):

S. 384. A bill to require a report on United States support for Mexico during its debt crises; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GREGG:

S. 385. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to eliminate the penalties imposed on States for failure to require the use of safety belts in passenger vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 386. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax-free treatment of education savings accounts established by States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. EXON:

S. 387. A bill to encourage enhanced State and Federal efforts to reduce traffic deaths and injuries and improve traffic safety among young, old, and high-risk; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ROTH, Mr. GREGG, Ms. MOONEY-BROWN, Mr. MURkowski, Mr. KOHL, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. COATS, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 388. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to eliminate the penalties for noncompliance by States with a program requiring the use of motorcycle helmets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. JOHNSTON (for himself, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. HATFIELD, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. SHEPHERD, and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 390. A bill to improve the ability of the United States to respond to the international terrorist threat; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. Heflin, Mr. Burns, Mr. Domenici, Mr. Gorton, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. Murkowski, and Mr. Packwood):

S. 391. A bill to authorize and direct the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to undertake activities to halt and reverse the decline in forest health on Federal lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, that when reported the bill be referred jointly to the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry and Environment and Public Works, for a period not to exceed 20 days of session to report or be discharged.

By Mr. GLENN (for himself and Mr. DeWine):

S. 392. A bill to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 with regard to the establishment of the Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 393. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Agriculture from transferring any national forest system lands in the Angeles National