program called a mandatory or an entitlement. But we have not been able to get that done yet. So I have said it for a second reason. I hope the committees that are considering it—and I will do my best to go see the committees to make myself understood, and take with me whatever evidence I need to convince the chairmen and ranking members they ought to make this an entitlement. But in the meantime, the people who have claims right up until the end of this year will get paid. It will take a couple weeks, so they should not be coming into our offices saying thank you yet, nor should they come in and ask where is the money. They just have to wait a little while. It takes a little bit of time.

I thought, since we see them and we hear them, that maybe I should let the Senate vicariously hear them—you can’t do it, but you can hear them through me.

What we have to do is not let another year pass because this is a problem, whether or not you come from a State that has “down-winders” and/or uranium miners; this carries with it some very serious kinds of overtones for the U.S. Government. You create a program. You tell people: We have been sorry for you up until now, but we will give you a little claim here—$100,000—and then, when you prove it up, you will take it, and you no longer have any claims, and we have said that we have paid you. It is just not right that you do not do it, just not right.

It is growing. The newspapers are starting to carry it. I guess they are starting to carry: “Congress finally puts up the money today.” That is good. But I hope there is a lingering interest in how we fix it. It should not be 6 months into next year somebody coming into our offices saying thank you. Nor should they come in and ask where is the money. They just have to wait a little while. It takes a little bit of time.

As I think many of my colleagues are aware, Jackie’s 4-year term at the Eximbank will be concluding on tomorrow. She worked for many years, and it is hard to make these few remaining people who are entitled to it know they will get their money when their claim is adjudicated.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

JACKIE M. CLEGG

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I seek recognition to express a deep appreciation for the dedicated service of Jackie M. Clegg, First Vice President and Vice Chair of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

As I think many of my colleagues are aware, Jackie’s 4-year term at the Eximbank will be concluding on tomorrow. She worked for many years, and it is hard to make these few remaining people who are entitled to it know they will get their money when their claim is adjudicated.

The Eximbank was a logical outgrowth of her extensive legislative staff career in the Congress. She worked for much more than a decade as the legislative assistant for foreign policy, trade, and national security issues, for Senator Jake Garn of her home State of Utah, as an associate staff member to the Appropriations Committees, and later as a professional staff member on the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on International Finance and Monetary Policy.

It thus came as no surprise to us in the Congress that Jackie skillfully led the bank’s efforts on its reauthorization legislation in 1997.

The legislation received overwhelming bipartisan support in the Congress and the set the stage for the agency’s excellent work on behalf of U.S. exporters during her term.

We commend Jackie for her distinguished service.

Recognizing, that she has spent more than eight years in a series of senior positions at the Ex-Im Bank, devoting herself to the agency’s mission of supporting U.S. exporters and sustaining American jobs; and

Recognizing further, that her success at the Ex-Im Bank is a logical outgrowth of her extensive U.S. Senate staff career, including more than a decade of work as a legislative assistant for foreign policy, trade, national security, banking, and appropriations issues; and

Recognizing further, that she led the Bank’s efforts on its reauthorization legislation in 1997, which received overwhelming bipartisan support in the Congress and has made it possible for the Bank to serve better the needs of U.S. exporters, earning her the admiration and respect of numerous Members of Congress, the Executive Branch, and the exporting community; and

Recognizing further, that she demonstrated leadership and creativity as the Bank tackled critical issues such as resolving international financial challenges, balancing the need for environmental protection with promoting business opportunities, and increasing trade opportunities for small businesses, particularly those owned by women, minorities, and Americans who live in rural areas; and

Recognizing further, that she devoted herself to enhancing the quality of life for the Bank’s career staff through innovation and a commitment to training, advancement, and empowerment; and

Recognizing further, that she has brought great credit to the Bank and succeeded in raising awareness of the agency and its mission, thereby expanding export opportunities for American companies and enhancing their competitiveness in the global marketplace; and

Recognizing further, that her intelligence, dedication, warmth, and leadership have
Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator’s morning business time be extended.

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

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, I say to my friend. I also have great pride in knowing Jackie Clegg. I met Jackie when she was a staff person for Senator Garn on the Appropriations Committee. She would come and be at his side and was his voice and ears on that committee—an important committee on which he did so well for the State of Utah. I got to know her better when she went to the Eximbank. We think of the Bank—I always did—as being something that was done in places other than in the United States. But she was kind and professional enough to do a meeting in Las Vegas for me of the Eximbank. There was tremendous interest of Las Vegas businesspeople in what that Bank could do and could not do. People were brought to a meeting in Las Vegas, and I can say it was one of the most successful of that type of meeting I have ever held.

