

I hope that will be the beginning of the debate. We will talk to those Members to try to give the membership as much notice as possible to address those issues in a timely way. They have indicated their desire to start with those. We would expect that to be done.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. KENNEDY. I ask unanimous consent that until 7 p.m., there be a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The Senator from Arizona.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, let me comment a little bit on the same points Senator KENNEDY made.

This is an extraordinarily important piece of legislation. The American people—certainly our colleagues in the Senate—need plenty of time to digest and debate and discuss it. It is certainly nobody's intention that this would be rushed. That is why the majority leader made comments earlier this evening that assures all of the Members of this body that not only will we have this week to debate and perhaps amend the legislation, but that upon our return from the Memorial Day recess, we will take up the bill again and, as he indicated, would have another week, if we needed it, to continue work on the legislation.

While it is true the legislation did not go through the committee process, I assure my colleagues it was never anyone's intent that there not be the fullest opportunity for discussion and debate. That will in fact occur. We are now on the bill formally. It is also my understanding that technical changes from the draft legislation will be completed tonight and the first amendment will be the amendment of that substitute version. If the distinguished chairman of the committee has any other point on that, perhaps he could make it. But that would then put before the body the exact language we would begin the debate and discussion on.

I have about another 5 minutes of comments unless Senator KENNEDY wants to say anything else.

It would be in order to thank Secretary Chertoff and Secretary Gutierrez for their work in helping us in the Senate to craft this bipartisan consensus legislation. So much of the enforcement of the legislation will depend upon action by the administration. They had to help us ensure this was a bill that could be enforced in the future.

I know during the last election so many of my constituents asked the question: Why should we create a new law for you to enforce when the current law is not being enforced? That is

a good question. So one of the things we tried to do in drafting this legislation was to put together a bill that actually would and could be enforced, and the administration has helped us by providing expertise in what it would take for Homeland Security and other departments to actually provide the enforcement the American people so desperately want.

There was general agreement that return to the rule of law was the central component of any bipartisan compromise, starting with securing the border, working right up to more enforcement in the interior of the country, and especially at the workplace, to make sure nobody in the future would be hired unless it could be established they were entitled to be hired. That is one of the critical changes in this legislation from the previous law which was not enforceable and, as virtually everybody who knows this subject appreciates, the law is not being assiduously enforced particularly at the workplace. So that is a critical component of what we have talked about doing.

There are a great many other things that will be discussed as we proceed with the legislation. Referring back to my recent campaign, the voters in my State of Arizona, which is being overrun by illegal immigration, had one message loudly and clearly: Do something about this problem of illegal immigration. So I was returned to the Senate by my constituents with an obligation to do my best to get in and do as much as we could to secure the border, return to the rule of law, ensure that only people who are eligible to work here are permitted to do so, deal with the people who are here illegally in a humane and just way, and try to set up a temporary worker program for temporary workers only, rather than to recreate the problem we have today with a great deal of foreign-born workforce that isn't legal in the United States and is now demanding to become legal.

In order to get engaged in that process and do something about it, it was important to sit down with people of the other side as well as the administration. Of all the criticism I have received for being one of the sponsors of this legislation, the one I don't quite understand from my constituents is, why would I sit down with Senator KENNEDY? What I have tried to tell them is, I understand your anxiety about sitting down with Senator KENNEDY, but on the other hand, in a body of 100 Senators who are supposed to try to work together to find solutions to problems, do you not at least acknowledge that every now and then you have to sit down and talk to each other, even when you are on the other side of the aisle? Senator KENNEDY right now happens to be in the majority, in addition.

