

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 91, nays 6, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 152 Leg.]

YEAS—91

Adams	Exon	McCain
Akaka	Ford	McConnell
Armstrong	Fowler	Metzenbaum
Baucus	Glenn	Mikulski
Bentsen	Gore	Mitchell
Biden	Gorton	Moynihan
Bingaman	Graham	Murkowski
Boren	Gramm	Nickles
Boschwitz	Grassley	Nunn
Bradley	Harkin	Packwood
Breaux	Hatch	Pell
Bryan	Hatfield	Pressler
Bumpers	Heflin	Pryor
Burdick	Helms	Reid
Burns	Hollings	Riegle
Byrd	Inouye	Robb
Chafee	Jeffords	Roth
Coats	Johnston	Rudman
Cochran	Kassebaum	Sanford
Cohen	Kasten	Sarbanes
Conrad	Kennedy	Sasser
Cranston	Kerry	Shelby
D'Amato	Kerry	Simon
Danforth	Kohl	Specter
Daschle	Lautenberg	Stevens
DeConcini	Leahy	Thurmond
Dixon	Levin	Warner
Dodd	Lieberman	Wilson
Dole	Lott	Wirth
Domenici	Lugar	
Durenberger	Mack	

NAYS—6

Bond	Helms	Symms
Garn	Humphrey	Wallop

NOT VOTING—3

McClure	Rockefeller	Simpson
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So the conference report was agreed to.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. HATCH. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, is my leader time reserved?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. REID). The Senator has 10 minutes of his leader time.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, this is landmark legislation, no doubt about it. I think it is a just and a fair bill. I think it will bring quality to the lives of millions of Americans who have not had quality in the past. Perhaps this bill may not be perfect, and we may be back revisiting it again in a year or two, making changes for the better, I hope. But it is important legislation.

So I want to thank, particularly, the President of the United States and others who made this possible through their hard work and through their dedication, not only Members of Congress, but many, as the Senator from Iowa just indicated, who have been working for years on the outside, those with disabilities, and other Americans concerned about those with disabilities.

Mr. President, I support final passage of the conference report on the Americans With Disabilities Act.

I have supported the ADA because I believe it is a just and fair bill which will bring equality to the lives of all Americans with disabilities. Our message to America today is that inequality and prejudice will not longer be tolerated. Our message to people with disabilities is that your time has come.

The Americans With Disabilities Act will empower 43 million Americans with disabilities to exercise their rights and participate in the mainstream of American life. The Americans With Disabilities Act will enrich our Nation by supporting the talents, skills and abilities of a minority group which has up until now been on the sidelines. Under the ADA, we are all winners.

I am optimistic that this legislation will set an important tone as we enter a new decade. Just as we have seen the walls go down in Eastern Europe, we are now witnessing some of our own walls crumbling—the wall of prejudice, isolation, discrimination, and segregation. We have paid dearly for our policies of the past—discrimination costs, both in human terms and financial terms. Keeping people with disabilities out of the work force and dependent on Government subsidies is a policy of the past.

Let us consider what this legislation will yield in terms of opportunities for persons with disabilities. In terms of employment—it will offer accessible environments and reasonable accommodations to empower persons with disabilities to utilize their full potential in strengthening the work force.

Transportation is the critical link to employment. This bill will result in accessible public transportation to and from the work site.

Living independently and with dignity means opportunity to participate fully in every activity of daily life, be it going to the movies, dining in a restaurant, cheering at a baseball game, communicating by phone or going to the doctor. The ADA offers such opportunity to persons with disabilities.

The tough but fair enforcement remedies of ADA, which parallel the Civil Rights Act of 1964, are time-tested incentives for compliance and disincentives for discrimination. The technical assistance efforts mandated in ADA will support two efforts critical to the mission of ADA: First, they will inform persons with disabilities about their rights under the law; and second, provide the necessary support to business and industry as they undertake the important job of implementing the law.

We have included in this legislation all people with all disabilities, no matter how misunderstood because that is what this bill is about—replacing misunderstanding with understanding. We have not said that you have to employ a person in a job they really cannot do, or in a setting where

they will pose a danger to the health or safety of other people. What we have said is that these decisions must be made about individuals, not groups and must be based on facts, not fears.

We have had a patch work quilt up until now—an inconsistent and piecemeal approach to disability policy. Today we move to embrace the most comprehensive civil rights legislation our Nation has ever seen. Today we move to put old stereotypes and attitudes behind us—where they belong.

No individual in America is more committed to equal opportunity than President Bush. His unflagging support of the ADA and his continued eagerness to sign this legislation into law are evidence of unparalleled leadership in the White House on behalf of persons with disabilities. We are proud that we have reached this juncture, and confidently send this legislation to the President's desk.

In 1964 this body declared discrimination illegal and laid a solid civil rights foundation for our Nation. Today we build upon that foundation with this landmark legislation providing civil rights protections for the 43 million Americans with disabilities. I am proud of this bill, and I look forward to it becoming the law of the land.

Mr. President, many people have worked long and hard to see passage of this historic piece of landmark civil rights legislation. I just want to take a minute to note these individuals.

Senators HATCH, KENNEDY, HARKIN, DURENBERGER, MCCAIN, DOMENICI, GRASSLEY, JEFFORDS, KASTEN, and other Members have been instrumental in final passage of the ADA in less than 2 years—a record we can all be proud of.

We all know that staff has put endless hours into the details of this legislation and I would like to take a moment to thank them for their tireless efforts.

Bobby Silverstein, Katy Beh, Janet Dorsey, Kathleen Perriera, Mark Disler, Chris Lord, Nancy Taylor, Carolyn Osolinik, Michael Iskwitz, Carolyn Boos, Judy Wagner, Mark Buse, and many more. A very special thanks goes to Nancy Jones of the Congressional Research Service for her legal expertise on the ADA.

We owe a great deal of gratitude to our President as I mentioned before, and within the Bush administration I want to thank John Sununu, Attorney General Thornburgh, Secretary Sam Skinner of Transportation, Boyd Hollingsworth, John Wodatch, Mary Ann McGettigan, Bill Roper, Grace Mastelli, Hans Kuttner, David Sloan, Evan Kemp, Chris Bell, and Bob Funk to name a few.

We would not have the ADA if it were not for the disability and business communities. There are many