

tax on these oil company profits, only on the profits above \$40 a barrel. Incidentally, last year, 2004, represented the highest profits in history at \$40 a barrel. We proposed a windfall profits tax at 50 percent on profits over \$40 a barrel, with all the proceeds to be sent back to the American consumers as a rebate.

Interestingly enough, I guess it was 65 Senators voted against that because they do not want to take money from the oil industry and provide it as a rebate to consumers. I think you ought to even the score a bit. There is no justification for these profits. These companies have not exhibited additional expenses. These are extraordinary profits, the highest in the history of corporate America, and all the American consumers are feeling the pain. That is the short term. We have tried, in the short term, to address it with the windfall profits tax rebate bill and we have not been successful. But that is not over.

Then in the intermediate to longer term, we have to do more. We need a real plan for energy independence, a real plan, one that addresses alternative fuels and renewable fuels, enhances the recovery of fossil fuels in a way that is protective of our environment. We need to be doing all of that together, reaching a set of goals that our country establishes. You can't do this without leadership.

So my hope is that, both from the White House and also from here, we will begin to see some leadership toward energy independence—I mean some real leadership. Talking about it is one thing. It doesn't mean anything. People have been talking about this forever. It is a waste of breath unless it results in real planning.

I have mentioned before the book McCullough wrote about John Adams. It was a fascinating book and had lingering questions from John Adams as he was traveling around the world representing this new country they were trying to form. He spent time in France and England. He would write back to his wife Abigail. At least as I read the book, it would seem that he would write to Abigail and lament to her in his letters: Where will the leadership come from to form this new country of ours? Where will the leadership emerge to put this new country we want to form together? Then in the next letter he would write: Well, then, there is really only us—there's me, there's George Washington, there's Ben Franklin, there's Thomas Jefferson, there's Madison, there's Mason—and of course in the rearview mirror of history we know the "only us" now represents some of the greatest human talent ever assembled. But every generation of Americans asks the identical question: Where will the leadership come from? Where will the leadership emerge, real leadership, to steer this country in the right direction?

With respect to energy policy which relates to both our economic security and our national security, time is wasting, and there is not a more important subject for us to address, beginning now. The question remains: Where will the leadership come from? That question is addressed to both the White House and the Congress, asking for, finally, what the best of both political parties ought to have to offer this country.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON MENTAL RETARDATION AWARD WINNERS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am pleased today to join the Illinois chapter of the American Association on Mental Retardation, AAMR, in recognizing the recipients of the 2006 Direct Service Professional Award. These individuals are being honored for their outstanding efforts to enrich the lives of people with developmental disabilities in Illinois.

These recipients have displayed a strong sense of humanity and professionalism in their work with persons with disabilities. Their efforts have inspired the lives of those for whom they care, and they are an inspiration to me as well. They have set a fine example of community service for all Americans to follow.

These honorees spend more than 50 percent of their time at work in direct, personal involvement with their clients. They are not primarily managers or supervisors. They are direct service workers at the forefront of America's effort to care for people with special needs. They do their work every day with little public recognition, providing much needed care and assistance that is unknown except to those with whom they work.

It is my honor and privilege to recognize the Illinois recipients of AAMR's 2006 Direct Service Professional Award: Cheryl Case, Lisa Cutter, Jane Flores, Cindy Block, Patricia Bzdyl, Don Collins, Judy Hicks, Holly Spence, Della Reese, Sarah McRae, and Kathy Slimmer.

I know my fellow Senators will join me in congratulating the winners of the 2006 Direct Service Professional Award. I applaud their dedication and thank them for their service.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

ARMY SPECIALIST PATRICK HERRIED

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, on February 6, 2006, one of South Dakota's sons made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Iraq. Army SP Patrick Herried died when an improvised explosive device detonated under the armored military vehicle he was driving. He was a member of the 4th Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team based in Fort Wainwright, AK.

Specialist Herried was a 1994 graduate of Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls and was fondly remembered by his classmates and teachers. Like many South Dakotans, he was passionate about sports and the outdoors. He was a member of the Roosevelt High School football team and enjoyed skateboarding and mountain biking.

Specialist Herried joined the Army in the hopes that it would lead to a better career and even college. His mother, Rita, agreed that the Army had a positive impact on her son. "He was just a good kid," she said. "Really quiet, but very directed since he's been in the service. He was a good son."

Patrick's family and friends are in my thoughts and prayers during this trying time. Coming to terms with the loss of any soldier who gives their life in defense of freedom is difficult. While we are awed by Patrick's selfless sacrifice, we are reminded that his life ended much too soon. It is my sincere hope that Patrick's family may take some small measure of comfort knowing our Nation is eternally grateful for his dedicated service to our country.

CORPORAL JESSE ZAMORA

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of CPL Jesse Zamora. I regret to inform my colleagues that Corporal Zamora was killed in Beiji, Iraq on February 3, 2006.

Those close to Corporal Zamora recognized an indomitable love of country and a passionate desire to serve his Nation in the military at an early age. Friends and family recall that as a young man, Corporal Zamora would often drive into the desert near Las Cruces in his pickup to practice his marksmanship. This simple custom is indicative of his discipline and certainly contributed to his great skill as a soldier. In 2002, shortly after graduating from high school, Corporal Zamora enlisted in the Army, fully knowing that his country would soon be going to war abroad. This brave decision illustrates the selflessness that endeared Corporal Zamora in the hearts of his family members, his friends, and his brothers in arms. It also demonstrates his passionate, disciplined approach to service and the selfless demeanor that is at the core of what the American Army prides its servicemembers on honor, duty, humility, and loyalty.

His mother Paola, stepfather Sergio, sister Christy, are all in our thoughts. His brother Tyrel is another brave member of the U.S. Army, and I hope that we can soon guarantee him a swift and safe journey home.

Corporal Zamora was assigned as an infantryman to the 101st Airborne Division. We can never fully express our gratitude for our veterans' service; I ask that we stop now to thank Corporal Zamora and acknowledge the sacrifice of his family for their Nation.