

ago. Mr. INSLEE's and others' claims that their efforts are driven by a desire for a stronger bill sound well and good. But the reality is those efforts only preclude any advancement in pipeline safety from occurring. The actions of these members not only ignore the substantial steps we've made to reach a fair, balanced pro-safety bill, but also could jeopardize the likelihood we'll make any progress on pipeline safety for many years to come.

I urge those members obstructing action on pipeline safety legislation to think carefully about the consequences of their obstructionist actions. Each day that passes without enactment of comprehensive pipeline safety legislation places public safety at risk.

SITUATION IN THE IVORY COAST

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise to comment on the alarming situation in the Ivory Coast.

When General Robert Guei seized power in a coup last December, he indicated that he intended to hand over power to a civilian government quickly. Instead, and despite the urging of distinguished African heads of state from South Africa, Nigeria, and Senegal, Guei has chosen to run for President from his position of illegitimate authority, in which he can manipulate his own chances of electoral success.

Last Friday, the Ivory Coast's Supreme Court issued a ruling barring all but five of twenty candidates seeking to run in Presidential elections slated for later this month. The ruling disqualified popular opposition leaders, most notably Former Prime Minister Alassane Ouattara, and the former ruling party's candidate, Emile Constant Bombey. Notably, Guei's former legal advisor is now serving as the court's chief. The upcoming elections are looking more and more like political farce, and General Guei's credibility is in tatters.

Leading up to the Court's ruling, the General Guei's government took actions clearly intended to intimidate the opposition, instituting a state of emergency, banning opposition politicians from international travel, and executing sweeps to round up immigrants who have consistently supported elements of the opposition. The junta that claimed it stepped into power to save the country now appears committed to a course of destruction. One of Africa's most stable and important economies is threatened by the instability exacerbated by the junta's political machinations, and General Guei's attempts to rally popular support have been characterized by misguided, xenophobic rhetoric aimed at threatening foreigners in a country that depends upon an immigrant workforce.

The people of the Ivory Coast deserve far better than this. At its core, democratic government is about trusting citizens to choose their own destiny, not about manipulating and restricting

the choices available to them. The West African region, currently engaged in a struggle between the forces of democracy and those of thuggery, certainly does not need another thinly disguised dictatorship in its ranks. The only interests served by the junta's behavior are their own.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, CO-CHAIR OF THE NORTHEAST-MIDWEST SENATE COALITION

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the excellent service of Senator DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN as co-chair of the bipartisan Northeast-Midwest Senate Coalition. Senator MOYNIHAN, as we all know and regret, will be retiring from the United States Senate at the end of this year. Many people have commented on his excellent service to the nation and to New York State. I want to pay tribute to his leadership on regional issues.

Senator MOYNIHAN was elected co-chair of the Northeast-Midwest Senate Coalition in April 1987. A bipartisan group of senators had formed the Coalition in 1978 with the goal of promoting regional economic and environmental interests. Senator MOYNIHAN replaced Senator Alan Dixon, and served for several years with Senator John Heinz. Upon his election as co-chair, Senator MOYNIHAN said, "States in the frost belt have of late shared a burden of heavy losses in manufacturing jobs, military installations and contracts. Environmental concerns, from the rising waters of the Great Lakes to acid rain, occupy us all."

Over the past seven Congresses, Senator MOYNIHAN persistently has advanced investments in our region's infrastructure, job-training and education programs, and basic industries. A stickler for accurate and timely data in order to judge our challenges and progress, he has documented the flow of federal funds from the Northeast and Midwest. Working with both Republicans and Democrats, he also has been a champion of the Great Lakes and the region's other great environmental assets.

Now, Lake Champlain may not be a great Lake to the rest of you, but in our part of the world, it is revered in the same way. And it is the reason behind my earliest work with Senator MOYNIHAN.

In the summer of 1989, when I was a freshman Member of the minority party and Senator MOYNIHAN was Chair of the Environment Subcommittee on Water Resources, he scheduled a field hearing to gather information on the water quality status of Lake Champlain. The hearing was split into two sessions, one on each side of the lake. We heard from Vermonters in Burlington, then enjoyed a boat ride across the lake to hear from upstate New Yorkers in Plattsburgh.

As his first act after commencing the hearing in Burlington, Chairman MOY-

NIHAN graciously handed the gavel to me so that I might preside over the Vermont portion of the hearing. That marked the first time I ever chaired a Senate hearing, and was made ever more memorable by the fact that DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN had bestowed the honor.

We had an enjoyable, productive day, during the course of which Chairman MOYNIHAN entertained and enlightened the participants with his intimate knowledge of the history of Lake Champlain, one our nation's most historic water bodies. Moreover, he demonstrated a keen knowledge of the science, hydrology and ecology of Lake Champlain. Senator MOYNIHAN was bestowed a hero's welcome by his constituents upon disembarking on the Adirondack coast of Lake Champlain that day. He earned an everlasting respect among all who participated in the hearing.

We returned to Washington to draft the Lake Champlain Special Designation Act, in concert with Senators LEAHY and D'Amato, and promptly moved the bill through the scrutiny of the Water Resources Subcommittee, then the full Environment Committee and on to the Senate floor. Before the year had ended, that bill had become law. And it has proven to be a great success for the benefit of Lake Champlain, as well as a model for cooperation between different states, distinct federal regional jurisdictions and separate nations.

Senator MOYNIHAN, I commend you for your leadership on this important law. And I thank you for the latitude you gave me, in my first year in this United States Senate, to put my mark upon this legislation which continues to have a profound and positive influence on the ecology of Lake Champlain and the quality of life for the hundreds of thousands of people who live, work and recreate.

Aside from this example, there are many others. Senator MOYNIHAN took his assignment as co-chair of the Northeast-Midwest Senate Coalition during a time when our region was being less than affectionately referred to as the "rust belt." Manufacturing plants were closing, unemployment was high, and many workers needed to be retrained for new challenges. Senator MOYNIHAN led the Coalition in trying to identify and promote public policies that would take advantage of the region's common assets—its plentiful natural resources, distinguished university and research centers, significant financial centers, and a history of entrepreneurship.

Although he would be the first to admit that challenges remain, this region's progress over the past decade and a half results, in part, from Senator MOYNIHAN's consistent leadership.

With Senator MOYNIHAN's leadership, the Coalition has advanced numerous policy initiatives. It authored the nation's first pollution prevention law and promoted the National Invasive Species Act to block the proliferation