

and a healthy environment. Fortunately, more and more companies are stepping forward to solve this problem and lead the way where government won't. BP will reduce its emission to 10 percent below its 1990 levels by 2010. Polaroid will cut its emissions to 20 percent below 1994 levels by 2005. Johnson & Johnson will reduce its emissions to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2010. IBM will cut emissions by 4 percent each year till 2004, based on 1994 emissions. And, Shell International, DuPont, Suncor Energy Inc., Ontario Power Generation have all made similar commitments.

All the dire predictions of economic calamity from entrenched polluters just is not credible when leading companies are doing exactly what they say cannot be done. We know the power of technology to transform an industry—just look at the impact of technology on information and medicine—and technology and innovation can transform how we produce and use energy.

President Bush's reversal will also weigh heavily on the international talks to fight global warming. As a Senate observer to the talks, I have seen firsthand how America's inaction has prevented progress. In 1992, the U.S. pledged to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2000 through the strictly voluntary Framework Convention on Climate Change. We will miss that goal and end the year with emissions 13 percent above 1990 levels.

Our failure goes beyond numbers alone. In the past 8 years, we have not taken a single meaningful step toward our commitment. We have not seized opportunities to increase efficiency and reduce pollution from automobiles, appliances, electric utilities, housing, commercial buildings, industry, or transportation. Nor have we provided sufficient economic incentives for the development and proliferation of solar, wind, hydrogen, and other clean energy technologies. A range of sound proposals have been floated in Congress, but almost all have been relegated to the legislative scrap heap.

Instead, Congress has enacted budget riders to keep us mired in the unsustainable status quo. An unwise mix of politics and special interests has produced laws prohibiting the Government from even studying the efficacy of strengthening efficiency standards for cars and light trucks, laws blocking stronger efficiency standards for appliances, and laws hampering energy and environmental programs because, their sponsors mistakenly argue, these programs represent an unconstitutional implementation of the unratified Kyoto Protocol.

This regressive record is fatal to the international effort. It heightens distrust, undermines the credibility essential to success, and gives opening to our sharpest critics to seek advantage.

For example, the U.S. has insisted that unrestricted, international emissions trading be part of the global warming pact. Trading is a proven method to achieve greater environmental benefits at lower costs; it has halved the cost and accelerated the environmental gains of Clean Air Act. But European nations—led by Germany and France—charge the trading program must be severely restricted or it will become a loophole by which the U.S. will avoid domestic action. They make that charge as much for reasons of economic and political self-interest as they do for environmental concerns, but, nonetheless, our paltry environmental record at home lends dangerous credibility to their charge, and that makes the work of our negotiators all more difficult. Moreover our inaction has an equally dangerous practical effect. Every year we fail to act, our environmental goals become more difficult to achieve.

Mr. President, it is early in this Congress and even earlier in President Bush's new administration. I remain hopeful, but being hopeful is becoming increasingly difficult, particularly today. President Bush has rejected a policy that can work, that can benefit the environment and the Nation. He did it really before the debate even started. And he broke the most important campaign pledge he made regarding the environment. And it took him less than 2 months to do it.

Let me just say that I wanted to review for my colleagues—and I hope some will perhaps take an interest in reviewing these other assessments—a number of major assessments of the negative impact on crops, on quality of health, on sea life, on major areas that should be of enormous concern to all of us, not as Republicans and Democrats, but as thinking U.S. Senators. I don't want to approach this in a doctrinaire way, but I know that we have a responsibility to contribute our part to a major solution and reduction in global greenhouse gases, as well as to contribute to the better quality and health of our citizens.

This decision by the President which, once again, gives increased power to the large energy interests of the country is the wrong decision for our Nation and the wrong decision in the long run for creating the sustainable environmental approach. My hope is that my colleagues and the administration itself will review and come up with an approach that will better serve the interests of our Nation.

#### ERWIN MITCHELL AND THE GEORGIA PROJECT

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, on March 7, 2001, the Washington Post reported that the recent census indicates a 60-percent growth in our Nation's Hispanic population, which now totals

35.3 million. Georgia has also been witness to this growth. In 1991, the Hispanic student population in Dalton, GA, was only 4 percent, and now 10 years later, Hispanic enrollment in Dalton public schools has skyrocketed to 51 percent. The data from the 1999–2000 school year show that 45 percent of students in Dalton and 13 percent in Whitfield County are Spanish speaking. There are children of hard-working families who are an important part of the Dalton community. Accordingly, business and community leaders in that north Georgia community recognize the need for innovative and comprehensive solutions to address the recent influx of immigrants. Recent studies show that where quality education programs are joined with community-based services, immigrants have an increased opportunity to become an integral part of their community and their children are better prepared to achieve success in school.

