

concluded that, as a result—we are talking about the Environmental Protection Agency. We keep hearing that the inspector general of the EPA does not like this. The agency the inspector general works for disagrees with the inspector general.

As I said, the National Academy of Science scientists concluded that EPA's reference dose is "a scientifically justifiable level for the protection of public health." EPA's analysis concluded that as a result of the cap-and-trade program:

... the overwhelming majority of the general public and those who consume large quantities of fish—

And I consume large quantities of fish because Lake Erie is one of the best fisheries in the United States of America. We eat a lot of perch in the Voinovich household—

are not expected to be exposed above the methylmercury reference dose.

Additionally, while several of my colleagues and groups claim that there is an urgent need to dramatically reduce mercury emissions because many are at serious risk, this is simply not the case. Two months ago, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released their "Third National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals," stating that all women of childbearing age—16 to 49 years of age—had blood mercury levels below that associated with the neuro-developmental effects in the fetus.

We have been hearing lots of information and statistics about this issue. The fact of the matter is that the EPA rule on mercury is reasonable. It will cost \$2 billion, versus \$385 billion.

It has been shown, if we went with what the sponsors of this resolution want to do—that is, overturn the mercury rule of EPA—if they got everything they wanted, we would have a 2-percent reduction below what we are going to get with this 70 percent rule that has been promulgated by the EPA.

I hope my colleagues spend a little time looking at this situation and its impact and tomorrow vote no on the proposed resolution to overturn the EPA's mercury rule.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

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

TRIBUTE TO CRAIG WILLIAMS AND THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS WORKING GROUP

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Kentuckian and the fine organization he represents—Mr. Craig Williams and the Chemical Weapons Working Group, CWWG, based in Madison County, KY.

For almost 20 years, Craig and the CWWG have been invaluable in their efforts to ensure that the millions of pounds of chemical weapons stored at Kentucky's Blue Grass Army Depot are destroyed as safely and expeditiously as possible. In large part due to their efforts, we are closer than we have ever been to taking tangible steps towards chemical weapons disposal.

One of our biggest challenges has been to keep those in charge of weapons disposal at the Department of Defense, DOD, accountable to the citizens of Kentucky. It hasn't been easy. Without the efforts and diligence of Craig and his organization, it would have been close to impossible to hold DOD to the commitments it has made to the local community. This is because, with respect to chemical demilitarization, DOD has long operated in a less than transparent manner. Craig has been another set of eyes and ears for the Kentucky delegation, keeping us abreast of what is going on—or not going on—at the depot. In this regard, Craig has been at the vanguard of a unique public/private partnership between the citizens of Madison County and its elected representatives, including my colleague and friend from Kentucky, Senator BUNNING.

But for the efforts of Craig and the CWWG, our Nation's obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention would be in more jeopardy than they already are. More importantly, but for Craig and the CWWG, hundreds of thousands of Americans would continue living indefinitely with the specter of an aging and increasingly unstable chemical weapons stockpile looming in their midst.

All of us in the Commonwealth of Kentucky owe Craig and the CWWG a substantial debt of gratitude for their tireless work to protect the health and safety of the public, the depot workers, and the local environment.

I ask my fellow Senators to join me in paying tribute to the CWWG and to my friend, Craig Williams.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, yesterday marked the 4-year anniversary of the tragedies that took place on September 11, 2001. Out of the destruction of that terrible day emerged a renewal of the American spirit and a rejuvenated commitment to fight the scourge of terrorism both at home and abroad.

Yesterday, I was honored to attend a memorial service along with Governor Ed Rendell of Pennsylvania, former Pennsylvania Governor and Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, and other public officials to pay tribute to the brave passengers and crew aboard flight 93. We now know with near certainty that the terrorists aboard that flight had plans of causing severe destruction to either the White House or the Capitol Building. Thanks to the heroic actions of the men and women

aboard that flight, thousands of lives were spared, and one of the greatest symbols of America's freedom and democracy still stands.

The individuals who tried to break our fortitude will never succeed. They failed because as Americans we are all living, breathing examples of freedom and democracy, of strength and character. No act of terrorism can ever take that away from us.

I continue to believe that the individuals, States, and countries that have supported terrorism should be brought to justice. On October 7, 2001, President Bush announced Operation Enduring Freedom to dismantle the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, which was harboring al-Qaida. Thanks to the brave men and women in our armed forces and the support of other nations, we have captured countless members of al-Qaida.

As Americans, we have been blessed with a country that endorses freedom and equality. Sadly, the Afghani people were not as fortunate, living under the oppressive regime of the Taliban. We and other democratic nations have finally given them the chance to live in a free society. They have made considerable progress in establishing a democracy, noted by their landmark election on October 9, 2004, in which millions of Afghanis came out to vote.

The terrorists are relentless; they will continue to target America unless we take a firm stand against them. While we have made significant progress, we must remain vigilant in bringing al-Qaida to justice. Winning the war on terror is essential for the safety of America and other nations around the world. America has a unique opportunity to lead this fight and act as a symbol of freedom for all people. I feel honored to represent the people of Pennsylvania in the United States Senate, and I hope that we will all continue to work toward creating a safer world for our future generations.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, this past Sunday, Americans from all parts of the country and all walks of life joined together in solemnly marking the painful anniversary of the terrible attacks of September 11, 2001.

Of course, Americans remember 9/11 every day. It has become a part of how we understand the world around us; it has been seared into our national consciousness. But we do not remember only the terrorist attacks themselves. We remember the lives, contributions, and aspirations of nearly three thousand innocent men, women and children who were killed that day. We remember the courage and heroism of our first responders. And we remember the outpouring of support and assistance and solidarity that came from every community in this great country and from so many around the world in the days following the attacks.

All of these memories unite us as Americans. Every day, those memories strengthen our unshakable resolve to defeat the terrorist networks that wish