

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT FINAL PASSAGE OF RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS TREATMENT MODERNIZATION ACT

H.R. 6143

AbsoluteCare Medical Center; ADAP Coalition; AIDS Action; AIDS Action Coalition; Huntsville, AL; AIDS Action Ohio; AIDS Alabama, Inc.; AIDS Healthcare Foundation; AIDS Outreach of East Alabama Medical Center; AIDS Resource Center Ohio; Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium; American Academy of HIV Medicine; American Dietetic Association; Am I My Brother's Keeper, Inc.; Birmingham AIDS Outreach; Brother 2 Brother.

Carepoint Adult, Child and Family Center; Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth; Columbus AIDS Task Force; County of Los Angeles; County of Riverside; County of San Diego; First Ladies Summit; Governor Robert L. Ehrlich (Maryland); Harabee Empowerment Center; HIV Medicine Association; Latino Coalition; League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC); Life Linc; Log Cabin Republicans; Lowcountry Infectious Diseases.

Montgomery AIDS Outreach; National Black Chamber of Commerce; National Coalition of Pastors Spouses; National Minority Health Month Foundation; New Black Leadership Coalition; Ohio AIDS Coalition; President's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS; Rep. Linda Upmeyer (Iowa State Rep, District 12); Rocky Mountain Opportunities Industrialization Center; South Alabama Cares; Southern AIDS Coalition.

Mr. ENZI. May I ask my time?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator has 5 seconds left.

Mr. ENZI. I would like to propound a unanimous consent request and ask unanimous consent to be able to propound the request.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST H.R. 6143

I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6143, which was received from the House. I ask unanimous consent that the only amendment in order be an amendment by Senator LAUTENBERG or one of the Senators from New Jersey or New York, which is the text of S. 3944, with 30 minutes of debate equally divided. I ask unanimous consent that following the disposition of the amendment, the bill as amended, if amended, be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, we do have an obligation to all the people of this country and that includes the people of New Jersey. This is not just simply about money.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is, does the Senator object?

Mr. MENENDEZ. I do object based on that and much more.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The time of the Senator has expired.

Under the previous agreement, the Senator from Louisiana is recognized for 15 minutes.

ROYALTY RELIEF BILL

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I come to the floor to speak about an issue that, of course, many of us have been involved in now for years, literally, trying to provide a revenue stream for the Gulf of Mexico—not just Louisiana but Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas. For 40 years or longer, they have contributed more oil and gas to this Nation than Saudi Arabia and Venezuela combined. In the minds of many along the gulf coast, particularly post-Katrina and Rita, two of the largest hurricanes to hit the North American continent, people along the gulf coast are feeling, on this issue, that perhaps the gulf coast has been forgotten.

I want to say to my colleagues here, Republicans and Democrats, the people of the gulf coast are grateful, extremely grateful for all the support given this year for hurricane relief—not one, not two, not three, but four supplementals.

Mr. President, you yourself have been down there personally, walking the neighborhoods that were destroyed and being a strong advocate for us on the Appropriations Committee. So we are very grateful.

But there are two extremely important bills and issues that we must have to complete this package of initial recovery and lay a foundation so that the gulf coast can build securely. We know we can rebuild, but the question, from Pascagoula to Beaumont is, Can we rebuild safely?

We have counties in east Texas and parishes in west Louisiana, western Louisiana and southeastern Louisiana, and counties in Mississippi, that have literally been 100 percent destroyed. I mean, in Saint Bernard Parish there was not a house left standing out of 75,000 people.

It is so tragic because this particular parish has flooded like this not once but twice. Saint Bernard Parish has flooded, not once but twice. It flooded in 1965, when Hurricane Betsy poured about 10 feet to 12 feet of water, sort of in the same way—a storm surge, aided and abetted by this channel that the Corps of Engineers dredged to help the port and help navigation on the Mississippi River, which helps the whole country. But it really didn't help the people of Saint Bernard because they lost their homes. President Johnson came down and pledged, "Never again."

Here we are, 35 or 40 years later, and they have lost everything again. Some of these families who built back from Betsy, they are 70, 80 years old, to have it washed out again. It is just too much for this Senator to bear. It is too much for our delegation to bear.

