

Robb	Sessions	Thompson
Roberts	Shelby	Thurmond
Rockefeller	Smith (NH)	Torricelli
Roth	Smith (OR)	Voinovich
Santorum	Snowe	Warner
Sarbanes	Specter	Wellstone
Schumer	Stevens	Wyden

[Rollcall Vote No. 260 Leg.]

YEAS—92

NOT VOTING—4

Feinstein	McCain
Lieberman	Thomas

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 109) was passed.

Mr. LOTT. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY ACT OF 2000

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the pending first-degree amendment (No. 4177) to Calendar No. 490, S. 2045, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to H-1B non-immigrant aliens:

Trent Lott, Gordon Smith of Oregon, Judd Gregg, Wayne Allard, Conrad Burns, Craig Thomas, Rick Santorum, Thad Cochran, Bob Smith of New Hampshire, Spencer Abraham, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Connie Mack, George Voinovich, Larry Craig, James Inhofe, and Jeff Sessions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on amendment No. 4177 to S. 2045, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to H-1B non-immigrant aliens, shall be brought to a close? The yeas and nays are required under the rule. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) would vote "aye."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 92, nays 3, as follows:

Abraham	Edwards	Lott
Akaka	Enzi	Lugar
Allard	Feingold	Mack
Ashcroft	Fitzgerald	McConnell
Baucus	Frist	Mikulski
Bayh	Gorton	Miller
Bennett	Graham	Moynihan
Biden	Gramm	Murkowski
Bingaman	Grams	Nickles
Bond	Grassley	Reid
Boxer	Gregg	Robb
Breaux	Hagel	Roberts
Brownback	Harkin	Rockefeller
Bryan	Hatch	Roth
Bunning	Helms	Santorum
Burns	Hutchinson	Sarbanes
Byrd	Hutchison	Schumer
Campbell	Inhofe	Sessions
Chafee, L.	Inouye	Shelby
Cleland	Jeffords	Smith (NH)
Cochran	Johnson	Smith (OR)
Collins	Kennedy	Snowe
Conrad	Kerrey	Specter
Craig	Kerry	Stevens
Crapo	Kohl	Thompson
Daschle	Kyl	Thurmond
DeWine	Landrieu	Torricelli
Dodd	Lautenberg	Voinovich
Domenici	Leahy	Warner
Dorgan	Levin	Wyden
Durbin	Lincoln	

NAYS—3

Hollings	Reed	Wellstone
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NOT VOTING—5

Feinstein	McCain	Thomas
Lieberman	Murray	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 92, the nays are 3. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, may I ask about the order and the unanimous consent that is pending?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator now has 20 minutes.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I thank the Chair.

OIL CRISIS

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have had a series of discussions with my colleagues on the energy crisis in this country.

I think it is fair to make a broad statement relative to the crisis. The crisis is real. We have seen it in our gasoline prices. We saw it last week when oil hit an all-time high of \$37 a barrel—the highest in 10 years. And now we are busy blaming each other for the crisis.

I think it is fair to say that our friends across the aisle have taken credit for the economy because it occurred during the last 7 years. I also think it is fair that our colleagues take credit for the energy crisis that has occurred because they have been here for the last 7 years.

I have talked about the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, what I consider the insignificance of the drawdown, and the signal that it sends to OPEC that, indeed, we are vulnerable at 58-percent dependence on imported oil. That sends a message that we are willing to go into our savings account.

What did we get out of that? We got about a 3- to 4-day supply of heating oil. That is all. We use about a million

barrels of heating oil a day during the winter. That has to be taken out of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in crude form—30 million barrels—and transferred to the refineries which are already operating at capacity because we haven't had any new refineries built in this country in the last 15 to 20 years.

This is not the answer.

I am going to talk a little bit about one of the answers that should be considered by this body and has been considered before. In fact, in 1995, the issue of opening up that small area of the Coastal Plain, known as ANWR, came before this body. We supported it. The President vetoed it. If we had taken the action to override that veto of the President, or if the President had supported us, we would know what is in this small area of the Coastal Plain. When I say "small area," I implore my colleagues to reflect on the realities.

Here is Alaska—one-fifth the size of the United States. If you overlay Alaska on the map of the United States, it runs from Canada to Mexico, and Florida to California. The Aleutian Islands go thousands of miles further. There is a very small area near the Canadian border. When I say "small," I mean small in relationship to Alaska with 365 million acres.

But here we have ANWR in a little different proportion. This is where I would implore Members to understand realities. This is 19 million acres. This is the size of the State of South Carolina.

A few of the experts around here have never been there and are never going to go there in spite of our efforts to get them to go up and take a look.

Congress took responsible action. In this area, they created a refuge of 9 million acres in permanent status. They made another withdrawal—only they put it in a wilderness in permanent status with 78.5 million acres, leaving what three called the 1002 area, which is 1½ million acres.

That is this Coastal Plain. That is what we are talking about.

This general area up here—Kaktovik—is a little Eskimo village in the middle of ANWR.

They say this is the "Serengeti." There is a village in it. There are radar sites in it. To suggest it has never been touched is misleading.

Think for a moment. Much has been made of the crude oil prices dropping \$2 a barrel when the President tapped the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and released 30 million barrels of oil.

While I believe the price drop will only be temporary, I ask my fellow Senators what the price of crude oil would be today if the President had not vetoed opening up ANWR 6 years ago. It would have been at least \$10 less because we would have had another million-barrel-a-day supply on hand.

What would prices be if OPEC and the world knew that potentially 1 to 2 million barrels a day of new oil was coming out of the ANWR Coastal Plain, and not only for 3 or 4 or 15 days, but for decades?