

also made into a postage stamp, not once but twice, and inspired the creation of at least two major pictures: "The Sands of Iwo Jima" starring John Wayne and the new movie, "The Flags of Our Fathers," produced by Clint Eastwood, which will debut in a few weeks.

It has been said that Joe Rosenthal's famous photograph not only gave Americans back home an image of what was happening on the front lines, it persuasively argued that America was winning that war.

The impact of that image cannot be overstated. In fact, former President George Herbert Walker Bush, who served as a Navy pilot during World War II, recently recalled seeing the flag-raising photo in the newspaper during the war with Japan and said that without Joe Rosenthal's picture, the war might have dragged on even longer:

I wonder if Joe fully appreciated what this photograph meant, and what it still means to the American people.

That is what the elder President Bush wrote.

The President's comments were shared recently at a public presentation in which Joe Rosenthal was posthumously awarded a Navy medal for distinguished public service. It was an honor long overdue but one I am proud has finally been awarded.

But while many know the story of Joe Rosenthal's famous photograph, few Americans, however, really know the real life story of the famous actor Glenn Ford.

Glenn Ford was born in Canada. He emigrated to the United States when he was 5 years old. He was a descendent of U.S. President Martin Van Buren. But Glenn Ford made his own way in his life. He went on to become a Hollywood movie star who appeared in over 100 movies and television shows. But his heroic real-life military actions are worthy of a film all its own.

Before the beginning of World War II, Glenn Ford served in the Coast Guard Auxiliary. In 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. In the aftermath of the war in Europe, Glenn Ford came upon a displaced persons camp several miles outside of Munich, Germany. An estimated 12,000 to 15,000 homeless Jews were living at the Fernwald camp, which appeared to have been overlooked in the postwar confusion.

According to the Simon Wisenthal Center, which in 1985 presented Glenn Ford with the Liberator's Award:

The survivors were astonished and wept with gratitude to see an American who really cared, and for seven weeks Ford brought food, books and medical supplies. The supply sergeants looked the other way as Ford loaded up his jeep day after day, and headed up to Fernwald.

Ford alone was responsible for giving hope and life to approximately half of these 12,000 to 15,000 inmates in an over 7-week period. Many women named their newborn sons after him in recognition and in gratitude.

Committed to service in the Armed Forces, Glenn Ford also served a tour

of duty in Vietnam in the Mekong Delta during Operation Deckhouse V and twice came under fire—intense enemy fire—and narrowly escaped death from a sniper's bullet, a bullet which wounded the attache standing next to him.

Among his numerous medals and accommodations are the Medal of Honor presented by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Medaille de la France Libre for the liberation of France, two commendation medals from the U.S. Navy, and the Vietnamese Legion of Merit. He received the rank of captain with the U.S. Naval Reserves in 1968.

Today, as we battle terrorists wherever they are, I think we should all reflect on the words of Glenn Ford penned in 1980. Here is what that honored and decorated movie star said:

I'm proud to be an American. Let me say again. I'm proud to be an American. And I believe it's time for every one of us to stand up and show our support for our great country. There are faults and occasional inequities in America. But the proof of how good things really are here is the lines at our borders and at our consulates all over the world of people wanting to come here to live.

He went on to say:

In the last 200 years, we have built a wonderful dream that other countries can only hope to achieve. So let us not hurt that dream by our own selfishness. If we think only of ourselves and do nothing but complain about this magnificent country—instead of supporting her—we will lose everything our forefathers fought for. We must all pull together and elect good officials. And we must save energy and help our neighbors—especially the young of America—understand the real meaning of the free enterprise system.

But let's never forget that to remain free we must always be strong. That is an important lesson I—

Meaning Glenn Ford—

learned in my navy career in World War II. National defense must be the top priority for any country. If you are not strong, you are not safe. Now is the time for every American to be proud. This is the land of the free and the home of the brave. But only as long as we are brave. If we are not brave, we will not be free.

So penned by the actor Glenn Ford.

As I said at the beginning of my comments this evening, Joe Rosenthal and Glenn Ford were bookends of World War II. Joe Rosenthal was behind the lens and took that seminal picture of the war in the Pacific, the Iwo Jima flag-raising, while Glenn Ford, who had spent his time in front of the lens in motion pictures and in business, left the limelight to become a true war hero and devote his time to save a Nation and to save a world.