As a result, it is, in my position, important to sit down, articulate what the people of Arizona have told me

they would like in any immigration reform, and do my best to try to see that those principles, as much as possible, are included in this legislation. If I didn't sit down with Senator KENNEDY, I doubt he would include very much of what I wanted in the legislation he could otherwise draft. So what we have done, in a bipartisan fashion, is to get Senators on both sides of the aisle, with many different views, agreeing to try to put together something that can pass this body, pass the House of Representatives, and be signed into law. I know every one of us will stand up here and say: This is not the bill I would have drafted if I were king of the world or queen of the world. There is a lot in this bill I don't like very much. But I know that in order to get something, you have to give something. At the end of the day, in order to do something about the problem of illegal immigration that is hurting my own State of Arizona in ways I can't begin to describe, we have to try our very best to work together to get something that will actually pass the Senate. That means an agreement with the administration, with Democrats, and with Republicans.

I hope as my colleagues consider what we have put together, they will acknowledge you have to start somewhere, but that if there are amendments that go to the heart of this agreement and that break the agreement apart in substantial ways—not ways at the periphery or tangentially but that go to the guts of this agreement—that they can fully expect it will no longer enjoy the support of those of us who worked hard to put the agreement together. If you want to try to kill this legislation, go right to the heart of it and change any of the major pieces of it, you will find it will quickly lose support, including mine.

We fully expect Members to have a lot of amendments that deal with different aspects of the bill. There are a million different details, and that is all fine. But if we go to the guts of the legislation and that basic agreement is destroyed, then I think we will see support for it evaporate quickly, including mine.

I am looking forward to working with my colleagues and debating and discussing this legislation. But at the end of the day, I conclude there is no option of doing nothing, that our only option is to do something. That means sitting down, working together, and trying to get a good bill passed.

I appreciate the spirit in which all of my colleagues who have joined in this effort have worked toward this end.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Arizona for his comments and for his general assessment of the circumstances we find ourselves with. I can certainly give the assurance to the people of Arizona that Senator KYL is a person of extremely strong views, who has felt very deeply

about the positions he has, but is a person who believes in comity and respect for other views. He understands you can fight for your views and still compromise without compromising your values. I respect Senator KYL for that position.

As has been pointed out at other times, this has been a long, complex, difficult process, but it is one for which I share with Senator KYL that failure is not an option. This country cannot tolerate a continued border system which is fractured, which it is today, and with all the uncertainty that exists, whether it is on the borders, or the exploitation of workers, or in terms of the lives of many of the people who are here. We have tried to fashion a program, and we are going to work together to try to see that it is successful.

I thank the Senator for his comments, and we are looking forward to getting good discussion and debates on these issues.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, first, I thank my colleague from Arizona. I do not know if there is a greater champion in this body on the rule of law on border security. I thank my colleague from Massachusetts for being the master at the art of figuring out how to get it done. As a former mayor, I have great appreciation for that. When I was mayor, if it snowed, and the snow wasn't plowed, the next day I heard about it. I think we are here to fix problems. The system we have today is broken and needs to be fixed.

I thank both my colleagues for their work on this issue. There will be a lot of conversations as time goes on, a lot of debates, but in the end the status quo is not acceptable and we have to fix it.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I want to switch subjects.

I see my colleague from Connecticut in the Chamber.

I rise to engage in a colloquy with truly my friend, the Senator from Connecticut, about an issue facing every American and every citizen of this world—an issue on which he is a true leader in the Senate, and for which he has had great vision, great perseverance, and for which I applaud him. That is the issue of climate change.

There is now a preponderance of evidence from the scientific community that human activities, particularly the burning of fossil fuels, have increased the atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide by 36 percent from preindustrial levels, leading to a dangerous increase in global average temperatures.

The temperatures speak for themselves. According to NASA, 2005 was the warmest year globally on record since readings began in 1880, with 1998 a close second. And 8 of the last 10 years

are amongst the warmest years on record. The effects are increasingly tangible. Since 1979, more than 20 percent of the polar ice cap has melted.

So often in this Chamber we talk about the future. We talk about doing things for our kids. Well, if we care about our kids, and we care about our future, we better care about what will happen if we do not take action soon to reduce greenhouse gas emissions sufficiently to prevent the temperature increases forecasted for this century.

