

Natural gas prices have more than tripled just this year in many parts of the country. The impact on millions of our citizens has created another major crisis.

We have seen the economy of California, the sixth largest economy when compared to all the nations of the world, brought to its knees by the recent energy shortages. Blackouts have struck in unpredictable patterns, disrupting lives. Unfortunately, California is only the first of many areas that are likely to be impacted by the lack of past coherent policy.

It has been terribly frustrating to me to recognize that most of these problems were caused by our own actions, or lack of actions. We have had help falling into these traps, of course, from OPEC for example. But much of these problems are completely predictable. Actions could and absolutely should have been taken to drastically mitigate the severity of the impacts.

I appreciate that Senator MURKOWSKI has taken care in his bill to recognize and emphasize that there is no one "silver bullet" to solve our nation's energy problems. His bill creates opportunities for all of the major energy sources to maximize their contribution to our nation's energy needs; that's the only credible approach to the severity of the current issues.

His bill recognizes that no single energy source represents a vast untapped resource, ready for immediate exploitation. It recognizes that solutions have to include options that impact our needs in the near term, like more natural gas and safe pipelines, as well as approaches that have much longer lead times, like nuclear power and renewables. And while natural gas enables relatively near term impacts with only modest pollution concerns, it is a finite resource and any credible national energy policy has to address a future without readily obtained supplies of natural gas.

Solutions have to build on our existing major national energy providers, like the coal and nuclear plants that provide more than 70 percent of our electricity today. And where these large providers have risk areas, like air emissions from coal and a credible national strategy for spent nuclear fuel, we must work diligently to address the risk areas. Where the past administration argued that these risks meant we should minimize the contribution from these sources, we should instead face the reality that these sources represent some of our major national strengths and end biases against their success.

The days of arguing for massive research and incentives only for one single source of energy and only for improved efficiency, as if they alone can solve our nation's long term energy needs, must be put far behind us. They need to be recognized for what they are, important components of a coherent

national energy strategy, and absolutely not a "silver bullet."

This National Energy Security Act addresses virtually all of these widely divergent, but critically important, areas of national policy. I enthusiastically support the act as a vitally necessary step in achieving the energy stability that our citizens demand.

In selected areas, like coal and nuclear, additional bills may prove useful to target actions on these specific sources. I'm working on such a bill for nuclear energy, and Senator BYRD has a legislative thrust for clean coal. These bills can build on the National Energy Security Act and strengthen it in some key areas.

I salute the efforts of the chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee for his untiring efforts to advance this bill. It's not easy to include in one package a set of initiatives that impact all of the major sources of our Nation's energy. From new incentives for oil and gas exploration, to improved pipeline safety, to creation of vitally needed new domestic oil fields, to major expansion of our current woefully inadequate clean coal programs, to strong support for renewables, and to measures to ensure that nuclear energy remains a viable and strong option for our Nation's energy needs—this bill covers the whole range.

I'm proud to join Senator MURKOWSKI as a cosponsor of his National Energy Security Act of 2001 and urge my colleagues to join in supporting this key initiative.

NOMINATION OF JOSEPH ALLBAUGH

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, on February 15, 2001 the Senate voted 91-0 to confirm Mr. Joseph Allbaugh to be Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. I was absent from this vote due to a pre-scheduled surgery that afternoon. Had I been in the Chamber on February 15, I would have voted for Mr. Allbaugh, and my vote would not have affected the outcome on this unanimous demonstration of support for this confirmation. I look forward to working with Mr. Allbaugh at his post at FEMA. This agency is the critical link in the ability of our communities to prepare for and recover from natural disasters which inevitably strike our nation.

THE CHILD CITIZENSHIP ACT OF 2000

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today marks a special day in the lives of tens of thousands of American families. Families who have adopted children from other nations, providing them with safe environments, good food, a good education, and most importantly, loving homes.

