

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID], for himself and Mr. CRAPO, proposes an amendment numbered 3079 to amendment No. 2989.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have offered this amendment. I wish to make a brief statement in regard thereto. But my friend, the minority assistant leader, is in the Chamber. We have some business we would like to transact.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent we now go off of the amendment I have offered and proceed to a period of morning business.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 3210

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 252, H.R. 3210, the Terrorism Risk Protection Act; that the only amendment in order be a Dodd-Sarbanes-Schumer substitute amendment; that the amendment be agreed to, the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements thereon be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. NICKLES. Reserving the right to object—and I may not object—I just need another second to see what we are doing.

Mr. President, 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. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senator from Alaska be recognized to speak for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

U.S. OIL SECURITY

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I heard my good friend from Nevada make a statement earlier today concerning our delay in getting around to producing an ANWR amendment. Let me assure

the Senator, we do have an ANWR amendment, and we will present it as soon as it is finalized, as it is taking some time.

I have come to the Senate Chamber right now, though, to make some remarks about Iraq. I am certain that everyone in the Senate knows that Iraq has announced today it will suspend its oil exports for the next 30 days.

Libya and Iran have immediately expressed support for that action and warned they will follow suit if other Arab oil-producing countries also curtailed their shipments of oil. In other words, we are on the verge of another embargo.

Without any question about it, we have now seen that Iraq is using oil as a weapon to deal with our policies with regard to the Middle East.

During the year 2001, the United States imported nearly 287 million barrels of oil from Iraq.

I have in the Chamber a chart that shows where those 287.3 million barrels of oil went throughout our Nation.

The average price of crude oil in 2001 was \$22.93 per barrel. That means, with simple arithmetic, the United States paid Iraq \$6.58 billion for its oil last year.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq confirmed last week that Saddam Hussein has paid \$25,000 to the families of each of the Palestinian suicide bombers. Let's think of that again. Iraq alone has paid to the families of the suicide bombers in Palestine \$25,000 per incident. In other words, we are paying that. We are giving Iraq the cash to reward those who are committing suicide while bombing innocent people in Israel.

Furthermore, I want the Senate to know that today Venezuela announced a multiday strike at the Government-owned oil-producing facilities. Venezuela is one of the top three suppliers of oil to the United States.

This morning, the President expressed his concern that increased gasoline prices would slow down our economic recovery. There is no question about that.

Recently, the U.S. News & World Report has changed its editorial policy concerning ANWR. I want to call the attention of the Senate to an article entitled, "A Waste of Energy?" on page 25 of the U.S. News & World Report of April 1. It is a very interesting article when one considers the past editorial policy of that great national magazine.

Make no mistake about it, we are very close to a vote that would be quite similar to the one that took place when Alaska finally obtained permission to go ahead with the oil pipeline. At that time, however—and I say this respectfully—even though the then-majority leader, Mike Mansfield, opposed our amendment, even though the committee chairman, Senator Jackson, opposed our amendment, no filibuster was threatened, no filibuster took place in consideration of the oil pipeline amendment. Why? Because we all

knew then, as we all should know now, that oil is a matter of national security.

As we proceed this week, we will bring out proof of the statesmen who have led this country since the 1940s. Each and every one has said oil is a matter of national security. Yet we are facing the prospect that the ANWR amendment, when we offer it, is going to be facing a filibuster—again, with due respect—led by the majority leader and the majority side of the Senate.

There should never be—there should never be—a filibuster against a matter of national security. I really believe that before we are through, before this week is out, the American citizens are going to be demanding there be an up-or-down vote on the ANWR amendment and no filibuster. And if, God forbid, by Thursday or Friday of this week we have a full-blown embargo, and we have the gas lines we all remember from the 1970s, I do hope we will understand this bill has to be considered, the ANWR amendment adopted, and the bill sent to the President as soon as possible.

If we had been permitted to proceed with ANWR as we sought to proceed when President George Bush, the 41st President of the United States, requested Congress to allow us to proceed, we would have ANWR oil on line now.

During the height of the Persian Gulf war, 2.1 million barrels of oil a day were sent down the Alaska oil pipeline. When I was there last week, I was told it was 925,000 barrels a day. Where are we getting the balance of the oil? We are currently getting it from Iraq. And now it is going to be shut down.

I have asked the oil industry to tell us whether it is possible that they might proceed to produce in an uneconomic manner to refill that barrel, if this shortage continues. There is oil in northern Alaska now that could fill that barrel, but it would be uneconomic to produce it at the rates that would be required because the reserves are not that great anymore without our opportunity to drill in the area known as ANWR, which is part of the 1.5-million acre tract that was set aside in 1980 by an amendment sponsored by Senator Jackson and Senator Tsongas for oil and gas exploration. I will be going into that at length this week, too.

They promised me and committed to me that one of the things they would go along with, if we would finally approve the so-called ANILCA, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, was that 1.5 million acres in the Arctic would be left available for oil and gas exploration. I will produce the letters that were exchanged by those two Senators with all of the Senate, and the comments they made at the time. I will even show you a photograph of Senator Jackson, Senator Tsongas, and I standing there at the passage of the bill in which the promise was made that oil and gas exploration