

That is true. It is also true that the House bill, which will then come up, also violates the Budget Act for the same reasons, as does the bill offered by my good friend from Iowa, as does the White House proposal. They all do.

The reason is because we have an emergency here. There are problems with which we have to deal. That is why. I wish this waiver would pass, but I know it won't.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I yield the floor. Let's vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The yeas and nays are ordered and the clerk will call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 338 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Akaka	Dodd	Levin
Baucus	Dorgan	Lieberman
Bayh	Durbin	Lincoln
Biden	Edwards	Mikulski
Bingaman	Feingold	Miller
Boxer	Feinstein	Murray
Breaux	Graham	Nelson (FL)
Byrd	Harkin	Nelson (NE)
Cantwell	Hollings	Reed
Carnahan	Inouye	Reid
Carper	Jeffords	Rockefeller
Cleland	Johnson	Sarbanes
Clinton	Kennedy	Schumer
Conrad	Kerry	Stabenow
Corzine	Kohl	Torricelli
Daschle	Landrieu	Wellstone
Dayton	Leahy	Wyden

NAYS—47

Allard	Enzi	Nickles
Allen	Fitzgerald	Roberts
Bennett	Frist	Santorum
Bond	Grassley	Sessions
Brownback	Gregg	Shelby
Bunning	Hagel	Smith (NH)
Burns	Hatch	Smith (OR)
Campbell	Helms	Snowe
Chafee	Hutchinson	Specter
Cochran	Hutchison	Stevens
Collins	Inhofe	Thomas
Craig	Kyl	Thompson
Crapo	Lott	Thurmond
DeWine	Lugar	Voivovich
Domenici	McConnell	Warner
Ensign	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—2

Gramm	McCain
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 47.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected. The point of order is sustained and the amendment falls.

Mr. REID. I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I supported a motion to waive the Budget Act with respect to a point of order raised against the substitute amend-

ment to H.R. 3090, even though there are a number of provisions in that amendment that are troubling.

Just a few weeks ago, this body voted to provide emergency funding to the nation's airlines. We recognize the special situation caused by the terrorist attacks of September 11, and understood that if we failed to act, the consequences for those firms, and for the economy as a whole, could well have been devastating.

At the time of that vote, I noted that we also needed to address the problems facing the workers in those firms. This legislation will do that, in part, and it will also provide assistance to other families who have been thrown out of work by the economic slowdown, and should provide the weakened economy with a boost.

Unfortunately, a number of special interests have taken advantage of this human and economic adversity to advance their own agenda. The measure that passed the other body is teeming with special interest tax breaks that do little or nothing for the economy as a whole in the short term, and seriously jeopardize our long term budget position. The substitute amendment before us is vastly superior in this respect. It provides far more benefit for our economy in the short term, while minimizing the long term impact.

Nevertheless, there are a number of special interest spending and tax provisions in the amendment that raise serious questions, such as provisions that provide money for citrus growers and buffalo farmers and tax breaks for electricity produced from chicken waste and aviation fuel for crop-dusters. A provision common to both the substitute amendment and the House-passed bill would reduce taxes on corporations' overseas investment income. As the Washington Post noted in a recent editorial: "It's hard to see how this measure, which would encourage firms to keep money outside the country, would do anything to stimulate the American economy."

The substitute amendment before us, even with its flaws, is far more fiscally responsible than the House bill, but as this legislation proceeds there is a real risk that it will continue to pick up still more special interest provisions. Indeed, the House version is largely a lobbyist's wish list. Unless this body is able to restrain itself, and resist efforts to advance special interest spending and tax breaks, the costs of a fiscal stimulus measure will outweigh any benefit it provides to our economy.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for morning business with Senators allowed to speak of a period not to exceed 10 minutes.

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

FARM POLICY THAT WORKS

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I joined my colleague from Arkansas, Senator HUTCHINSON, to introduce a bill of the utmost importance to our farmers.

Since the passage of the Freedom to Farm bill in 1996, our farmers have toiled under clouds of uncertainty. Quite simply stated, our Nation needs a farm policy that works for working farmers.

That is why I and Senator HUTCHINSON, along with Senator HELMS of North Carolina, Senator MILLER of Georgia, and Senators BREAUX and LANDRIEU of Louisiana, are proud to offer a new alternative.

We offer a farm bill that will ensure a strong safety net for America's farmers and ranchers.

We offer a farm bill that will increase investment in conservation programs by 80 percent.

We offer a farm bill that provides more effective support for disadvantaged working families through nutrition programs.

We offer a farm bill that will increase and improve our Nation's agricultural trade programs, such as the Food Aid program that sends food to the neediest nations.

We offer a farm bill that will preserve and protect our Nation's forests and environment while investing in rural America.

For too many years, while the American economy at large was posting astonishing and unprecedented gains, our agricultural producers have not benefited from our prosperity.

It is not only our farmers who are suffering as a result of failed government policy. The institutions of small-town and rural America local banks and merchants, feed and supply stores, equipment dealers, even corner groceries and family-owned hardware stores are all caught in the web of financial collapse.

Here is a letter I received from a young farmer in northeast Arkansas just a few months ago. He says that his family's farm is nearing "a point of no return," and that if the crisis continues, he will have to leave the land that his grandfather worked.

Here is a letter from a bank president in southeast Arkansas, who notes that when he moved to his community in 1969, a new John Deere combine sold for about \$15,000. Today, a comparable model sells for \$220,000. Fuel for that combine cost 15 cents per gallon in 1969, he writes; today, a gallon of diesel fuel costs \$1.05. He goes on to note that while a farmer could expect to receive \$3 for a bushel of rice 32 years ago, today he only gets \$2.7 for the same bushel. The costs skyrocket, but the returns on these investments continue to fall.

Here is a letter from a young woman in east Arkansas who works a 600-acre rice and soybean farm with her husband and child. Her husband is so depressed that he needs counseling and