

The House, in its offer to the Senate, proposed adding 10.2 million acres of wildernesses as an addition to the Nation's wilderness proposal. That would constitute about 72 million acres of wilderness in my State of Alaska.

Without going into a lot of detail, I think we have to ask ourselves, indeed, if the Democratic leadership really wants an energy bill. From the beginning of this process, the committee of jurisdiction, the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, was not allowed to develop a bill out of the committee but, rather, it was developed out of the leader's office.

Since that time, we have seen an effort to try to develop compromises, but clearly the presence of the majority leader has not been very evident. So I think we have to ask ourselves, on the issues in contention—whether it be climate, whether it be ethanol, whether it be electricity, whether it be the tax aspects, or the renewable portfolio standards—all of it suggests that a compromise is, indeed, possible in the sense of discussing what is certainly one of the lightning rod issues, and that is the opening of ANWR.

With the offer by the House to create an additional 10.2 million acres, as a proposal to the Senate, it causes us concern relative to a provision when the State of Alaska accepted statehood. In the terms of statehood, there was a provision that there would be a "no more" clause; that means no more land designated without the concurrence of Alaskans. Nevertheless, this offer has been made.

I hope the issue of the disposition of the energy bill does not become a political issue. We are nearing, of course, the elections. I recognize the temptation to suggest that the environmental groups, which are opposed to ANWR, are a force to be reckoned with in the coming election or the criticism of the Republicans, that they might be too close to the energy industry. I hope these arguments are not used as excuses for not getting a bill.

Our President has asked for our bill. Our constituents have asked that we pass an energy bill. We have an obligation to do what is right for America, and that is to come to grips with the reality that we are, at this time, clearly in a conflict, the nature of which we can only hope will not result in outright war with Iraq.

But the irony of that can best be associated with a quick overview of what we have been doing since 1992. We have been enforcing a no-fly zone over Iraq. In enforcing that no-fly zone, we have taken out targets in Iraq. We have endangered our young men and women in uniform who have been enforcing the no-fly zone.

We have, in turn, imported anywhere from 600,000 to 900,000 barrels of oil a day from Iraq. It is almost as if we take his oil, put it in our airplanes, and go bomb him and enforce the no-fly zone. And he takes the money we pay for the oil and develops weapons of

mass destruction, whether it be biological, chemical, or developing a nuclear capability. He develops a delivery system and aims it at our ally, Israel.

So unless we lessen our dependence on imported oil by developing more oil here at home, why, clearly, we are going to continue to have to depend on foreign sources, such as Saddam Hussein in Iraq.

For those who wonder about the merits of opening this area, I remind my colleagues that in 1995 the Senate passed an authorization to open ANWR. It was in the omnibus bill. President Clinton vetoed it. Had that been done, we would have that oil on line now, and we certainly would have an idea of the magnitude of the fields that exist in that area.

The last point I want to make is its contribution to jobs and the economy. It is estimated there would be some 750,000 new jobs associated with opening this area, including development of 19 new U.S. flag-built tankers that would be built in U.S. yards.

So I urge my colleagues to come together and recognize, in the spirit of compromise, we should resolve the issues remaining in the energy bill. We should report out the bill containing ANWR, which will reduce our dependence on imported oil, and move on with what is good for America, and that is to lessen our dependence on foreign oil, follow the recommendations of the President, and pass an energy bill.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

TERRORISM INSURANCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, every morning I get up and I read the local paper, the Washington Post. There is always breaking news in the newspaper, of course. I try to go to the sports page first because there is always some good news there, at least. I was terribly disappointed today in looking at the front section of the Washington Post. There is an ad here. If this ad were a product and not an issue, there would certainly be some type of legal action for false advertising.