Glenn Ford and Joe Rosenthal were true patriots. Now those heroes are gone, like so many other veterans of that great war. The Nation is losing many of its World War II veterans. Believe it or not, nearly 1,000 members of the Greatest Generation pass away each day of each week. But while they are leaving us at a sad and very steady pace, their legacy of freedom and bravery, I hope, will live on forever. Let's

think tonight of Joe Rosenthal and the late actor Glenn Ford.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey is recognized for 15 minutes under the previous order.

RYAN WHITE CARE REAUTHORIZATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise tonight to speak about the Ryan White CARE reauthorization.

We have heard a number of speakers on the Senate floor over the past few days claiming to be experts on New Jersey's HIV/AIDS community and our Ryan White Program. Now, some might choose to listen to them, but I choose to listen to the real New Jersey experts. Governor Corzine says the bill will have "an enormous negative impact for individuals and families with HIV in New Jersey."

New Jersey stands to lose millions of dollars in the first year alone with these losses increasing over time. The losses will disrupt and destabilize the comprehensive continuum of care that has been established. And New Jersey's HIV/AIDS providers and advocates are unified against the proposed bill and know the real impact these cuts have on real lives.

The medical director from the Monmouth Medical Center and HIV Clinic in Long Branch, NJ, a clinic funded by Ryan White funds, says:

Since our inception in 2001, we have doubled our size. Fifty-two percent of our clients are women. Forty-eight percent are African Americans. The majority of our clients have no insurance and no access to medications, except to the State ADAP program. Our patients are living longer and having a better quality of life. In fact, this past year we have had 8 babies born to HIV-infected women. None of these infants are infected with the virus. To ensure that we will not lose ground in the fight against this epidemic, the Ryan White program must be reauthorized so that existing clinics and programs continue to provide medical access for care and treatment. Please do not dismantle the system at the expense of another, they tell us.

Now, I really had to bite my lip earlier because some came to the floor of the Senate and had the audacity to say that New Jersey is a privileged State. To them I say: I would gladly give up the privilege of being No. 1 in the Nation in the proportion of women living with AIDS. I would gladly give up the privilege of having the third largest proportion of children living with HIV/AIDS. I would gladly give up the privilege of having the fourth highest number of people living with HIV/AIDS. I would gladly give up the privilege of having the fifth largest number of new AIDS cases each year—each year—despite the fact that we are only the ninth largest in total population. I would gladly give up the privilege of having the fifth highest rate in reported deaths due to AIDS.

I am sure that the 32,000 people living with HIV or AIDS in New Jersey would love nothing more than to be able to

give up that privilege, or the people of color who account for 75 percent of all HIV/AIDS cases, or the women who make up more than a third of all people living with HIV/AIDS. I am sure they would gladly give up that privilege as well.

These same experts have argued that New Jersey is receiving more than its fair share of Ryan White funding. But what we are hearing is just another numbers game to try to avoid the real issue, which is the completely inadequate funding in this reauthorization bill.

When you look at the full picture, without just zooming in on the piece that happens to fit your argument, New Jersey is one of the most expensive States in which to live in this country. Yet it spends less per person—less per person—than 15 other States, including Alabama, Wyoming, South Dakota, Montana, Alaska, Idaho, Massachusetts, Vermont, the District of Columbia, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, and Michigan.

So just to put things in perspective, according to the Care Coalition, Alabama spends about \$5,778 per HIV/AIDS patient, and Wyoming spends \$5,984 per patient. In contrast, New Jersey spends \$800 less than Alabama and \$1,000 less than Wyoming per patient on HIV/AIDS care. So I cannot accept the numbers as those would have it constructed for the purposes of pursuing their argument.

There are more than 2,130 new HIV/AIDS infections each year in New Jersey, and in 2004 New Jersey reported almost 2,400 new HIV and AIDS cases, more than all but 4 other States. Ryan White funding is being put to good use saving lives and helping individuals avoid disability and lead productive, successful lives. In New Jersey, we are giving 32,000 people with HIV/AIDS a new lease on life. We have one of the most effective ADAP programs in the Nation, as well as comprehensive services, including primary medical care, mental health service, substance abuse services, oral health, case management, nutritional services.

So thanks to the success of New Jersey's network of care, we have seen a sustained drop in the number of HIV/AIDS deaths each year. However, with this growing population, there is a growing need for services. It is blatantly clear that any cut to our State is a destructive blow to the very network of care that countless men, women, children, and babies are counting on.

