National Defense, and Law Enforcement and International Security sectors within the government. Traditionally, these sectors operated largely independently of one another and coordinated with government to protect themselves against threats posed by traditional warfare. Today, these sectors must learn how to protect themselves against unconventional threats such as terrorist attacks, and cyber attack. These sectors must also recognize the vulnerabilities they may face because of the tremendous technological progress we have made. As we learned when planning for the challenges presented by the Year 2000 rollover, many of our computer systems and networks are now interconnected and communicate with many other systems. With the many advances in information technology, many of our critical infrastructure sectors are linked to one another and face increased vulnerability to cyber threats. Technology interconnectivity increases the risk that problems affecting one system will also affect other connected systems. Computer networks can provide pathways among systems to gain unauthorized access to data and operations from outside locations if they are not carefully monitored and protected.

A cyber threat could quickly shutdown any one of our critical infrastructures and potentially cripple several sectors at one time. Nations around the world, including the United States, are currently training their military and intelligence personnel to carry out cyber attacks against other nations to quickly and efficiently cripple a nation's daily operations. cyber attacks have moved beyond the mischievous teenager and are being learned and used by terrorist organizations as the latest weapon in a nation's arsenal. In June 1998 and February 1999, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency testified before Congress that several nations recognize that cyber attacks against civilian computer systems represent the most viable option for leveling the playing field in an armed crisis against the United States. The Director also stated that several terrorist organizations believed information warfare to be a low cost opportunity to support their causes. Both Presidential Decision Directive 63 (PDD–63) issued in May 1998, and the President's National Plan for Information Systems Protection, Version 1.0 issued in January 2000, call on the legislative branch to build the necessary framework to encourage information sharing to address cyber security threats to our nation's privately held critical infrastructure.

Recently, we have learned the inconveniences that may be caused by a cyber attack or unforeseen circumstance. Earlier this year, many of our most popular sites such as Yahoo, eBay and Amazon.com were shutdown for several hours at a time over several days by a team of hackers interested in demonstrating their capability to disrupt service. While we may have found the shutdown of these sites temporarily inconvenient, they potentially cost those companies significant amounts of lost revenue, and it is not too difficult to imagine what would have occurred if the attacks had been focused on our utilities, or emergency services industries. We, as a society, have grown increasingly dependent on our infrastructure providers. I am sure many of you recall when PanAmSat's Galaxy IV satellite's on-board controller lost service. An estimated 80 to 90% of our nation's pagers were inoperable, and hospitals had difficulty reaching doctors on call and emergency workers. It even impeded the ability of consumers to use credit cards to pay for their gas at the pump.

Moreover, recent studies have demonstrated that the incidence of cyber security threats to both the government and the private sector are only increasing. According to an October 1999 report issued by the General Accounting Office (GAO), the number of reported computer security incidents handled by Carnegie-Mellon University's CERT Coordination Center has increased from 1,334 in 1993 to 4,398 during the first two quarters of 1999. Additionally, the Computer Security Institute reported an increased in attacks for the third year in a row based on responses to their annual survey on computer security. GAO has done a number of reports that give Congress an accurate picture of the risk facing federal agencies; they cannot track such information for the private sector. We must rely on the private sector to share its vulnerabilities with the federal government so that all of our critical infrastructures are protected.

Today, I am introducing legislation that gives critical infrastructure industries the assurances they need in order to confidently share information with the federal government. As we learned with the Y2K model, government and industry can work in partnership to produce the best outcome for the American people. The President has called for the creation of Information Sharing and Analysis Centers (ISACs) for each critical infrastructure sector that will be headed by the appropriate federal agency or entity, and a member from its private sector counterpart. For instance, the Department of Treasury is running the first ISAC for the financial services industry in partnership with Citigroup. Many in the private sector have expressed strong support for this model but have also expressed concerns about voluntarily sharing information with the government and the unintended consequences they could face for acting in good faith. Specifically, there has been concern that industry could potentially face antitrust violations for sharing information with other industry partners, have their shared information be subject to the Freedom of Information Act, or face potential liability concerns for information shared in good faith. My bill will address all three of these concerns. The Cyber Security Information Act also respects the privacy rights of consumers and critical infrastructure operators. Consumers and operators will have the confidence they need to know that information will be handled accurately, confidentially, and reliably.

