office which literally will make a decision on rules and regulations which will have an impact on families not only today but for generations to come.

During the course of this debate, we have come to the floor and spelled out how Mr. John Graham has been more than just a person making a mathematical calculation about the cost of a regulation and whether it is warranted. He has held himself out to have scientific knowledge about things that are, frankly, way beyond his education. He is a person who has written in one of his books with the forward by Cass Sunstein, who has been quoted at length on the floor here supporting Mr. Graham, that he thinks in comparison to today’s fertilizers, DDT is relatively nontoxic.

Of course, that is a view that has been rejected not only by the World Health Organization but by 90 nations, and banned with only two nations in the world making DDT.

For John Graham, there is doubt. He sees no threat on pesticides for fruit and vegetables, but the National Academy of Sciences, the National Institutes of Health, Consumers Union, and others say he is just plain wrong.

We have heard and read his statements on dioxin, which the Senator from Tennessee has valiantly tried to reconstruct here so they do not sound quite as bad, but it is the most dangerous toxic chemical known to man, and John Graham, the putative nominee here, thinks it has medicinal qualities. He is alone in that thinking. The EPA said his statement was irresponsible and inaccurate. They read it, too. He did not have his defense team at work there. They just read it and said from a scientific viewpoint it was indefensible.

What is this all about? What is the bottom line? Why is this man being nominated? Don’t take my word for it. Go to the industry sources that watch these things like a hawk: the Plastic News, the newsletter of the plastics industry in America, May 7, 2001, about Mr. Graham:

He could lend some clout to plastics in his new job. The job sounds boring and inside the beltway, but the office can yield tremendous behind-the-scenes power. It acts as a gatekeeper of Federal regulations ranging from air quality to ergonomics. It has the power to review them and block those if it chooses to. The Harvard Center for Risk Analysis, which Graham founded and directs until Bush nominated him, gets a significant part of its $3 million annual budget from plastics and chemical companies. The Center’s donor list reads like a who’s who of the chemical industry.

And they go on to list some of the sponsors of Dr. Graham’s institute. It is not uncommon for centers doing work similar to Harvard’s center to receive donations from industry sources that watch these things like a hawk: the Plastic News, the newsletter of the plastic industry, May 7, 2001, about Mr. Graham:

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