The Georgia Project has provided an innovative solution to the needs of northwest Georgia. This is a teacher exchange program which brings bilingual teachers from Mexico to provide language instruction to all Dalton/Whitfield students. In addition, the program also sponsors a Summer Institute which provides Dalton/Whitfield teachers with the opportunity to study Mexican culture and history and the Spanish language in Monterrey, Mexico.

The driving force behind this endeavor has been the creative efforts of Erwin Mitchell. His dedication to public service and fairness was evident during his days as a Member of the House of Representatives. This same dedication and spirit of duty were the guiding forces behind the award-winning Georgia Project. As the mastermind behind the Georgia Project, Erwin Mitchell's efforts have been confirmed by the rising test scores of Dalton/Whitfield students on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. His work has recently been recognized by both the National Education Association, NEA, and the National Association for Bilingual Education, NABE. The NEA has selected him to receive the NEA's 2001 George I. Sanchez Memorial Award for his "exemplary contributions in the area of human and civil rights." NABE has named him the 2001 Citizen of the Year for his "efforts in shaping a successful future for America's students."

This wave of immigration is not limited to Georgia alone. For example, the Waterloo, IA, school system is being challenged to teach 400 Bosnian refugee children who came here without knowing our language, culture or customs. Schools in Wausau, WI, are filled with Asian children wanting to achieve success in the United States. In Wayne County, MI, 34 percent of the student population are Arabic-speaking and receive special help. According to the

U.S. Census Bureau, the recently arrived immigrant and refugee population living here today will account for 75 percent of the total U.S. population growth over the next 50 years. This growth is occurring in places like New York, Los Angeles, and Miami, but also in nontraditional immigrant communities like Gainesville, GA, and Fremont County, ID. Innovative programs are being offered across the country to help accommodate these populations, which is why I have once again introduced the Immigrants to New Americans Act. This legislation will create a competitive grant program within the Department of Education that funds model programs, which, one, help immigrant children to succeed in America's classrooms and, two, help their families access community services such as job training, transportation, counseling, and child care.

Our country's diversity is growing and it is vital for us to support successful programs like the Georgia Project that address the needs of changing communities.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO HOOSIER ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

• Mr. LUGAR, Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate a group of young Indiana students who have shown great educative achievement. I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the winners of the 2000-2001 Eighth Grade Youth Essay Contest which I sponsored in association with the Indiana Farm Bureau and Bank One of Indiana. These students have displayed strong writing abilities and have proven themselves to be outstanding young Hoosier scholars. I submit their names for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD because they demonstrate the capabilities of today's students and are fine representatives of our Nation.

This year, Hoosier students wrote on the theme, "Eating Around the World From Hoosier Farms." I would like to submit for the RECORD the winning essays of John Leer of Hamilton County, and Michelle Kennedy of Jasper County. As State winners of the Youth Essay Contest, these two outstanding students are being recognized on Friday, March 16, 2001 during a visit to our Nation's Capitol.

The essays are as follows:

##### EATING AROUND THE WORLD FROM HOOSIER FARMS

(By John Leer, Hamilton County)

Jean woke up on a crisp, Canadian morning to the smell of moist hot cakes baking on the skillet; to accent the hot cakes, Jean's mother had prepared apple compote with sweet brown sugar. Fresh sausage patties were succulently sizzling in their own oils and grease. On this particular morning,

Jean thought to himself of the rich Canadian culture this meal represented. To his own dismay, however, his mother told him most of the ingredients used had come from the farms of Indiana.

After looking deeper into the issue, Jean too realized that most of his food had originated in the Midwest and especially in Indiana. If something were to happen to the farms of Indiana, he would be devastated. He would miss the grain used in the bread, all of the pork and beef, and even the chilled glass of milk used to wash down a chocolate chip cookie.

Then, Jean went outside to accomplish his daily, morning chores of feeding the oxen and cleaning their stalls; he noticed that in bold letters the sack said the feed was made in Indiana. The idea that his entire daily routine depended on a successful yield from Hoosier farms scared him; if a long drought began or a downfall of water occurred, he would not be eating hot cakes or drinking milk very much longer. The Hoosier farmer was invaluable to him.

Throughout the day he noticed more foods of his daily diet grown in Indiana: melons, tomatoes, pumpkins, corn, and more. During geography class, Jean learned that Indiana is a leading importer to Canada and that Canada depends on the Hoosier fields. After getting off the school bus, he raced towards the television only to turn on the weather station; he had finally realized that Indiana food and weather played a critical role in his daily life.

