

we caught them with the reality that they are reducing the level of expenditures for the veterans of this country by at least \$13 billion, decimating our commitment to the veterans.

As our President is prone to say, we do not want to violate our values. Our values are very simple: Protect the veterans of America. Live up to your commitment. We do not want to violate that value. But I will suggest that the reality of it now is that the President violates that value. But he almost got away with it, with nobody understanding it—except for this amendment today, which clearly now says it, and even the Democrats understand. They understand veterans is cut enough that they want to raise taxes to pay for it.

Now, they were not saying they were cutting veterans just 4 or 5 days ago because, obviously, they just wanted to say Republicans were cutting programs to get to balance. There is a nice little gimmick. The President called it a "trigger." The problem is that the trigger would not work on the floor, because if you have to use CBO economics, and not the President's choice of economics, then you have to pull the trigger, and they did that and they put a giant plug in their budget. That plug, so everybody will know, is a big whopping plug. It is \$32 billion in tax cuts that have to be sunsetted. So we raise taxes \$32 billion after having cut them. That is the first thing in the plug. We add Medicare cuts of \$13 billion, and the President adds spectrum fees of \$6 billion. This is kind of the cornucopia of solving budget problems. Spectrum fee. Mr. President, \$38 billion is in the budget. This says \$6.6 billion more to get to the balance of the President and the balance the distinguished minority manager put before the Senate.

And then is the big ticket item: discretionary cuts of \$67 billion are in this new plug. Pull the trigger and expose the reality and there sits a plug, without which you cannot balance the budget. And \$67 billion of that is in the discretionary programs, such as veterans. And we are trying to fix veterans with this amendment. We do it very simply, very simply. We say, we think veterans ought to get this \$13 billion because we have a high value on our relationship to veterans. We think the welfare program of the country could be reduced by \$13 billion to pay for it. Reduce welfare and turn it into workfare. And even at that, we have not reduced welfare to the extent that the bipartisan welfare reform that cleared this place would have.

So, in summary, we have now exposed the reality of the President's budget. We have exposed the reality of it. He did not want anybody to know that, to really get to balance, we needed \$124 billion, and we now have that before the Senate—a piece of it before us. Do you want to increase taxes to take care of our veterans? Or do you want to reduce welfare to take care of our veterans?

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. EXON. I yield 1 minute to the Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, Will Rogers once said, "It's not what he knows that bothers me; it's what he says he knows for sure that just ain't so."

Two points: No. 1, the President's budget proposes more in discretionary spending than the Republican budget. There is no debate about that, and there is no amount of bluster on this floor that can change that.

No. 2, this is not about tax increases. The fact is, if this is a song with unlimited verses—tax increases, I guess—we spend \$2.2 billion to pay companies to shut their American plants and move them overseas. How about shutting that down and using the money in a constructive way? Two men from Florida did a study that says we lose \$40 billion a year by foreign corporations doing business in America that do not pay taxes here, and 73 percent of the foreign corporations doing business in America pay zero taxes.

To close tax loopholes is somehow increasing taxes? No. We are talking about big, fat, juicy tax breaks for some of the biggest enterprises in the world, and we are talking about closing them. Is there anything wrong with that? I do not think so.

Mr. MCCAIN. Will the Senator from North Dakota yield?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be recognized for 1 minute to acknowledge the departure of a truly great American.

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this time not be charged to either side, as we have been doing all afternoon.

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

The Senator from Arizona is recognized.

THE PASSING OF ADM. MIKE BOORDA

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I cannot begin to express how terribly saddened I am by the news of Adm. Mike Boorda's death this afternoon. My heart goes out to his wife, Bettie, and his children, Anna, Eddie, Bobby, and David. I pray that God's love, and the memory of a wonderful husband and father will comfort them in this moment of profound grief.

Mike Boorda was my friend of more than 20 years. He was an exceptional American, the first enlisted man to head the world's greatest Navy. He dedicated his entire adult life to the security of our country. He was a great sailor who loved the Navy beyond measure. He honored the uniform he was so proud to wear and the country he served so well. Most of all, I am grateful for the honor he did me by blessing me with his friendship. We all shall miss him very much.

