

Pennsylvania chairs it, and Senator TORRICELLI is a member. We have an incredibly difficult time getting information and documents from this Government. No wonder it takes Mr. Starr and Mr. Ray so long and they are frustrated at every turn in obtaining evidence they need to make a legitimate decision and present a legitimate case to a grand jury.

I wish this were over. I wish we never had to talk about it. I don't intend to raise the subject myself. But as a Federal attorney, I have been in court trying to do my duty. I have made up my mind that I am not going to allow somebody who is doing his duty to gather the evidence and make a decision on whether a case ought to go forward to be abused and compared to somebody in Russia. I am not going to allow that. We need to speak out against that, and I intend to do so at every opportunity.

THE CALENDAR

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration, en bloc, of the following Energy Committee matters:

S. 397, Calendar No. 448; S. 503, Calendar No. 449; S. 1694, Calendar No. 450; S. 1167, Calendar No. 451; H.R. 150, Calendar No. 452; H.R. 834, Calendar No. 453; H.R. 1231, Calendar No. 454; H.R. 1444, Calendar No. 455; H.R. 2368, Calendar No. 456; H.R. 2862, Calendar No. 457; H.R. 2863, Calendar No. 458; S. 408, Calendar No. 462; S. 1218, Calendar No. 463; S. 1629, Calendar No. 467; H.R. 3090, Calendar No. 488; S. 1797, Calendar No. 494; S. 1892, Calendar No. 497.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that any committee amendments, where applicable, be agreed to, the bills then be considered read the third time and passed, as amended, if amended, any title amendments be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to any of these bills appear at this point in the RECORD, with the above occurring en bloc.

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

NATIONAL MATERIALS CORRIDOR PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 1999

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 397) to authorize the Secretary of Energy to establish a multiagency program in support of the Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative to promote energy efficient, environmentally sound economic development along the border with Mexico through the research, development, and use of new materials technology, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the en-

acting clause and inserting in lieu thereof of the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Materials Corridor and United States-Mexico Border Technology Partnership Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the 2,000 mile long United States-Mexico border region, extending 100 kilometers north and south of the international boundary, has undergone rapid economic growth that has provided economic opportunity to millions of people;

(2) the border region's rapid economic growth has unfortunately created serious problems including pollution, hazardous wastes, and the inefficient use of resources that threaten people's health and the prospects for long-term economic growth in the region;

(3) there are a significant number of major institutions in the border States of both countries currently conducting research, development and testing activities in technologies that might help alleviate these problems;

(4)(A) these new technologies may provide major opportunities for significantly—

(i) minimizing industrial wastes and pollution that may pose a threat to public health;

(ii) reducing emissions of atmospheric pollutants;

(iii) using recycled natural resources as primary materials for industrial production; and

(iv) improving energy efficiency; and

(B) such advances will directly benefit both sides of the United States-Mexico border by encouraging energy efficient, environmentally sound economic development that improves the health and protects the natural resources of the border region;

(5) in August 1998, the binational United States-Mexico Border Region Hazardous Wastes Forum, organized by the Department of Energy's Carlsbad Area Office, resulted in a consensus of experts from the United States and Mexico that the Department of Energy's science and technology could be leveraged to address key environmental issues in the border region while fostering further economic development of the border region;

(6) the Carlsbad Area Office, which manages the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico, is well suited to lead a multiagency program focused on the problems of the border region given its significant expertise in hazardous materials and location near the border;

(7)(A) promoting clean materials industries in the border region that are energy efficient has been identified as a high priority issue by the United States-Mexico Foundation for Science Cooperation; and

(B) at the 1998 discussions of the United States-Mexico Binational Commission, Mexico formally proposed joint funding of a "Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative", proposing \$1,000,000 to implement the Initiative if matched by the United States;

(8) recognizing the importance of materials processing, research institutions in the border States of both the United States and Mexico, in conjunction with private sector partners of both nations, and with strong endorsement from the Government of Mexico, in 1998 organized the Materials Corridor Council to implement a cooperative program of materials research and development, education and training, and sustainable industrial development as part of the Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative; and

(9) successful implementation of this Act would advance important United States energy, environmental, and economic goals not only in the United States-Mexico border region but also serve as a model for similar collaborative, transnational initiatives in other regions of the world.

SEC. 3. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a multiagency program to—

(1) alleviate the problems caused by rapid economic development along the United States-Mexico border;

(2) support the Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative referred to in section 2(7); and

(3) promote energy efficient, environmentally sound economic development along that border through the development and use of new technologies, particularly hazardous waste and materials technologies.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) PROGRAM.—The term "program" means the program established under section 5(a).

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Energy.

SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a multiagency program to—

(A) alleviate the problems caused by rapid economic development along the United States-Mexico border, particularly those associated with public health and environmental security;

(B) support the Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative; and

(C) promote energy efficient, environmentally sound economic development along that border through the development and use of new technologies, particularly hazardous waste and materials technologies.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the program, the Secretary shall give due consideration to the proposal made to the United States-Mexico Binational Commission for the Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative.

(3) PROGRAM MANAGEMENT.—This program shall be managed for the Secretary by the Department's Carlsbad Area Office, with support, as necessary, from the Albuquerque Operations Office.

(b) PARTICIPATION OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES AND COMMISSIONS.—The Secretary shall organize and conduct the program jointly with—

(1) the Department of State;

(2) the Environmental Protection Agency;

(3) the National Science Foundation;

(4) the National Institute of Standards and Technology;

(5) the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission; and

(6) any other departments, agencies, or commissions the participation of which the Secretary considers appropriate.

(c) PARTICIPATION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.—When appropriate, funds made available under this act shall be made available for technology deployment, research, and training activities that are conducted with the participation and support of private sector organizations located in the United States and, subject to section 7(c)(2), Mexico, to promote and accelerate in the United States-Mexico border region the use of energy efficient, environmentally sound technologies and other advances resulting from the program.

(d) MEXICAN RESOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Secretary shall—

(1) encourage public, private, nonprofit, and academic organizations located in Mexico to contribute significant financial and other resources to the program; and

(2) take any such contributions into account in conducting the program.

(e) TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY FROM NATIONAL LABORATORIES.—In conducting the program, the Secretary shall emphasize the transfer and use of technology developed by the national laboratories of the Department of Energy.

SEC. 6. ACTIVITIES AND MAJOR PROGRAM ELEMENTS.

(a) ACTIVITIES.—Funds made available under this Act shall be made available for technology deployment, research, and training activities, particularly related to hazardous waste and materials technologies, that will alleviate the problems caused by rapid economic development