

<sup>69</sup>(...continued)

The ironclad parliamentary procedures governing the debate of the reconciliation measure should by no means be used to shield controversial or extraneous legislation from free debate. However, language is included in the reconciliation measure that would enact routine authorizations that have no budget impact whatsoever. In other cases, legislation is included that makes drastic alterations in current policy, yet, has no budgetary impact.

....

The reconciliation bill, if it includes such extraneous matters, would diminish the value of rule XXII. The Senate is unique in the way that it protects a minority, even a minority of one, with regard to debate and amendment. The procedures that drive the reconciliation bill set limits on the normally unfettered process of debate and amendment, because policy matters that do not have clear and direct budgetary consequences are supposed to remain outside its scope.

....

The amendment offered by the majority leader and me omits several non budget related authorizations which should also be stricken from this bill. The fact that they were not included in this amendment should not be construed as accepting their inclusion in the bill.

....

We have gone as far as we can go in this amendment, but we have not gone as far as we should go.

127 CONG. REC. S6664-66 (1981); Senate Precedent PRL19810622-001 (June 22, 1981) (LEGIS, Rules database). That day, the Senate agreed to the amendment by a voice vote. *See id.*

#### Adoption of the Byrd Rule

On October 24, 1985, the Senate debated and adopted the Byrd Rule as an amendment to the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985. Excerpts from the debate that day follow:

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I send to the desk an amendment sponsored by myself, Mr. Dole, Mr. Chiles, Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Domenici.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from West Virginia [Mr. Byrd], for himself, Mr. Dole, Mr. Chiles, Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Domenici, proposes an amendment numbered 878:

At the appropriate place add the following: When the Senate is considering a reconciliation bill upon a point of order being made and sustained by any Senator, any part of the bill not in the jurisdiction of the reporting committee or extraneous to the instructions given that committee shall be deemed stricken from the bill and may not be offered as

(continued...)