May God grant him the eternal peace he deserves.

I yield the floor.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET

The Senate continued with the consideration of the concurrent resolution.

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I think we should alert all—and I believe the managers of the bill would agree—that we, most likely, will start voting in about 5 minutes, is that right?

Mr. DOMENICI. Yes. Would the Senator mind if the first vote is 15 minutes, to be immediately followed by a 10-minute vote?

Mr. EXON. No. Let the RECORD show as the Senator from New Mexico indicated. We are going to start voting in about 5 minutes. The first vote will be a 15-minute vote, immediately following, without any intervention, by a vote on the amendment offered by the Senator from Missouri, and that will be a 10-minute vote.

Mr. President, let me wind up briefly within the time I have left. I just find it a little bit odd that the Senator from New Mexico and the Senator from Missouri continue to complain that the discretionary numbers in the President's budget are too low. This has been mentioned by other Senators in debate, and I had this written down because I wanted to comment on it in closing.

Mr. President, if the President's appropriated savings are steep, then the Republican appropriations savings are positively cataclysmic. That is the point. Over the 6 years of the budget, the Republican budget cuts \$65 billion more from appropriations than does the President. And in the final year of the budget, 2002, the Republicans cut \$13 billion more in appropriated spending in that 1 year than does the President.

The Senator from Missouri knows that the Appropriations Committee will distribute those cuts—not this resolution. Indeed, neither the Republican budget, nor a Republican budget of any kind, contains program-by-program detail for appropriated accounts. The fairest comparison of appropriations in the outyears, therefore, is to compare totals of spending levels.

If I need additional time to close, I take it off of the time I have on the amendment.

In sum and in closing, the Republicans want to cut projected spending on the very poorest in the Nation. We want to plug some corporate loopholes that have been alluded to here and some specifics, and there are many more. We agree. We want to honor our veterans. That is the reason for this Democratic amendment. The real question is whether we want to protect the disabled kids or the corporations who are moving jobs overseas.

Mr. President, I yield any remaining time that I have. I believe the Chair will confirm that we have previously

agreed to the yeas and nays on the Exon amendment.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. Have the yeas and nays been approved for the Bond amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. DOMENICI. Before we vote, let me ask Senator EXON a question.

According to our understanding, your side has the next amendment after we vote on these two.

Mr. EXON. That is correct.

Mr. DOMENICI. Can we see that amendment during the vote?

Mr. EXON. We will provide that amendment to you during the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to the amendment of the Senator from Nebraska. On this question, the yeas and nays have been ordered, and the clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. LOTT. I announce that the Senator from Kansas [Mr. DOLE] is necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. PRYOR] is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber who desire to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 45, nays 53, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 115 Leg.]

YEAS—45

Akaka	Feingold	Leahy
Baucus	Feinstein	Levin
Biden	Ford	Lieberman
Bingaman	Glenn	Mikulski
Boxer	Graham	Moseley-Braun
Bradley	Harkin	Moynihan
Breaux	Heflin	Murray
Bryan	Hollings	Nunn
Bumpers	Inouye	Reid
Byrd	Johnston	Robb
Conrad	Kennedy	Rockefeller
Daschle	Kerrey	Sarbanes
Dodd	Kerry	Simon
Dorgan	Kohl	Wellstone
Exon	Lautenberg	Wyden

NAYS—53

Abraham	Gorton	McConnell
Ashcroft	Gramm	Murkowski
Bennett	Grams	Nickles
Bond	Grassley	Pell
Brown	Gregg	Pressler
Burns	Hatch	Roth
Campbell	Hatfield	Santorum
Chafee	Helms	Shelby
Coats	Hutchison	Simpson
Cochran	Inhofe	Smith
Cohen	Jeffords	Snowe
Coverdell	Kassebaum	Specter
Craig	Kempthorne	Stevens
D'Amato	Kyl	Thomas
DeWine	Lott	Thompson
Domenici	Lugar	Thurmond
Faircloth	Mack	Warner
Frist	McCain	

NOT VOTING—2

Dole Pryor

The amendment (No. 3973) was rejected.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. HATCH. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 3971

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now proceed under the previous order to vote on the Bond amendment, No. 3971.

