

A comprehensive approach is the way we ought to be going. That is effectively the way everyone who has talked about the overall challenges of the undocumented and illegal immigration believe is the way to go. Sure, we need to do what needs to be done at the border, but it ought to be done in a comprehensive way with these other elements.

This legislation does not do so, will not be effective, and should not be accepted.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

SECURE FENCE ACT OF 2006

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 6061, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6061) to establish operational control over the international land and maritime borders of the United States.

Pending:

Frist amendment No. 5036, to establish military commissions.

Frist amendment No. 5037 (to Amendment No. 5036), to establish the effective date.

Motion to commit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, with instructions to report back forthwith, with an amendment.

Frist amendment No. 5038 (to the instructions of the motion to commit H.R. 6061 to the Committee on the Judiciary), to establish military commissions.

Frist amendment No. 5039 (to the instructions of the motion to commit H.R. 6061 to the Committee on the Judiciary), to establish the effective date.

Frist amendment No. 5040 (to Amendment No. 5039), to amend the effective date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent I have 2 minutes as in morning business.

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

COMMENDING SENATOR ALEXANDER

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I note that the distinguished Senator from Tennessee, Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER, is in the Chamber. I am sure he has already spoken this afternoon, but I was not present because I was attending another meeting.

Senator, if you do not feel good this afternoon, I don't know what we are going to do in the Senate in terms of qualifying you to be happy. I don't know what else we will do to make you happier than what we are going to do tonight or during the next week or so on this competitiveness measure.

Senator ALEXANDER came to the Senate, and before his first term has expired he has taken the lead, without anyone wanting to run around and try to figure out who should get the lead, on this mammoth piece of legislation. It falls automatically that LAMAR ALEXANDER deserves the credit for getting

it started. It was his idea. He recruited the junior Senator from New Mexico.

They asked me, as members of my committee, if they could take the proposition of what we could do to better America's position in a competitive world, if they could take that to the Academy of Sciences to get a report so we could adopt a report during this calendar year.

Believe it or not, they did that. As a result, 71 Senators cosponsored the legislation. As a result, we will have introduced a bill today that almost takes care of every recommendation that committee made to the Congress. We are having it introduced officially by the leadership this evening. It will be held and passed by this Senate before we adjourn this year.

Imagine that, for a Senator who has just come to the Senate. If he cannot say and put up whatever he puts up, matters of high esteem, completed by him, something that he can be proud of, that is this legislation.

There will be a day when it passes that he can be happier, but he will be overjoyed today when he sits down and thinks for a moment of what is accomplished for America to get moving to develop our brain power where we could, where we can, as we can, and as we should, without any doubt.

I compliment the Senator.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from New Mexico. He is overly generous. I learned as a staff aide in the Senate that if an idea has many fathers and many mothers, it has a much better chance of moving along than if it just has one.

Senator DOMENICI is being overly modest about his own role. This would not have gotten to first base—by “this,” I mean the competitiveness legislation—had not Senator DOMENICI created the environment in which it could succeed, and if he and Senator BINGAMAN had not had such a good partnership and been able to work together, set a good example and have been willing to step back and allow other good ideas that were progressing through the Commerce Committee and the HELP Committee.

It has been a remarkable exercise in restraint for many distinguished Senators, some among the most senior Members of the Senate, and at a time when politics is at a pretty high level.

I thank the Senator for what he said. It means a lot to me.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a summary of the National Competitiveness Investment Act.

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

SUMMARY OF THE NATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS INVESTMENT ACT

The National Competitiveness Investment Act is a bipartisan legislative response to recommendations contained in the National Academies' “Rising Above the Gathering Storm” report and the Council on Competitiveness' “Innovate America” report. Several sections of the bill are derived from proposals contained in the “American Innovation and Competitiveness Act of 2006” (S. 2802), approved by the Senate Commerce Committee 21-0, and the “Protecting America's Competitive Edge Through Energy Act of 2006” (S. 2197) approved unanimously by the Senate Energy Committee. Accordingly, the National Competitiveness Investment Act focuses on three primary areas of importance to maintaining and improving United States' innovation in the 21st Century: (1) increasing research investment, (2) strengthening educational opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics from elementary through graduate school, and (3) developing an innovation infrastructure. More specifically, the National Competitiveness Investment Act would:

Increase research investment by:

Doubling funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF) from approximately \$5.6 billion in fiscal year 2006 to \$11.2 billion in fiscal year 2011.

Setting the Department of Energy's Office of Science on track to double in funding over 10 years, increasing from \$3.6 billion in fiscal year 2006 to over \$5.2 billion in fiscal year 2011.

Establishing the Innovation Acceleration Research Program to direct Federal agencies funding research in science and technology to set as a goal dedicating approximately 8 percent of their Research and Development (R&D) budgets toward high-risk frontier research.

Authorizing the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) from approximately \$640 million in fiscal year 2007 to approximately \$937 million in fiscal year 2011 and requiring NIST to set aside no less than 8 percent of its annual funding for high-risk, high-reward innovation acceleration research.

Directing NASA to increase funding for basic research and fully participate in inter-agency activities to foster competitiveness and innovation, using the full extent of existing budget authority.

Coordinating ocean and atmospheric research and education at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other agencies to promote U.S. leadership in these important fields.

Strengthen educational opportunities in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and critical foreign languages by:

Authorizing competitive grants to States to promote better alignment of elementary and secondary education with the knowledge and skills needed for success in postsecondary education, the 21st century workforce, and the Armed Forces, and grants to support the establishment or improvement of statewide P-16 education longitudinal data systems.

Strengthening the skills of thousands of math and science teachers by establishing training and education programs at summer institutes hosted at the National Laboratories and by increasing support for the Teacher Institutes for the 21st Century program at NSF.

Expanding the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program at NSF to recruit and train individuals to become math and science teachers in high-need local educational agencies.