and others cannot make ends meet without the cost of living in many other areas. For wsj SB121263496261947543.html?mod=googlenews to remedy this: http://online.wsj.com/article the cost of gas. Please do everything you can
elderly. It is very sad that these folks who
an article from the NY Times which talks son to do? work due to medical reasons. What is a per-
benefits going to be extended for Idaho resi-
will take a huge chunk of my pay just to get
experience, but it seems I am ''over-quali-
cannot find employment. I am over 60, have
retirement, I would no longer make enough
nearly 100% but my average fare has re-
to cover basic costs and make a profit. I am
61 years old and am not practiced in a mar-
ketable skill so the company as much as I
give the Lord. He gives me everything I
have, the gas company gives me nothing ex-
cept anger when I hear of the profits they make. And I think that pretty well sums it up, 10% to the Lord vs. almost as much to
gas company! DIANN, Hayden Lake.

I am a taxi driver here in Boise. In a year's
time, the cost to fill my tank has increased
nearly 100% but my average fare has re-
mained static. If it were not for my military retirement, I would no longer make enough
to cover basic costs and make a profit. I am

Not only is the fuel much too high but I
cannot find employment. I am over 60, have
experience, but it seems I am ''over-quali-
fied'' or I need more ''experience''. What a
lot of rubbish! I call it age discrimination, but that is difficult to prove. With the fuel
prices so high, if I do find employment, it
will take a huge chunk of my pay just to get
back and forth to work. Are unemployment
benefits going to be extended for Idaho resi-
dents? My benefits ended this week, no hope of a dot. My husband was laid off at work due to medical reasons. What is a per-
son to do? Getting Desperate. JANET, Emmett.

As Director of Gritman Adult Day Health which provides day health care for elders who want to remain in their own home in Moscow and Latah County, I am including an article from the NY Times which talks about the cost of gas and how it affects rural elder
ly. It is very sad that those folks who often aren’t able to drive are so affected by the

Gasoline prices are now far too high for the average family, and causing increasing rises in the cost of living in many other areas. For instance, every time one goes to the grocery store, an increase in pricing is noted on items, and thus causing many to have to go without needed supplies. Saving a percentage of income has become just a dream for many, and others cannot make ends meet without going into further debt. BEVERLY, Parma.

Yes, gas has gotten way out of hand. Do what you can to decrease the costs and re-
turn to a life with some normalcy. DIANA, Rootenai.

Thank you for at least noticing that we have a problem with the cost. I do not be-
lieve, however, that anything can be done with the prices of fuel to make a good living working for the military here in Boise but am still unable to put any money aside. It is funny that every time we receive a paycheck, the price of fuel goes up and our health care premiums grow as well, so you never see any savings. Thanks again; good luck with this effort. CLINTON, Emmett.

RETIREMENT OF WAYNE RIDDLE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I wel-
come this opportunity to pay tribute to Wayne Riddle, who is retiring at the end of this year from the Congressional Research Service. Wayne is the model of a dedicated and talented public serv-
ant. He has spent his career working out of the public eye for the greater good, providing excellent assistance to all of us in Congress for over three dec-
ades, and always taking time to mentor younger staffs.

Wayne is a graduate of the University of Virginia. He earned a master’s degree in economics from George Washington University while working at the Congressional Research Service, where he has spent the past 36 years serving as a key analyst on elementary and secondary education, and twice as head of the Education and Labor Sec-

tion at CRS.

Throughout that time, Congress has given high priority to strengthening the Nation’s schools, and Wayne has been helping us immensely every step of the way. He began not long after the passage of the original Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965—the Federal Government’s major program to improve educational opportunities for low-income students. Wayne has been indispensable in our work on every subsequent reauthorization of the act and on all our other efforts on elementary and secondary education, including the Goals 2000 Act during the Clinton administration and the No Child Left Behind Act during the cur-
cent Bush administration. His guid-
ance, support and knowledge on issues big and small have been invaluable to us time and again.

As Wayne retires to devote more
time to his family, I know that his col-
leagues at CRS will miss him, and so will I. I wish him a long, healthy, and happy retirement. He certainly de-
serves it, because he has served our country well, and made a very real dif-
ference in the lives of countless chil-
dren who have benefited in their edu-
cation because of his expertise and
dedication.

REMEMBERING TONY DEAN

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the passing of a very
close friend of mine, Tony Dean. As one of this Nation’s foremost conserva-
tionists, one would be hard put to find someone who cared more about wildlife and the environment. Tony passed away on October 19.

I had known Tony for years with his regular television broadcast, but I was fortunate enough to get to know him much better in my 2002 Senate campaign. He told me that he was willing to do whatever I needed him to do, and he was honest to his word. With his natural and effective tele-
vision viewers, Tony starred in two commercials that were critical to the success of my 2002 campaign. I have no doubt that Tony’s support was crucial, though it resulted in many tests to his
courage. Even amidst the backlash of his supporting my campaign, he said, “Tim, I know I did the right thing, and I’d do it again in a second.” Tony stared down the people who threatened him, and he refused to blink.

During Senator Ted KENNEDY’s eul-
ogy of his brother Robert, Senator KENNEDY stated that, “Few are willing to brave the disapproval of their fel-
cowards, the wrath of their society. Moral cour-
agel is a rarer commodity than bravery
in battle or great intelligence. Yet it is
the one essential, vital quality for those who seek to change a world that yields most painfully to change.” Tony had all those qualities, though most importantly, moral courage. And Tony Dean had moral courage.

It was my pleasure to have worked with Tony and I would like to offer my condolences to his family, friends, and fellow advocates. They have much to be proud of, and it is my hope that their memories will be rich with the great many accomplishments he achieved during his career. Those of us who loved him pray that what he was to us and what he wished for others will someday come to pass for the rest of us. We will miss you, Tony. More than any of us can say.

FORT POLK BARRACKS

PRIVATIZATION PILOT PROGRAM

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, on
September 27, the Senate passed the Duncan Hunter National Defense Au-
thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, which the President signed into law on October 14. The legislation includes critical provi-
sions that will directly improve the quality of life for our men and women in uniform, support needed reforms in the operations of the De-
partment of Defense and provide our soldiers, sailors, Air Force personnel
and Marines with the tools they need to
defend our freedom. I thank and commend Senator LEVIN and our col-
leagues on the Armed Services Com-
mittee for the thorough work on this
detailed legislation and their persever-
ce in crafting the legislation in a dif-
ficult and at times uncertain process.

There were a number of filed floor
amendments to the bill that were not