

been a pleasure, my friend. I wish you well.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair advises the Senator from Utah there are 2 minutes remaining in morning business.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be extended for an additional 5 minutes beyond the 2 minutes already allocated.

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

REFLECTIONS ON TENURE OF SENATOR JOHNSTON

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I was sitting in my office catching up on paperwork when I was literally caught by the announcement that the distinguished former chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee would not seek reelection.

I had to come over and add my voice to those that have already been raised in tribute to this fine man, this outstanding Senator and, for me, close friend.

As I came to the Chamber, I was reminded of his words to the former ranking member on that committee, Malcolm Wallop, who made a similar announcement. As Senator Wallop came into the committee, Senator JOHNSTON looked at him and said, "You did not ask my permission." I had the same feeling here. He did not ask my permission. Not that he would have or should have.

This is, obviously, a personal decision. I am sure from seeing how well he makes decisions, that it is the right decision. I wanted him to know, and the country to know, that I will feel a sense of personal loss. I am not saying goodbye as some have said, because I am looking forward to the next 2 years.

I was sorry that, in the reorganization of the committees, I missed going back on that committee by exactly one slot. If there had been one more slot, I would have been there as I have been there the last 2 years. And I look forward to going back there when the next 2 years are gone.

It will not be the same without BENNETT JOHNSTON. A year ago, just about this time, we were in China, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Thailand together. I said to him, after one of the meetings we had had with the head of state on that trip, "Mr. Chairman, if you want to run for Secretary of State, I will be happy to handle your campaign." He is an outstanding diplomat, an outstanding servant of the citizens of the United States. He has 2 years left to go. We will not turn this into his funeral eulogy because I know he will spend the next 2 years in the same kind of service that he has rendered in the past 22.

I am one who believes in term limits. I think we need to open up the process to get new blood in. When people say to me "Yes, but won't you lose some people that are precious to the United States?" I always say, "Yes, we will. That is the down side of term limits." Then I go on to list, privately, of course, some people that I think term limits would be good for. BENNETT JOHNSTON is in the first group. That is, those who would be precious to the United States who would be lost, and for whom, if I could, I would waive the term-limit requirement.

He is a fine gentleman, a fine friend, a fine Senator. I look forward to 2 more years at his side and, indeed, at his feet, for he has taught this junior Senator a very great deal. I look forward to learning a very great deal more. Mr. President, this is a time of pride for the United States that we can look back on the career of one of our finest. I did not want to let the occasion pass without adding my voice to those that have been raised in tribute to this fine public servant. I yield the floor.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JOHNSTON

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to our distinguished colleague, the senior Senator from Louisiana [BENNETT JOHNSTON], on his announced intention to retire from the Senate at the end of his current term. His departure will be a loss to this body.

Senator JOHNSTON has served here ably and well for over 20 years, most notably as chairman of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and of the Appropriations subcommittee having jurisdiction in the same area. He has mastered the intricacies of much difficult legislation in this capacity, and the Nation has benefited from the perspective and wisdom which he brought to the task.

I am privileged to have had a long friendship with BENNETT JOHNSTON and I admire him for the manner in which he conducts himself as a Senator and as a person. And, particularly, as a tennis player. In the best sense of the word, he can be called a straight shooter.

I regret, honor, and sympathize with his decision to end his distinguished political career and I wish him and his lovely wife Mary all the best for the future after he leaves the Senate in 1997. In the meantime, we are fortunate to have the benefit of his talents for at least 2 more years.

TRIBUTE TO BENNETT JOHNSTON

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to my good friend, BENNETT JOHNSTON, who announced his decision yesterday to retire from the Senate.

Senator JOHNSTON has been a terrific friend and ally for me on a myriad of issues during his service in the Senate. I have always found him fair in all his dealings as chairman and ranking member on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, where a public lands State like Utah is always tre-

mendously affected by the committee's activities.

For example, last year, Senator JOHNSTON's help was essential in getting a bill through the Senate that will allow Utah's public school system to receive from revenues generated from Federal lands and royalties. He recognized the importance of this piece of legislation to education in my State and did everything he could to help it through the committee. I am convinced the bill would not have been signed into law by President Clinton last year without his support, and Utah's school children will be indebted to him for many years.

He has a keen sense on issues related to the energy security of this Nation. It was his leadership that led to the development and passage of the Energy Security Act of 1992, which should allow us to meet the energy demands of our growing population for many years to come. His expertise in this area will be sorely missed by the Senate.

He also recognizes that many States are financially dependent on the appropriate development of their natural resources, especially when these resources are located on Federal lands. Of course, Louisiana is as rich in these resources as my own State of Utah. And, by recognizing this dependence, Senator JOHNSTON has been willing to work with Senators on resource issues that are unique to that particular State, whether the subject matter was precious metals, coal, petroleum, natural gas, or, in the case of Utah, tar sands and oil shale. He has provided tremendous leadership in showcasing and supporting our national parks, forests, and recreation areas. While we have not always agreed on every single issue, I will miss his manner of doing business.

In addition, he has been successful in focusing this body on the important issue of risk assessment related to environmental regulations. With the total cost for all 54 Federal environmental regulatory agencies totaling \$14.3 billion last year, it is critical that Congress determine the benefit associated with the cost of each and every environmental regulation we pass. Senator JOHNSTON has provided leadership on this matter, and I hope that this body will again pass his amendment during this session to require a risk assessment on new regulations.

Obviously, the Senator from Louisiana has been a leader in many areas during his tenure in the Senate. For this, I thank and applaud him. We are losing a true expert on these issues, and I am losing a true friend in every sense of the word. I understand why he has made this decision to leave the Senate; and, while 2 years remain for us to collaborate on important issues, I want to express my thanks to him and wish him well in all his future plans. He has been a great asset to his State and to the Senate.