

already has increased its exports to the U.S. by more than

More importantly half of American households depend on natural gas for heating. The American Gas Association estimates that their bills this winter will increase at least 40 percent over last year, and that is if we have an average winter. In addition, our economic prosperity itself is also in jeopardy. The tens of millions of working Americans who depend on natural gas for space heating, process energy, and product feedstocks, are finding the spot prices for natural gas increasing 2 to 3 times over what it was in January of this year. For many energy intensive businesses, such as those that support America's automobile manufacturing sector, this is a very serious matter. And this pain, this crisis, is largely the result of the Clinton/Gore policies of the past eight years. The Clinton/Gore administration has systematically denied access to natural gas resources and discouraged adding natural gas infrastructure to bring natural gas to market.

The irony is that everyone knows where there is plenty of natural gas, but federal policies do not allow it to be developed. The Outer Continental Shelf and the multiple-use public lands on the Eastern Slope of the Rocky Mountains contain trillions of cubic feet of natural gas reserves that cannot be produced due to moratoria or numerous Clinton/Gore policies and regulatory actions that impede or prevent their development and production.

And natural gas is just one energy source that suffers from federal policies. Coal and oil resources are similarly being locked up by federal land use restrictions on multiple-use lands. Only one new base-load coal plant and two expansion units have been built since the late 1980's, and none since 1996. No new major oil refinery has been built in 25 years.

We haven't started construction on a nuclear plant in a decade, and no major hydroelectric dam has been built in memory. Moreover, federal policies have actively discouraged continued operation of even existing energy facilities. For example, the relicensing schedule for hydroelectric dams is an inexcusable eight years.

It seems that, for the current administration, atrophy and diminishment are the only energy policies they'll consider, as indicated by their support of the flawed Kyoto Protocol, which would use international pressure to coerce Americans into massive cuts in fossil fuel use. Unconstitutionally, this treaty has never been submitted to the U.S. Senate for consent, and the Clinton/Gore administration has indicated no intention of ever submitting the resolution to the Senate. To negotiate a treaty against the advice of the U.S. Senate and to have no intention of ever submitting the treaty to the Senate for consent is blatantly and flagrantly unconstitutional.

Via the Kyoto Protocol, the Clinton/Gore administration would commit the United States to what amounts to a 31 percent reduction in fossil energy use over levels otherwise projected by 2010. I oppose the attempts by the federal agencies to implement the protocol without Senate ratification and without implementing legislation. I thank my colleagues who have continued to support reasonable limitations on the Federal agencies that have forgotten how

fundamentally important an adequate supply of energy is to our economic and social well-being.

I would like to introduce into the RECORD a resolution by the Board of Directors of the National Association of Manufacturers expressing their concern for current energy supply policies. This resolution, which the NAM Board adopted earlier this month, notes that in order to sustain economic growth, this country must have adequate supplies of energy at internationally competitive prices. I agree with their analysis that all energy options must be on the table for us to maintain and grow our economy, and that energy supply considerations must be part of the overall federal regulatory policy. I commend the attention of my colleagues to the NAM resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the NAM resolution be inserted in the RECORD at this point.

RESOLUTION OF CONCERN OVER ENERGY SUPPLY POLICIES

An adequate and secure energy supply at globally competitive prices is necessary for the nation's economic growth. The NAM—and its more than 14,000 member companies and associations, including 10,000 small and mid-sized manufacturers—supports the development of markets and policies that provide adequate, reliable and competitively priced energy resources with minimal government intervention. The NAM understands the critical importance of an economically viable mix of energy sources, consistent with prudent environmental policies. The NAM is concerned that current federal policies are at odds with the fundamental need to maintain adequate future energy supplies for the economy and the welfare of the American people.

Overall, U.S. manufacturers continue to strive for improved efficiency in the competitive world marketplace, including increasing energy efficiency. The remarkable productivity gains of this past decade however, have tended to raise energy use. Simultaneously increasing productivity and energy efficiency in the face of foreign competitive pressures has required developing and installing innovative equipment and processes in all aspects of the manufacturing sector.

Despite manufacturers' ongoing investments to increase energy efficiency, and federal and private efforts to develop economically viable alternative sources, increasing the supply of traditional energy sources remains critical in order to sustain economic growth. For example, the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and the Outer Continental Shelf should be opened for environmentally responsible oil and gas production. With respect to electricity, federal legislation should be enacted that would strengthen reliability and efficiency of supply, and facilitate wholesale and retail competition as soon as possible.

