

I ask unanimous consent that a table displaying the Budget Committee scoring of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

H.R. 2657, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS, 2004:  
SPENDING COMPARISONS—CONFERENCE REPORT

[Fiscal year 2004, in millions of dollars]

	General purpose	Mandatory	Total
<b>Conference Report:</b>			
Budget authority .....	3,539	109	3,648
Outlays .....	3,737	109	3,846
<b>Senate 302(b) allocation:</b>			
Budget authority .....	3,612	109	3,721
Outlays .....	3,737	109	3,846
<b>2003 level:</b>			
Budget authority .....	3,620	104	3,724
Outlays .....	3,327	103	3,430
<b>President's request:</b>			
Budget authority .....	3,851	109	3,960
Outlays .....	3,867	109	3,976
<b>House-passed bill:</b>			
Budget authority .....	3,480	109	3,589
Outlays .....	3,599	109	3,708
<b>Senate-passed bill:</b>			
Budget authority .....	3,575	109	3,684
Outlays .....	3,689	109	3,798
<b>CONFERENCE REPORT COMPARED TO—</b>			
<b>Senate 302(b) allocation:</b>			
Budget authority .....	(73)		(73)
Outlays .....			
<b>2003 level:</b>			
Budget authority .....	(81)	5	(76)
Outlays .....	410	6	416
<b>President's request:</b>			
Budget authority .....	(312)		(312)
Outlays .....	(130)		(130)
<b>House-passed bill:</b>			
Budget authority .....	59		59
Outlays .....	138		138
<b>Senate-passed bill:</b>			
Budget authority .....	(36)		(36)
Outlays .....	48		48

Note: Details may not add to totals due to rounding. Totals adjusted for consistency with scorekeeping conventions.  
Prepared by SBC Majority Staff, 9/24/2003.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all time be yielded back.

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

Under the previous order, the conference report is agreed to and the motion to reconsider is laid upon the table.

Mr. GRASSLEY. 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. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2003

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, September 25. I further ask unanimous consent that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period for morning business for 60 minutes, with the first 30 minutes under the control

of the minority leader or his designee, and the remaining 30 minutes under the control of Senator HUTCHISON or her designee; provided that following morning business the Senate then proceed to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2658, the Defense appropriations bill.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. STEVENS. For the information of all Senators, tomorrow, following morning business the Senate will begin debate on the Defense appropriations conference report for 2004. We do not anticipate a great deal of debate on that important conference report prior to a vote on its adoption. In addition, the Senate will resume consideration of the DC appropriations bill. Senators therefore should expect rollcall votes throughout the day, and Members will be notified when the first vote is scheduled.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. STEVENS. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order, following the remarks to be offered by Senator PRYOR.

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

Mr. STEVENS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RATIFYING THE DO-NOT-CALL  
REGISTRY

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I rise today to support legislation that would clearly allow the Federal Trade Commission to move forward with its national do-not-call registry. I have submitted an amendment to that effect, amendment No. 1786 to the DC appropriations bill, as well as cosponsored S. 1652, a bill to ratify the do-not-call registry provision of the telemarketing sales rule. As we have heard today, the U.S. District Court in Oklahoma issued a decision that the Federal Trade Commission lacked the authority to develop its national do-not-call list. The court ruled that, although Congress appropriated the funds to the FTC in order to have the program, it did not actually have the language necessary to authorize the establishment of the program and the implementation of the program.

Today, I rise in support of my proposal that would basically give the

Federal Trade Commission the clear authority and the statutory responsibility to establish a national do-not-call program. In addition, it affirms the finding that the Federal Trade Commission was authorized in the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act to implement and enforce the national do-not-call registry.

Last, it specifically ratifies the do-not-call registry provision of the FTC's telemarketing sales rule.

Before I was elected to this august body, I had the great privilege of being the attorney general of my State. I remember back in 1998 when I ran for attorney general of Arkansas, everywhere I would go, every little town I would go into, and every time I would talk to a group, whether it was veterans or whoever it happened to be, senior citizens or townspeople at large, they would tell me: Please, please, if you can do anything about telemarketers calling us at home and bothering us and trying to sell us something over the telephone, do it.

I was proud to do that. When I was elected to the office and began serving in January of 1999, the first thing I did was pull the staff together at the attorney general's office and write the State's do-not-call program. It was very different from the one the Federal Trade Commission came up with but both are equally good. They both get to the problem and I think can be very effective fighting against unwanted telephone calls.

Listen, we have all been there. We have all received those calls. We have all been eating dinner, trying to put our children down, trying to do homework, or watching our favorite TV show, whatever the situation might be, when we have been subjected to these unwanted calls. For most people it is an inconvenience. They don't like to be bothered. They want us to find a way to respect the integrity of the privacy of their own homes. After all, they are paying the phone bill; they are paying for the service. They should be able to have some control on the amount of calls coming in and to put a stop to these unwanted calls. Some of the phone companies actually offer a service that blocks calls from people who block their caller ID. That is another subject. That can be fairly expensive for some consumers. It's not always expensive.

The Federal Trade Commission came up with an idea to do this nationwide, to do it free, and to do it by use of toll-free numbers and Web sites allowing people to sign on. In fact, I signed on in the first week because one thing I noticed in Virginia is they do not have do-not-call laws, as far as I can tell, and we get bombarded in our home in Virginia. Unlike in Arkansas where we signed up for the AG's list and we may get one or two telemarketing calls a month, in Virginia we get 3 or 4 a day, and it seems they always try to call at an inopportune time.