Madam President, my

good friend, the senior Senator from

Pennsylvania, has questioned some of

the things I have done today. I am disappointed

he feels that way.

Last night we worked for a long period

of time. It was not a matter of

minutes; it took a long time. The Senator

from Virginia, the Senator from

Arizona, the Senator from Connecticut,

and others, including the people offering

these amendments—I personally

spent time on the phone calling Senators

who had amendments. The result,

after a long period of time, was that

Senators who have amendments—Senator

BOXER, Senator DURBIN, Senator

LEVIN, Senator BYRD—we worked out

an arrangement where they could offer

their amendments. Senator DAYTON always

was going to offer his amendment

and he withdrew it and decided not to

offer it. His was nongermane.

In an effort to get this done, we allowed

some amendments to be voted on

today that were nongermane. That is

how compromises are made in legislation.

As part of the deal, the Senators

who had other amendments would

withdraw those amendments. There

was clearly never any question about

that. It is in the RECORD last night,

‘‘and they will offer no other amendments

tomorrow.’’

In the rush of things, they were not

withdrawn last night. They should

have been. They were not. Just like the

problem we had with Senator BYRD

today, he understood there was a unanimous

consent request that had never

been made that was in the RECORD.

First, we did not need consent to

withdraw this. Every Senator had the

right on their own to withdraw this.

That is a right. They did not need

unanimous consent.

My good friend who understands the

rules as well as anyone here had the

right at any time to file a first-degree

amendment. For reasons he knows, he

decided not to do so. He indicated he

had second-degree amendments that he

wanted to pin to some of the amendments,

that the arrangements were

made to not be part of the proceedings

today.

I also say to my friend, the senior

Senator from Pennsylvania, he said:

Well, I will not agree to any of your

unanimous consent requests.

I don’t make unanimous consent requests

for me. Rarely. I bet out of 100

unanimous consent requests, there is

not three-tenths of 1 percent that I

make for myself. I will try during this

vote and the rest of the evening to see

if we can work something out for the

Senator from Pennsylvania that will

satisfy him. We always try to do that.

Both the majority and the minority

floor staffs work very hard. We will try

to do that. I don’t want him upset and

disappointed.

I want the RECORD to indicate that

what they did last night was for the

good of this body. We did our best. It

may not have been a perfect arrangement,

but I think it was fair. Senators

were allowed to offer an amendment

and in exchange for that they withdrew

the others. Technically, they didn’t do

that last night. I didn’t do it on their

behalf. We did it this morning. It is

done. That was the fair thing to do.

I repeat for the second time that I

will be happy to work with the Senator

from Pennsylvania to see if we can arrive

at the conclusion he wants. We

will see what we can do.