The Cyber Security Information Act of 2000 is closely modeled after the successful Year 2000 Information and Readiness Disclosure Act by providing a limited FOIA exemption, civil litigation protection for shared information, and an antitrust exemption for information shared within an ISAC. These three protections have been previously cited by the Administration as necessary legislative remedies in Version 1.0 of the National Plan and PDD–63. This legislation will enable the ISACs to move forward without fear from industry so that government and industry may enjoy the mutually cooperative partnership called for in PDD–63. This will also allow us to get a timely and accurate assessment of the vulnerabilities of each sector to cyber attacks and allow for the formulation of proposals to eliminate these vulnerabilities without increasing government regulation, or expanding unfunded federal mandates on the private sector.

PDD–63 calls upon the government to put in place a critical infrastructure proposal that will allow for three tasks to be accomplished by 2003:

(1) The Federal Government must be able to perform essential national security missions and to ensure the general public health and safety;

(2) State and local governments must be able to maintain order and to deliver minimum essential public services; and

(3) The private sector must be able to ensure the orderly functioning of the economy and the delivery of essential telecommunications, energy, financial, and transportation services. This legislation will allow the private sector to meet this deadline.

We will also ensure the ISACs can move forward to accomplish their missions by developing the necessary technical expertise to establish baseline statistics and patterns within the various infrastructures, become a clearinghouse for information within and among the various sectors, and provide a repository of valuable information that may be used by the private sector. As technology continues to rapidly improve industry efficiency and operations, so will the risks posed by vulnerabilities and threats to our infrastructure. We must create a framework that will allow our protective measures to adapt and be updated quickly.

It is my hope that we will be able to move forward quickly with this legislation and that Congress and the Administration can move forward in partnership to provide industry and government with the tools for meeting this challenge. A Congressional Research Service report on the ISAC proposal describes the information sharing model one of the most crucial pieces for success in protecting our critical infrastructure, yet one of the hardest pieces to realize. With the introduction of the Cyber Security Information Act of 2000, we are removing the primary barrier to information sharing between government and industry. This is landmark legislation that will be replicated around the globe by other nations as they too try to address threats to their critical infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the Cyber Security Information Act of 2000 will help us address critical infrastructure cyber threats with the same level of success we achieved in addressing the Year 2000 problem. With government and industry cooperation, the seamless delivery of services and the protection or our nation's economy and well-being will continue without interruption just as the delivery of services continued on January 1, 2000.

COMMEMORATING THE DAY OF HONOR 2000 FOR AMERICA'S MINORITY VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 12, 2000

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I join with many of my colleagues today to honor and give thanks to America's minority veterans—the

soldiers, the sailors, the men and women of the Air Force, and, of course, my fellow Marines. More of the world is free today than ever before, thanks in no small part to their valor and sacrifice half a century ago.

The twentieth century began with much of the globe dominated by militaristic empires. In the First World War, our armed forces were the lever that pried these colonial empires apart.

In their ruin, the hideous forces of totalitarianism grew to great power, threatening to engulf us all. In the dark hour, American GIs of every color, of every national origin and creed, left the safety of their homes and began the struggle of the century. In World War II, American forces joined with freedom-loving people from Europe, Africa and Asia to defeat the Axis—that misspent laboratory for human cruelty.

The cost was extraordinarily high. Over one and one-half million minority Americans gave their lives to this cause. Some 1.2 million were African Americans, for whom racial slavery was no hypothetical concept. Over 300,000 were Hispanic Americans and another 50,000 were Asian Americans, willing to look past the discrimination they endured toward a better day that only democracy could bring. More than 20,000 Native Americans died for this country in World War II, along with more than 5,000 Native Hawaiians and over 3,000 Native Alaskans.

This week the House echoed the words of General Colin Powell, former Chairman of the Joints Chief of Staff, who wrote last year that among those who best exemplified courage, selflessness, exuberance, superhuman ability, and amazing grace during the past 200 years was the American GI.

''. . . In this century,'' General Powell said, ''hundreds of thousands of GIs died to bring to the beginning of the 21st century the victory of democracy as the ascendant political system of the face of the earth. The GIs were willing to travel far away and give their lives, if necessary, to secure the rights and freedoms of others. Only a nation such as ours, based on a firm moral foundation, could make such a request of its citizens. And the GIs wanted nothing more than to get the job done and then return home safely. All they asked for in repayment from those they freed was the opportunity to help them become part of the world of democracy . . . Near the top of any listing of the most important people of the 20th century must stand, in singular honor, the American GI.''

