

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

#### COMMITTEE RULES AND FUNDING

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want to take a few minutes now while we wait on other Senators who may want to comment on what I am about to say. But I want to thank the chairmen and the ranking members of the committees who have worked together over the past 6 weeks to get an agreement on the committee rules and the funding and staffing and space arrangements for the Senate committees this year.

Senator DASCHLE and I worked through a very difficult process to get the organization resolution passed back in January. But in some respects that was the easy part, even though that was not easy. It was easier than what the chairmen and ranking members had to go through. Each committee had to deal with how they were going to proceed with the 50-50 division of Members. They had to work on different rules of different committees, different personalities, and different responsibilities.

Most of the committees went through it at a pretty quick pace. Some of them were more difficult and were more complex.

When the time came the beginning of March for us to pass the funding resolution, not all had been done. There were, I guess, two or three committees that still had some serious reservations or disagreements. But for those committees we extended the time without a lot of difficulty. And those committees have continued to work together, and they have reached agreement, one by one.

Then we were down to just one final committee, and they have reached an agreement—Senator HATCH and Senator LEAHY. I know it was not easy for either one of them, but I want to thank all who have been involved for the effort that has been put into this. I think it still bodes well that we can work together through difficult issues in a bipartisan way.

Having said that, we are ready to go now, and we are ready to discharge the Rules Committee and adopt this resolution. I understand there has been an objection to it being done through the discharge mechanism, that they want the Judiciary Committee to act, and then they want the Rules Committee to meet.

I note that it is 10 minutes until 5 on Thursday. Members were told there would not be any further votes. So, once again, I am saying all this and pointing out that, while I am trying very hard, it is still very difficult to get things done without them being complicated. There is no reason why we should not discharge the committee and get this done after all of the good work that is being done. I am going to say, flat out, I suspect there is staff in-

involved in this. It is uncalled for, and it is being, in my opinion, petty to have to track down Members to try to get them to come running over to try to get some sort of running quorum, and to have a vote. And then, by the way, what if we don't get them? What are we going to do, after all this work?

So, Mr. President, I ask Senator REID, can we move this forward? After all that Senator DASCHLE and I have done, and all that has been done by all the Members, on both sides—including the chairman and ranking member on Judiciary—can't we move this through now?

Mr. REID. The Judiciary Committee has completed their work. That part is out of the way. Would the leader allow me to suggest the absence of a quorum for a brief moment?

Mr. LOTT. Yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SESSIONS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### COMMITTEE EXPENDITURES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 54, submitted by Senators LOTT and DASCHLE, regarding committee expenditures, that the resolution become the pending business, it then be considered agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

Before the Chair rules on this request, I want to announce to the Senate that this resolution contains the entire committee expenditures for all Senate committees to continue funding through February 28, 2003.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 54) was agreed to.

(The text of the resolution is located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank Senator REID and staff on both sides of the aisle for making this possible. This really is an important achievement. We should understand that. It also guarantees our staff members will get their paychecks on time.

I yield the floor and 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. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to the leader, it is my understanding there is

going to be a business meeting of the Rules Committee next week. That was part of the agreement.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if I may respond to Senator REID's inquiry, that was not part of the unanimous consent agreement, but that is the understanding on both sides of the aisle, that there should be a business meeting of the Rules Committee, and they should discuss matters that are pending and go forward from there.

Yes, that is our understanding. I know the chairman will be accommodating that.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now be in 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.

#### RULES OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, pursuant to the Standing Rules of the Senate, the rules of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary as approved by the committee today be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follow:

##### RULES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

###### I. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Meetings may be called by the Chairman as he may deem necessary on three days' notice or in the alternative with the consent of the Ranking Minority Member or pursuant to the provision of the Standing Rules of the Senate, as amended.

2. Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or any Subcommittee shall file with the Committee, at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of his or her testimony in as many copies as the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee prescribes.

3. On the request of any member, a nomination or bill on the agenda of the Committee will be held over until the next meeting of the Committee or for one week, whichever occurs later.

###### II. QUORUMS

1. Ten Members shall constitute a quorum of the Committee when reporting a bill or nomination; provided the proxies shall not be counted in making a quorum.

2. For the purpose of taking sworn testimony, a quorum of the Committee and each Subcommittee thereof, now or hereafter appointed, shall consist of one Senator.

###### III. PROXIES

When a record vote is taken in the Committee on any bill, resolution, amendment, or any other question, a quorum being present, a member who is unable to attend the meeting may submit his vote by proxy, in writing or by telephone, or through personal instructions. A proxy must be specific with respect to the matters it addresses.

###### IV. BRINGING THE MATTER TO A VOTE

The Chairman shall entertain a non-debatable motion to bring a matter before the