

A native of Rutland, VT, Senator Stafford was born in 1913. Before representing Vermont in Washington, Bob Stafford spent years serving the people of our State, including as Attorney General. In 1960 he began service as Vermont's single voice in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he remained until 1971, when he became a Member of this hallowed body. During his 17 years in the United States Senate, Senator Stafford was known for his commitment to bipartisanship and congeniality.

Senator Stafford left his mark on our country in more ways than can be mentioned here today. He had an unwavering dedication to making education within reach of all our country's citizens and today, countless Americans—maybe even some of the younger members in this Chamber—have benefited from the Stafford Student Loan program. Additionally, his commitment to the environment and public health was unshakable. Bob Stafford, from his position as Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee from 1981 until 1986, worked tirelessly to address both air and water quality issues, even when it meant doing so against the wishes of his own leadership, at the highest levels. His courage on all of these issues, and so many others, will never be forgotten.

Leaving the Senate did not stop Robert Stafford from contributing to the common good. In fact, he remained active at the state level and continued to fight for protection of the environment. I can only hope that I will be as engaged for as long as he was.

To honor Senator Stafford, Senator LEAHY and I, along with Representative WELCH, introduced a bill today to re-designate the White Rocks National Recreation Area in our fine state as the "Robert T. Stafford White Rocks National Recreation Area." This is a small, but fitting, tribute to his memory.

Bob Stafford was a true public servant. I am humbled to be serving the State of Vermont in the seat he once held. He dedicated his life to serving others and to creating a better world. My thoughts are with his family as they mourn his passing. And may the example he set during his many years be emulated for many to come. ●

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask consent that the bill be read the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 159) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 159

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ROBERT T. STAFFORD WHITE ROCKS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA .

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The White Rocks National Recreation Area in the State of

Vermont, as established by section 202 of the Vermont Wilderness Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 460nn-1), is redesignated as the "Robert T. Stafford White Rocks National Recreation Area".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the recreation area referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Robert T. Stafford White Rocks National Recreation Area.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2007

Mr. REID. Madam President, it is my understanding that there are a couple of Senators who wish to speak. We will take care of that in a minute.

I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 11:30 a.m., on Monday, January 8; that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in that day, and that the time until 12 noon be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees; that at noon, the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 19, a resolution celebrating the life of the late President Gerald R. Ford; that once the resolution is reported, the Senate then vote, without intervening objection or debate, on adoption of that resolution; that upon the adoption of the resolution, the preamble be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

I further ask consent that notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate on Friday, January 5, S. 1 be considered to have received its second reading.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Today was a good day in the Senate. The spirit of bipartisanship is in the air. I look forward to working with the Republican leaders and Members of Congress as we move ahead and forward in this Congress, the 110th Congress.

For the information of Members, the first vote next week is Monday, January 8, at 12 noon. Therefore, Members should be prepared to be here and ready to vote. Time will show what we will do, but votes will be a lot quicker than they used to be. We will not wait around for long times. Most of the votes are not very close, and it is not fair to keep Members from their constituents and other work in their office. If some people are not here, they will not be recorded within a reasonable period of time after the vote is called.

We hoped to proceed to S. 1. We do not have consent to move forward on that yet, but we are confident we will.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator LANDRIEU for 10 minutes and Senator COBURN for 15 minutes.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

AUTHORIZATION OF MORGANZA TO THE GULF OF MEXICO HURRICANE PROTECTION PROJECT

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, I come to the floor briefly to speak about a bill I introduced today on the first day of this 110th Congress to signify its importance to our State and to speak about that for a moment.

But before I do, I want to give my public congratulations to the new leadership of this Chamber, to thank the Senator from Nevada and the Senator from Kentucky, the majority leader and the minority leader, for their gathering together of the Senators today, as the Presiding Officer also attended—a quite historic meeting of almost 100 of us in the Old Senate Chamber—and their commitment to us and to the Nation, although it was a private meeting, to work in a more collegial, cooperative way as this Congress begins and to try to forge the bipartisan solutions I think our country called for as a reflection of the outcome of the last elections.

I, for one, publicly want to commit myself to that endeavor and to work toward that end, as I continue to work across the aisle with many in the other party, and even Members such as the Presiding Officer in our own party, in the Democratic Party, to get the job done for our States.

In that regard, I introduced this bill today to authorize a project and to ask for special consideration for this very important levee and hurricane protection project in the State of Louisiana called Morganza to the Gulf. As today we look forward into what we are going to do with this new hope and new spring and new era of cooperation, that is terrific. But we also need to think about looking a little bit backward as to what we did not get done in the last Congress or the Congresses before so we can pick up that work and move forward.

This initiative, Morganza to the Gulf, would fall into that category of a project that was actually approved not only by the last Congress, the 109th Congress, but the 108th and the 107th, and started back actually decades ago. And because of just a few technical glitches resulting in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' failure to timely complete its report, the contingent authorization of the Morganza project expired. Eventually, the Corps submitted its report more than a year late and