Now, I would be happy to have a straight, one-year reauthorization in which all would be made whole if the majority is willing to accept it. I am also willing to find a solution to the real problem, which is a severe shortage of funding—a severe shortage of funding. As I said, I am happy to give up the privilege—I would be happy, as would the lives of those individuals who find themselves struggling day in and day out, they would be happy to

give up the privilege that we heard about on the floor. But I cannot stand by and watch the hopes and dreams of New Jerseyans living with HIV/AIDS be extinguished by this misguided proposal.

How can I go back to constituents in New Jersey living with HIV or AIDS and tell them it is a fair deal to have them put their lives at risk? I can't and I won't, and we can't have an appropriate reauthorization.

Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of my time and yield the floor.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, it is my understanding that the Republicans have an extra 15-minute slot.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. ENZI. I have been allocated in that slot.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized for 15 minutes.

Mr. ENZI. I would assume that the Senator from New Jersey has had adequate time to look at the unanimous consent request that I presented earlier, and I will be making that unanimous consent request again. He must be ready to debate the AIDS bill that New York and New Jersey have proposed, and I am ready to grant time to have a vote on that bill as well as the bipartisan, bicameral bill passed by the House last night. I have no fear of that. This Nation has a lot of problems with HIV and AIDS that need to be taken care of. There is one bill that does that fairly—a bill that the House overwhelmingly passed. A bill with a comprehensive, fair and equitable solution. There is another one that merely extends the time where we keep doing the same thing that we have been doing. A quick fix that would give us the same results that we have been getting—people across the country are dying because of not getting treatment, because of unfair, inequitable funding formulas that ignore the new, emerging epidemic of HIV in rural areas and the Southeast.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, parliamentary inquiry: Mr. President, would the Senator from Wyoming yield for a question?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. ENZI. I am happy to yield for a question.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, just a parliamentary inquiry as to the order of speakers and where we are, based on the last unanimous consent order.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator ENZI has 15 minutes, then Senator LANDRIEU has 15 minutes, and then another Republican has 15 minutes, and then the Senator from Colorado, Mr. SALAZAR, has the fourth 15 minutes.

Mr. SALAZAR. I thank the Presiding Officer, and I thank my friend from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. I thank my neighbor from Colorado. As we set it up earlier, we have been alternating times. I am glad that I have the opportunity to speak right after the Senator from New Jer-

sey. I know he turned down the unanimous consent request earlier. I am hoping that he will accept the unanimous consent this time.

Tomorrow is a very critical time for people in the United States. These States, the red states in this chart in particular, will start losing significant funds at midnight tomorrow night if the current failed formula is not fixed. California loses \$18.78 million; Connecticut, \$3.2 million; the District of Columbia, \$6.93 million; Delaware, \$1.52 million; Georgia, \$9.68 million; Illinois, \$12.48 million; Oregon, \$1.38 million; Pennsylvania, \$9.25 million; Washington, \$2.42 million; Maryland, \$11.64 million. We can fix this formula tonight. A solution, passed overwhelmingly in the House, is before us now.

I appreciate the letter that I got from the Senator from Maryland, Ms. MIKULSKI, reminding me that this goes into effect tomorrow and asking me to get the Ryan White bill done.

Now, when we reauthorize this program by using the bill that came out of my committee and passed overwhelmingly in the House, there will be some changes to the formula—saving many States from significant and critical losses. Instead of California losing \$18.78 million, they will gain \$15.38 million because the money is going to follow the cases, and they are not going to get the penalty that they would have under current law. I have the chart that shows the gains for a number of States. All the ones that I mentioned would have gains instead of losses. So this is a critical piece of legislation to all of these States.

We are talking about unfairness and inequity. This isn't the only bill on which we are changing formulas so they more accurately address the problems they were meant to address. The reason we have reauthorizations is so that on a regular basis we can review the monies going to States, see how it is allocated, see if it needs to be allocated on a different basis so that it is more fair. Our committee ran several hundred evaluations to see different kinds of formulas at the suggestion of members of the committee and Members of the Senate to see what the fairest way would be to do this bill.

Now, not only did we pick the fairest way to transition, by holding those States harmless for 3 years, but we chose the fairest formula in the long-term that ensures that Americans with HIV/AIDS get the treatment they need on an equitable basis no matter their race, gender, or where they live. I have to tell my colleagues, there is not another bill we have done that allows this kind of inequity—under current law—to continue to give those States time to prepare for the formula shift. Of course the States that do not obtain equality for 3 years are usually pretty upset. They think that the equality ought to come in much earlier in the process.