The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. LOTT. I announce that the Senator from Kansas [Mr. DOLE] is necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. PRYOR] is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber who desire to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 75, nays 23, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 116 Leg.]

YEAS—75

Abraham	Feingold	Levin
Ashcroft	Feinstein	Lott
Baucus	Frist	Lugar
Bennett	Gorton	Mack
Biden	Graham	McCain
Bingaman	Gramm	McConnell
Bond	Grams	Murkowski
Brown	Grassley	Nickles
Bryan	Gregg	Nunn
Burns	Harkin	Pressler
Byrd	Hatch	Reid
Campbell	Hatfield	Robb
Chafee	Heflin	Rockefeller
Coats	Helms	Roth
Cochran	Hutchison	Santorum
Cohen	Inhofe	Shelby
Conrad	Jeffords	Simpson
Coverdell	Johnston	Smith
Craig	Kassebaum	Snowe
D'Amato	Kempthorne	Specter
DeWine	Kerrey	Stevens
Domenici	Kerry	Thomas
Dorgan	Kohl	Thompson
Exon	Kyl	Thurmond
Faircloth	Leahy	Warner

NAYS—23

Akaka	Glenn	Moynihan
Boxer	Hollings	Murray
Bradley	Inouye	Pell
Breaux	Kennedy	Sarbanes
Bumpers	Lautenberg	Simon
Daschle	Lieberman	Wellstone
Dodd	Mikulski	Wyden
Ford	Moseley-Braun	

NOT VOTING—2

Dole Pryor

The amendment (No. 3971) was agreed to.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. FORD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3973

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, the Senate just voted on an amendment by the Senator from Nebraska to increase veterans health care funding by changes in the Tax Code. Purportedly the revenue would be derived from closing corporate tax loopholes, although there is no guarantee that's where the money would come from. Proponents of the amendment have characterized the amendment as cutting corporate welfare.

First, I want to say that I support additional funding for veterans health

care. In fact, I voted for the Bond amendment to increase health care spending by \$13 billion.

Senator EXON's amendment also recommends a \$13 billion increase. However, I want to address the issue of how the Senator from Nebraska intends to pay for the increase.

As my colleagues are aware I have been outspoken and active in the effort to cut inappropriate corporate subsidies. In fact, last year I offered an amendment to the reconciliation bill to cut over \$50 billion in corporate pork spending. Unfortunately, that amendment was defeated. I might note that the effort did not enjoy the support of the Senator from Nebraska.

In addition, I have authored bipartisan legislation to review and eliminate corporate subsidies, including tax loopholes.

The Senator from Nebraska says the increase in veterans health care would be paid for by filling corporate tax loopholes. That sounds good, Mr. President, but the way that the amendment is written, that result is not guaranteed.

Moreover, even if we could be sure that loopholes were closed, I believe we owe it to the American people to dedicate the revenues derived from such reforms to reduce the tax burden on American families across the board.

Simply stated we can and should pay for necessary increases in veterans health care by offsets in other Federal spending, not by increasing the overall Federal tax burden.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I understand now the minority may have found another way to offer the President's budget and they intend to do that; is that correct?

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

THE DEATH OF ADM. JEREMY MICHAEL BOORDA, U.S. NAVY

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I was informed this afternoon that Adm. Mike Boorda, the Chief of Naval Operations, died today. I have little additional information at this time on what happened or how; but I want to take a minute to acknowledge the passing of a fine naval officer who made many extraordinary contributions to the Navy and to his country. I think this is a tragic day for both the Navy and the Nation. We lost an individual who was both a strong leader and a decent man.

Admiral Boorda enlisted in the Navy in 1956 and rose from seaman to admiral. He was selected and confirmed as