

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) is necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) would vote "nay."

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 40, nays 57, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 77 Leg.]

YEAS—40

Alexander	Enzi	McCain
Ayotte	Graham	McConnell
Barrasso	Grassley	Moran
Blunt	Hatch	Portman
Boozman	Heller	Risch
Burr	Hoeven	Rubio
Chambliss	Inhofe	Sessions
Coats	Isakson	Shelby
Coburn	Johanns	Thune
Cochran	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Corker	Kirk	Vitter
Cornyn	Kyl	Wicker
Crapo	Lee	
DeMint	Lugar	

NAYS—57

Akaka	Gillibrand	Murray
Baucus	Hagan	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Harkin	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Inouye	Paul
Bingaman	Johnson (SD)	Pryor
Blumenthal	Kerry	Reed
Boxer	Klobuchar	Reid
Brown (MA)	Kohl	Rockefeller
Brown (OH)	Landrieu	Sanders
Cantwell	Lautenberg	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Snowe
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Lieberman	Tester
Collins	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Conrad	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Coons	Menendez	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Webb
Feinstein	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Franken	Murkowski	Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Hutchison Roberts Schumer

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

SETTING FORTH THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to S. Con. Res. 18, a resolution setting forth the President's budget, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) is necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) would vote "nay."

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 0, nays 97, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 78 Leg.]

NAYS—97

Akaka	Franken	Mikulski
Alexander	Gillibrand	Moran
Ayotte	Graham	Murkowski
Barrasso	Grassley	Murray
Baucus	Hagan	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Harkin	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Hatch	Paul
Bingaman	Heller	Portman
Blumenthal	Hoeven	Pryor
Blunt	Inhofe	Reed
Boozman	Inouye	Reid
Boxer	Isakson	Risch
Brown (MA)	Johanns	Rockefeller
Brown (OH)	Johnson (SD)	Rubio
Burr	Johnson (WI)	Sanders
Cantwell	Kerry	Sessions
Cardin	Kirk	Shaheen
Carper	Klobuchar	Shelby
Casey	Kohl	Snowe
Chambliss	Kyl	Stabenow
Coats	Landrieu	Tester
Coburn	Lautenberg	Thune
Cochran	Leahy	Toomey
Collins	Lee	Udall (CO)
Conrad	Levin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Lieberman	Vitter
Corker	Lugar	Warner
Cornyn	Manchin	Webb
Crapo	McCain	Whitehouse
DeMint	McCaskill	Wicker
Durbin	McConnell	Wyden
Enzi	Menendez	
Feinstein	Merkeley	

NOT VOTING—3

Hutchison Roberts Schumer

The motion was rejected.

SETTING FORTH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for the information of everyone, this next vote will be a 10-minute vote, and the next will be a 10-minute vote, so I wouldn't go too far from the floor.

I move to proceed to S. Con. Res. 21, a resolution submitted by Senator TOOMEY setting forth the congressional budget for the U.S. Government.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator seek to limit the vote to 10 minutes?

Mr. MCCONNELL. A 10-minute vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the following votes will be 10-minute votes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Did we get the yeas and nays?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) is necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) would vote "nay."

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 42, nays 55, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 79 Leg.]

YEAS—42

Alexander	Enzi	McCain
Ayotte	Graham	McConnell
Barrasso	Grassley	Moran
Blunt	Hatch	Murkowski
Boozman	Heller	Paul
Burr	Hoeven	Portman
Chambliss	Inhofe	Risch
Coats	Isakson	Rubio
Coburn	Johanns	Sessions
Cochran	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Corker	Kirk	Thune
Cornyn	Kyl	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
DeMint	Lugar	Wicker

NAYS—55

Akaka	Gillibrand	Nelson (NE)
Baucus	Hagan	Nelson (FL)
Begich	Harkin	Pryor
Bennet	Inouye	Reed
Bingaman	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Blumenthal	Kerry	Rockefeller
Boxer	Klobuchar	Sanders
Brown (MA)	Kohl	Shaheen
Brown (OH)	Landrieu	Snowe
Cantwell	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Lieberman	Udall (NM)
Collins	Manchin	Warner
Conrad	McCaskill	Webb
Coons	Menendez	Whitehouse
Durbin	Merkeley	Wyden
Feinstein	Mikulski	
Franken	Murray	

NOT VOTING—3

Hutchison Roberts Schumer

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

SETTING FORTH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the next vote be a 10-minute vote.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to S. Con. Res. 20, a resolution submitted by Senator PAUL, setting forth the congressional budget for the U.S. Government, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) is necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) would vote "nay."

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 7, nays 90, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 80 Leg.]

