Dr. Capecchi, along with Drs. Evans and Smithies, received the Nobel Prize for their discoveries of methods for introducing specific gene modifications in mice by the use of embryonic stem cells. In the late 1980s, after years of research and experimentation on mouse-derived stem cells, these doctors were able to develop the first knockout mice, genetically engineered mice that have had one or more of their genes isolated and made inoperable. Knockout mice have allowed scientists to learn more about genes that have been sequenced but have unknown functions. Through the techniques developed by these three doctors, researchers are able to inactivate specific mouse genes and study the mice for any resulting differences. From this process, they are able to infer the probable functions of the individual genes.

This gene targeting technology has led to a vast expansion of our understanding of genetics. Indeed, it has impacted virtually every area of biomedicine. The successful isolation of genes has allowed researchers to determine their roles in embryonic development, adult physiology, aging and disease. In addition, the use of knockout mice has led to the production of more than 500 different mouse models of human disorders, including cardiovascular disease, neuron-degenerative disorders, cancer and diabetes.

Drs. Capecchi, Evans, and Smithies have dedicated their lives and work to bettering mankind. Dr. Capecchi has been a key advisor to me for many years and has been a great help to me and this nation with his medical and scientific work and knowledge. I have the highest praise, not only for his work and intellect, but for his dedication and perseverance.

I am joined by Senators BENNETT, DOLE, and BURR in introducing S. Res. 350 recognizing the work and achievements of these new Nobel Laureates and congratulating them for the honor they have received and I want each of them to know how proud I am of them and their great accomplishments. I also want the entire country to know, that this is just the beginning. The work of Drs. Capecchi, Evans, and Smithies has continued to lay the groundwork and establish a strong foundation we will need to continue developing stem cell research and someday, sooner rather than later, find therapies that will heal some of the greatest afflictions suffered by millions around the world. This is the great promise of the work of these great men and I am proud to honor them.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise with pity and anger that this administration can be so insulated from reality that millions of American children will be denied health insurance because of the President of the United States and a small minority in the House of Representatives.

There was a critical vote in the House today: whether to override the President's veto of the children's health insurance bill.

Two hundred and eighty six votes were needed to override this veto, but we fell 13 votes short: 273 to 156.

One hundred and fifty six Members of the House of Representatives cowered to the President and turned their back on our children.

They turned their back on almost 4 million kids nationwide who would have gotten health care, including 100,000 in my home State of New Jersey.

And they cast these harmful votes against the will of the American people.

Eighty-one percent of the public supports this bill.

Yet the President's puppets in the House said no. They chose ideology over children.

They choose tax breaks for millionaires over a doctor's visit for a sick child.

They are more than willing to spend $12 billion a month on Iraq, but not $7 billion a year for children's health.

You have to question the moral priorities of those who oppose funding children's health care in America.

Civilized societies take care of their children. I believe we are a civilized society. I just think we have the wrong person in the White House.

It is time to put aside ideology and put the needs of American families first.

The only good news today is that the bill on the floor of the Senate right now puts families first.

This Labor-HHS appropriations bill will help children live longer, healthier, and more productive lives. It increases Head Start funding, medical research gets a boost and we are doing more to support critical education programs.

But despite all of these benefits, President Bush says he will veto this bill too.

I say: ''shame.''

SHERIDAN CONSERVATION EASEMENT DEDICATION

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, recently I got to participate in the dedication of the first conservation easement in Sheridan County, WY. I attended grade school in Sheridan and graduated from high school there. I earned the Boy Scout merit badges I needed to become an Eagle Scout while I lived there. One of the badges was bicycling. It required several 25-mile rides. My first ride of that length went from Sheridan to Big Horn and beyond. That ride was on the highway. Today it would be much more dangerous as the area has developed and more people drive. So I am glad for this new conservation easement—what I hope will be the first of many conservation easements—that will make it possible to go from Sheridan to Big Horn on a scenic path by the river that will provide safety and great views.

I want to congratulate the Volunteers of America for their great role in this achievement and ''first.'' I want to thank and congratulate the Sheridan County Commission and the city of Sheridan, mayor and council for their great cooperation. I especially want to thank the members of the Sheridan Land Trust for their effort and vision. This is the kind of community, the kind of people, I remember growing up in Sheridan.

I was glad to play a small role in getting the 501c(3) certification for nonprofit status pushed through the system. I also did some work for conservation easements in, of all places, the pension bill last year. I got to chair the conference committee for the pension bill last year. At the end of the process, leadership from both sides of the aisle brought me a small tax package to include. I mentioned that I had a couple of small provisions I wanted included. One was a provision to get Wyoming abandoned mine land money released back to Wyoming. I found the power of a chairmanship. The abandoned mine land money will amount to $1.6 billion for Wyoming. Another provision included was for conservation easements—conservation easements that would make it possible for the average person to participate as well as those with a lot of money. The bad news is that act is available only until Dec 31 of this year—unless it gets extended. The good news is this bicycle-hiking-running-nature path could be finished from Sheridan to Big Horn this year with some tax incentives. I will be working to extend the incentive.

It is very important that I share with the Nation the words of Mayor Kinsky at the dedication of this first conservation easement in Sheridan County. It is the finest description of what we are trying to do that I have heard. Here is what he said:

> Look about you—the mountains, the creek, the wildlife. It is as God made it. This is how it was before we came. Because of what we do here today—preserving this place as it is, unspoiled—it will be here for those who follow us.
>
> There are those who say we inherited this place from our grandparents. I believe we are borrowing it from our grandchildren.
>
> As such, we have a duty to preserve—for them—the beauty that had drawn us here, and holds us here.
>
> Fifty years from now, the town will have changed. Coffeen Avenue will look different, our downtown will look different. But this area will look as we see it today.
>
> Future generations will not recall who we are, or what we say. But they will recap the benefit of what we do here today. We may hope that they will look out on what we have left them and say, ''These were people of vision. These were people who cared about the future.''
>
> It is proper that this be done in a manner fitting of the character of our people. This easement comes about not as a mandate of government, but as a gift—given with love—to the community and future.
>
> The purpose of the Sheridan Community Land Trust is to hold such gifts, preserving them for our heirs. It is our hope that many more in the community may be moved to make similar gifts to generations to come.