I just am so disappointed in the Business Roundtable and American Insurance Association. I am not disappointed in the Chamber of Commerce because they have never done anything my entire political career to make me feel good in the first place, so this just adds to what they normally do. But I personally have worked on terrorism insurance for a year now. To have them, the Business Roundtable and the American Insurance Association, run

an ad blaming the Democrats for not having terrorism insurance is despicable. They should be ashamed of themselves. They know it is a lie, a falsehood, a travesty. President Bush gave this speech, and he is quoted here in Pennsylvania with a bunch of labor people, saying:

We need an insurance bill to cover potential terrorist acts, so that hard hats in America can get back to work. And I want a bill on my desk that says we care more about working people and less about trial lawyers.

That is wrong. If the Federal Election Commission did what they should do, they should charge this as a contribution in kind for the Bush reelection campaign. Blaming the trial bar is something that goes back to biblical times, Shakespearean times. When things don't go right, blame the lawyers.

The chronology of delay over this important legislation is well documented. That is why I am so terribly disappointed. The people who make up this Business Roundtable are from hotels, some of whom are in Nevada, and all over this country. They know this is a lie. I cannot say it any other way. It is a lie. It is false advertising.

I know the chronology. I was here trying to move this legislation forward. We asked, on many occasions, unanimous consent to go to the legislation. Finally, after months—not days or weeks but months—we got to go to the bill. Then the delay was in full view to everyone. After weeks, we forced legislation out here. We, the Democrats, tried to get it on the floor. We finally got it on the floor. This was bipartisan. Some Republicans, after it got to the floor, helped us. But they held it up; we did not hold it up. After it passed, with lots of procedural delays and efforts to slow it down, we thought, oh, boy, it is over with. Everybody wants it going to conference. But, oh, no. It took months to get a conference. They would not agree to the appointment of conferees. You know, there were a few problems. Senator DASCHLE said we will have three Democrats and two Republicans. After all, we are in the majority. No, they don't want that. We are in charge of the Senate. That is a prerogative we have. After months, Senator DASCHLE said, OK, I will make it 4 to 3. They still did not agree to it. We gave them what they wanted and they still didn't agree because it was all a big stall.

Now, finally, they agreed to a conference, but nothing happened in conference. Months have gone by. I hear on the floor: Please do something. I have a staff person assigned—not full-time but he spends a great deal of time on this legislation. Senator DASCHLE has someone who spends the same amount of time on this piece of legislation.

Meetings have been held. The person Senator DASCHLE has working is an outstanding lawyer. He was in the counsel's office in the White House. He

was the one who did all the judges for us. He is someone who knows what is going on.

We have made presentation after presentation to no avail. Senator DODD has spent weeks of his time on this issue. This is not a tort reform issue. It is an issue to allow insurance companies to sell terrorism insurance to allow construction projects to go forward in Las Vegas and other places in the country.

The insurance companies, as they are good at doing, have jacked up the prices so it is hard to get insurance. This legislation is an effort to allow them to receive some help if, in fact, there is an act of terrorism.

My office spoke with people when they complained about this: We had tremendous pressure from the White House to sign on to this advertisement. What is this all about, pressure to sign on to something that is false, misleading, untrue?

When President George Bush was campaigning, he said he was going to change the tone in Washington. I have been in Washington a long time now. I have never seen the tone this way. During the Reagan years, there were some disagreements, but what a fine person to get along with. He and his people were easy to get along with. Here we cannot get along—it is very tough. The atmosphere is extremely difficult. Change the tone? He has changed the tone, there is no question about that, but it is for the worse. I guess he just did not complete his sentence in all the debates and other statements he made. This is a very venomous environment.

Legislation is the art of compromise. I personally do not think this legislation dealing with terrorism insurance should have anything to do with tort reform, but they have forced the issue. The compromise has some tort reform in it. Legislation is a compromise. The White House has been unwilling to compromise, unwilling to meet. They are now putting pressure on lobbyists to fund full-page ads, pro-Bush ads in the Post and more pressure on congressional Republicans to do anything they can to stop this legislation.

I know, I have had friends on the other side tell me they do not want this legislation; they do not think it is necessary. But why not do it like adults? Stand up and say this is bad legislation, not have this charade.