YEAS—7

Coburn	Lee	Vitter
DeMint	McConnell	
Hatch	Paul	

NAYS—90

Akaka	Feinstein	Merkley
Alexander	Franken	Mikulski
Ayotte	Gillibrand	Moran
Barrasso	Graham	Murkowski
Baucus	Grassley	Murray
Begich	Hagan	Nelson (NE)
Bennet	Harkin	Nelson (FL)
Bingaman	Heller	Portman
Blumenthal	Hoeben	Pryor
Blunt	Inhofe	Reed
Boozman	Inouye	Reid
Boxer	Isakson	Risch
Brown (MA)	Johanns	Rockefeller
Brown (OH)	Johnson (SD)	Rubio
Burr	Johnson (WI)	Sanders
Cantwell	Kerry	Sessions
Cardin	Kirk	Shaheen
Carper	Klobuchar	Shelby
Casey	Kohl	Snowe
Chambliss	Kyl	Stabenow
Coats	Landrieu	Tester
Cochran	Lautenberg	Thune
Collins	Leahy	Toomey
Conrad	Levin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Lieberman	Udall (NM)
Corker	Lugar	Warner
Cornyn	Manchin	Webb
Crapo	McCain	Whitehouse
Durbin	McCaskill	Wicker
Enzi	Menendez	Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Hutchison	Roberts	Schumer
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The motion was rejected.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business for debate only for 2 hours; that Senator SESSIONS control the first hour and Senator CONRAD control the second hour.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 990

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived and that the cloture vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 990 with an amendment occur at 10 a.m., Thursday, May 26, without intervening action or debate; further, that if cloture is invoked, the time postcloture be counted from 1 a.m., Thursday May 26.

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

Mr. REID. So, in short, we do not have to have the vote at 1 o'clock. Everyone has been most cooperative in getting past that point. We will come in tomorrow, we hope early in the day, to have good news on how we are going

to go forward to make, hopefully, virtually everybody happy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

THE BUDGET

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader for allowing us to have a few remarks at this time, after the process has been completed tonight.

The Senate has not fulfilled its responsibility. The United States Code that we passed, Congress passed, requires that there be a budget. It requires that Congress commence marking up the budget in the Budget Committee, as the Presiding Officer knows, by April 1, and a concurrent resolution be passed by April 15, setting forth what the Congress authorizes to be spent in the next year.

If anybody attempts to spend above that amount, the Budget Act allows a point of order to be raised, and it would require 60 votes to go above that level. So a budget says what we want to spend and makes it difficult for anybody to spend more. It is what we do in our households, it is what our cities and counties do, it is what our State governments do.

I know Senator MANCHIN, the Presiding Officer, as a Governor, he had to deal with his tough budget situation. My Governor, Governor Bentley, just announced he is prorating 15 percent of the discretionary spending for the rest of the year.

We are not talking about those kinds of cuts this year in Washington. I was in Estonia, near the Soviet Union on the Baltic Sea, and the proud Estonians had a larger deficit, larger economic decline than we did. The Estonians told us that every Cabinet official took a 40-percent pay cut, every employee took 10 to 20. The health system, one said: My wife is a doctor. She is very unhappy. But they intend to complete the recovery in Estonia without adding to the debt at all. Their debt to GDP is 7 percent.

By September 30 of this year, our debt-to-gross domestic product will total 100 percent, and according to the Rogoff-Reinhart study, a great authoritative study that has gained a great deal of applause, when the debt amounts to 90 percent of GDP, economic growth declines by 1 percent.

A 1-percent decline in GDP—the experts tell us—is the equivalent of 1 million jobs. So we will be in a position where, because of the debt we have accumulated, the economy will grow 1 percent less and we could have 1 million less jobs.

We do not know what our economic growth might be. It looks like it could be less than 2 percent. We are talking about a huge difference in what our economic growth could be this year. Maybe it will be 3. But if it is 3, it would have been 4. If it was 4, it would have been 5. If it is 3, it would be 2 because of this debt.

So these are the circumstances we are dealing with. Every witness has told us we need to do something about it. The Nation is in a most serious fix. So there has been a decision made by the leadership of the Senate, the Democratic leadership of the Senate, not to produce a budget.

It was interesting, when the President's budget was brought up, every single Member of the Senate—Republicans and Democrats—voted no. We could say: Why did they do that? Well, the President's budget deserved not a single vote. Considering the severe, serious financial condition we are in, the President's budget was the most irresponsible budget that has ever been presented to Congress. It is stunningly short of anything necessary.

Erskine Bowles, the man President Obama appointed to head the fiscal commission, said the President's budget was nowhere close to where they will have to go to avoid our fiscal nightmare—nowhere close. But our colleagues, what have they done? They complained about the Ryan budget. They vote against their own, and they vote against any other budget. They vote against the Ryan budget saying it is going to eliminate your Medicare, and you will not receive your Medicare because of PAUL RYAN and the mean Republicans.

But the Ryan budget made no change in Medicare in the 10 years in the Ryan plan at all, except canceled the President's health care bill and saved hundreds of billions of dollars. What it did was to propose in the future that we develop a new way of administering Medicare that would save money and make it more responsible to individual needs.

We refused to even move to that legislation, to discuss it, and to analyze whether it should be done that way or whether it could be done another way. But nobody denies that this budget, that any budget we pass, must confront our entitlement programs. Surely, they do not. So whatever you do, you are attacked by it. Our majority leader, whom I admire and enjoy working with, was quite frank. He said: It would be foolish for us to pass a budget. He did not mean it would be foolish for America. He did not mean it would be foolish for the public interest. He did not mean it would be foolish in terms of containing the reckless spending and dangerous path we are on. He meant it would be foolish politically because he had a plan, and the plan was to attack the people who had the courage, the gumption, and the hard work to produce a budget dealing with the long-term fiscal challenges of America: PAUL RYAN and his Budget Committee, wants to attack them, bring up their budget and vote it down, and not produce anything in response.

I believe that is an embarrassment to the Senate. It is an utter failure to meet our statutory obligation. More importantly, it is a failure to meet our moral obligation. Many have said: