

each year. Our first step in doing so is introducing the STOP Stroke Act, which requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a national disease registry.

The Paul Coverdell Health Care Corps is a tribute to the values incorporated into the Peace Corps while he was Director and further demonstrates our dedication to providing American expertise to developing nations. This new Corps would provide skilled health care professionals for countries dealing with the crises of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The Paul Coverdell Corps would be an extension of the changes made in 2000 in which all Peace Corps volunteers serving in Africa must be trained as educators of HIV/AIDS prevention and care.

I believe both of these pieces of legislation are a fitting tribute to the late Paul Coverdell. It is my hope that these two bills will reflect the compassion and commitment that he demonstrated time and time again in his service to our Nation and indeed, to the world. Senator Paul Coverdell was a champion of liberty and freedom, and with his wife, Nancy, he knew instinctively that love and freedom are the greatest gifts God has planted in the human heart. His legacy charges all of us with the task of doing everything we can to preserve our freedoms and to demonstrate in every way the indomitable American spirit.

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, one year ago today, Senator LOTT had the sad duty of coming to the floor of the Senate to announce to this body that Paul Coverdell, Senator from Georgia, had suddenly and unexpectedly died. While his absence was felt immediately and deeply, only now with the benefit of time can we develop a full sense of the contributions and legacy of this quiet statesman.

Few Americans these days take to heart so completely the notion of public service as Paul Coverdell did. From the Peace Corps to his years in the Georgia Legislature to his time in the Senate, he was a model of dedication and sincerity, unwilling to substitute style for substance. He was a serious student of policy and a consistent advocate of deeds over words. Paul was a tireless leader in the effort to reform our education system and I am proud to support legislation renaming education IRAs as Coverdell education savings accounts. His concern for the young people of this country was also demonstrated by his commitment to the fight against the trafficking of illegal drugs. But perhaps above all, he was a great champion of civility. Each time I hear of the need to "change the tone in Washington," I think of Paul Coverdell.

It is fitting that Congress has now sent legislation to the President that will rename the Washington headquarters of the Peace Corps for Paul Coverdell. I was honored to support that legislation, and I was honored to serve alongside Senator Paul Coverdell of Georgia. He is still deeply missed.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend and beloved colleague, Senator Paul D. Coverdell, who, as we all know, passed away a year ago today.

Paul was a dear friend, who meant so much to each and every one of us here in the Senate. He was our friend, and we loved him very much. Paul was a kind man—a gentle man—a sweet man. The Senate is not the same without him. It is not the same because we miss his kindness, his spirit, and his unbelievable energy—energy that he brought to every task he undertook.

Whatever it was, Paul would do it and do it effectively. He was one of the key people running this Senate. Candidly, he was that person not because of his leadership position, which was significant, but because of the fact that he just got things done. His effectiveness came because of his energy, because of his drive, because of his determination. It also came because he could get along with people on both sides of the aisle. He knew people. He understood them. He liked people, and people liked him back. That is what made Paul Coverdell effective.

All of us have different stories and remember different things about our friend Paul. I worked with him on Central American issues, Caribbean issues, and Latin American issues. He cared passionately about the safety, security, and prosperity of our hemisphere. He paid particular attention to this hemisphere, because he understood that what happens here in America's backyard affects the people of Georgia, and it affects the people of this country. He brought this kind of thought and passion to all of the issues he tackled.

On the first anniversary of Paul's death, we honor what he stood for, what he believed in, and what he accomplished here in this Senate. As a public servant, Paul touched the lives of his family, his friends and colleagues in the Senate, his constituents in his home State of Georgia, and the lives of millions of people throughout the United States and abroad. He is deeply missed and will always—always be remembered.

MORNING BUSINESS CLOSED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, morning business is now closed.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

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

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I appreciate very much of all the contributions, the great statements that have been made about my friend Paul Coverdell. I think now we are ready to move forward to some other topics.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the pending business.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2311) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to talk a little about energy. Of course, the appropriation before us is on energy and water, but the broader topic I think we are going to talk about here in the next couple of days as well is the whole notion of an energy policy and the implementation of a policy for this country.

We have, as you know, gone now for a number of years without an energy policy. It has resulted in some things that we have felt recently. Frankly, I think we are very likely to feel them some more in the future. We felt it in California, of course, and continue to feel it, although it is a little less pressing now. We felt it in the price of gasoline and continue to feel it, although the price is down. But if we do not do something about the causes of this crisis, we will have it again.

I come from a State, Wyoming, of course, where we are big in the production of energy. We are the No. 1 producer of coal. We are producing natural gas, methane gas—a grand, new operation there. So we also feel the up and down, in and out, of energy. Frankly, selfishly, I hope we can level things out a bit and get away from this boom-and-bust kind of economy that seems to be inherent in energy.

To do that, it seems to me, we need to really take seriously this idea of having a national energy policy. I am very pleased the President and the Vice President have put forth an energy policy, as I said, for the first time, really, in a very long time. Now it is up to us in the Congress to take up the portions of that policy that have been laid out that need to have congressional action. Not all of it does, but a great part of it does, and we need to do so.

The results of the lack of a policy over the years are pretty apparent in a couple of areas. One, obviously, is our dependence on overseas production. I suspect we will continue to have a good deal of overseas production, but we have allowed ourselves to become nearly 55-percent dependent on OPEC and other countries to fill our needs here, so we find ourselves in a position where, if the OPEC countries make a decision with regard to production, make a decision with regard to pricing, we are simply the victims of that.

What is the solution? I suspect at least one of the solutions we need to consider seriously is an increase in domestic production. We have an opportunity to do that. There is a great deal of reserve energy here. There is a great deal of reserve in coal, for example, that we can depend on for a very long time.