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Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. DEWINE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 10 minutes.

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

(The remarks of Mr. DEWINE, Mr. GLENN, and Mr. SPECTER pertaining to the introduction of S. 1529 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. SPECTER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

(The remarks of Mr. SPECTER pertaining to the introduction of Senate Joint Resolution 48 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, in the absence of any other Senator on the floor, 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. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

URGING SUPPORT FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I would like to report to the Members of the Senate the progress of the telecommunications bill and urge that all Members continue to show great interest. I also urge all citizens interested in this legislation to show vigilance and continue to support the bill and urge that it be passed.

As Members of the Senate know, consideration of this bill has gone on for a long time and it is a bipartisan bill. It has attracted the support of many groups across the country. We now have the regional Bell companies supporting the bill and we have the long-distance companies supporting the bill. That is an unusual, rare moment in American history when the regional Bells and long-distance companies are temporarily at peace, so to speak.

Indeed, the labor union, the Communications Workers of America [CWA], yesterday sent a letter to Senator DOLE urging that the bill be passed. So this bill has gotten an unusual amount of support. The big cable companies and the small cable companies support it. The broadcasters support it, to the extent of what is in the bill now.

I know there is a dispute over the spectrum area. What I am saying is that we have an historic opportunity to pass a bill. But if we hesitate very long, this whole thing will come unraveled. I am very worried about it coming unraveled. So I rise to ask for the continued vigilance and support of everybody across the country and of my fellow Senators.

Let me say a word or two about the spectrum issue that has arisen. Our leader has, quite correctly, raised the issue of the spectrum. I would say this bill does not give the spectrum away as it is written. We believe strongly that there is some misunderstanding about what the bill says about the spectrum. Indeed, this Senator tried very hard to put the spectrum auction issue into the reconciliation bill, and later have it dealt with as a budgetary matter.

The point before us is that we are going to have to have a broad spectrum bill. I like to call it a "grand spectrum debate." I think the sale to MCI yesterday, its new bid of approximately $680 million for something that was scored by CBO at less than $100 million, shows the value that there is in the spectrum and the potential savings to taxpayers. We have to think about the taxpayers.

It is not just the broadcasters who use the spectrum. The spectrum is also used by people with handheld radios, and by people doing radar photography. The military has a good deal of spectrum allocated to it, as does the CIA. We need to educate ourselves and the people of the country about the value of all this spectrum use and what the taxpayers' interest in it is.

There has been very little, for example, on television shows discussing the spectrum, strangely enough. We have not had a feature on the spectrum and its value to the taxpayers on "60 Minutes" that I know of. Nor have we seen Ted Koppel doing a feature on the spectrum and how valuable it might be to the taxpayers.

For some mysterious reason, there have not been very many television shows on the networks that educate the public about the spectrum. I urge those shows to do so.

In any event, it is not just the broadcast spectrum we are dealing with here. It is all the spectrum out there that is being used. New technologies may make four or five uses out of the spectrum where once only one use was possible. Something designed for one use can now be used for transmitting data and other things. As new technology and new inventions come into play, it may be worth four, five times as much. Where once you might have one TV channel, you now may be able to have four. You may be able to transmit data on one station and do something else with another.

So the taxpayers have a real interest in this, as do budget balancers. We did not really try to solve this problem in the telecommunications bill. Some misunderstandings are floating around. We more or less delayed a decision on the spectrum in the telecommunications bill. So I have suggested that we have a grand spectrum debate and that we have a spectrum bill. We have already had hearings. I suggest that we go through all the spectrum, from the broadcasters' use to other, different uses of it, including that held in public and private use. That we look at what the military has and what the CIA has. We will have to have a classified briefing.

We should not hold up the telecommunications bill for that purpose. It is my hope that in a few days we can work out some language, or leave the present language in the bill.

So we are making a good-faith effort. I am saying that I do not think we can solve all of the spectrum issues at this time. I have tried to do it. The votes are not there. We are in a deadlock situation.

Let us not lose the whole telecommunications bill over this matter. It is too good a bill. We have worked long and hard. It is a bipartisan bill. It is the best bill in this Congress, in this Senator's opinion. It will create jobs in our country. It will provide a road map for investment.

I urge that we act on it soon. I am continuing to lobby our leaders and everybody else. In fact, yesterday the spectrum and the telecommunications bill were the subject of Senator DOLE's remarks when he traveled in South Dakota. I commend him again and thank him for his kind remarks about my work on this bill.

I hope we can work out these problems soon. I urge all groups not to slip into lethargy. We have a lot of work left to do on this bill. It will not pass automatically. We must keep working at it. That is what I am doing. That is what I urge my colleagues to do.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA JORDAN

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary and brilliant woman—former Congresswoman Barbara Jordan. I was deeply saddened by Ms. Jordan's death. She was very special to me, and to this country. She enriched and moved this Nation unlike any other American.

Barbara Jordan was in a class all by herself. I was fortunate enough to serve with her in U.S. House of Representatives. She taught me a lot about what it means to be a tough advocate for the American people.

Nothing stopped Congresswoman Jordan from forging ahead—not race, not gender, and not her illness. She lived her life as a teacher never giving in to the victim mentality. Not Congresswoman Jordan. That was not her style.

She had an immense impact on this Nation, and yet, Barbara Jordan served as a Congresswoman for only 6 years. But during that time, she used her rich, booming and elegant voice, to leave a powerful impact on this Nation. She believed, as I do, in letting your voice be heard.

She spoke forcefully about important national issues, and she had commitment and conviction like none other. She had a special kind of commitment—the kind that's hard to find.

She never wasted a breath on nonsense, but always spoke the truth so eloquently. She was a true pioneer for

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