The American GI who served during World War II came in many colors and represented many cultures. Those of us who grew up in my generation, and went on to serve in another dark time, have taken courage in the stories of the Tuskeegee Airmen, the Nisei soldiers in Italy, the Navajo code-talkers in the Pacific, the Hispanic fighters who head the roll of the Medal of Honor and others. The diversity of these heroic men and women, and their determination to show what they could do, was a source of their strength. It still is today.

In light of the accomplishments of the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II both of defeating the forces of tyranny and dictatorship and in embodying a sense of honor, decency, and respect for mankind, I join in saluting our minority American GIs.

But no tribute to the courage and dedication of America's minority veterans should stop with 1945. Having fought for their country, these diverse and courageous men and women could no longer be contained by the brutal rules they had known as children. they were also the footsoldiers and leaders of the civil rights movements that followed World War II. They went home and took on careers and bought homes, set up businesses, entered the professions and all the walks of life that had been barely imaginable for them before the war. They had defended democracy as servicemembers and wanted nothing less than full participation in the democratic institutions they had preserved.

I am proud to honor our nation's brave minority veterans. I salute them and thank them for a job well done.

ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives passed an important reauthorization bill, the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. This bill does a number of important things including reauthorizing the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, but it does one thing in particular that is very important to Connecticut: it sets up a home heating oil reserve for the Northeast based on legislation Congressman BERNIE SANDERS introduced and I cosponsored.

The bill calls on the federal government to create a 2 million barrel home heating oil reserve which could be released by the President when oil prices rise rapidly, when there is a disruption in supply or when there is a regional crisis like the cold snap Connecticut and other Northeastern states faced last winter. This will help our region deal with uncertainties in the market and will stabilize oil prices in the future.

As we all remember this past winter, the average price of home heating oil increased by almost 50 percent in less than one month, and at its peak, the price of oil was double what it has been the previous year. Many of my constituents were in situations where they could not afford to fill their tanks to heat their homes. Some were choosing between eating their meals or heating their homes. We cannot allow that to happen in the future.

The creation of this home heating oil reserve will prevent these disruptions and will provide more stability for my constituents who were forced to pay outrageously high prices to heat their homes, or worse, to make difficult choices between paying bills for food, clothes, doctor visits and heating their homes. It would give the Northeast a tool in combating the type of crisis we faced this winter, when low temperatures and high oil prices forced many people into a situation where they were unable to keep their homes warm for their families. It is imperative that the House and Senate retain this provision when they meet to develop a conference report on the Energy Policy and Conservation Act.

ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I am in strong support of H.R. 2884, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Reauthorization. This important legislation takes the necessary steps to address the current policy of reliance on foreign oil which is threatening our national security.

I would like to share with you an important quote. It's a quote from President Clinton. He said, and I quote directly:

''I am today concurring with the Commerce Department's finding that the nation's growing reliance on imports of crude oil and refined petroleum products threaten the nation's security because they increase U.S. vulnerability to oil supply interruptions.''

That statement was made by the President in 1994 when imported oil was less than 51% of American consumption. Here we are today, 6 years later, and not only have we not reduced that demand for foreign oil, not only have we not stabilized that demand, we have actually increased that demand to over 56% of our consumption.

Dependence on foreign oil is an ever-growing threat to America's security. President Clinton stated that fact six years ago, but the facts also show the Clinton-Gore Administration has been AWOL when it comes to encouraging the development of the domestic energy supply that would decrease our reliance on foreign product.

The legislation before us is a step in the right direction toward the development of our domestic energy supply. This provision gives the Energy Secretary discretionary authority to purchase oil from domestic sources as opposed to the current practice of only buying foreign oil. H.R. 2884 authorizes, at the discretion of the Energy Secretary, the purchase of oil from these marginal ''stripper'' wells whenever the price of oil dips below $15 dollars per barrel. This is vital to the improvement of our energy policy in the United States today. This legislation also takes a major step in improving the economic situation for the small, independent producers in America, while, at the same time, strengthening our national security.

There are more than 6,000 independent producers nationwide, many working out of their homes with few employees. Yet they drill 85% of domestic oil and natural gas wells in America, contributing close to half of our nation's domestic oil and gas output.

Mr. Speaker, we must develop a national energy policy that protects our security interests while, at the same time, improving the production economy in America. The passage of H.R. 2884 will be an important step in that direction. I urge my colleagues in the House to join me in casting their vote in favor of this very important legislation.