

As a resident of the outlying area of Clearwater County, the price of gas is wreaking havoc. The prices on goods in Orofino have risen dramatically. People go to Lewiston a lot to shop, but that has become prohibitive also. The economy in general is taking a hit because it is costing the timber companies an arm and leg to haul logs, therefore it is trickling down to the other businesses. Recreation is being hit because people cannot afford the fuel. Something has to be done. As a country we need to band together to help conserve energy, and reduce our dependence on foreign oil sources. It seems to be yet another case of the rich getting richer, and the poor getting poorer. What would happen to this nation if for one week, nothing moved? No food was hauled, no freight was moved, no gasoline was purchased. For the first time in my lifetime, I fear that a depression is nearing. I have to wonder if anyone has the power to fight this, or are we too late?

CRISTINE, Orofino.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING LANI SILVER

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the memory of a remarkable woman, Lani Silver. Lani was a passionate activist, oral historian, journalist, filmmaker, speaker, and artist who passed away January 28, 2009.

Lani was born on March 28, 1948, in Lynn, MA. Shortly after she was born, her family moved to San Francisco. When she was 19, Lani traveled to South Africa, where she observed the awful impacts of apartheid. Lani was profoundly affected by this experience, and when she returned to San Francisco she began what was to become a lifetime commitment to progressive causes.

In 1981, Lani founded the Holocaust Oral History Project. Over the next 20 years she recorded over 1,700 oral histories, with over 1,400 Holocaust survivors and witnesses. Lani also served as a consultant to Steven Spielberg's Shoah Foundation, which recorded 53,000 Holocaust survivor oral histories. Thanks to Lani's vision and determination, these valuable stories were not lost forever.

Lani's commitment to social justice took many forms. In 2006 she cowrote and produced an opera about Yukiko Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat in Lithuania who, during World War II rescued thousands of Jews during the Holocaust by hand-writing visas against the orders of the Japanese Government. Lani also organized events, exhibits, and media campaigns around the world to honor Sugihara and make sure his important story would not be forgotten.

In 2000, Lani founded the James Byrd Jr. Racism Oral History Project, in honor of James Byrd, Jr., who was brutally murdered in Jasper, TX, in 1998 by three White supremacists. The project has recorded 2,500 oral histories on racism in America with participants from the San Francisco Bay area, Jasper, and Houston, TX.

Lani's many contributions have not gone unrecognized. In 1996, Lani received the Woman of the Year award from KQED public television and radio, and in 2003 she received the Alumni of the Year award from the City College of San Francisco.

Lani stood out as a driven activist who cared for her community deeply and will be remembered by friends and colleagues as earnest, humble, and dedicated to the ongoing fight for equality and fairness. Her optimism, dedication, and courage are reflected by the thousands of individuals whose lives she has enriched and improved. We will always be grateful for Lani's example of passionate activism.

Lani is survived by sisters Lori Silver and Lynn Jacobs; nieces Sara Silver Jacobs, Brette Silver Jacobs, and Lauren Shaber; nephews Jose Jacobs and Justin Shaber, and brother-in-law Syd Shaber. Our hearts go out to Lani's family and friends during this difficult time.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:16 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 912. An act to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to clarify the eligibility requirements with respect to airline flight crews.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 912. An act to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to clarify the eligibility requirements with respect to airline flight crews; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-560. A communication from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exemption From Registration for Certain Firms With Regulation 30.10 Relief" (RIN3038-AC26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-561. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's 2009 Report on Foreign Policy-Based Export Controls; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-562. A communication from the Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to competitive sourcing activities during fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-563. A communication from the Secretary, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Rules for Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations" (RIN3235-AK14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-564. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Capital Classifications and Critical Capital Levels for the Federal Home Loan Banks" (RIN2590-AA21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-565. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Portfolio Holdings" (RIN2590-AA22) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-566. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report on the Taxation of Social Security and Railroad Retirement Benefits in Calendar Years 1997 through 2004"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-567. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Human Capital, Performance, and Partnerships, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Department's competitive sourcing activities during fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-568. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Geographic Variation in Drug Prices and Spending in the Part D Program"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-569. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Visas: Documentation of Immigrants under the Immigration and Nationality Act, as Amended: Electronic Petition for Diversity Immigrant Status" (RIN1400-AB84) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2009; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-570. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, a report relative to the designation of countries of particular concern and a Memorandum of Justification; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-571. A communication from the Executive Secretary, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy and designation of acting officer in the position of Assistant Administrator for the Bureau of Economic Growth, Agriculture & Trade, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2009; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-572. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program for fiscal years 2005-2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-573. A communication from the Deputy Director of the Office of Labor-Management Standards, Employment Standards Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled