

United States is at least as likely to be imperiled in the first half of the next century by the consequences of inadequacies in the energy options available to the world as by inadequacies in the capabilities of U.S. weapons systems." The report succinctly concludes, "It is striking that the Federal government spends about twenty times more R&D money on the latter problem than on the former."

Before we are able to reap the significant benefits offered by biobased industrial products, the cost of the new conversion technology must be significantly reduced. Research and development is the only systematic means for creating the innovations and technical improvements that will lower the costs of biomass processing. Given the relatively short-term horizon characteristic of private sector investments, and because many benefits of biomass processing are in the public interest, industry is ill-equipped to fund the necessary fundamental research that will result in cost effective technologies for biomass conversion.

Research activities carried out by the Department of Agriculture, Department of Energy and other Federal agencies are a principal reason for much of the progress witnessed in biomass processing and underscore the future promise if new technology is developed. Nonetheless, coordination among the Federal agencies is disjointed and the research tends to be driven by institutional missions rather than by an overarching strategy to develop cost-effective technologies for biomass conversion. The National Sustainable Fuels and Chemicals Act is designed to overcome these shortcomings and raise the level of the Federal commitment to biotechnologies that are already demonstrating potential as powerful new alternatives to the traditional practices of the past.

In this effort, I am asking for the support of President Clinton and Vice President GORE who have indicated their commitment to the development of sustainable resources. On this issue we can develop a consensus for undertaking research that will improve our national security and balance of payments, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen rural economies in America and around the world. Working together we can promote the type of innovation-focused research essential for improvements in the utilization of America's biomass resource. It is my firm belief that future Americans will enjoy a rich return on our investment in the promise of a green revolution.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 98

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 98, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Surface Transportation Board for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, and for other purposes.

S. 348

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. BUNNING] and the Senator from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN] were added as cosponsors of S. 348, a bill to authorize and facilitate a program to enhance training, research and development, energy conservation and efficiency, and consumer education in the oilheat industry for the benefit of oilheat consumers and the public, and for other purposes.

S. 414

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. THURMOND] and the Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER] were added as cosponsors of S. 414, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a 5-year extension of the credit for producing electricity from wind, and for other purposes.

S. 514

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. KERREY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 514, a bill to improve the National Writing Project.

S. 579

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. CONRAD] was added as a cosponsor of S. 579, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to target assistance to support the economic and political independence of the countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

S. 662

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the names of the Senator from Missouri [Mr. BOND] and the Senator from Florida [Mr. GRAHAM] were added as cosponsors of S. 662, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide medical assistance for certain women screened and found to have breast or cervical cancer under a federally funded screening program.

S. 783

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] was added as a cosponsor of S. 783, a bill to limit access to body armor by violent felons and to facilitate the donation of Federal surplus body armor to State and local law enforcement agencies.

S. 880

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS] and the Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER] were added as cosponsors of S. 880, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to remove flammable fuels from the list of substances with respect to which reporting and other activities are required under the risk management plan program

S. 918

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Washington [Mr. GORTON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 918, a bill to authorize the Small Business Administration to provide financial and business development assistance to military reservists' small business, and for other purposes.

S. 926

At the request of Mr. WARNER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 926, a bill to provide the people of Cuba with access to food and medicines from the United States, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 29

At the request of Mr. ROBB, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 29, a resolution to designate the week of May 2, 1999, as "National Correctional Officers and Employees Week".

SENATE RESOLUTION 33

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, his name was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 33, a resolution designating May 1999 as "National Military Appreciation Month".

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, her name was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 33, supra.

At the request of Mr. BRYAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 33, supra.

SENATE RESOLUTION 84

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. BYRD] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 84, a resolution to designate the month of May, 1999, as "National Alpha 1 Awareness Month".

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce that on Wednesday, May 5, 1999, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will hold an oversight hearing on Damage to the National Security from Chinese Espionage at DOE Nuclear Weapons Laboratories. The hearing will be held at 9:30 a.m., in room 216 of the Hart Senate Office Building in Washington, DC. A portion of the hearing may be closed for national security reasons.

Those who wish further information may write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate

on Friday, April 30, 1999, at 11 a.m., to hold a business meeting.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Subcommittee on Aging be authorized to meet for a hearing on "Older Americans Act" during the session of the Senate on Friday, April 30, 1999, at 11 a.m.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING HAWAII'S
ENVIRONMENTAL HEROES

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the work and accomplishments of a team of individuals in Hawaii who have been honored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as 1999 "Environmental Heroes." We seldom take the time to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of those working at the community level, with high school students, far from Washington, D.C. Their dedication can make a big difference in people's lives and the health of our environment.

