

tremendous good will, enormous heart, and joyful sense of humor. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him and loved him. May He Rest In Peace.●

THE ACCOUNTABLE PIPELINE SAFETY AND PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 1996

● Mr. BRADLEY. Mr. President, I am pleased to support S. 1505, the Accountable Pipeline Safety and Partnership Act of 1996. My interest in the pipeline safety issue dates back to the explosion and fire at Edison, NJ in 1994. In reaction to that tragedy, which set fire to eight apartment houses and cost one life, I introduced the Comprehensive One-Call Notification Act, S. 164, co-sponsored by Senators SPECTOR, LAUTENBERG and EXON. The purpose of that bill was to improve state-wide notification systems to protect natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines from being damaged during excavations, the cause of the Edison accident.

In S. 1505, the Commerce Committee has wisely chosen to strengthen State one-call programs, and has provided new authorization for grants to States to establish one-call notification systems consistent with standards which assure at least a minimally acceptable level of protection from accidents. These grants, which were also a feature of S. 164, will assist States in developing the kinds of one-call systems needed to prevent future Edisons from happening.

While I would have preferred a stronger and more comprehensive set of requirements, the bill is an important first step toward the goal of implementing strong, comprehensive one-call systems nationwide.

S. 1505 also includes new language broadening public education programs carried out by natural gas pipeline owners to include the use of one-call systems.

Finally, I was pleased to join with Senator LAUTENBERG in proposing additional provisions which are the subject of a manager's amendment to S. 1505. These include a survey and risk assessment by the Department of Transportation of the effectiveness of remotely-controlled valves which shut off the flow of natural gas in the event of a pipeline rupture. Once the survey and assessment are completed, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue standards for their use if he or she finds them technically and economically feasible.

The manager's amendment also includes measures to promote public awareness of pipeline location. Pipeline owners or operators must provide municipalities where pipelines are located with facility maps to prevent accidents and respond to pipeline emergencies. In addition, the Secretary of Transportation must survey existing public education plans to determine which components are most effective at accident prevention. After analyzing the results of the survey, the Secretary may pro-

mulgate nationwide regulations, if necessary, to ensure the safest feasible pipeline public education system.

The bill and these amendments, taken together, represent a considerable improvement over current practices for accident prevention. I hope they can be enacted this year, and prevent another Edison accident.●

NAVAJO-HOPI LAND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1996

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support this important legislation which will resolve a longstanding dispute between the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation and the United States. This legislation marks the culmination of 4 years of mediation efforts of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals involving the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, representatives of the Navajo families residing on Hopi partitioned lands, and the U.S. Department of Justice. S. 1973 provides for the settlement of four claims of the Hopi Tribe against the United States and provides the necessary authority to the Hopi Tribe to issue 75-year lease agreements to Navajo families residing on the Hopi partitioned land. This legislation will ratify the settlement and accommodation agreements made by the Department of Justice, the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the Navajo families residing on the Hopi partitioned lands.

The settlement marks an important first step in bringing this longstanding dispute between the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the United States to an orderly and peaceful conclusion. These agreements are the product of many, many hours of negotiation under the auspices of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals mediation process. While I understand that there are factions in both the Hopi Tribe and the Navajo Nation who have voiced their opposition to the settlement, I believe that these agreements represent the only realistic way to settle the claims of the Hopi Tribe against the United States and to provide an accommodation for the hundreds of Navajos residing on Hopi partitioned lands.

I believe it is imperative that the Congress take this step before the close of this session in order to bring this longstanding dispute to a final resolution. It has been over 22 years since the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Act was passed with the intention of settling the disputes between the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe. Since that time, the Federal Government has spent over \$350 million to fund the Navajo-Hopi Relocation Program. That funding exceeded the original cost estimates by more than 900 percent. And yet, there are over 130 appeals still pending, which raises a great deal of uncertainty regarding who is and is not eligible for further relocation benefits under the act. I am convinced that future Federal budgetary pressures will force closure of the Navajo-Hopi Relo-

cation Housing Program. I intend to ensure that this be done in an orderly fashion. I will introduce separate legislation in the near future that will provide for a measured phase out of the Navajo-Hopi Relocation Housing Program in 5 years. As an important first step, it is critical that the Congress pass legislation to settle the outstanding claims of the Hopi Tribe against the United States.

There are several important clarifications that have been made to the legislation as part of our committee's deliberation on the bill. S. 1973 has been amended to make clear that the Hopi Tribe has the authority to renew leases entered into under the settlement for additional terms of 75 years. The bill makes clear that the Hopi Tribe cannot place land into trust that is located within a 5 mile radius of an incorporated town or city in northern Arizona and that prior to placing lands into trust for the Hopi Tribe, the Secretary shall certify that no more than 15 percent of the eligible Navajo households remain on the HPL without having an accommodation agreement with the Hopi Tribe. These clarifications will help ensure that this settlement will achieve a greater degree of finality.

Mr. President, I am also proposing several amendments which further clarify provisions in the settlement and its potential impacts on communities in northern Arizona. The first amendment clarifies that the provisions prohibiting the Secretary from taking lands into trust within 5 miles of an incorporated town also apply to cities in northern Arizona. The second amendment adds a finding to the bill that recognizes that the Navajo Nation and the Navajo families did not participate in the settlement between the Hopi Tribe and the United States. The third amendment adds a new definition for newly acquired trust lands. The fourth amendment pertains to the potential impacts of the settlement provisions on ongoing water rights negotiations in northern Arizona. It would make clear that the settlement agreements provisions would not prejudice or adversely impact existing water users and more senior water rights holders along the Little Colorado River. This provision also makes clear that any water rights covered in the settlement agreement are a part of, and bound by, the adjudication of the court presiding over the Little Colorado River adjudication. Finally, the amendment makes clear that nothing in the Act or the amendments made by the act shall preclude, limit, or endorse actions by the Navajo Nation to seek, in court, an offset from judgments for payments received by the Hopi Tribe.

It is my understanding that as part of the negotiations on provisions in the bill relating to the Little Colorado River adjudication, the Hopi Tribe and the city of Flagstaff have commenced discussions to resolve the water rights of the city of Flagstaff. I am very