She will be missed. Of course, being chairman of the Banking Committee and having worked in the area a long time, you certainly understand, having worked so closely with her, more than most of us how important that Bank is. I appreciate the Senator mentioning Jackie very much. However, I am very confident that her new role, as important as her old role was, will be even more important. I know she is looking forward to it. She will be a great mother, and I look forward to seeing her with her new baby in just a few months.

Mr. SARBANES. I thank the Senator for his comments.

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, I say also, while I have the Senator’s attention, I say to my friend, the senior Senator from Maryland, I have been so impressed in watching what is taking place in Baltimore in the last 24 hours—almost exactly 24 hours now—to see the work of professionals there with the terrible tragedy that took place in the tunnel. I am confident that the Senator is as impressed as I am with the great work being done by the people from Maryland and Baltimore, and the other entities of which I am not totally aware, in averting a disaster that could have been much worse.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President. I thank the Senator. They are still working on that problem. It has not been fully resolved as yet. However, I believe Mayor O’Malley that the fire is still smoldering. But they have had terrific intergovernmental cooperation throughout in trying to address this pressing issue. We are hopeful that it will be resolved soon. The tunnel is a mile and a half long, and so they are pulling these cars out of the tunnel—decoupling them and pulling them out. So that process is still underway, but we hope it can be carried through to completion without worsening of conditions.

Mr. Reid. This points out how dangerous it is to transport hazardous materials. Certainly, this is a clear indication of how dangerous it really is.

Mr. SARBANES. That is correct—if the Senator will yield for a minute—I think it points out the need for us to make investment in our Nation’s infrastructure. We have been trying for a long time to get a real commitment at the Federal level, to be matched at the State and local level, for operating infrastructure. I think it is something we need constantly to keep in mind and not lose sight of. We are making a number of these budget priorities, including steeping tax cuts, for example, and at the same time all across the country we are being challenged by major needs in terms of the Nation’s infrastructure. This is an obvious instance of transportation infrastructure and communications. I hope we will be able to come to grips with that issue and make a major national commitment with respect to upgrading the Nation’s infrastructure.

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, I am going to hold a hearing next week on the Environment and Works Committee. I am now the subcommittee chair on the committee with jurisdiction over this country’s infrastructure. The first hearing I am going to do is going to be involved with the mayors of major cities in the United States, to have them start telling us what some of our major urban cities need. We are tremendously deficient in what we have not done to help cities and, of course, other parts of our country.

This is not an issue develop today. We have been ignoring this for far too long. The Senator is absolutely right. We now are looking at budgetary constraints that make it very difficult for us to address some of the most grievous things facing this country as it relates to infrastructure. That is one of the reasons I am holding this hearing. We can no longer hide our head, bury our heads in the sand, and say they don’t exist. These problems exist. The Senator and the Public Works Committee is going to start addressing this next week.

Mr. SARBANES. I commend the Senator for that initiative. I think it is extremely important. I think we have to get across the understanding that these public investments in infrastructure are worthwhile and so the ability then of the private sector to efficiently carry out its business. I think we need to perceive it in those terms because people come out and say you are just talking about making a public expenditure, but this is a public expenditure with wide-ranging consequences and implications for the effective working of the private sector of the economy.

Mr. Reid. I will finally say to my friend, you are so right. Some of the people who want to spend less money than anyone else are the so-called market-oriented people. In Adam Smith, in his book “Wealth of Nations,” in 1776, said that governments had certain responsibilities, and one of those responsibilities is things about which we are speaking, things we cannot do for ourselves. Governments can do roads, highways, bridges, dams, sewers, water systems. So we go right back to the basic book of the free enterprise system, and that is what we are talking about.

Mr. SARBANES. That is right.

ENERGY, OPEC, AND ANTITRUST LAW

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition to discuss briefly this afternoon, in the absence of any activity on the pending legislation, and in the absence of any other Senator seeking recognition, to discuss a subject which was talked about at the energy town meeting which Vice President Cheney had in Pittsburgh on Monday of this week, July 16.

At that time, I had an opportunity to address very briefly a number of energy issues. I talked about the possibility of action under the U.S. antitrust laws against OPEC which could have the effect of bringing down the price of petroleum and, in turn, the high prices of gasoline which American consumers are paying at the present time.

I have had a number of comments about people’s interest in that presentation. I only had a little more then 3 minutes to discuss this OPEC issue and some others. I thought it would be worthwhile to comment on this subject in this Senate Chamber today so that others might be aware of the possibility of a lawsuit against OPEC under the antitrust laws.

I had written to President Clinton on April 11 of this year, 2000, and I had written a similar letter to President George Bush on April 25 of this year, 2001, outlining the subject matter as the potential for a lawsuit against