There are two major pieces of legislation that the Louisiana delegation cannot go home without this Congress, and that is the WRDA bill, because it is the water resources bill of the United States of America. Since we have more water than almost anybody, this is a huge bill to us.

We are not managing our water well. It has flooded our homes.

We have to pass this WRDA bill to help us build our levies, navigation channels, locks, and dams to protect our people—not because we are a charity case but because we contribute so much wealth to the Nation. The Nation can't do without it. You wouldn't want to try. If you did, and our pipelines closed and our refineries closed, and south Louisiana, south Texas, and the southern part of Mississippi and Alabama closed, you would just as soon turn the lights out in this Chamber. There would be no economy in the United States of America.

That is a bold statement. You say: Senator that is not true. We could do without you.

If I showed you the charts, which I am not going to bore you with, you could not get anywhere near the oil and gas we need to fuel the economy in this country without it.

We can't go home without the WRDA bill, and we can't go home without the offshore oil and gas revenue.

As much money as we get in WRDA, and as many projects as we get in WRDA, we can't wait every 10 years to authorize our project. We need an independent stream of revenue to secure our wetlands, to restore them. We have lost more wetlands than the State of Delaware. We lose a football field every 30 minutes. We lost the size of the District of Columbia in the last storm. I don't know how much more we can lose. If an enemy came to our shores to take our land away the way we are letting it drift into the gulf, we would have declared war.

Our delegation put in a bill for OCS revenue sharing. We said we have a deal for the country. We will open even more in the gulf. Everyplace else is shut down. Nobody wants to drill, so let us even drill more. We will open up 9 million acres, and we will share the revenues with Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. The country gets enough natural gas to fuel 1,000 chemical plants for 40 years. That is a lot of gas. The Southern States would share in a very fair and reasonable way these revenues. We think that would be a good thing for America.

This is the Jack well that Chevron just found. It is one well, 28,000 feet deep, and it has doubled the reserves in the United States of America.

When I hear some critics of the Senate approach saying to me—to the Senators from Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas—that our bill doesn't do anything, it is just a wonder of what it might do if we could maybe find five more Jack wells here or 10 more. Who knows. There is a lot of land.

The great beauty of our arrangement is we protected the coast of Florida, as the Florida Senators and the Governor of Florida, Governor Jebb Bush, have asked us to, and we still found enough territory to open.

We are leaving here without this bill that makes a tremendous amount of

sense because we just couldn't finish negotiations with the House.

But I am very hopeful that when we return in the lame duck that it is a lame duck and not a dead duck because I could get a lame duck hobbling out of here, and I can't take a dead duck home. We need to take something home that is alive and flapping to give these people homes, to restore these wetlands, and for heavens' sake, send some oil and gas to the industries in America that are really on the edge right now of whether to expand these refineries or not because China looks more promising every day.

If we don't give them hope, they are going to leave and jobs are going to be lost.

I see my good friend from Idaho who knows this issue well. He might want to take one of my minutes and add a thought about this because he has been a good partner on this issue. I would appreciate his words on this chart or anything he wants to talk about.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I thank the Senator for yielding. I will be very brief.

This is very important for all of us to listen to. Just because gas prices are falling at this moment, we should not walk away from an opportunity to continue to build reserves and known reserves in the gulf and other areas, for the U.S. Geological Survey says it is phenomenally plentiful. The well Senator LANDRIEU just talked about at the 28,000-foot level has contributed mightily to an unbelievable drop in gas prices over the last month and a half, coupled with the lack of storms. Yes, other things are going on. But the reality is that the American producer now knows less of their potential is not at risk because it is under the control of the United States. It has taken that \$20 risk figure off the top of a barrel of oil, dropping it into the low sixties range or high fifties range. That is what is reducing the price at the pump.

I thank the Senator from Louisiana for her continued effort. I hope this Senate and the House will recognize the potential of building U.S. domestic reserves that are safe, out of harm's way, out of the way of the political, fragile nature of other countries of the world.

I thank the Senator for her steadfastness. I and others will help her with this goal.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I thank the Senator.