So we had a number of States that said, How come it gets to be unfair for

that long? We said we are going to try to protect these States so they have a time to transition, so they prepare their systems for the change in the funding.

One of the things that was raised earlier this afternoon was that it is more expensive to live in New Jersey. It is more expensive to live in New York.

It is pretty expensive to live in DC, too, and DC is going to lose \$6.93 million, if we don't pass this legislation. If we pass this bill, they are going to gain \$4.35 million. It is a change for a lot of States, but it is a change to fairness based on the number of people with HIV/AIDS, not the number of institutions that we have been funding in these States. This program is not for economic development. It is not a way to keep jobs. It is a program to keep patients alive.

On these other bills I have been working on—the Older Americans Act—includes a 5-year transition. Some of the States said, By golly, we have been cheated for years. We ought to get our money faster, but they have agreed to a 5-year transition.

The ones who are losing money have said: Okay, we understand, that is fair. You gave us a time to transition.

We have 9 or 10 bills that my committee has to do that deal with formulas. I can tell you the first reaction of every Senator, including myself, is to say: Print the chart out, see what happens to my State. Naturally, you get upset if your State is not going to get as much money as they got before. But, fortunately, the majority of the Members around here look and say, Is the amount I am getting fair?

Higher costs—I want to go back to that again. What we are providing are the AIDS drugs, and the AIDS drugs cost the same all over this country. It doesn't cost more for an AIDS drug in New York than it does in Wyoming. As for expenses, we only have a couple of big cities in Wyoming—Cheyenne is 52,700-and-some people, that is our biggest city; Casper is next with a little over 50,000, and then it drops off significantly.

If a third of your towns have less than 250 people in them, how many of those do you think have a hospital? How many of those even have a doctor to look at somebody with HIV/AIDS? They have to travel a long way at great inconvenience and great cost. We don't cover that. We cover the treatment.

When we crafted the current funding proposal, we ran dozens of these various formula options to see which was the fairest way to do it, which one created the least amount of disruption. That is how we came up with the current funding formulas in this bill. We are being asked, of course, to consider another bill, introduced on Tuesday of this week by the Senators from New York, New Jersey, and Florida. I believe we should debate this bill. However, I have problems with this bill because what that other bill does is delay

this argument over funding formulas for 1 year. It doesn't do the equity for sure at any time. So in our bipartisan, bicameral bill, what we said is we will delay equity for 3 years. Three years is better than 1 year, so I really don't understand why anybody is holding this bill up.

I understand that they lose money. I understand that. However, they are grossly overpaid. As I have shown before, under the current law, the State of New York gets \$504 more than the average per patient across the rest of the Nation. New Jersey gets \$310 more per person than the average across the rest of the Nation.

Under the reauthorization, New York will still get \$304 per person more; New Jersey will still get \$88 per person more. As I have mentioned, all of the funds have not been spent every year. So we are saying New York does not want to share even what did not spend.

I can understand Senators being concerned over losing the money. What I am just asking is we take a look at the whole national picture, just like we are taking the whole national picture in some other bills pending before the HELP Committee. For all of those bills, I pledge that during this next year we will have hearings where we look at the formulas in these other bills and see how we can transition more quickly than we have been doing, to move toward equity.

If you have people who are dying of AIDS and you have people who cannot be treated for HIV, you have a real problem. We are not talking about parks or things that might be considered luxuries. We are talking about life and death. The earlier we start treating people, the more chance they have for survival.

Fortunately, very fortunately, there have been a lot of drugs that have been developed for the market that make a difference, now, for those infected with HIV; these drugs will extend their lives. We don't have to wait until they are in the AIDS category to do that. We don't have to do that to give them as good a life as possible. We can start providing life-saving treatment when we know they have HIV. We can positively extend their lives.

That is what we are trying to do with this bill. Under the other bill, introduced on Tuesday of this week, the supporters are eliminating, again, the count of HIV, the ability to treat those with HIV. As far as fairness, don't you think we ought to treat as early as we can with the capability that we have instead of just waiting until they have AIDS and then counting them and pay for them?

