

prodigious market power and immense profits to harm any firm that insists on pursuing initiatives that could intensify competition against one of its core products."

According to the District Court, Microsoft "foreclosed an opportunity for PC makers to make Windows PC systems less confusing and more user-friendly as consumers desired."

The record included the testimony of numerous high tech entrepreneurs who felt the lash of Microsoft's monopolistic wrath. From IBM's inability to gain support for its OS2/Warp operating system to Apple's inability to effectively compete with Windows to threats to cut off Netscape's "oxygen supply," Microsoft engaged in a pernicious pattern of anticompetitive behavior, openly flaunting the rule of law. Perhaps the most damning of all was the evasive testimony of Microsoft founder William Gates.

It is, frankly, a record that is quite embarrassing. But rather than show remorse, Microsoft has embarked on a vendetta to punish the outstanding group of Justice Department lawyers who bested its minions of high-paid lawyers and spin doctors.

So, Mr. President, let me take this opportunity to praise the Justice Department's Antitrust Division and its leader Joel Klein. It is well known that I had my doubts about Mr. Klein, but I am pleased to say, and not too proud to admit, that I misjudged him. He is doing an outstanding job.

In the long run, failure to promote competition and innovation will undermine our preeminence in the high tech arena.

THE CONSERVATION AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 1999

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I rise today to join the Senator from Louisiana in calling upon our colleagues in the Senate, as well as the Administration, to capitalize on the momentum provided by the House Resources Committee last week in passing the Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999. We must not let this opportunity slip away to enact what may well be the most significant conservation effort of the century.

As part of any discussion into utilizing revenues from Outer Continental Shelf oil drilling to fund conservation programs, I want to ensure that wildlife programs are kept among the priorities of the debate. Specifically, I want to comment upon the importance of funding for wildlife conservation, education, and restoration efforts as provided in both the House and Senate versions of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999. This funding would be administered as a permanent funding source through the successful Pittman-Robertson Act.

This program enjoys a great deal of support including a coalition of nearly

3,000 groups across the country known as the Teeming with Wildlife Coalition. Also, this funding would be provided without imposing new taxes. Funds will be allocated to all 50 states for wildlife conservation of non-game species, with the principal goal of preventing species from becoming endangered or listed under the Endangered Species Act.

In my home state of Arkansas, we have recognized the importance of funding conservation and management initiatives. The people of Arkansas were successful in passing a one-eighth cent sales tax to fund these types of programs. As I'm sure is true all across this country, people don't mind paying taxes for programs that promote good wildlife management and help keep species off of the Endangered Species List.

By taking steps now to prevent species from becoming endangered, we are not only able to conserve the significant cultural heritage of wildlife enjoyment for the people of this country, but also to avoid the substantial costs associated with recovery for endangered species. In fact, all 50 states would benefit as a result of the important link between these wildlife education-based initiatives and the benefits of wildlife-related tourism.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to make this historic legislation a reality upon our return early next year.

FIRST YEAR IN THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as the first session of the 106th Congress comes to an end, I cannot help but think of what an interesting and exciting first year it has been for me in the United States Senate. The experience has been a wonderful one, to say the least. As my colleagues all well know from their first days in the Senate, setting up a Senate office is a daunting task, and setting one up right does not happen by accident. Many have helped make my transition from the House to the Senate a smooth one, and I would like to take a moment to stop and thank, in particular, the dedicated and loyal employees of the Architect of the Capitol, the Secretary of the Senate, and the Senate Sergeant at Arms who played an integral role in making sure that my staff and I could serve the citizens of New York as effectively as possible.

From the Architect of the Capitol's office, a special thanks goes to the following: Sherry Britton, Michael Cain, Edolphus Carpenter, Tim Chambers, Jerry Coates, David Cox, Darwin Davis, Andre DeVore, Reggie Donahue, Ed Fogle, Bob Garnett, Steve Howell, Donna Hupp, Lamont Jamison, JoAnn Martin, Dwight McBride, Alpha McGee, Richard Muriel, Randy Naylor, James

Outlaw, Albert Price, Lindwood Simmons, Sally Tassler, Doug Whittington, Jr., Clarence Williams, Carroll Woods, and Greg Young.

Kim Brinkman, Timothy O'Keefe, John Trimble, and Timothy Wineman from the Office of Secretary of the Senate deserve special recognition.

And, from the Senate Sergeant at Arms office, I would like to point out: Roosevelt Allen, Sterret Carter, Robert Croson, Val Fisher, Denise Gresham, Kenneth Lloyd, Michael Lussier, Stacy Norris, Theresa Peel, Dan Templeton, Jeanne Tessieri, and James Wentz.

The professionalism that each of these individuals displayed should be a source of great pride to their bosses, and if I wore a hat, I would tip it to them. But, for now, I hope they will accept my thanks and praise for a job well done.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2541. An act to adjust the boundaries of the Gulf Islands National Seashore to include Cat Island, Mississippi.

H.R. 2818. An act to prohibit oil and gas drilling in Mosquito Creek Lake in Cortland, Ohio.

H.R. 2862. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to release reversionary interests held by the United States in certain parcels of land in Washington County, Utah, to facilitate an anticipated land exchange.

H.R. 2863. An act to clarify the legal effect on the United States of the acquisition of a parcel of land in the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve in the State of Utah.

H.R. 3063. An act to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase the maximum acreage of Federal leases for sodium that may be held by an entity in any one State, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3257. An act to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to assist the Congressional Budget Office with the scoring of State and local mandates.

H.R. 3373. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in conjunction with the minting of coins by the Republic of Iceland in commemoration of the millennium of the discovery of the New World by Leif Ericson.