

In addition, the Wartime Parity and Justice Act of 2003 provides relief to Japanese Americans confined in this country but who never received redress under the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 given technicalities in the original law. Our laws must always establish justice. They should never deny it. That is why these provisions ensure that every American who suffered the same injustices will receive the same justice. Finally, my legislation will reauthorize the educational mandate in the 1988 Act which was never fulfilled. This will etch this chapter of our nation's history into our national conscience for generations to come as a reminder never to repeat it again.

Mr. Speaker, let us renew our resolve to build a better future for our community as we dedicate ourselves to remembering how we compromised liberty in the past. Doing so will help us to guard it more closely in the future. As we commemorate the Day of Remembrance, I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass the Wartime Parity and Justice Act of 2003.

WESTERN ENVIRONMENTAL  
TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

**HON. DENNIS R. REHBERG**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the attention of Members of the House to critical federal programs conducted at the Western Environmental Technology Office, or WETO, located in Butte, Montana. These programs involving the National Energy Technology Laboratory are funded under Energy and Water Development Appropriations.

First, I want to commend Chairman HOBSON and Ranking Member VISLOSKEY, and the members of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, for their action to restore over \$11 million in funds that were eliminated from the FY 2003 budget for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science and Technology, within the Environmental Management program. The Office of Science and Technology has a critical mission in providing cost effective technology to clean up contaminated federal property across the country, and it deserves the strong support of the Congress.

I continue to be very concerned, however, about the likely adverse effects of proposed Office of Science and Technology cutbacks on our nation's ability to perform cost effective and timely remediation of the DOE's contaminated sites around the country.

More specifically, I am concerned about the continuation of the important work of DOE's Western Environmental Technology Office. At the WETO facility, the National Energy Technology Laboratory provides critical support to DOE's Office of Science and Technology. Their activities help facilitate DOE's demonstration, evaluation and implementation of technologies that promise to provide much-needed solutions to the environmental cleanup challenges at various DOE sites.

DOE's Research and Development contract for the Western Environmental Technology Office, originally awarded in FY 1997, has been extended through the end of FY 2004.

That contract extension provided that DOE would fund WETO at the following levels: \$6

million in FY 2002, \$6 million in FY 2003, and \$4 million in FY 2004. However, in FY 2002 WETO received only \$5 million, \$1 million short of the DOE's contractual obligation.

It is critically important to preserve this commitment to WETO and continue funding on schedule at a rate that will account for last year's shortfall.

I would add that the operations and activities of WETO are very important to the economy in Montana. Many professionals have chosen western Montana as their home while they serve our nation's challenge to clean up contaminated DOE sites.

Mr. Speaker, I would submit to my colleagues that when the Department of Energy makes contracts for multi-year programs in such important areas as WETO, where the Department's Science and Technology Office is developing and implementing technologies to remediate contaminated federal sites, these agreements must be honored.

UPON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE  
MORRIS K. UDALL ARCTIC WIL-  
DERNESS ACT OF 2003

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, we are here to introduce legislation that would permanently protect the Coastal Plain of the Arctic Refuge from development. The Morris K. Udall Wilderness Act of 2003 honors an extraordinary environmentalist by protecting, in his name, this extraordinary piece of America's wilderness. And we are proud of the fact that begin this battle in the 108th Congress with more original cosponsors than in any other previous Congress—133 upon introduction—a testament to the growing national demand to keep the developers out of this precious wilderness and to preserve it in its current pristine, roadless condition for future generations of Americans.

We have a bipartisan legacy to protect, and we take it very seriously. It is a legacy of Republican President Eisenhower, who set aside the core of the Refuge in 1960. It is a legacy of Democratic President Carter, who expanded it in 1980. It is the legacy of Republican Senator Bill Roth and Democratic Representative Bruce Vento and especially Morris Udall, who fought so hard to achieve what we propose today, and twice succeeded in shepherding this wilderness proposal through the House. Now is the time to finish the job they began now is the time to say "Yes" to setting aside the Coastal Plain as a fully protected unit of the Wilderness Preservation System.

The coastal plain of the Refuge is the biological heart of the Refuge ecosystem and critical to the survival of caribou, polar bears and over 160 species of birds. When you drill in the heart, every other part of the biological system suffers.

This Valentine's Day, the oil industry is in a state of lobbying frenzy to give Cupid a bad name. It wants to pierce the heart of the Arctic Refuge with oil wells and drill bits, all the while calling this an act of environmental friendliness. The industry loves the Refuge so much that it wants to brand it with scars for a lifetime.

Turning the Coastal Plain of the Arctic Refuge into an industrial footprint would not only

be bad environmental policy, it is totally unnecessary. According to EPA scientists, if cars, mini-vans, and SUV's improved their average fuel economy just 3 miles per gallon, we would save more oil within ten years than would ever be produced from the Refuge. Can we do that? We already did it once! In 1987, the fleetwide average fuel economy topped 26 miles per gallon, but in the last 13 years, we have slipped back to 24 mpg on average, a level we first reached in 1981! Simply using existing technology will allow us to dramatically increase fuel economy, not just by 3 mpg, but by 15 mpg or more—five times the amount the industry wants to drill out of the Refuge.

Our dependence on foreign oil is real, but we cannot escape it by drilling for oil in the United States. We consume 25 percent of the world's oil but control only 3 percent of the world's reserves. 76 percent of those reserves are in OPEC, so we will continue to look to foreign suppliers as long as we continue to ignore the fuel economy of our cars and as long as we continue to fuel them with gasoline.

The public senses that a drill-in-the-Refuge energy strategy is a loser. Why sacrifice something that can never be re-created this one-of-a-kind wilderness simply to avoid something relatively painless—sensible fuel economy?

Is it any wonder its credibility with the American public has sunk to new lows? According to poll after poll after poll, preserving this public environmental treasure far outweighs the value of developing it. The latest poll, done by Democratic pollster Celinda Lake and Republican pollster Christine Matthews, shows a margin of 62–30 percent opposed to drilling for oil in the refuge. The public is making clear to Congress that other options should be pursued, not just because the Refuge is so special, but because the other options will succeed where continuing to put a polluting fuel in gas-guzzling automobiles is a recipe for failure.

That's the kind of thinking that leads not just to this refuge, but to every other pristine wilderness area, in a desperate search for yet another drop of oil. And it perpetuates a head-in-the-haze attitude towards polluting our atmosphere with greenhouse gases and continuing our reliance on OPEC oil for the foreseeable future.

If we allow drilling in the Arctic Refuge, we will have failed twice—we will remain just as dependent on oil for our energy future, and we will have hastened the demise of an irreplaceable wildlife habitat.

We have many choices to make regarding our energy future, but we have very few choices when it comes to industrial pressures on incomparable natural wonders. Let us be clear with the American people that there are places that are so special for their environmental, wilderness or recreational value that we simply will not drill there as long as alternatives exist. The Arctic Refuge is federal land that was set aside for all the people of the United States. It does not belong to the oil companies, it does not belong to one state. It is a public wilderness treasure, we are the trustees.

We do not dam Yosemite Valley for hydro-power.

We do not strip mine Yellowstone for coal.

And we should not drill for oil and gas in the Arctic Refuge.