The other bill doesn't take into account the HIV folks at all. If I were one of the Senators from those two States, and I have been holding out this long, I would be here yelling too, I guess, because I would have to explain why I was doing what I'm doing—and not just to the people in my State. I would have to be explaining why I was being an ob-

structionist for life-saving care to the whole Nation. Of course, those outside my State don't get to vote for me, but we do have an obligation to all of those folks across the Nation.

When we have equitable funding formulas, if States come up with a higher HIV/AIDS population than we thought they would have, we may have to put more money into it. But the additional money ought to come with the additional cases. We ought to have some numbers to back up what is happening, and not everyone has the numbers to back up their current funding. We have some waiting lists, waiting lists of people who are waiting for life-saving treatment. But if they look at the waiting list they may say, I am not going to gain treatment anyway, so why would I even get on a waiting list? Thus, there may be thousands more, not seeking treatment because, where they live, we are not treating them equitably. I do know there are some difficulties out there.

I know the time to vote on Ryan White is now or never because as soon as the clock strikes midnight tomorrow night thousands of Americans will start losing access to the life-sparing treatment unless we pass the bill now. I can't understand why four Senators are denying people suffering from HIV/AIDS to vote on this critical legislation to create a more equitable program.

Earlier today, the Senators from New Jersey and New York suggested that the answer to the inequities in Ryan White is more money. I say we can talk about more money in Ryan White as soon as the States that are hoarding funds allow current dollars to focus on those in need, individuals on waiting lists throughout the country. We have to address the current inequities, not compound them by just adding more dollars to a failed funding formula. We don't want to continue to have the rich States get richer while the poor States get poorer.

The Senator from New Jersey also suggested this bipartisan bicameral bill was not supported by minorities because the National Minority AIDS Council did not support the bill. One council does not capture all the minorities. In fact, over seven minority organizations, including the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Brother 2 Brother, Latino Coalition, League of United Latin American Citizens, the National Black Chamber of Commerce, the National Minority Health Month Foundation, and the New Black Leadership Coalition support this bipartisan bicameral product.

In addition, 34 other organizations support this key legislation, including key national advocate organizations such as AIDS Action, AIDS Healthcare Foundation and the Southern AIDS Coalition.

I ask unanimous consent the full list of supporting organizations be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT FINAL PASSAGE OF RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS TREATMENT MODERNIZATION ACT

H.R. 6143

AbsoluteCare Medical Center; ADAP Coalition; AIDS Action; AIDS Action Coalition; Huntsville, AL; AIDS Action Ohio; AIDS Alabama, Inc.; AIDS Healthcare Foundation; AIDS Outreach of East Alabama Medical Center; AIDS Resource Center Ohio; Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium; American Academy of HIV Medicine; American Dietetic Association; Am I My Brother's Keeper, Inc.; Birmingham AIDS Outreach; Brother 2 Brother.

Carepoint Adult, Child and Family Center; Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth; Columbus AIDS Task Force; County of Los Angeles; County of Riverside; County of San Diego; First Ladies Summit; Governor Robert L. Ehrlich (Maryland); Harabee Empowerment Center; HIV Medicine Association; Latino Coalition; League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC); Life Linc; Log Cabin Republicans; Lowcountry Infectious Diseases.

Montgomery AIDS Outreach; National Black Chamber of Commerce; National Coalition of Pastors Spouses; National Minority Health Month Foundation; New Black Leadership Coalition; Ohio AIDS Coalition; President's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS; Rep. Linda Upmeyer (Iowa State Rep, District 12); Rocky Mountain Opportunities Industrialization Center; South Alabama Cares; Southern AIDS Coalition.

Mr. ENZI. May I ask my time?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator has 5 seconds left.

Mr. ENZI. I would like to propound a unanimous consent request and ask unanimous consent to be able to propound the request.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST H.R. 6143

I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6143, which was received from the House. I ask unanimous consent that the only amendment in order be an amendment by Senator LAUTENBERG or one of the Senators from New Jersey or New York, which is the text of S. 3944, with 30 minutes of debate equally divided. I ask unanimous consent that following the disposition of the amendment, the bill as amended, if amended, be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, we do have an obligation to all the people of this country and that includes the people of New Jersey. This is not just simply about money.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is, does the Senator object?

Mr. MENENDEZ. I do object based on that and much more.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The time of the Senator has expired.

Under the previous agreement, the Senator from Louisiana is recognized for 15 minutes.

