MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2192. An act to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the methane tax under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, perform active duty for a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days.

ENERGY POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOSAR). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT) is recognized for 30 minutes.

Mr. BARTLETT. Mr. Speaker, on the 8th day of March, 1956, a scientist, geologist by the name of M. King Hubbert spoke to an audience in San Antonio, Texas. The audience was a bunch of oil people. He gave what I think is going to be recognized as the most important speech in the history of the United States.

"There is nothing man can do to reverse this bell curve. No, I'm talking about the bell curve of oil production. It's the curve that shows the production of oil from each field..." Here are a few quotes from that speech.

"I don't know if these two gentlemen knew each other at all. But this other speech was given by the father of our nuclear submarine, Hyman Rickover. Hyman Rickover spoke to a group of physicians. The audience is irrelevant. He spoke to a group of physicians in St. Paul, Minnesota, and he said something that should have been self-evident, but obviously they weren't because nobody else was saying them and nobody has said them much since then.

What he said in this speech was that in 1956, a 1,000-year-old theory of man, the age of oil would be but a blip, and he referred to it as this "golden age." Here are a few quotes from that speech.

"By the way, you can find it on the Internet. If you simply Google for Rickover and energy speech, it will come up. It was lost for a number of years, and a few years ago it was found and put on the Internet. And what he says here seems to be axiomatic.

"In the face of the basic fact that fossil fuels are finite—they will run out—that the exact length of time these reserves will last is important in only one respect: the longer they last, the more time do we have to invent ways of living off renewable or substitute energy sources and to adjust our economies to the vast changes which we can expect from such a shift."

Now, this would seem to be, as I said, axiomatic. Obviously, the Moon isn’t...