Energy warning signs are not just flashing because of this past summer's regional electricity disruptions. Also this year, the United States has been experiencing tight supplies of natural gas and transportation fuels, and the Department of Energy has even announced plans to dip into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve out of concern for heating oil prices this winter. The drastic step of withdrawing oil from the SPR is a wake-up call that current federal policies are jeopardizing economic growth and prosperity.

The current Administration has created an unbalanced national energy policy by focus-

ing only on energy efficiency, natural gas and non-traditional energy sources, while limiting the development and use of other energy sources. There are limits to how much energy-efficiency measures and alternative energy sources—some of which remain of speculative economic viability—can contribute to meeting the energy requirements of our growing nation. Of particular concern is the policy disconnect between projections of increases in natural gas consumption to meet new energy demands, contrasted with current federal policies that discourage the production and delivery of new natural gas supplies. If federal policies will not allow more natural gas to be produced and delivered, then natural gas will not be able to fulfill its potential to sustain economic growth.

By undermining the development of domestic oil, gas, nuclear, coal and hydroelectric power, this Administration has created "supply-side" disincentives that add up to what is essentially a policy of planned energy dependence by the United States on foreign sources. Historically, the federal government has caused enormous economic waste when it tries to pick "winners" and "losers" in the energy marketplace. It has also caused waste when its energy policies are not coordinated with other policy objectives or considered in the context of economic growth.

Current federal policies that discourage energy supplies and distort energy consumption jeopardize economic growth. To meet the challenges of a growing population and increasing prosperity, while ensuring national security and environmental protection, America must fully utilize all of its energy options. The next Administration and Congress must make the availability of adequate supplies of reliable and competitively priced energy a national priority.

As adopted by the NAM Board of Directors—October 4, 2000.

HONORING MARILYN CULPEPPER

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Marilyn Culpepper for her dedication to the health and well being of Monroe County, Alabama, citizens.

Marilyn Culpepper was appointed to the Monroe County Hospital Board in July 1996 and elected its chairman by unanimous vote of the board a few months later. She served as chairman from 1997 to 2000. Mrs. Culpepper has since moved to Mobile, and I wish her well as she takes on new challenges.

A native of Grove Hill, Alabama, Mrs. Culpepper is a 1980 graduate of the University of West Alabama (formerly Livingston University) and was the recipient of that school's Alumni of the Year Award in 1996.

Over the years, she has had several successful careers and civic achievements. In 1986, at age 17, she was elected to the Sumter County Board of Education. She was elected a second time in 1988 and served with distinction until moving to Monroe County in 1991.

In Monroe County, Marilyn Culpepper served first as associate editor, then managing

editor of the Award-winning weekly newspaper, The Monroe Journal. She also distinguished herself through community service in several capacities. To name a few, she was president and/or board member of the Monroe Area Chamber of Commerce, the Monroe County Public Education Foundation, the Monroeville Kiwanis Club (where she was the first woman elected as "Kiwanian of the Year"). She also served as a volunteer for the Monroe County Heritage Museums, and for the Alabama Writers Symposium during their inaugural year. In addition, she served in Israel as the representative of the Monroe County Commission and the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce during performances of "To Kill a Mockingbird." Manifesting her talent, Mrs. Culpepper is a two-time recipient of the Alabama Medical Association's Douglas L. Cannon Recognition for Excellence in Medical Journalism.

As editor of the Monroe Journal and, later, economic developer for Monroe County from 1997-2000 and as chairman of the Monroe County Hospital Board, Mrs. Culpepper was an advocate for accessible health care for all citizens regardless of age, social or economic status. She was a driving force behind expansion of hospital services and creation of a rural health clinic in Monroe County.

Under Mrs. Culpepper's leadership, the hospital in Monroeville embarked on a major expansion and construction project, the creation of a cancer-treatment center and the development of a diabetes support program. She also oversaw the creation of Monroe Health Foundation and has been a contributor to the foundation.

Today, Mrs. Culpepper serves as executive director of the Historic Mobile Preservation Society. Her commitment to community development—preservation, education, and innovation in enriching the lives of all citizens continues. She is committed to developing a regional network of cultural, civic and humanitarian efforts to benefit all residents of south Alabama and continues to be a friend to Monroe County and Monroe County Hospital in this endeavor.

HONORING MONTE BLUM AND HIS HEROIC SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a great man, a real American hero. My statement today is a formal "Thank You" to Mr. Monte Blum, a proud veteran from World War II. It is a thank you he has never expected or asked for from his country.