Thankfully, we are a nation of innovators, of entrepreneurs, of individuals with bold initiative. The technologies necessary to stabilize our atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases in time to prevent a dangerous increase in temperature are right at our fingertips—from biofuels and plug-in hybrid vehicles to nuclear energy and carbon sequestration for coal plants, and many more. It is time for Congress to provide the strong market signals necessary to press these technologies forward, which is why I believe Congress should work for an economywide response to climate change with an idea I have championed: provide utilities incentives to increase the percentage of their electricity sales they generate using clean energy sources such as renewables, nuclear, and clean coal with carbon capture technology.

Yet it is not enough for the United States to act alone. China is projected to be the largest greenhouse gas emitter by the end of this year. Climate change legislation must not put America's workers at a competitive disadvantage with the Chinese, and it must not send manufacturing jobs overseas. A greenhouse gas reduction program must not put Americans out of work or drive more hard-working families into poverty.

When I drive on the streets, such as Grand Avenue in St. Paul, and it is minus 10 degrees, minus 15 degrees, and I see that mom sitting at a bus stop waiting to catch a bus, or see that senior, I care about the costs they have to pay for energy. So those are things we have to think about. I refuse to look at this, or any other issue, without considering the effect it will have on those who are trying to support their family or, as I said before, the effect it will have on the elderly, struggling to survive on a fixed income.

Accordingly, I have been working with Senator LIEBERMAN over the last several months on an agreement that allows us to work together on his Climate Stewardship and Innovation Act in a way that meets my concerns about what mandatory greenhouse gas reduction legislation should look like.

Today, we have arrived at that agreement, and I believe together we can work in a bipartisan way to address this very serious issue.

I earlier introduced a sense-of-the-Senate resolution stating that any comprehensive, mandatory greenhouse gas emissions reduction program en-

acted by Congress should include provisions requiring a process of review of the program if it is found that other countries are not taking comparable action and if the unemployment or the poverty rates are found to be increasing as a result of the program. This sense of the Senate also states such a program should include incentives for utilities that increase their portfolio of clean energy.

I say to Senator LIEBERMAN, I wish to ask to be added as a cosponsor to your Climate Stewardship and Innovation Act and thank you for your cosponsorship of this sense-of-the-Senate resolution, and finally your commitment to work on EPW to examine my clean energy portfolio proposal in a committee hearing, and to fight during EPW markup of climate change legislation for inclusion of: No. 1, congressional review of greenhouse gas caps, if other countries are not taking comparable climate change action; No. 2, congressional review of greenhouse gas caps, if the unemployment and poverty rates are increasing due to a U.S. greenhouse gas reduction program; and, No. 3, provisions to reward electric utilities that increase the percentage of their electricity sales generated with "clean energy" or energy for noncarbon-emitting sources such as nuclear and clean coal.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, I rise to thank my friend, the Senator from Minnesota, for his kind words. More importantly, I thank him for the commitment he has expressed to protecting all of our children and grandchildren from the impacts of unchecked global warming.

Senator COLEMAN, in stepping forward today, has put himself at the vanguard of the next crucial wave of bipartisan support in the Senate for climate stewardship legislation.

I am proud to cosponsor his resolution which, in a very thoughtful way—not an obstructionist way—recognizes two of the most significant reasons why people have hesitated to step forward and do something about climate change. One is the equities here: that no matter how much we do in the United States of America to curb the emission of greenhouse gases—and we must because we are the largest emitter of such gases; we must lead here; it is our responsibility, ultimately our moral responsibility—but no matter how much we assume that leadership role, if other developing nations such as China and India do not do their part, because we all live in the same global environment, the problem of global warming will continue to increase and be more serious for those who follow us here on Earth.

Second is his recognition of a thoughtful way to deal with the concerns people have—even those who desperately want to do something to impede the advance of global warming—as to the impact of what we do will have