

When Senators KYL, MURKOWSKI, and I introduced our amendment to the Defense Authorization calling for reorganization and streamlining within the Department of Energy, one of the charges leveled against us was that no hearings had been held on this issue. That old, tired claim that "we need more hearings" is used every time Congress tries to act on an urgent matter.

Sometimes that may be true. In this instance, we have undoubtedly destroyed a major forest with all the paper documenting DOE mismanagement in just the past 15 years. We have done studies; we have held hearings; the House has held hearings; we have asked for a review by the GAO, by the CRS, by outside groups, and we must have 25 pounds of recommendations gathering dust right now.

Today, my friend Secretary Richardson is implementing a new round of reforms at DOE. Mr. President, you should know that, while I have been critical of some past Secretaries for failing to give sufficient attention to these matters, Secretary Richardson is clearly indicating a willingness to tackle these issues.

However, Secretaries come and go. Reforms introduced during any specific tenure of a Secretary often do not endure after their departure. The Rudman report states, and I quote, "the Department of Energy is incapable of reforming itself—bureaucratically and culturally—in a lasting way, even under an activist Secretary."

I can tell you from my own experience that it is sometimes hard to figure out just who is responsible in any given situation at DOE. Under the current structure the programs within one office, comply with policies set by a second office, in accordance with procedures set by a third office, verified by a fourth office. When I look at something like that, I have to wonder, "Who is in charge?"

The experts involved in producing the Rudman Report asked a number of DOE officials to whom they report, who whom they were responsible. The most common response was "it depends."

This myriad of oversight and review does not improve performance. To the contrary, in some cases it diminishes performance. It is my view that it is frequently easier to be an overseer than the responsible party. As overseers have multiplied, the line between oversight and responsibility has been blurred and sometimes disappears. The frequent result is that, when mistakes are made, everyone thinks they were an overseer, and nobody takes responsibility.

Mr. President, the national laboratories, especially the ones in my state, literally saved millions of lives through their work in World War II and during the cold war. They abound with dedicated, patriotic, and truly gifted

men and women, working for this nation's security as their top priority. We should not make the labs a scapegoat for an ineffective bureaucracy. We need a fundamental re-emphasis on the nuclear weapons work at DOE, recognizing that the rules and regimes that govern the rest of the DOE cannot be entirely used in the nuclear weapons complex.

I would like to show you an organizational chart of DOE's current structure as it pertains to our nuclear weapons program. This chart is found on page 17 of the new report. As one can readily discern, it's a toss up who or what office might have oversight in a given situation in a maze such as this. Just one glance at this chart makes the point.

The PFIAB Report demands legislative changes. Again, I quote, "The Department of Energy is a dysfunctional bureaucracy that has proven incapable of reforming itself." The PFIAB Report makes some very specific recommendations as to what changes are necessary. The authors recommend that Congress pass and the President sign legislation that:

Creates a new, semi-autonomous Agency for Nuclear Stewardship.

Streamlines the Nuclear Stewardship management structure.

Ensures effective administration of safeguards, security, and counterintelligence at all the weapons labs and plants by creating a coherent security/CI structure within the new agency.

The organizational chart outlining this new organization looks something like this. This can be found on page 50 of their report.

Creation of a semi-autonomous agency for our nuclear weapons work is precisely what I have been pushing over the last several weeks. Indeed, what I and my colleagues Senator KYL and Senator MURKOWSKI have proposed boils down to a true "Chain of Command" approach, with all the discipline this entails. I truly believe, and today's report confirms, that this approach, if it had been used in the past, may have avoided some of the security problems and will help us avoid them in the future.

The Rudman Report is a significant, timely contribution to the accumulating evidence that we must act to ensure that brilliant science and tight security are compatible within our nuclear weapons infrastructure.

I would like to congratulate Chairman Rudman and the members of the PFIAB for the tremendous contribution their findings will make to the dialog on how to best preserve our nuclear secrets and still maintain the greatest scientific research centers in the world.

The recommendations made in this report parallel what I and my colleagues tried to do several weeks ago. Perhaps this additional evidence will persuade others that it is long past

time for Congress to take decisive action. I encourage my colleagues to read the report and draw their own conclusions about the need for organizational reform at DOE.●

HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL

●Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate the Hamilton High School Academy of Music for receiving a GRAMMY Signature Schools Gold award. The GRAMMY Signature School Awards are presented by the Naras Foundation, Inc., in consultation with a panel of judges composed of music educators and professionals. The Hamilton High School Academy is one of just 250 schools selected for this award nationwide.

The Hamilton High School Academy is a magnet school of the Los Angeles Unified School District, attracting students from throughout Los Angeles for its specialized music programs. Opening its doors in September 1987, the Hamilton High School Academy has provided a comprehensive music program to an ethnically and culturally diverse student body. The program includes coverage of instrumental, vocal, piano, and electronic music. In addition the school features intensive instruction in both the theory and history of music. The Academy also provides a full spectrum of academic classes, which are designed to meet the needs of all students.

The Hamilton High School Academy has received local, regional, and now national recognition. The GRAMMY Signature School Award is a testament to the academic and musical excellence of the Hamilton High School Academy of Music.●

BISHOP NICHOLAS HONORED BY COMMUNITY

●Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge His Grace Nicholas, Sovereign Bishop of the Diocese of Detroit, who was elected to the Episcopate by the Holy and Sacred Synod of Constantinople.

Bishop Nicholas was born in Glen Falls, NY, in 1953 to Emmanuel and Caliope Pissare. He attended Colgate University and was awarded the prestigious Colgate War Memorial Scholarship. He then attended the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, graduating as the Valedictorian of the senior class in 1978 with a Master's Degree in Divinity.

Bishop Nicholas was ordained as Deacon on July 6, 1991. Then he was ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop Maximos where he was elevated to the rank of Archmandrite on the same day, based on his years of service to the church. He served as Diocese Chancellor of Pittsburgh from 1991 until 1995 and then Chancellor of the Diocese of Detroit from 1996 to 1997.