Traditionally, adoptive families have had to endure a lengthy and expensive

bureaucratic process, and navigate through a daunting maze of paperwork, as they have tried to secure U.S. citizenship for their foreign-born adopted children. All that changed first thing this morning when the Child Citizenship Act of 2000 took effect. This important act of Congress, which passed the Senate unanimously last October, cleared the way today for approximately 75,000 children adopted from abroad to become Americans. When these children went to sleep last night, they were in naturalization limbo. When they woke up this morning, they were citizens of the United States of America. I send my warmest welcome to these new young Americans.

In some cases, adoptive parents were not aware of the need to file applications for citizenship for their adopted children. Many of these children grew up to discover they were not considered U.S. citizens. Some have faced the possibility of having to return to a country they have never known. The Child Citizenship Act of 2000 corrected this injustice.

Today, families in Colorado and across this Nation, celebrate the automatic citizenship of foreign-adopted children who meet the requirements outlined in the act. For the O'Neil family of Englewood, Colorado among many such families across the state and our nation, it is a day of great joy.

Today is a day when we greet many new U.S. citizens. I wish to extend my congratulations to our newest and youngest citizens and their families, as well as to my colleagues who worked so diligently to make this day possible.

TRIBUTE TO ALAN CRANSTON

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, one of the first times I ever came to the Dirksen Senate Office Building, a location where I now have my Senate office, was on December 12, 1969, some 20 months after my injury in Vietnam, when I was summoned to appear before the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs about how the Veterans Administration was handling returning Vietnam war veterans. That meeting was chaired by a tall, lean Senator from California named Alan Cranston and it was the start of a three decade friendship. Thus, in 1974 after experiencing what hopefully will prove to be my only electoral defeat, in the Democratic Primary for Lieutenant Governor of Georgia, one of the first people I turned to was Senator Cranston, who generously accepted my offer to come out to California to campaign for his successful re-election. Then, after the General Election, he came to my aid by serving as guest-of-honor at a fund-raising dinner to pay off my campaign debt. And to top it off, Senator Cranston helped me get a job as a special investigator for the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, which is where I was serving

when President Carter selected me to head the VA, in no small part because of the strong recommendation of Alan Cranston.

I hope this short discourse makes it clear the debt of gratitude that I personally owed to Senator Cranston, but more importantly, it is indicative of the kind of man Alan was: dynamic, thoughtful, compassionate. He touched many lives, including veterans who benefited from his tireless commitment especially on behalf of Vietnam era veterans, future generations of Americans who today and for all time to come will benefit from his far-sighted commitment to the protection of our land, air and water and for citizens of the world who benefit from his long-time commitment to world peace, a cause he continued to pursue till the end of his life through the Global Security Institute.

Another part of the Cranston legacy is perhaps somewhat less known to the general public: his efforts on behalf of the disabled. When Alan Cranston came to the Senate in 1969, those with disabilities had virtually no legal protections against various forms of discrimination and indeed faced many barriers, physical and otherwise, to just getting in to the halls of government. To Alan Cranston, that was unacceptable. He led the efforts to enact the landmark Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which outlawed discrimination against the disabled in all federally funded programs.

Among its many provisions, the 1973 law: Required federally funded buildings to be made accessible; promoted the hiring and advancement of qualified persons with disabilities by the Federal Government; and established the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, which has responsibility for setting standards for accessibility and for assisting and enforcing compliance with accessibility laws. I was honored to be named to that Board by President Carter in 1979.

Throughout the remainder of the 1970's Alan worked to revamp federally assisted State vocational rehabilitation programs by his sponsorship of laws that gave priority to the most seriously disabled and, most importantly, required a focus and follow-through on employment. In 1980, he sponsored successful legislation to make these same improvements in vocational rehabilitation programs for veterans. And in 1990, Senator Cranston was a leading co-sponsor of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which in many ways was a culmination of two decades of leadership by Senator Cranston on behalf of fairness and opportunity for persons with disabilities.

It was a great honor to have known and worked with Alan Cranston. Our country is a better place because of his achievements, which we celebrate today.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the Centennial Anniversary of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, which will occur on March 3, 2001.

