

period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

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

UPDATE ON THE ACCOUNTABLE PIPELINE SAFETY & PARTNERSHIP ACT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want to take a few moments to update my Senate colleagues on an important piece of legislation enacted in the last Congress. The bill, now a law, was about regulatory reform of a segment of the energy community, namely natural gas pipelines. As DOT begins the rulemaking process required by law, they do so with improved regulatory reform guidelines.

Although this law only affects one statute and one agency it is real regulatory reform. It is the government and industry working together to make each more efficient and effective. It is government being held accountable for its rulemaking and regulatory decisions.

This law, the Accountable Pipeline Safety and Partnership Act of 1996, passed the 104th Congress, bringing with it provisions that strengthen risk assessment, cost/benefit analysis and peer review. Last week the Department of Transportation announced its first participant in a demonstration program where the rules will be flexibly applied and pipeline safety will be improved.

The Accountable Pipeline Safety and Partnership Act has two important elements which make it unique. First, all new pipeline safety regulations must undergo a risk assessment and cost/benefit analysis. This is crucial, because it ensures that new regulations and limited public resources are focused to maximize public benefit. This is real regulatory reform.

The second notable element of the Accountable Pipeline Safety and Partnership Act is the risk management demonstration project. Intended to move the agency beyond the old "command-and-control" style of regulating, this project allows individual pipelines to propose their own safety procedures to DOT for review and approval. This type of risk management takes us to a higher and more sophisticated level of safety regulation. Once again, the agency is encouraged to direct limited resources towards activities that provide maximum safety to the public. This, too, is real regulatory reform.

The Office of Pipeline Safety, has received a number of applications from pipeline companies that want to participate in the risk management demonstration project. One company has been approved and five other applicants are close to approval. These proposals have bolstered innovation in safety policy, and have encouraged pipeline companies to think beyond simple compliance with existing standards. The government is learning to think "outside of the box" and to consider creative industry solutions. This gen-

uine reengineering partnership illustrates the fruits of real regulatory reform.

The demonstration project illustrates a commitment by a number of DOT civil servants to the principles of this law. Three key staff deserve recognition for rapidly implementing the law: Kelley Coyner, Rich Felder, and Stacey Gerad. These civil servants ensured that the American public gets greater safety and environmental protection when industry is given flexibility. This law is a bargain for America.

The Accountable Pipeline Safety and Partnership Act has restored trust between regulators and the regulated community. This new found trust will permit the sharing of research information that can be translated into improved pipeline safety technology. This trust has maximized both government and private dollars.

Enacting this legislation is a formal recognition that there is a valid role for risk assessment and cost/benefit analysis in federal rulemaking. These steps must be taken when regulating, not simply as a check off or to satisfy requirements of transparency, but to genuinely incorporate the results into how the rules are made. Cost is an essential factor and cannot be dismissed by rulemakers.

This regulatory reform is the law of the land for a small sector of our federal system.

This incremental effort changed a public policy by establishing a new level of confidence among stakeholders. It did not create a cloud of legislative doubt and confusion. To the contrary, it received overwhelming support from both chambers of Congress. This initiative is indeed a genuine bipartisan regulatory reform approach.

Regulatory reform should be incremental and fully bipartisan. If this Congress considers just one element of the regulatory process this year I believe it should be risk. There is a clear consensus among our colleagues that changes must be made to the rulemaking process. Risk is the basis for every rule, and should be the center of our next legislative correction.

I frequently draw a comparison between risk and a dog's ear. As you wash a dog, it has a tendency to want to shake the water and shampoo off. Because a dog starts shaking at the head and will not stop until the final flick of the tail, holding the ear will stop the shaking. Just as the dog's ear is the starting point of a shake, risk is the starting point of the rulemaking process. Without a risk, there can be no rule. Without a free ear, a dog cannot spray water everywhere. The water and shampoo will be effectively applied to the desired subject, and not wasted by going everywhere. Get risk right and the regulated industry will have respect for the rulemaking process. Ignoring risk and working on anything else is like holding the dog's tail—you will get soaked as the dog shakes from the head down to its tail. Unnecessary rules and regulations will abound.