ROYALTY RELIEF BILL

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I come to the floor to speak about an issue that, of course, many of us have been involved in now for years, literally, trying to provide a revenue stream for the Gulf of Mexico—not just Louisiana but Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas. For 40 years or longer, they have contributed more oil and gas to this Nation than Saudi Arabia and Venezuela combined. In the minds of many along the gulf coast, particularly post-Katrina and Rita, two of the largest hurricanes to hit the North American continent, people along the gulf coast are feeling, on this issue, that perhaps the gulf coast has been forgotten.

I want to say to my colleagues here, Republicans and Democrats, the people of the gulf coast are grateful, extremely grateful for all the support given this year for hurricane relief—not one, not two, not three, but four supplementals.

Mr. President, you yourself have been down there personally, walking the neighborhoods that were destroyed and being a strong advocate for us on the Appropriations Committee. So we are very grateful.

But there are two extremely important bills and issues that we must have to complete this package of initial recovery and lay a foundation so that the gulf coast can build securely. We know we can rebuild, but the question, from Pascagoula to Beaumont is, Can we rebuild safely?

We have counties in east Texas and parishes in west Louisiana, western Louisiana and southeastern Louisiana, and counties in Mississippi, that have literally been 100 percent destroyed. I mean, in Saint Bernard Parish there was not a house left standing out of 75,000 people.

It is so tragic because this particular parish has flooded like this not once but twice. Saint Bernard Parish has flooded, not once but twice. It flooded in 1965, when Hurricane Betsy poured about 10 feet to 12 feet of water, sort of in the same way—a storm surge, aided and abetted by this channel that the Corps of Engineers dredged to help the port and help navigation on the Mississippi River, which helps the whole country. But it really didn't help the people of Saint Bernard because they lost their homes. President Johnson came down and pledged, "Never again."

Here we are, 35 or 40 years later, and they have lost everything again. Some of these families who built back from Betsy, they are 70, 80 years old, to have it washed out again. It is just too much for this Senator to bear. It is too much for our delegation to bear.

There are two major pieces of legislation that the Louisiana delegation cannot go home without this Congress, and that is the WRDA bill, because it is the water resources bill of the United States of America. Since we have more water than almost anybody, this is a huge bill to us.

We are not managing our water well. It has flooded our homes.

We have to pass this WRDA bill to help us build our levies, navigation channels, locks, and dams to protect our people—not because we are a charity case but because we contribute so much wealth to the Nation. The Nation can't do without it. You wouldn't want to try. If you did, and our pipelines closed and our refineries closed, and south Louisiana, south Texas, and the southern part of Mississippi and Alabama closed, you would just as soon turn the lights out in this Chamber. There would be no economy in the United States of America.

That is a bold statement. You say: Senator that is not true. We could do without you.

If I showed you the charts, which I am not going to bore you with, you could not get anywhere near the oil and gas we need to fuel the economy in this country without it.

We can't go home without the WRDA bill, and we can't go home without the offshore oil and gas revenue.

As much money as we get in WRDA, and as many projects as we get in WRDA, we can't wait every 10 years to authorize our project. We need an independent stream of revenue to secure our wetlands, to restore them. We have lost more wetlands than the State of Delaware. We lose a football field every 30 minutes. We lost the size of the District of Columbia in the last storm. I don't know how much more we can lose. If an enemy came to our shores to take our land away the way we are letting it drift into the gulf, we would have declared war.

Our delegation put in a bill for OCS revenue sharing. We said we have a deal for the country. We will open even more in the gulf. Everyplace else is shut down. Nobody wants to drill, so let us even drill more. We will open up 9 million acres, and we will share the revenues with Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. The country gets enough natural gas to fuel 1,000 chemical plants for 40 years. That is a lot of gas. The Southern States would share in a very fair and reasonable way these revenues. We think that would be a good thing for America.

This is the Jack well that Chevron just found. It is one well, 28,000 feet deep, and it has doubled the reserves in the United States of America.

When I hear some critics of the Senate approach saying to me—to the Senators from Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas—that our bill doesn't do anything, it is just a wonder of what it might do if we could maybe find five more Jack wells here or 10 more. Who knows. There is a lot of land.

The great beauty of our arrangement is we protected the coast of Florida, as the Florida Senators and the Governor of Florida, Governor Jebb Bush, have asked us to, and we still found enough territory to open.

We are leaving here without this bill that makes a tremendous amount of