

me wonder who is funding these groups to keep our hand tied. The short term fix is to use the oil that we are setting on while we work on the research and development required to assist or solve the long term problem.

DAVID.

Senator, I could sit here and gripe about the high energy costs. However, I regard the problem as a collective problem, not something one sector or another of the economy has done. We are all aware of how the costs are spiraling out of control, and there are things we can all do to mitigate the pinch in our wallet. Every one of us is guilty to varying degrees. Consider the following:

First, each of us needs to be a lot more concerned with conserving. We can all make one trip instead of three to the store. We can carpool. We can reduce some of our recreational activities to use less fuel getting there and while there. Turn off the lights. Use the energy efficient light bulbs. Use mass transit. The list goes on and on.

Second, Congress has got to work out a balanced approach to energy availability. Hydro power is still the most efficient, but has been hogtied by the environmentalists who not only do not want new power production, and even want to remove power production that is in place. Nuclear power has been similarly placed into the nether land of total environmental disfavor. The record of these two sources is not perfect, but they are not guilty of producing greenhouse gasses and making the Arabs richer and richer either. They have a place in our infrastructure, and Congress needs to make it happen before we give away all our wealth to Islamic radicals and Communists. Begin a plan to reduce and eliminate foreign import of oil, then make it stick.

Third, Congress needs to greatly improve incentives for domestic production of oil. Use the oil shale resources we have all over the country. Allow drilling in areas where the likelihood of new fields is good, with a great deal of care nevertheless. Use clean coal production methods for power.

Fourth, Congress should tax the windfall profits of the oil companies. Use that money for refunds to vehicle owners and taxpayers. There is no excuse on God's green earth for an oil company to make more profits in a fiscal quarter than the GNP of 80% of the world's nations in a year.

O.K. I have run out of time, but not ideas. I just wanted you to know we are all in this together, and either we solve it together, or the mess will get worse and worse. All of you in Congress need to quit quibbling and do something.

LON.

I appreciate the opportunity of letting you know of how the high costs of fuel/energy are impacting me.

I feel lucky—I have a good job and make above average pay. However, I am at a point in my life when I need to be able to save for retirement. My wife and I have raised our children and have recently been able to start saving for retirement. With the current prices of fuel, we are not able to save as needed to ensure that we will have the required funds to retire.

I have discussed the high price of fuel with several contract workers. They are not planning any type of vacation travel and, in most cases, are fearful of the future. Most are not even sure that they will be able to take care of their necessities if prices continue to skyrocket.

There is a business here in Idaho Falls that purchases plasma. I watched a news report detailing how busy they currently are. Many who are selling their plasma are doing it just

to make ends meet. The place is so busy that they are turning people away.

I worry about my own children. The future is bleak. Never in my life have we had such a dim outlook—not in America.

It is time for drilling (in an environmentally safe way). It is time for nuclear power to come out of the closet. We need to quit letting the environmentalists run this great country. I am an avid outdoors man. I love Idaho. I live here for the beauty and activities related to the outdoors. I have faith that we can fix the problems and move forward. I do not believe that we have to ruin the outdoors to make things right.

Thanks for your help

DAVID.

When BEA was granted contract of Idaho National Laboratory, [the lab director] held a meeting and asked what they could do to improve the INL. My reply was to better inform the public about nuclear energy and the benefits. During these trying times we are facing, and the extremes of the future, we must have extreme plans to counteract. The only solution is to minimize our use of natural resources. How do we do this? Every structure, school, home, office, storehouse, etc. shall be converted to electricity derived from nuclear power generating facilities. All of the natural resources shall be reserved for transportation and emergency needs. No longer can the government not be in direct competition with private affairs. When it is for the better of the people then it is the right thing to do. Nuclear energy is the only solution. We need to inform the public and gain support for a cleaner more efficient future. I am excited to be involved with any help I can provide with this matter.

ROY.

I am a hospice nurse and my patients rely on me to make home visits so they can have the care they need and deserve at the end of their lives. Without this service, many dying patients would have uncontrolled symptoms and unable to get to the doctor. Driving distances are great for me as I [care for] people in outlying areas, sometimes averaging 50-100 miles a day to see everyone. This cost in fuel is very hard to manage and at times nearly forces me to feel like returning to the hospital rather than providing this much needed service due to cost prohibitiveness of my work from fuel cost.

CHERYL, Boise.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP JOHN MCRAITH

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, it is with great admiration and respect that I take this time to recognize one of Kentucky's most distinguished citizens, Roman Catholic Bishop John McRaith, who retired as the third Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro.

Bishop McRaith's service over the last 26 years in the Diocese of Owensboro—which consists of 32 counties with 79 parishes, 3 high schools, 2 middle schools and 13 elementary schools—has made him a legacy in the community.

In addition to being a large diocese, Owensboro Diocese is one of the more diverse dioceses—home to a large number of Hispanic Catholic immigrants, along with a priesthood that recruits

men from Latin America, Asia, and Africa. The work done by Bishop McRaith and the priests at Owensboro Diocese has increased church attendance to levels that are considered among the highest in the Nation.

Bishop McRaith has left his community a better place because of the authenticity and kindness of his services and faith. While I am sad to see him retire, I am comforted knowing that those who learned from him will continue the good work that he displayed each day. On behalf of all of those who are part of the Owensboro Diocese, I thank Bishop John McRaith for the grace and strength he brought to western Kentucky.●

TRIBUTE TO HARRIET CORNELL

• Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I am proud to congratulate the Honorable Harriet Cornell on her historic selection as chair of the Rockland County Legislature for a fifth consecutive year. Harriet is the first chair of the legislature to hold the office for 5 consecutive years.

Harriet Cornell has been a member of the Rockland County Legislature since 1984. In her first year of office, Mrs. Cornell founded the Legislature's Commission on Women's Issues and invited community leaders to participate in the formulation of public policy. She is also the chair of the Eleanor Roosevelt Legacy Committee.

Her long record of accomplishments led the Journal News naming her as one of 25 people who made the greatest impact on Rockland County during the 20th century. As chairwoman, Mrs. Cornell's priorities have included protection of our environment, enhanced educational resources, improved health services for women and children, homeland security, Rockland's transportation infrastructure, and smart land use planning. Under her leadership, she has brought together elected officials from every level of government in Summit meetings to collaborate on these issues.

I commend Mrs. Cornell for her many years of devoted public service to the citizens of Rockland County.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 6:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agreed to the following resolutions:

H. Res. 1. Resolution that Lorraine C. Miller of the State of Texas, be, and is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives; That Wilson S. Livingood of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and is hereby, chosen Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives; That Daniel P. Beard of the State of Maryland be, and is hereby, chosen Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives; and That Father Daniel P. Coughlin of the State of Illinois, be, and is hereby, chosen Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

H. Res. 2. Resolution notifying the Senate that a quorum of the House of Representatives has assembled; that NANCY PELOSI, a