The middle son of Russian immigrants, 19-year old Monte Blum enlisted in the Army and volunteered for the hazardous duty of disarming underwater mines as a deep sea diver in the 106th Engineering Corps. Clearing the way for ally shipping lanes off the coast of France in 1944, Cpl. Blum's attempt to disarm an enemy mine was disastrous when the explosive detonated.

With little chance for survival, Cpl. Blum was transported to a military hospital in Wales. His

oldest brother Herman Blum, who received medals for heroism in the Battle of the Bulge, traveled from his post in Germany to take his younger brother back to America to live out his last days.

Herman was determined not to let his brother Monte die overseas. After months of prayer, a miracle occurred—Monte Blum survived. He was subsequently awarded both the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star.

Monte Blum will be turning 75 on February 26. He has been married to Helene Englander for 49 years and raised a son, Murray and a daughter, Robin. His children say that affection for their father gave them strength as Mr. Blum was in and out of the hospital during their youth. After dozens upon dozens of operations, medical technology finally was able to stem the constant discomfort they saw him endure while they were growing up. Helene was a constant rock and loving companion in tough years that would have sent most weaker wives packing.

In spite of his disability, Monte Blum was a hard working and successful business man all his life. No one but his immediate family ever knew that he had health problems. He held his head high, and provided a happy home or a well-loved family. He not only sent his two children to college but was instrumental for the education of 2 neighborhood kids. When there wasn't a synagogue in Baltimore where he bought his family a home, he pitched in and built one.

He taught his children about sacrifice and his undying love of our country. He emphasized the values of family, Judaism and kindness. His wife and children watched him laugh when he should have cried and never, never ever to this day, did he once complain.

His family has endured many tragedies. His older brother Lt. Senior Grade, Murray Blum, at 22, was killed in action as he dove overboard from a Merchant Marine vessel to rescue a drowning Swedish sailor, the only man to have perished on the ship, the SS Leonardis Polk. Murray Blum is buried in Cambridge, England at the beautifully tender U.S. Military Cemetery. His brother Simon who worked stateside in the service because of a disability, died of a heart attack, after the war.

Retired Major Herman Blum, who received a Bronze Star, died September 23, 2000 at age 82 and received a full military send-off befitting a retired Army Major and now rests with his parents and brothers.

At this point in his life, Monte Blum is a frail health, but still walks with dignity and the step of a man half his age. He is surrounded by those who adore him. Monte Blum and his youngest brother Calvin, who was in the 67th Flight Corps, remain the best of friends.

He is a living monument and the embodiment, the heart and soul of the greatest generation. With Veterans Day approaching, we would do well to recount the service and sacrifice of veterans like Monte Blum.

ON BEHALF OF PEIRCE COLLEGE

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Peirce College, a matchless institution of higher education located in my district of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Peirce College has taken great strides to bridge the digital divide and become an institution dedicated to providing graduates for the information age. In fact, Peirce recently took two significant steps towards this goal. First, with the opening of its state-of-the-art alumni Hall and second, through the recent approval of its online degree programs.

Despite its purely urban location, Peirce College is reaching out to provide competitive workforce and technology programs to individuals living in the more rural parts of Pennsylvania. Peirce College is well positioned to do this. In Fiscal Year 1999-2000 Peirce's off-site programs enrolled 408 students from rural and suburban areas across Pennsylvania. Through distance learning technologies, Peirce College intends to connect all of its students and programs including those in the rural areas of Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania has one of the largest rural population of any state in the country. To this extent, the Peirce distance learning programs can offer a significant opportunity for students, many of whom are adult learners, to gain training in education programs that are technology oriented and needed in today's job market.

I support Peirce College in its effort to secure a federal partnership to expand its on-line and distance learning programs. To that end, I have worked with Congresswoman MARCY KAPTUR, ranking member for the House Appropriations subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and Relocated Agencies. In this year's Fiscal Year 2001 House passed Agriculture Appropriation bill, report language was included to direct the Department of Agriculture to give consideration to the distance learning at Peirce College under the distance learning and telemedicine grant program.

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, as authorized by the Food Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 and amended by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, aims to provide access to telecommunications services to improve rural educational opportunities. This program provided facilities and equipment to link rural education with more urban centers in order to increase educational opportunities for rural students. As such, I believe this program is well aligned with the goals and actions of Peirce College.

I strongly support Peirce college's proposal for a distant learning grant and look forward to working with the Department of Agriculture and the Committee to insure that Peirce College proposal receives full and fair consideration.