

discredited in scientific circles. Projections of future carbon emissions—which drive temperature model conclusions—have been proven to be based on political decisions that, by the end of the century, countries like Bangladesh will be as wealthy, or wealthier, than the United States.

A world renowned scientist has just resigned from the IPCC because it is too politicized, saying that the IPCC plans to make claims that contradict scientific understanding. Increasingly, it appears that the scientific case for catastrophic global warming is a house of cards that will soon come tumbling down.

Despite this, there are still some who choose to ignore science.

After I spoke about this last week, Duke Energy CEO Paul Anderson advocated a tax on carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. In doing so, the company has seemingly bought into the spurious notion that the science is settled. But perhaps it is not. Unfortunately, to some global warming advocates, the science is irrelevant.

As Myron Ebell of the competitive Enterprise Institute says:

Duke Energy has now admitted that the costs will be significant. But the fact is it will only be expensive for their competitors. Nuclear plants don't emit carbon dioxide and Duke is already one-third nuclear generation. Moreover, the company has announced plans to build even more nuclear plants, giving it an even bigger competitive edge.

This is a lot of scientific stuff. I have said several times since I became chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee that the first thing we did was study this because it was assumed that global warming is taking place and anthropogenic gases are causing it, methane and CO₂, only to find out that is not the case. Virtually all the science since 1999 has refuted these assertions. I think we have an obligation to recognize these far-left environmentalist extremist groups are huge contributors to campaigns and they have a lot of political power, but in the long run we have to be more concerned about America than we are about political campaigns.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and 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. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

The Senator from Kentucky is recognized.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent there now be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

GOLDEN GAVEL AWARD

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, on September 30, 2004, I had the pleasure to announce that Senator GORDON SMITH was the latest recipient of the Senate's Golden Gavel Award, marking his 100th hour of presiding over the Senate.

The Golden Gavel Award has long served as a symbol of appreciation for the time that Senators contribute to presiding over the Senate—a privileged and important duty. Since the 1960s, Senators who preside for 100 hours have been recognized with this coveted award.

On behalf of the Senate, I extend our sincere appreciation to Senator SMITH for presiding during the 108th Congress.

TRIBUTE TO DOUG FERTIG

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated member of the Senate family, Doug Fertig, Human Resources Director of the Senate Sergeant at Arms office, who passed away on April 2, 2005, at the age of 54.

Doug Fertig came to the Sergeant at Arms in 1996 facing a formidable challenge to standardize processes, establish pay bands and job classifications and a leave accountability system to comply with the Congressional Accountability Act. Doug Fertig's dedication, knowledge and compassion to the Senate Sergeant at Arms organization turned the Human Resources Department into the professional organization it is today.

Doug Fertig was born in Columbus, OH, received his B.A. from Oberlin College in 1972, and held Masters Degrees from Stanford University and Ohio State University. Doug Fertig was a dedicated family man who was very proud of his wife Susan, daughter Emily, and son Andrew. He was passionate about education and any sport involving Ohio State University.

During his tenure with the Senate Sergeant at Arms, Doug Fertig was faced with many challenges, including anthrax in October 2001 and ricin in February 2004.

Because of Doug's experience and calm demeanor, the challenges of relocating the Human Resources operation and continuing to serve the Senate community were met with calm leadership and competent direction and stability.

Today we honor Doug for his dedication to the Senate, his love for his family, his compassion for the staff in the Human Resources department and the Senate Sergeant at Arms organization. His passing leaves the Senate community with a profound sense of loss. I hope it is of comfort to his family that so many people share their loss at this sad time.

TRIBUTE TO TOM STONEBURNER

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the life and work of Tom

Stoneburner, a Nevada labor leader who passed away on February 21, 2005.

A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, Tom served as a deputy sheriff in Mono County, CA, before moving to Nevada in 1969. During his 36 years in Nevada, he became one of the most effective labor leaders in the State, fighting tirelessly on behalf of the working people of Nevada. As a casino security guard, he successfully organized union elections for guards at two Reno hotel casinos and later went on to serve as president of the United Plant Guard Workers.

Tom was dedicated to helping all of Nevada's workers. That is why in 1997 he formed the Alliance for Workers Rights, an organization expressly committed to advocating on behalf of workers in Nevada who had no union representation. Through his leadership of this organization, Tom successfully lobbied for strengthened State safety protections after several workers died in industrial accidents in 1998 and 2001.

His passion and determination in protecting the rights of Nevada's workers belied the soft-spoken and mild-mannered nature that many close to him have recalled since his passing. Tom's example has undoubtedly inspired many others who will carry on his work, including his wife Kathy who will continue his important work at the Alliance for Worker's Rights.

Mr. President, please join me in recognizing Tom Stoneburner's contributions to Nevada workers and in sending condolences to Tom's family for their loss.

THE DEATH OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, with the passing of Pope John Paul II, I take this opportunity to pay homage to one of the great spiritual leaders of our time. He was a truly gifted religious leader who touched people all over the world: young and old, rich and poor, the powerful and the underprivileged, Catholics and non-Catholics.

Pope John Paul II defied political labels and was constant in his beliefs. For him, defending life included opposing capital punishment and recourse to war as well as opposing abortion. Defending families meant a commitment to faith and moral uprightness, but it also meant standing up for just wages and a social safety net. These beliefs and convictions made him a respected leader all over the world.

One of John Paul's strengths was reaching out to young adults. World Youth Day was established by the Pope on Palm Sunday, 1984. He invited the Youth of Rome to celebrate the Holy Year of Redemption with him at Saint Peter's Square. It was a great success. Building upon this success and its popularity, the Pope held this worldwide event every 3 years.

Over the last 20 years, millions of young people from hundreds of countries have participated in World Youth