Mr. President, how much time do I have remaining?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator has 5 minutes remaining.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I want to call my colleagues' attention to this chart which I had my office put together today. I thought it would be a good chart to leave with because maybe it will put a little energy underneath our efforts to get something done when we get back.

Production from the gulf coast is over 1 billion barrels of oil. The total production from Saudi Arabia and Ven-

ezuela together is 973 million barrels of oil.

I do not know if the Governors of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama want to shut down production. But if they do, there would be a real problem for the country. I know people might say that couldn't be done because you don't have jurisdiction over pipelines, and the Federal Government could operate that. I would hate to see the court battles that would ensue. We actually have one court case pending which was filed by the State of Louisiana alleging that the appropriate environmental standards have not been attended to. And the judge will rule on that in November.

No Governor other than Governor Blanco has taken that step, and no Governor has suggested it. I am not giving testimony that I have heard them even privately say it. But I can promise you that the people in the Gulf of Mexico are getting tired. Everywhere I go, people in Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana say to me: Senator, why are we the only ones producing? And why when you go to Washington and ask them to just share these revenues with us they say no? Don't they know that we don't have any houses to live in? Don't they know our churches have been ruined? Don't they know our children don't have schools? What is wrong with Congress?

I am having a hard time explaining that.

For people who say the Senate bill doesn't do anything, I think 1 billion barrels of oil—almost equivalent to 60 percent of what OPEC contributes on a yearly basis—is a lot of oil.

Considering things aren't going real well in Venezuela these days, we might want to get this bill passed and help our industry and help our people.

In the last 4 minutes, I want to say in the spirit of cooperation that I filed a bill today on the issue of royalty recovery. This is an issue with the House of Representatives. It is an issue with us. It is an issue with the other House, and it is an issue with us. I thought maybe this would help everybody to see.

We can talk about it when we come back, of course.

These are the wells that were issued in 1998 and 1999 that did not have thresholds. There were over 1,000 of them. I am sorry I can't identify the 15 that are producing, but out of these there are only 15 that are producing. These are the ones which are producing and royalties are being generated because there was a mixup in the contract. When we get back we should resolve this issue. That is what my bill says, and it suggests how to do it.

Some of this money could go to Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama in the earlier years. Some could go to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and a lot of it could go to deficit reduction. We could reduce the debt on people and get a little head start on our coastal restoration, as well as do something for the Nation on land and water.

We could debate how the revenue should be shared, but I laid a bill down today to give us maybe a starting point for people who discuss how we might do that.

I will conclude with this: The Louisiana delegation cannot go home for Christmas without the WRDA bill and without the OCS bill. We are going to be here a long time until those bills are passed. We want to work with people, we want to be cooperative, and I filed a bill to solve this problem and meet the House halfway on this issue.

Then let's do something when we get back and work hard to get something out to the American people that could make at least the industry have a happy Christmas. Individual consumers might not feel the price of natural gas directly. But our industries and big and small businesses certainly do, and our farmers most certainly do. It would be a good Christmas present to give them.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The next 15 minutes is allocated to the Republican Senators.

Who yields time?

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I yield back the Republican time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Jersey is recognized for 15 minutes.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. SALAZAR. Thank you, Mr. President.

I rise tonight to speak to the so-called fence bill and ask my colleagues and urge them to oppose the construction of this fence in the way it has been proposed to the Senate.

I oppose the construction of this fence because at the end of the day this is not going to fix our borders. It is not going to deal with the lawlessness that we currently are having to deal with with respect to immigration, and it is not in the long-term interests of the United States of America.

For me, I may be the No. 100 U.S. Senator, but I have heroes on both sides of the aisle.

I remember Ronald Reagan when he went to the Berlin Wall and he told Mr. Gorbachev that he should take down the Berlin Wall. He was about taking down walls and bringing communities together.

I remember John Fitzgerald Kennedy, a person who inspired my whole life in politics and our country. I remember him working on creating the Alliance for Progress with the notion being that the Western Hemisphere would be a much more successful hemisphere if we were able to work with nations that were all a part of this hemisphere. That Alliance for Progress by President Kennedy is still celebrated throughout the United States and throughout Latin America because of his vision that we would bring communities together. Yet what we are doing today on this national security issue of immigration reform is abandoning