

(1) Whenever the committee authorizes a project under Public Law 89-298, the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1965; Public Law 83-566, the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act; or Public Law 86-249, the Public Buildings Act of 1959, as amended; the chairman shall submit for printing in the Congressional Record, and the committee shall publish periodically as a committee print, a report that describes the project and the reasons for its approval, together with any dissenting or individual views.

(2) Proponents of a committee resolution shall submit appropriate evidence in favor of the resolution.

(c) BUILDING PROSPECTUSES:

(1) When the General Services Administration submits a prospectus, pursuant to section 7(a) of the Public Buildings Act of 1959, as amended, for construction (including construction of buildings for lease by the government), alteration and repair, or acquisition, the committee shall act with respect to the prospectus during the same session in which the prospectus is submitted.

A prospectus rejected by majority vote of the committee or not reported to the Senate during the session in which it was submitted shall be returned to the General Services Administration and must then be resubmitted in order to be considered by the committee during the next session of the Congress.

(2) A report of a building project survey submitted by the General Services Administration to the committee under section 11(b) of the Public Buildings Act of 1959, as amended, may not be considered by the committee as being a prospectus subject to approval by committee resolution in accordance with section 7(a) of that Act. A project described in the report may be considered for committee action only if it is submitted as a prospectus in accordance with section 7(a) and is subject to the provisions of paragraph (1) of this rule.

(d) NAMING PUBLIC FACILITIES: The committee may not name a building, structure or facility for any living person, except former Presidents or former Vice Presidents of the United States, former Members of Congress over 70 years of age, former Justices of the United States Supreme Court over 70 years of age, or Federal judges who are fully retired and over 75 years of age or have taken senior status and are over 75 years of age.

RULE 8. AMENDING THE RULES

The rules may be added to, modified, amended, or suspended by vote of a majority of committee members at a business meeting if a quorum is present.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EXPORT IMPORT BANK

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to mark the 75th anniversary of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, this country's official export credit agency. Its mandate is to create and support jobs here in the United States by financing U.S. exports that might otherwise be lost because private sector financing is unavailable or to meet the competition of foreign governments' export credit agencies that are supporting their exporters to secure the deal. Obviously, the work of Ex-Im Bank is especially relevant in difficult economic times such as we are currently experiencing, because U.S. exports equal U.S. jobs.

The Export-Import Bank falls under the jurisdiction of the Senate Banking,

Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, and I am aware of the many positive effects it has had for U.S. manufacturers. In the past 5 years, it has helped at least 75 companies in 43 communities in Connecticut finance over \$700 million in exports. These export sales create and sustain high-paying manufacturing and other jobs related to exports.

Ex-Im Bank is also accustomed to stepping in when times are hard. It was founded on February 12, 1934, in order to help facilitate exports during the Great Depression. Since then, it has supported over \$400 billion in U.S. exports that would not have gone forward without it—exports that support U.S. jobs.

Just after World War II, Ex-Im Bank became a precursor of the Marshall Plan, authorizing over \$2 billion for the reconstruction of Europe. In more recent times, Ex-Im Bank has stepped in to assist U.S. exporters during the Mexican debt crisis of the 1980s and the Asian debt crisis of the 1990s.

Don't confuse this with foreign aid. Ex-Im Bank charges for its services and is self-financing, and is therefore not a drain on U.S. taxpayers. Ex-Im Bank makes credit judgments on the basis of reasonable assurance of repayment, and has a historical default rate under 2 percent. Over 80 percent of Ex-Im Bank's transactions directly benefit small businesses, which are the most effective generators of jobs in our economy.

Over the past 75 years, Ex-Im Bank has responded in difficult times to the problems of U.S. exporters. In this time of economic hardship, we need government institutions like the Ex-Im Bank to provide strong leadership in responding effectively and efficiently to the challenges facing U.S. exporters, large and small.

I am happy to join with leaders from across the political spectrum in wishing the Export-Import Bank of the United States well on its 75th anniversary.

IDAHOANS SPEAK OUT ON HIGH ENERGY PRICES

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, in mid-June, I asked Idahoans to share with me how high energy prices are affecting their lives, and they responded by the hundreds. The stories, numbering well over 1,200, are heartbreaking and touching. While energy prices have dropped in recent weeks, the concerns expressed remain very relevant. To respect the efforts of those who took the opportunity to share their thoughts, I am submitting every e-mail sent to me through an address set up specifically for this purpose to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This is not an issue that will be easily resolved, but it is one that deserves immediate and serious attention, and Idahoans deserve to be heard. Their stories not only detail their struggles to meet everyday expenses, but also have suggestions and rec-

ommendations as to what Congress can do now to tackle this problem and find solutions that last beyond today. I ask unanimous consent to have today's letters printed in the RECORD.

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

Thank you for asking for the opinions from residents of the great state of Idaho. Clearly only one answer for this . . . do something now! We all know that it will take a couple of years to implement; however, we must remember this is for the long term. I believe that nuclear and hydroelectric is the way of the future, and the cleanest approach.

My husband and I are long-haul truckers, and pay over \$1,400 per day to fuel. Yes, there are other countries that pay more, but we have not prepared ourselves for "mass transit" in the United States, and we are also, in my opinion, very spoiled with our cars.

Most Americans do not stop to realize what impact all of this madness will have on them. It is not just "fuel costs" at the gas pump; it is the big picture of the fuel costs. I have seen all the corn fields in Iowa and Midwest that have been bought out by foreigners. Our country is literally vanishing before our eyes, and "fuel" does not even touch the surface of our internal problems.

Let us stop selling off America and do for ourselves, quick. We could be a self-sufficient country, and get back some of our power that we have so easily sold off.

Thank you for your considerations.

DIANNE, *Boise Valley.*

We are in our early 70s retired and on a fixed income. We now plan every trip to town (16 Miles one way) to do senior things and shop. Our costs are going up on every area: food, medications (Plan D ran out this month June; paying 100 percent now for the rest of the year). We have had to pull money out of savings every year since retirement. Gas and diesel is a joke and you people in Washington, DC are out of touch with reality. Open up our reserve and kill the profit takers. Open up by Federal Law our Drilling and harvesting our own oil products while working on other alternative fuel sources. We citizens know what is happening; why do not you? Stop being lawyers and start being citizens and do what is right for the USA.

The environmentalists are OK along with the civil liberty union folks but once in a while you have to make decisions they are not going to be happy about for the good of the country. You should all now know corn to fuel is not the answer.—We need to build refineries back here in our own country along with our manufacturing jobs. Do something right and open up our own reserves and give us citizens a chance to enjoy our retirement after 60 years of work. Thank you for reading my letter.

MARVIN and GLORIA, *New Meadows.*

Please do not support off-shore drilling and exploration for additional domestic oil. Sure, Idaho is a big state and we have to drive from here to there, but finding us more domestic oil is not the solution. Even if we starting domestic oil exploration today, I understand we would not be producing that oil for many more years, and that would not solve our immediate self-induced crisis today.

Conservation is not a "personal virtue"—conservation is key to reducing our oil consumption, and Idahoans have a long history of conserving when it is necessary. Unfortunately, we got lulled into a false sense of security and prosperity by cheap oil prices for many years, and thought we could drive our