

Nation have an energy policy. We must have a President who understands the energy policy. This is crucially, crucially important.

THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. QUINN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Alaska has outlined the necessity for energizing an energy policy. That is important for the future of our country. The lack of the current administration's intentions towards formulating an energy policy gives us this mandate now to do so in their place, so the gentleman from Alaska properly says Alaskan oil, ANWR, is one element of that.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEKAS. I yield to the gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I want to compliment the gentleman because he has introduced a bill to do just that, to take into consideration all of the facets of energy, to take and decide how many Btus we need for the future of this Nation.

Right now that has not happened. In fact, the administration has closed down 34 refineries in the United States. The last refinery, built in 1980, was in Alaska. That is what has happened to us.

The gentleman's bill, and I believe I am a sponsor with the gentleman, it says to bring to light the need for nuclear power, hydropower, wind power, for conservation, for gas, and for oil, and to put it all together in a package so that my grandchildren will have the ability to have Btus available to them so they can live, yes, a better way. I believe that is crucially important.

Mr. GEKAS. The national goal under the energy policy which is embodied in the bill that we propose calls for our being energy independent in 10 years.

What do we have to do? Increase by any means possible the correct and environmentally safe drilling on domestic properties, on domestic lands, on our Federal lands or wherever it is possible in the western part of our Nation or in Alaska, as the gentleman has outlined, and utilizing all the other devices we may have, our technologies, for solar, for hydroelectric that are our own, waiting for us to use for our own purposes.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. If the gentleman will continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest that many people are very much unaware of the new demand on electrical power.

Twenty-five years ago we did not have that demand. The power being generated today, which we are now using mostly fossil fuels, natural gas, coal, no oil, but those two things, now the demand comes from that which we

all take for granted, and that is the computer, the Internet.

The Internet alone, just the Internet, not the total, the Internet alone increased the consumption of electrical power 7 percent this year. Seven percent of our energy now is being used by the Internet.

Mr. GEKAS. Our bill, called the NRG bill, NRG, national resource governance, NRG, energy, calls for the establishment of a commission, a blue ribbon commission, which will put together all these various facets that we are talking about and balance them with conservation, good conservation methods, and provide for us within 10 years no longer to have to depend on OPEC oil or any foreign oil. That is a Declaration of Independence in energy that is on the horizon if only we will seize the opportunity.

What worse kind of position can the United States be in than to have to kneel in front of the OPEC countries to beg them to produce more oil, beg them to send us more oil, beg them to sell us more oil?

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. If the gentleman will yield one more moment, I said before that the only energy policy the administration has had is a set of knee pads so they can beg. The inappropriate conduct of trying not to allow us to produce energy, all forms of energy, in the last 8 years, has brought us to this point.

We have to wake up. The gentleman's bill does it. I am proud to be a sponsor of it. I hope everybody that is listening, and I know I am not supposed to say this, but all my colleagues who are listening, I hope they understand we had better approach this with the positive side of production.

We cannot, as we listen to AL GORE, conserve our way into self-sufficiency. That is impossible. Everybody knows it. As long as we are growing, and we are growing, our economy is growing, we have to have energy. That means all the forms of energy that we know, mankind is realizing today. To say no is wrong.

By the way, if I may, gas, natural gas, \$2.15 last year, \$5.40 today, it is going to \$6 because demand is so great. Many of the great fields that would have been drilled, should have been drilled, have been put off limits by this President and this Vice President.

Let us have a policy of energy development and deliveries to our people so we do not have to go back. Instead of issuing knee pads to every American so they can beg for energy, let us have the ability to say, I am American and we have our own power.

Mr. GEKAS. I ask our colleagues to cosponsor the NRG bill for self-sufficient energy in the United States.

THE PROBLEM OF HIV/AIDS AND METHODS TO COMBAT IT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Illi-

nois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the esteemed gentleman from California (Mr. DIXON) for joining me this afternoon as we discuss one of the most serious problems facing our country and, indeed, our world today, that is, the problem of HIV/AIDS and all of the problems associated with it, as well as talk about ways in which we can combat it.

Earlier today we passed the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Relief Act, which provides resources to fight this dreadful disease. I think our passage of this act today is further indication of how serious this Congress takes this problem and the approaches that we have begun to use in terms of providing resources to deal with it.

Although money is needed, and resources is one way of impacting positively the situation, there are other things that people can do that do in fact cost money, but sometimes not as much as we think. There are many agencies, organizations, and groups throughout America and throughout the world who are making use of themselves in every possible way to do what it is that they can to arrest this disease.

One of the areas that we have the most difficulty with is in teenagers. Despite the fact that most American teenagers are aware of methods for preventing pregnancy and STD infection, reports indicate that nearly half of teenagers engage in unprotected sexual activity. In turn, morbidity and infection rates due to HIV continue to rise as young adults become one of the fastest-growing populations contracting HIV/AIDS.

In addition, recent reports estimate that at least 20 to 30 percent of young men may be infected with herpes simplex virus, regardless of sociological demographic background.

As a matter of fact, in some manner, we are all affected by the hardships of these diseases because they have placed hardships on our communities, no matter where we are or who we are. Consequently, programs dedicated to informing young adults about safe sex practices in an appropriate and effective manner are vital.

One such national effort is Project Alpha, which is a creation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, founded in 1906 at Cornell University, has the distinction of being the first intercollegiate fraternity established for African Americans. Since its inception, Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity has provided voice and vision to the struggle of African Americans and people of color around the world.

Today Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, has approximately 150,000 members. Past and present members include noted sociologist W.E.B. DuBois, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., former Senator Ed Brooks, Dr. Martin