##### EATING AROUND THE WORLD FROM HOOSIER FARMS

(By Michelle Kennedy, Jasper County)

As an eighth grade student from the country of Japan, I enjoy many American products. My day starts early in the morning. As I prepare for my school day I usually have breakfast which might include eggs and sausage from Indiana farms. Grains from Indiana farms are imported so we might enjoy cereals, breads, and pastries.

Japan does not have the space available for farmground or livestock operations. What we have are very small farms. Indiana grains and livestock products are very important to us. We grow much rice but, other products such as pork, beef, and poultry are needed to compliment our rice industry.

After a day of school I might stroll through the open markets in our city. These market places have fruits and vegetables from the Hoosier farms. In Japan we are always studying new technology. We are very interested in by-products of Indiana farmers.

Many things I use at school are by-products of American farms. Soy ink and soy crayons are by-products of Indiana soybeans. It is important for countries in the world to be able to trade with one another. We are all dependant upon each other.

Japan buys 8.9 billion dollars of United States Agriculture products each year. Indiana agriculture plays a big part in this.

##### 2000-2001 DISTRICT ESSAY WINNERS

District 1: Christopher Wacnik (Lake County) and Megan Spillman (St. Joseph County).

District 2: Andrew Pasquali (Noble County) and Natalie Rummel (Elkhart County).

District 3: Mitchell Swan (Jasper County) and Michelle Kennedy (Jasper County).

District 4: Jacob Little (Jay County) and Janna Rines (Jay County).

District 5: Tyler Smith (Hendricks County) and Laura Trust (Morgan County).

District 6: John Leer (Hamilton County) and Jeri Boone (Hamilton County).

District 7: Kegan Knust (Clay County) and Nicole Dike (Knox County).

District 8: Carson Ritz (Franklin County) and Erin Rauch (Franklin County).

District 9: John Michel (Warrick County) and Michelle Jochim (Gibson County).

District 10: Max Muhoray (Jefferson County) and Jennifer Prickel (Ripley County).

##### 2000-2001 COUNTY ESSAY WINNERS

Benton: Jesse Becker and Carolyn Jenkinson; Cass: John Workman and Julie Richardson; Clay: Kegan Knust and Nicole Hayes; Delaware: Cais Hasan and Aleisha Fetters; Elkhart: Natalie Rummel; Fayette: Sarah King; Franklin: Carson Ritz and Erin Rauch; Fulton: Thomas Landis and Alicia Long; Gibson: Michelle Jochim; Greene: Alex Weathers and Jessica Chaney; Hamilton: John Leer and Jeri Boone.

Hendricks: Tyler Smith; Jackson: Kim Meier; Jasper: Mitchell Swan and Michelle Kennedy; Jay: Jacob Little and Janna Rines; Jefferson: Max Muhoray and Amanda Simmons; Jennings: Wayne Carmickle and Andrea Webster; Knox: Josh Anthis and Nicole Dike; Lake: Christopher Wacnik and Aubrette Marie Biegel; Marion: Ben Campbell and Fatima Patino; Martin: Nicole Lengacher; Morgan: Laura Trusty.

Noble: Andrew Pasquali; Posey: Tracie Johnson; Ripley: Jennifer Prickel and Jeremy Borgman; St. Joseph: Daniel Seitz and Megan Spillman; Starke: John Gibson and Sonya Crouch; Vanderburgh: Mark Turpin; Vermillion: Marvin Woolwine and Kelli Knight; Wabash: Matt Street and Mandy Renbarger; Warrick: John Michel and Erika Downey; Washington: Ryan Satterfield and Ashley Ingram; Wayne: Nick Kerschner and Anne Hamilton.●

##### NORTH GEORGIA COLLEGE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

• Mr. MILLER, Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the achievements of the Blue Ridge Rifles and Color Guard of North Georgia College and State University, who recently placed first overall at the 29th annual Tulane Naval ROTC Mardi Gras Invitational Drill Meet in New Orleans, LA.

The North Georgia College and State University is one of six 4-year military colleges in the United States. Since its inception in 1873, NGCSU's military college has been renowned for its ability to produce exceptional officers in all service branches. This skill has resulted in many performance championships, including 12 titles from the Mardi Gras Drill Meet.

The Mardi Gras Invitational Drill Meet draws teams representing the service academies, senior and junior military colleges, and reserve officer training corps programs at civilian colleges and universities. The Blue Ridge Rifles and the Color Guard of NGCSU have exhibited consistently excellent performances at the Mardi Gras Invitational. This tradition continued with the most recent Mardi Gras Invitation Drill Meet, held on February 23, 2001, where the NGCSU cadets competed against 42 military drill teams from colleges and universities throughout the United States. The Blue Ridge Rifles, under the command of Cadet Captain Phillip Pelphry and Cadet Master