I want to thank my colleagues for their attention. Regulatory reform is a passion in which I have invested six years. It is an area I will remain engaged in because more legislative changes are needed. It may take years of incremental efforts, but only this step-by-step approach will generate the confidence and comfort necessary to reform the rulemaking process. Current regulations were enacted during the years when the philosophical approach was one-size-fits-all. This is no longer operative. These rules and procedures should be updated in a deliberate but incremental manner to reflect today's modern approach—an approach that permits innovative technology and offers flexibility.

Mr. President, the approval of this demonstration program is a validation of today's modern approach. Safety will not be jeopardized and environmental protection will not be compromised. It is a recognition that regulatory reform, when done incrementally and with the goal of producing effective regulations, can have a real impact on government's rulemaking.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR YOUTH

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I am extremely pleased to announce that students from the great state of Mississippi, and from a number of other states, are participating in the Leadership Training Institute for Youth. This year the program will be held in Missouri.

This invaluable program reaches out to our nation's most important resource, our children. As you know, ensuring safety and effectiveness in schools is an important priority for this Congress. This privately funded initiative helps Congress fulfill its fundamental goal of providing our nation's students with the best education in the world.

The Institute, headquartered in Arkansas, brings together students from communities throughout the nation and from families in all walks of life. It is important to recognize that the young people selected for the program might not have this kind of leadership opportunity available to them in their local communities or even in their home states.

The Leadership Training Institute instills in our youth a sense of purpose, belonging, spirituality, patriotism, and strong moral and ethical character. The Institute's teaching philosophy centers on biblical principles and the tenets espoused by America's founding fathers. Students learn that real leaders are people of faith, integrity, conviction, and moral fiber.

These high school and college age students are given hands-on experience in dealing with compelling political, social, and ethical issues. These students work with experts from a wide

range of disciplines to examine leadership competencies, civic responsibility, community and family values, as well as a number of other topics important to America's youth.

During the program, these future leaders will explore such issues as how to: achieve a smaller, more effective government; reduce the burden of taxes on America's working families; reform the IRS; improve education and expand learning opportunities; and, combat violence and drugs in schools.

Mr. President, this sounds like our Senate's agenda.

These students will also meet with local, state, and national leaders to reflect on issues that truly matter—such as family, faith and freedom. As you know, family, faith and freedom must be the cornerstone of our public policy.

Mr. President, I think this is an outstanding initiative and commend the efforts of the Leadership Training Institute for offering this model program to Mississippi's youth.

These young achievers are our nation's future business executives and public officials. It gives me great hope for America's future to know that these young minds are being exposed to the challenging programs being offered by the Leadership Training Institute. I firmly believe that each student who graduates from the Institute will possess the strong, solid moral and value driven foundation needed to guide our nation into the next century.

Again, I want to express my deep appreciation to the Leadership Training Institute for Youth for conducting this exemplary program.

ELOQUENT TRIBUTES TO SENATOR ABE RIBICOFF

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, earlier this year, the Senate lost one of our ablest, most respected, and most beloved former colleagues, Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff of Connecticut.

Senator Ribicoff served his constituents and his country with extraordinary distinction over a career that spanned more than four decades. His interests ranged far and wide, and his achievements were legion in both domestic and foreign policy. He led the effort to establish the Departments of Education and Energy. He was a consistent and eloquent advocate for civil rights, and an opponent of bigotry in all its forms. He was a brilliant leader in advancing the cause of peace in the Middle East. In these and many other ways, he was a giant for the people of Connecticut and the nation.

For my family, Senator Ribicoff was far more than the distinguished leader of a neighboring state. He was a loyal friend and trusted adviser, and one of President Kennedy's closest and most loyal friends.

My brother had immense respect for him. They had served together in the House of Representatives in the 1940's and early 1950's. After Congressman Ribicoff went on to become Governor of

Connecticut, and my brother was elected to the Senate, they continued their close ties.

At the Democratic Convention in 1956, Abe encouraged Jack to run for Vice President. Four years later, Abe was one of my brother's strongest supporters in his 1960 campaign for the White House.

