



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 152

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2006

No. 106—Book II

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2006, at 2 p.m.

## Senate

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2006

### ESTATE TAX AND EXTENSION OF TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2006—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we have had a lot of discussion in terms of what the plans would be. We will be proceeding where we can finish the bills, not the Department of Defense appropriations bill tonight, but in all likelihood the other bills. I will propound the unanimous consent request, and then we will lay out the evening.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture vote with respect to H.R. 5970, the Family Prosperity Act, occur following 15 minutes for Senator GRASSLEY, 15 minutes for the Democratic manager, and 15 minutes for each leader; provided further that if cloture is not invoked, the Senate then proceed immediately to the consideration of H.R. 4, the pensions bill, and that there be 20 minutes for debate equally divided between the two leaders, with no amendments in order to the bill; further, that following the use or yielding back of debate, the bill be read the third time and the Senate proceed to a vote on passage, with no intervening action or debate; further, that it not be in order to consider any conference report on H.R. 2830 during this Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I move that we amend H.R. 4388—it is the extenders, so that everybody knows what I am talking about—with the text of the extenders amendment I offered earlier to the defense bill. In effect, what I am saying

is, we are going to try to have a decision made on the protection act. Following the disposition of that, we would go to the pension bill, and my request is that following that we would pass the extenders.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. FRIST. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President, I have made it clear since the outset that our intention was to address the Family Prosperity Act, which are the three bills, which people have been referring to as the “trifecta,” unamended and without any attempt to either separate that and add it to the pensions bill. We will proceed as planned, consistent with the unanimous consent request that I outlined.

I do object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President. I understand the leader. He told me that earlier today. I told him I would do this. I hope that when we come back, following the completion of the Defense appropriations bill, this will be one of the first things we work on. This is an extremely important piece of legislation. I am disappointed that we were not able to complete this at the conference that was completed a week or so ago. I have no objection to the majority leader's request.

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

Who yields time?

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I will yield to Senator GRASSLEY when he comes. I think that I will go ahead and

yield myself time on this bill. We have essentially 30 minutes on either side, of which 15 or 20 minutes of our time will be used by Senator GRASSLEY.

We will be voting shortly on what we are calling the Family Prosperity Act. Heretofore, it has been called the trifecta bill because it addresses three different issues that are critically important to the American people.

Each of these three bills that have been grouped together to become the Family Prosperity Act are important to hard-working Americans, millions of them. One of the three bills is the permanent tax relief bill. Let me say at the outset that this is a compromise bill that has been put together. We attempted earlier to do something that I strongly believe in, which is totally repealing this unfair and wrongful “death” tax. We were unable to do that on the floor of the Senate, and after a lot of discussion between Republicans and Democrats, with the leadership, with Senator KYL on our side and many Democrats, a bill that is a compromise was put together and is very similar to the bill that is in the Family Prosperity Act.

Why is it important? Because this death tax punishes everyday Americans by forcing them to give up their businesses, give up their farms, which their loved ones—dads, moms, and grandparents—have worked hard to pass on to them. It has a direct impact on farming, ranching, construction. All of these bills are labor and capital intensive, but the cost of passing these enterprises on to future generations in one piece is often prohibitive and impossible to do.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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