Honored in Hawaii were Hawaii Sea Grant's Extension Director Bruce Miller, Hawaii State Representative Brian Schatz, and Youth for Environment Service Coordinator Sean Casey.

This marks the third year that NOAA has recognized individuals and organizations throughout the United States for their "tireless efforts to preserve and protect the nation's environment." The 1999 NOAA Class of Environmental Heroes included 34 individuals or programs, and the honorees are traditionally announced as part of Earth Day activities nationwide. Each honoree was also sent personal commendations from Vice President Al Gore who congratulated this year's heroes for their commitment and accomplishments in protecting the environment of our nation.

The Hawaii team was recognized for their creation of Youth for Environmental Service, called YES. The YES program educates and engages K-12 students in discussions of local environmental issues and activities that sustain the environment. YES gives students a chance to get involved through projects such as restoring trails, planting trees, picking up litter from beaches and streams, and more. To date, YES has given presentations to more than 65,000 students in 450 schools, involved 25,000 students in environmental community service projects, removed 20 tons of debris from Honolulu streams, restored one

mile of the most used hiking trail on Oahu; planted approximately 2,000 plants, cleaned 40 beaches, stenciled more than 2,500 storm drains with a "Dump No Waste" message, and organized more than 350 other community service projects.

The YES project is an excellent example of the partnering of extension and educational goals through the University of Hawaii's Sea Grant Program. Mr. President, I extend my warmest congratulations to our three Hawaii Environmental Heroes.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO US
AIRWAYS

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate one of the many employers in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania which, through innovation and dynamic business planning, has recently received prestigious recognition. The W. Frank Barton School of Business at Wichita State University and the University of Nebraska at Omaha Aviation Institute have ranked US Airways number one in their annual "Airline Quality Rating" study.

I congratulate the over 16,000 Pennsylvanians who work at US Airways on their dedication and hard work. I also make special note of President and Chief Executive Officer Rakesh Gangwal, whose ongoing commitment to excellence has had a major impact on this airline, to the great benefit of our Commonwealth.

In my eight years of service in the U.S. House and Senate, I have watched as US Airways (formerly USAir) has struggled through some very difficult times. For this airline to be recognized as number one in quality only a few years after its financial struggles is a true testament to the energy and skill of its workforce and executives. An indication of this is Mr. Gangwal's first comment after learning of the quality rating, "While we are very proud of our No. 1 ranking and its reflection of accomplishment, there is more to be done in meeting the needs of the traveling public and we are focused on achieving this goal."

Again, I offer my congratulations to US Airways and its many employees. I look forward to continued work with its executives, management teams, and labor unions.●

EFFORTS TO RESEARCH S.A.D.

• Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the seventh and eighth graders from Dzantik'i Henni Middle School. They are doing important work by educating the public on something that affects much of Alaska in the winter: Seasonal Affective Disorder or SAD. This disorder causes severe depression during the winter months in Alaska when there can be up to 24 hours of darkness in some places.

About one in three Alaskans suffer from mild to severe Seasonal Affective Disorder. Researchers suggest SAD may play a role in a variety of Alaska's social and medical problems, ranging from spousal abuse to alcoholism.

These incredible students, led by teacher Robert Traul Jones, developed a community health project to combat SAD. The project had two major goals. The first was to educate people about depression and its impact on northern communities and their residents. The second goal was to provide affordable treatment for this condition. The students did this by designing, marketing and building high-intensity light boxes, which they distributed to the surrounding communities. The light boxes combat the daily darkness outside with light therapy.

Their efforts were extraordinarily successful. The students projected 10 units being sold and ended up selling 39 units. The students are currently working with the Juneau Economic Development Commission to transfer their business to a local nonprofit organization.

Mr. President, it is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of these students. Their hard work and dedication is an inspiration to us all. These are the future leaders of our country and our single greatest resource. The seventh and eighth grade students from Dzantik'i Heeni Middle School should be proud of their achievements in combating SAD.●

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BLUE KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL
LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTOR-
CYCLE CLUB

• Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the 25th year anniversary of the Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club.

The Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club is a fraternal organization of law enforcement professionals and their families actively serving communities throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, France, England, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway and Mexico.

This fraternal organization was established in Bangor, Maine, in 1974 and has grown to more than 10,000 members both male and female. They share a common bond of promoting motorcycling, which includes safety and awareness to the non-motorcycle riding public.

In addition, the Blue Knights also assists many organizations and communities with developing and implementing fund-raising programs such as the March of Dimes "Bikers for Babies," the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the Breast Cancer Foundation's "Race for the Cure" and the Blue