If anyone is truly interested in the real White House strategy, read the story in the New York Times today about this legislation:

Mr. Bush's push for the measure reflects a no-lose political strategy. If Congress reaches an agreement on the measure, he can rightly claim credit for it. If it fails, he can blame Congressional Democrats, and in particular the Senate majority leader, Tom Daschle, for the failure.

That is what it is all about. I believe people of the State of Nevada deserve more; the people of this country deserve more. I have no problem when there are honest disagreements on leg-

islation, but I have been on the ground, so to speak. I have watched this; I have been right here; I have been making the unanimous consent requests. Over the month, I bet I have offered 25 unanimous consent requests right from here. There were objections to appointment of conferees and getting the bill to the floor. But to have this:

We agree, Mr. President, there's too much at stake. . . .

Congress, why the delay?

The time is now. Pass Terrorism Insurance Legislation.

Six months ago, the President in 30 seconds could have had the legislation on his desk, but this has been a big stall to make the trial lawyers look like the enemy of the American people, and that simply is wrong.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be extended until 4 o'clock today, with Senators allowed to speak therein, for a period not to exceed 10 minutes each.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask that I might proceed for no more than 5 minutes as though in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. We are in morning business.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank the distinguished Presiding Officer.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR STROM THURMOND

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I pay tribute to a colleague of ours whose career of public service may never be matched again in the history of our country. My friend STROM THURMOND sits on the other side of the aisle of the Senate Chamber, but I consider him a friend with whom I have worked closely, and I will miss him.

I remember when I was first sworn into the Senate in January of 1975. Because of a tied vote in the State of New Hampshire that election year, it was a matter that did not get resolved until we actually went back and did the election over in the middle of the year. I was the most junior Member of a 99-Member Senate. We did not have the Hart Building at the time. We had the Russell Building and the Dirksen Building, and a couple of us very junior Members were in basement offices. Senator Garn of Utah, Senator Laxalt of Nevada, and I were down in the dun-

geons. When we were sworn in, I had a small reception down there. I invited Members of the Senate to come, not thinking that anybody would actually show up. There were far more noteworthy people being sworn in that day, some to begin subsequent terms, others newly elected.

I remember standing there with my mother and father, and one of the very first people to come through that door was STROM THURMOND, walking arm in arm with John Stennis of Mississippi. I remember STROM welcoming me to the Senate and telling my mother and father I seemed like a nice young man, and that I might actually have a career ahead of me.

I note that has been the routine of STROM THURMOND, to welcome new Senators from either party. He has done it with hundreds of Senators. This one remembers it well.

We often worked in the field of anti-trust laws. We worked together on the National Cooperative Production amendments of 1993, the very first high-technology bill signed by President Clinton, and to improve the protections against anticompetitive conduct in the Digital Performance Right in Sound Recordings Act.

Senator THURMOND has been a legislator. I must admit, when Senator THURMOND and I have worked together, it has raised some eyebrows, and when we have introduced legislation together, some have remarked that either it is brilliant legislation or one of us has not gotten around to reading it. But there are so many issues that we did join together. Of course, there have been occasions when he and I have sat on opposite sides of an issue, but even though there were issues about which we felt deeply, Senator THURMOND always conducted himself with the utmost integrity. He has always told the Senate how he felt. He has done so with the people of South Carolina first and foremost in his mind.

I recall him inviting me down to talk to the STROM THURMOND Institute at Clemson. He wanted to put on a debate on economic matters. He had an impartial moderator from the Heritage Foundation. When I walked in, I saw half the Republican party of South Carolina and the Heritage Foundation. I knew I was to be the sacrificial lamb, and I was loving every minute of it. When they stated how much time would be allotted, he stated he should have twice as much time as I because I spoke twice as fast as he did.

We had a very good meeting. I am sure I did not change his mind, or most of the minds of the audience, on a couple of issues. We walked out of there arm in arm, laughing, having a good time. I remember a couple of days later STROM coming on the floor and slapping me on the back and saying, I want to thank the king of Vermont, as he said, for going down with him.

One of the strangest meetings during that time was when we were in the Senate dining room and I introduced