

be serious and in some ways quite fundamental, but when it comes to the details of policy, we can and should move together and have discussions with civility to move toward consensus.

We face an imperative to reduce the deficit by keeping spending in check, but without raising taxes and stifling job growth.

We must transform our health care system into one that puts people and their doctors first and puts the doctor-patient relationship in charge.

We do need to confirm judges who justly and independently interpret the law.

We can't move America forward unless we do these things, and we can't do these things unless we do work together. Doing this and improving the environment and the tenor of this body is going to require a lot of hard work. We will need more good ideas devised by Senators ALEXANDER, CARPER, PRYOR, and VOINOVICH.

We should give strong consideration to the proposals my colleague Senator DASCHLE made several months ago such as all-Senate policy forums to discuss the issues of the day, and bipartisan leadership meetings which bring leadership together. These are all great suggestions, fruitful suggestions, and great starting points and productive ideas.

Senator REID and I have already begun to discuss ideas on how to achieve this, again working together to make my ideas and his ideas a reality.

Sensors on both sides of the aisle should know that as we approach these issues, accomplish this, and their ideas we ask them to bring forward.

In closing, the traditions, rules, and customs of the Senate rest on a foundation of civility. That is why we have rules that are in print, a body of rules. Then we have this whole element of tradition and precedent which is so important to this body.

We have essential work ahead of us as we all begin to plan and look at the next Congress. We are stewards of rich Senate traditions and stewards of constitutional principles that simply must not be undone. We are leaders elected by the American people for one simple purpose; that is, to move America forward. Doing it is going to require a lot of work. It will require a lot of consensus building, and above all it will require civility.

I look forward to working with our leadership and working jointly with the Democratic leadership to make that our goal and to implement and incorporate whatever we need to do in this body so we indeed can achieve that goal.

I yield the floor.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MURKOWSKI). Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Madam President, I wanted to ask if we could put an order in place, that Senator ALLARD speak first, then myself, and Senator ALLEN. I would like to protect our places, if that would be possible. I ask unanimous consent that Senator ALLARD be recognized, after which I would be recognized, after which Senator BOND would be recognized, then Senator ALLEN and Senator STEVENS.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Colorado.

#### COMMENDING THE MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. ALLARD. Madam President, first of all I would like to recognize the strong leadership that we receive from the majority leader. I think he needs to be complimented for his inclusive leadership. We have accomplished a lot this session because of his efforts.

#### TRIBUTES TO RETIRING SENATORS

##### BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL

Mr. ALLARD. Madam President, I take a moment to talk about 4 colleagues whom I have had an opportunity to serve with in the Senate.

First of all, I want to talk about my colleague from the State of Colorado, who is not going to be with us as we go into the waning days of the 108th Congress.

I had an opportunity to get to know BEN CAMPBELL in the Colorado General Assembly. In 1982, he was elected to the State house and I was elected to the State senate. It was not long before the buzz in the Capitol was all about this great Native American whom we had serving in the State house who brought to the Capitol some common sense from western Colorado, an individual who in his own right had already gained some national notoriety.

Senator CAMPBELL came from a family that was somewhat dysfunctional. It was a poor family. He joined the Air Force. While he was serving in the Air Force, he had an opportunity to get his GED. He served in Korea. While serving in the Air Force, he also spent some time in Japan where he received some judo training. He became a member of the first Olympic judo team representing the United States. He had the distinction of carrying the flag representing the whole United States entourage that was there participating in the Olympics.

This individual brought a considerable amount of national notoriety to

the Colorado General Assembly. But he became even more respected because of his firm conviction, his hard work, and his commitment to small business, and to water issues of the western slope in the State house district he represented. In fact, having finished his first term, he was recognized as one of the 10 best legislators in the Colorado General Assembly. He had an opportunity to serve for about three terms and took on an incumbent congressman. He won that particular race and ended up in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1986; then got elected to the U.S. Senate in 1992, and reelected in 1998.

During this period of time, I had an opportunity to be able to establish a personal relationship with Senator CAMPBELL in the State legislature. I respect a lot of the values he brought to the legislature. I had an opportunity to work with him for a short period of time in the U.S. House of Representatives. He certainly was a team player and somebody whom I felt I could work with. I looked forward to the opportunity when I could serve with him in the Senate. While serving here in the Senate, we became known as a team representing the interests of Colorado, which has been pretty effective. A lot of the issues that are important to the State of Colorado we were able to accomplish. A lot of it was because he was willing to take on the responsibilities of the Appropriations Committee. Representatives from Colorado ordinarily didn't seek out these committees, but he made a big difference.

I consider it a great pleasure to be able to serve with him. I consider him family. Not only are we close friends, but my niece married his son. I have the greatest respect for the Campbell family. They are great Americans and I am pleased to be considered part of his family.

##### DON NICKLES

Mr. ALLARD. Madam President, I also want to take a moment to talk about another colleague, DON NICKLES, who has had a long and distinguished career as we move into the waning days of the 108th Congress.

He brought to this Congress a perspective from the private sector. I am a small businessman. I grew up in the private sector. In my view, too few of us have had to meet the challenges and meet a payroll. I think it affects how you view rules and regulations and taxes.

Senator NICKLES from Oklahoma became a strong advocate of small business issues and worked hard to hold down the tax burden and regulatory burden.

I had an opportunity to serve with him when he was chairman of the Budget Committee, and I very much appreciated his leadership on that committee.

I also appreciated the opportunity to be able to work with him in holding down and actually eliminating the death tax which has such devastating effects on small business.