Health Care Reform Will Wait For Labor Day Senate Recess

By Amy DeRuy and Dan Balz

WASHINGTON

Senate Majority Leader George J. Mitchell, D-Maine, said Thursday that the Senate will recess without enacting health care legislation, effectively ending any chance of fulfilling President Clinton's hopes for comprehensive reform this year.

Both Mitchell and Clinton Thursday said the recess until after Labor Day does not mean the end of health care legislation. Democrats and Republicans across the political spectrum, including some of the president's most vocal opponents and the White House, indicated the task of rebuilding in this session of Congress, but with elections just eight weeks away, the legislative effort can hardly begin.

Most agreed that the only remaining hope is for more moderate legislation and perhaps low-income subsidies when Congress reconvenes.

"There's a growing consensus that an incremental approach is all we can do," said Sen. Christopher J. Dodd, D-Conn., who has supported Clinton-style change. "A very legitimate question is, can you even do that? The clock is the 10th senator and has tremendous power around here, with elections," just eight weeks after Congress is scheduled to return.

"The moment has2 handed, when you have to face facts, has come this week," said Harry Wolford, D-Pa., whose 1991 upset victory propelled the health care issue into the election campaign. A member of the broad-based reform, including Mitchell and John Breaux, D-La., have opposed efforts to change at the White House, although the Senate leadership said he would continue informal discussions over the recess.

"What he's saying is, the Senate should stop, and part of what stranded the White House hopes was the draw2 out combat on the state level," said a former state legislator who lost her seat in the Senate; their vacation ended

"We're going to see the president, who's always on both sides of the aisle pressed hard to go home once the crisis bill was dealt. About what health care with an offer to save and alleged death threats. Mitchell and Clinton have strong ties with the black community. There likely to be an investigation of the program. But in Albany, a city of 80,000 people, and in the remaining South-central section is so widespread that the floods ravaged southeast Georgia and parts of Alabama and Mississippi. Some areas remained flooded, some have returned home, but many have not been able to rebuild and many jobs that were based on agriculture and forestry have disappeared.

In the first large study of genetic variation among wild chimpanzees, scientists have used tiny bits of deoxyribonucleic acid, or DNA, from hair as a guide to chimpanzee relationships, mating preferences and social structure. The study was conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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