When Jack became President in 1961, he chose Governor Ribicoff to join his Cabinet as Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, and he did an outstanding job. But in many ways, he was a legislator at heart. He was elected to the Senate in 1962, the same year I was elected, and we served together for 18 beautiful years until he retired in 1980. In a sense, I inherited Abe from Jack, and our friendship was all the stronger because of that.

At Senator Ribicoff's funeral, our colleague Senator DODD and U.S. Circuit Judge Jon O. Newman delivered eloquent eulogies that captured the essence of Abe's remarkable public life. I ask unanimous consent that these moving tributes be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the tributes were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

EULOGY FOR SENATOR ABRAHAM A. RIBICOFF
(By Senator Christopher J. Dodd)

The sadness of losing our friend Abraham Ribicoff is reflected in the faces gathered here today. Whether you called him Governor, Senator, or simply Abe, as the people of Connecticut did for more than four decades, he was truly in a class by himself. We are thus gathered to honor the memory of an outstanding American.

Abe Ribicoff believed fervently that the highest calling one can have in American life is public service.

He is the only person in our Nation's history to have served as a state legislator, a municipal judge, a United States Representative, a Governor, a Cabinet Secretary, and a United States Senator.

As many of you recall—Abe had a gift of giving speeches short and to the point. He had to. It took so long to introduce him properly.

But to appreciate Abraham Ribicoff, it is important to understand that he did more than occupy an impressive collection of public offices. What distinguished Abe Ribicoff from his peers, both past and present, is not the number of offices he held, but the manner in which he held them.

In Abe Ribicoff's politics, there was no place for meanness, no place for personal attacks. Abe understood the importance of public opinion. But he never relied on polls to shape his political decisions.

Abe was guided in his life's work by integrity, candor, high principle, and a deeply-held belief in the goodness and decency of Americans.

I remember his 80th birthday celebration. It was a wonderful evening, Casey. He spent a good deal of his remarks reminiscing. Not about his work

on the great issues of his day, nor the times he spent with Prime Ministers and Presidents. Abe Ribicoff spoke at length that evening about John Moran Bailey, the legendary Democratic party chairman from Connecticut. In John Bailey, Abe recognized a master of the political craft.

Now, why do I mention this? Because to have a true understanding of the man, Abe Ribicoff, you must begin with this fact: Abe loved politics. At his core, Abe Ribicoff was a first class politician: a quality shared by all great political leaders.

And Abe had uncanny political instincts. Abe could size up a situation, or spot a shift in opinion, on just the slightest whiff of information.

Yet his gift was not to just understand swings in public mood, but to anticipate them, and then shape those swings for the public good.

He was always several steps ahead of the average politician, but never out of step with the American people.

Allow me to illustrate what I mean.

In 1954, Abe won his first race for Governor by less than one percentage point. Then he went out and told the Connecticut State Police to arrest people who exceeded the speed limit. There are probably people here who can attest to the vigor and extent of that effort. His allies said the public would never support him.

Abe thought differently. As one historian said, Abe had "an unerring instinct for the right move at the right time in the complicated game of politics."

His get-tough policy saved lives, and it was extremely popular with the people of Connecticut.

One of the defining moments in Abe's public life took place in 1968 at the Democratic National Convention.

Here was a man—a first-term Senator, not unaware that he was confronting the National leadership of his party—willing to stand and make a public plea for civility.

In doing so, he appealed to what is best about our Nation and ourselves—our capacity for tolerance and understanding, our belief that, in a truly civilized society, we live by the rule of law, not the rule of force.

In that moment, America learned what his family, his friends, and the people of Connecticut had long known—Abe Ribicoff was a National gift.

On another occasion during Abe's tenure in the Senate, Mississippi Senator John Stennis introduced a resolution calling for northern and southern schools to be integrated at the same speed. The resolution was seen as pure symbolism designed to embarrass northern liberals.

Abe Ribicoff confounded everyone. He supported Stennis. "The North", Abe said, "is guilty of monumental hypocrisy." Thanks largely to him, the resolution passed. And thanks to Abe Ribicoff, the Senate went back to work debating civil rights, not symbols.