

thin because of their shrinking tax bases and high transportation and other costs. They cannot afford any more unfunded mandates from Washington.

They need help attracting and keeping good teachers.

They need help to keep up with advances in technology.

I talk to teachers and principals in South Dakota all the time who tell me, "We're not afraid of accountability. We welcome high standards; we know we can meet them. Please, just don't set us up to fail."

Last month, during the Senate debate on the budget resolution, we offered an amendment sponsored by Senator TED KENNEDY and Senator PATTY MURRAY to fully fund No Child Left Behind. Our amendment would have provided exactly what Democrats and Republicans agreed was needed to make the law work when we passed it 2 years ago.

Regrettably, Republicans defeated our amendment.

But this is not over. There are still months to go before Congress passes a final budget. At every opportunity, we are going to continue to press for full funding of No Child Left Behind. We will also press for the Federal Government to honor its commitment to shoulder 40 percent of the cost of special education.

Accountability in education is essential. But accountability has to work both ways. Congress cannot pass the most sweeping education reforms in a generation and then refuse, year after year, to pay for them. The reforms in No Child Left Behind are the right reforms for our children's schools. But they will not work if we refuse to fund them.

I recently received a letter from an elementary-school student in South Dakota. Because of budget shortfalls, her school district is considering merging with another district.

She wrote, "Even though we are just two small towns in South Dakota, the Burke school means very much to me."

Then she added, "I know that NASA is trying to help mankind, but right now, my school needs that \$3 trillion more! . . . I'm in the fifth grade. . . . The school means very much to me, so please HURRY."

Budgets are statements of our priorities and values.

Before we vote to spend trillions of dollars to make permanent the President's tax breaks for the very wealthiest Americans, and before we spend hundreds of billions more to send a person to Mars, we need to fund our children's schools.

In his first budget address to Congress, President Bush said, "The highest percentage increase in our budget should go to our children's education." Yet, the President's proposed budget for next year includes the smallest increase for education in 9 years.

We must restore the broad, bipartisan support for No Child Left Behind

that existed 2 years ago. To do that, we must fund the law.

The Federal Government needs to keep its end of the agreement. Words alone are not enough. Real reform requires real resources.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. How much time remains for morning business on our side?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Thirty-two minutes.

#### NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise to address the issue of prescription drugs as part of Medicare, a new provision dealing with Medicare, but before I do I will comment on the two issues that have been brought up by Democratic Members of the Senate. I only do that because I think it is appropriate people know that there are two sides to every story—maybe five sides but at least two in the Senate.

I do not find fault with my Democratic friends for bringing issues to the Senate floor, but in the case of the high cost of gasoline as an example, which the Senator from Oregon was talking about, all I can say is we had a national energy policy before the Senate. It passed the House last year; it passed the Senate last year. We spent a couple of months in conference and worked out a very good compromise. It passed the House of Representatives by a wide margin. Exactly how much I do not recall. Then it came to the Senate and we were faced with a filibuster.

In that filibuster cloture vote, we got 58 votes. It obviously takes 60 votes to stop a filibuster. Out of those 58 votes, we only had 13 out of 49 Democrats vote to break that filibuster. So there are another 36 Democrats that if they want to help us reduce the cost of energy, I would beg them to tell our leader that they are prepared to break that filibuster. The leader filed a motion to reconsider. We could bring that up again and within 2 minutes we would have a national energy policy that would send a clear signal to OPEC that we have our energy house in order in this country, and hopefully let them know they are not going to have an economic stranglehold on our economy as they evidently think they have by reducing their production of oil by 4 percent as they did a month ago.

Why would we not expect the OPEC nations to take advantage of a divided Congress when we all know, with the energy blackout in the Northeast last August and with \$2 gasoline right now in the United States, that this country ought to be doing everything it can to solve its energy problem?

The national energy policy we had before Congress last fall that there was a Democrat filibuster against would be a solution because it emphasizes in a very balanced way three things: One, tax incentives for the enhanced produc-

tion of fossil fuels; No. 2, tax incentives for renewable fuels, wind energy, ethanol, biodiesel, biomass; and tax incentives for conservation, such as fuel cell cars.

So when we have an effort to bring a national energy policy before this Congress, and it is defeated by a filibuster that only 13 out of 49 Democrats would support, then it seems to me very wrong for people on the other side of the aisle to be complaining about the high price of gasoline.

Now, it is all right to complain about the high price of gasoline because I do every time I go to fill up my car, but on the other hand, it is one thing to complain about it and not do anything about it. What we need to do is join forces to get this national energy bill passed. It would help if we could get two more Democrats to help us defeat that filibuster.

#### EDUCATION FUNDING

Mr. GRASSLEY. As to the issue of education, all I can point out is that this President has always had education very high on his agenda. Except for September 11 and the war that we are now involved in, education would be No. 1 on this President's agenda. But because of the war, we are in a budget situation now where we are having 10-percent increases for homeland security, 7-percent increases for defense because of the war, and we are having 3-percent increases for education. Now, that may be, as the distinguished Democratic leader said, the smallest increase in education for years, but this 3-percent increase in education is far higher than anything else in the domestic budget that the President proposed to the Congress of the United States because every other domestic program in that budget is going to be increased nine-tenths of 1 percent.

So when we are involved in war, whether it is the 21st century war on terrorism or whether it is the 20th century war on fascism, World War II, this country puts all of its efforts behind the men and women who are on the front line, giving them all of the resources they need to win that war because we only go to war if we go to war to win. This President has done that. But, after taking care of our responsibilities to the men and women on the battlefield, this President has always had education at the top of his agenda. With the way this year's budget treats education compared to every other domestic program, and only third to homeland security and the war, this President is keeping his commitment to education.

#### MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Now I would like to address the issue of the Medicare prescription drug program, because on January 1, the seniors of America are going to make a voluntary decision