

making lawyers more responsive and responsible. Her good works should not be punished but commended. Her public service ought not be grounds for delay. She does not deserve this treatment. This type of treatment will drive good people away from government service.

The president of the Woman Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, the president of the Women's Legal Defense Fund, the president of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, the president of the National Conference of Women's Bar Association and other distinguished attorneys from the Los Angeles area have all written the Senate in support of the nomination of Margaret Morrow. They write that: "Margaret Morrow is widely respected by attorneys, judges and community leaders of both parties" and she "is exactly the kind of person who should be appointed to such a position and held up as an example to young women across the country." I could not agree more.

Mr. President, the Senate should move expeditiously to consider and confirm Margaret Morrow, along with Anthony Ishii, Katherine Hayden Sweeney, Robert F. Droney, Janet C. Hall, Joseph F. Bataillon, and Robert C. Chambers to be district court judges.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

Mr. ENZI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

#### FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION MODERNIZATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1997

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now turn to the consideration of S. 830, the FDA reform bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. ENZI. I object on behalf of Senator KENNEDY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

#### MOTION TO PROCEED

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. ENZI. I now move to proceed to S. 830, and send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar 105, S. 830, the FDA reform bill:

Trent Lott, James Jeffords, Pat Roberts, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Tim Hutchinson, Conrad Burns, Chuck Hagel, Jon Kyl, Rod Grams, Pete Domenici, Ted

Stevens, Christopher Bond, Strom Thurmond, Judd Gregg, Don Nickles, and Paul Coverdell.

Mr. ENZI. I now withdraw the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is withdrawn.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

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

#### ANOTHER ACT OF TERRORISM SHOWS PEACE PROCESS SIMPLY IS NOT WORKING

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, another tragedy struck the people of Israel today. Three Palestinian suicide bombers attacked a crowded pedestrian mall in the center of Jerusalem. At least three Israelis were killed; many more were wounded.

There was another bombing in the center of Jerusalem on July 30, in which 17 people were killed. Those murders were also claimed by the Palestinian terror group, Hamas.

As in July, all the requisite people will issue the required condemnations, and comfort themselves that they have responded adequately. But how can we pretend that enough is being done about Palestinian terrorism? How can we look at pictures of Yasser Arafat embracing a terrorist on the front page of the New York Times and still maintain the fiction that this is a man committed to fighting terror?

The answer, Mr. President, is simple: we cannot.

Last month, in the wake of the most recent Jerusalem bombing, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said she would travel to the Middle East if the PLO took the necessary steps to crack down on terrorists. Those steps clearly have not been taken. More innocent civilians lie bleeding in the streets. But the administration still clings to the fiction of a peace process.

I have said many times, and I say again today: There is no peace in this process. How long will we be expected to play along with this charade, pretending that meetings, consultations, and formalities can substitute for genuine attempts to deliver peace and security to the people of Israel?

In the coming months, the Congress will reconsider the provision of assistance to the Palestinians. At that time, we must ask ourselves whether the PLO has complied with its commitments, not only to Israel, but to the United States. We must ask ourselves whether Palestinian territories have become a beachhead for terrorists. We must ask ourselves if the PLO and Yasser Arafat are partners worthy of the confidence of the United States.

Mr. President, all we need do is look at the pictures on our television

screens to see that the answer to each of those questions is no.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, September 3, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,413,621,503,580.39—five trillion, four hundred thirteen billion, six hundred twenty-one million, five hundred three thousand, five hundred eighty dollars and thirty-nine cents.

One year ago, September 3, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,226,657,000,000—five trillion, two hundred twenty-six billion, six hundred fifty-seven million.

Five years ago, September 3, 1992, the Federal debt stood at \$4,035,387,000,000—four trillion, thirty-five billion, three hundred eighty-seven million.

Ten years ago, September 3, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,361,615,000,000—two trillion, three hundred sixty-one billion, six hundred fifteen million.

Fifteen years ago, September 3, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,110,240,000,000—one trillion, one hundred ten billion, two hundred forty million—which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion, \$4,303,381,503,580.39—four trillion, three hundred three billion, three hundred eighty-one million, five hundred three thousand, five hundred eighty dollars and thirty-nine cents) during the past 15 years.

#### U.S. FOREIGN OIL CONSUMPTION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 29

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the American Petroleum Institute reports that for the week ending August 29, the United States imported 8,513,000 barrels of oil each day, 1,786,000 barrels more than the 6,727,000 imported each day during the same week a year ago.

Americans relied on foreign oil for 57.4 percent of their needs last week, and there are no signs that the upward spiral will abate. Before the Persian Gulf war, the United States obtained approximately 45 percent of its oil supply from foreign countries. During the Arab oil embargo in the 1970's, foreign oil accounted for only 35 percent of America's oil supply.

Anybody else interested in restoring domestic production of oil? By U.S. producers using American workers?

Politicians had better ponder the economic calamity sure to occur in America if and when foreign producers shut off our supply—or double the already enormous cost of imported oil flowing into the United States—now 8,513,000 barrels a day.

#### LOUISIANA CONTESTED ELECTION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, periodically, I report to the Senate on the work of the Rules Committee investigation into alleged fraud and irregularities that may have affected the outcome of the 1996 Louisiana Senate