

activity that we can realize with a robust program.

If my colleagues would care to comment, I will be happy to yield.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I thank the Senator for yielding for my comments. I agree with my colleague Senator INHOFE and I look forward to working with him on this major transportation reauthorization bill. He is correct that beginning reauthorization discussions with a low baseline will hinder our efforts in crafting a truly robust national program which will provide strong economic and transportation benefits for all regions. I would be happy to yield back to my colleague Senator REID.

Mr. REID. I agree with my colleagues. The transportation bill will be one of the most important pieces of legislation taken up by the next Congress. The series of reauthorization hearings we held this past year made clear the importance of a well-functioning transportation system to our nation's economy and quality of life. These hearings also laid out the challenges our transportation system faces due to increasing congestion, safety concerns, the deterioration of our infrastructure, and the rapid projected growth in freight movements. Finding the necessary funds to address these problems will be our toughest reauthorization challenge and I hope that we can work closely with the Budget Committee to ensure that we devote the maximum resources possible to maintaining and improving our transportation infrastructure.

Mr. BOND. Senator INHOFE accurately states that transportation dollars have a direct effect on jobs and the economy in this country. For example, earlier this year there was a proposed \$8.6 billion reduction in fiscal year 2003 proposed spending from fiscal year 2002 enacted level for highways. This would cost an estimated 6,600 jobs in Missouri alone. Fortunately, the Environment and Public Works Committee in working with our colleagues on the Senate Transportation Appropriation Subcommittee have proposed full funding for fiscal year 2003.

More importantly, we need to recognize that our nation's transportation infrastructure is also an issue of safety. There is no question that increased investment in our nation's transportation system saves lives. For these reasons and more, I stand with my colleagues on Environment and Public Works in doing everything in our power to maintain a robust highway program as we go into reauthorization.

Mr. NICKLES. I appreciate my colleagues comments and agree with them that the revenues collected through the federal gas tax should be used to maintain and improve our transportation infrastructure. I will work with my colleagues to ensure this is the case.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JUDGE SERGIO GUTIERREZ

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, today I congratulate and honor a man whose contributions are an example to all of us. Idaho's Judge Sergio Gutierrez was recently recognized by Hispanic Business magazine as one the 100 most influential Hispanics.

Judge Gutierrez holds the distinction of being the first Hispanic judge in Idaho. A judge since 1993, he was appointed to the Idaho Court of Appeals in January of this year by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne. Sergio Gutierrez does a tremendous job as a judge, but his contributions go far beyond those he has made in his official capacity. Judge Gutierrez has worked to fight drugs, register voters, curb gang violence, and promote education, and he sits on the Governor's Coordinating Council for Families and Children. I am also honored that he serves as a member of my Hispanic advisory group in Idaho. His wisdom and advice have been invaluable assets as we have worked together to meet the needs of Idaho's Hispanic population.

It is hard to believe Judge Gutierrez was once a ninth grade dropout. However, with perseverance, he attained his GED, worked his way through college, and went on to graduate cum laude from Boise State University, later earning a law degree from Hastings Law School.

Judge Gutierrez believes in people, and he goes out of his way to help others overcome unfortunate circumstances that otherwise would limit their success. As a judge, he takes the opportunity to counsel with those who come into his court room. He often invites defendants into his chambers to discuss their futures, including drug rehabilitation, job training, and education. This is not a common practice among judges, but it has proven to be effective in the lives of the individuals whom Judge Gutierrez has touched.

I am proud to know Judge Sergio Gutierrez, and I would like to thank Hispanic Business magazine and its readers for recognizing this talented man. I would also like to thank Judge Gutierrez on behalf of the people of Idaho for the contributions he has made to our State and its people. He is truly an inspiring example for all of us.

A REMARKABLE AMERICAN: ROBERT INGRAM

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, as my father always said, there are two types of people, talkers and doers. Anyone who knows Robert Ingram will agree with me that he is a "doer extraordinaire." Bob, of course, is the distinguished Chief Operating Officer and President, Pharmaceutical Operations of GlaxoSmithKline, GSK.

A few weeks ago, October 15, Bob announced his intention to retire at year's end from his daily responsibilities as the second-highest executive

officer at GSK, the world's premier pharmaceutical company. Through the years, GSK and more importantly, countless people around the world have benefitted immeasurably from Bob Ingram's compassion, energy, vision and intelligence.

In recent years, many politicians have engaged in a virtual sport, unjustifiably criticizing pharmaceutical companies and the senior executives who lead them. Thankfully, the American people have seen though many of these attacks for what they are, political expediency.

Americans are sophisticated enough to know that politicians do not develop life-saving and life-improving medications. Rather, it is the research-based pharmaceutical and biotech industries that invest billions of dollars each year to develop products that both extend our lives and improve the quality of life for billions of citizens around the world.

Bob Ingram has served as a beacon, consistently, respectfully and thoughtfully explaining the public health tradeoffs involved in implementing proposed new pharmaceutical regulations. It would be impossible to overstate his enormous contribution to reasoned discourse on this critical subject.

Bob Ingram has long understood that the ultimate victims of an inefficient and unproductive industry are the patients who will lack a safe and effective pharmaceutical therapy for the ailment that afflicts them not the pharmaceutical companies or their stockholders as some would have you believe.

Compassion requires that one stand up in support of what is proper. The measure of a leader is that he is willing to do so when that view is not popular. Bob Ingram has worked tirelessly as such a leader.

Fortunately, Bob's retirement from his day to day responsibilities at GSK will not mean that he is retiring from his role as an effective and outspoken advocate for the industry. Softening the blow somewhat is the knowledge that Bob will continue to fight for the well-being of patients as GSK's representative to the board of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturer's Association.

Bob, his dear wife Jeannie, and GSK employees have long been involved in promoting service to others. Together with GSK's Chief Executive Officer, JP Garnier, Bob Ingram has done much to ensure that GSK serves as a global leader, launching effective medical programs that benefit millions of people throughout the world. The Orange Card discount program is a prime example of GSK's responsiveness and industry leadership in the United States.

Through GSK's Global Community Partnership programs, the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis, a 20-year initiative to contribute hundreds of millions of doses of medication to rid the world of LF, the world's most disfiguring and disabling