NIST and its scientists, researchers, and other personnel have a tremendous list of accomplishments over the last 100 years. Through its support of industry and its development of critical technology measurements, standards, and applications, NIST has played a critical role in our Nation's technological advances and, indeed, has helped to revolutionize the U.S. economy.

Initially founded as the National Bureau of Standards, NIST is our Nation's oldest Federal laboratory. In fact, the Institute's mission was first stated in the Articles of Confederation and the U.S. Constitution, making it as old as the Republic itself. The initial purpose of the Institute was to establish authoritative national standards of quantities and products. In its first three decades, NIST mainly served industries working to modernize by improving physical measurements, standards development, and testing methods. During this time, the Institute played an instrumental role in the creation of such critical 20th century innovations as the measurement of electricity, improvement of product assembly techniques, development of the aviation and automobile industry, and the creation of the radio.

After aiding the military effort during World War II, the National Institute of Standards and Technology and its workforce helped to develop many of the scientific innovations that have enabled our modern economy to flourish. NIST was able to foster and improve measurements of temperature, force, time, and weights. These and other technical improvements enabled the U.S. space program, aviation and naval industries, and perhaps the most importantly, the computer industry to excel.

In 1988, in part to emphasize its diverse range of activities, the National Bureau of Standards was renamed the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Today, the Institute continues to act as a behind-the-scenes specialist in the systems and operations that collectively drive the U.S. economy, including satellite, communication and transportation networks, and our laboratories, factories, hospitals, and businesses.

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to work closely with a number of individuals at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and I can personally attest to the high caliber,

quality, and commitment of its workforce. NIST employs many of our Nation's most dedicated and talented scientists, as is evidenced by its legacy of a number of Nobel-Prize winners.

More recently, I along with the rest of the Maryland delegation have worked with the Institute on a comprehensive ten year initiative to upgrade its laboratory infrastructure, which is expected to be completed by the year 2004. It is our hope that through this effort, with upgraded facilities, to match the quality of its personnel, NIST will be able to continue advancing the scientific and technological infrastructure of U.S. industry into the 21st Century.

Again, we take great pride in the accomplishments of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, in the people that work there, and in having the Institute in Maryland. I commend NIST for its 100 years of success and remarkable achievements and am confident that it will continue its remarkable track record of advancing science and technology for hundreds of years to come.●

SONNY O'DAY

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, on February 7, 2001, the State of Montana bid farewell to a favored son from Laurel, Montana. "Sonny O'Day," the Kid from Meaderville, was a local hero and businessman who held his family, friends and fans close to his heart.

SONNY O'DAY (CHARLES A. GEORGE), 1913-2001

Sonny O'Day, the Kid From Meaderville, boxed his final round, hung up his gloves, snuffed his famous stogie, and exited the ring quietly in his sleep on Wednesday, January 31.

Sonny, whose legal name was Charles Augustus George, was born Carlo Giorgi on March 8, 1913, to David and Rosa, Ragghianti, Giorgi in Lucca, Italy. His father was killed during World War I. Rosa emigrated to America with her three children to marry her brother-in-law, Angelo Giorgi, in 1920. They passed through Ellis Island, where the family name was Americanized to "George," and took the train through the vast expanses of their new country to the Montana mining community of Meaderville, in Butte.

Sonny loved all sports and was a natural athlete. Starting to box as a 10-year-old, Sonny was a protégé of Butte's Pat Sullivan Boxing Club. He represented the club in amateur fights throughout the State. He also was an avid football player, swimmer and diver. The City Championship football photograph of his Franklin School team was proudly displayed in his Wall of Fame.

Sonny was privately religious and moral, and proudly remembered his years as an altar boy at St. Joseph's Parish.

His life-long commitment to family began early when he held his dying mother in his arms at age 14. After her death, Sonny gathered his younger sister and invalid stepfather, Angelo, escorting them back to the family villa in Italy. After Angelo's death, Sonny immediately returned to the U.S. to avoid being conscripted into Mussolini's army.