establish the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration, for purposes of advancing the FDA's mission to modernize the medical, veterinary, food, food ingredient, and cosmetic product development, accelerate innovation, and enhance product safety. We believe that the proposed Foundation may accelerate the national effort to modernize product-related sciences with some additional changes. Another serious concern is the creation in statute of the Office of the Chief Scientist. This is redundant and cosmetic product development. We believe that process works as intended. As stated above with regard to PBIA, we feel that the changes in the substitute bill will make the current PBIA program unworkable and the Administration would rather have a streamlined PBIA program that could otherwise go for private sector development. We believe that the Administration supports reauthorization of the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act. The incentive for pediatric studies provided in this legislation has had a powerful positive effect on patient safety, efficacy, and dosing information for drugs used in children. It has created an environment that promotes the study of drugs in children, fostered an infrastructure for pediatric clinical trials that was previously non-existent, and enabled FDA to obtain important pediatrik information and numerous labeling changes. However, the substitute bill contains several provisions that we believe will have a severe negative impact on this successful program. First, the fund which pays for pediatric clinical trials for children will be compromised and the creation of an internal review committee and other program changes will make the PBIA virtually impossible. For this reason, the Administration would favor a straight reauthorization over the enactment of these provisions. We will now review some of our specific concerns.

First, as mentioned above, the current incentive of the 6 month period of exclusivity has worked well and should be maintained. Although the substitute bill has been able to effect important labeling changes on 122 different products. Any weakening of this incentive can only have the effect of reducing its effectiveness. Accordingly, the proposal to shorten this incentive or to only provide exclusivity to drugs with one or more year left of patents and exclusivity life are of significant concern.

FDA supports greater internal cooperation; however, the draft bill’s creation of an internal review committee is of concern for a number of reasons. First, the proposal of an internal review committee would impair the current process given the serious concerns similar to the reasons stated above. A legislative requirement for what are primarily staff functions is in direct conflict with the expertise, flexibility and efficiency needed to ensure the successful conduct of product development. We have concerns about the structure and composition of the committee. Second, the proposal assigns the dual function of approving written requests and granting exclusivity, which may result in conflicts between the subjective intent of the written request and the objective evaluation as to whether the application meets the actual terms of written request. We recommend keeping the two functions separate. Third, we believe that tracking pediatric studies are responsibilities more appropriately assigned to agency staff, since they are routine functions that do not require a decision-making body. There are a number of critical technical provisions which affect the submission of reports, labeling changes, and disclosure of information which needs to be modified to ensure the productivity and efficiency we desire.

ANNUAL CRAWFISH BOIL IN GILLETTE, WYOMING

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I would like to speak about community spirit. In the Senate, we work day in and day out to pass good policy that will provide for the safety, security, and health of
the Nation, but we are not alone in our effort to make our country better. In fact, we are but a small part. There are great events taking place every day in our country that are examples of neighbor helping neighbor, people who do not wait and do not ask for help but take it upon themselves to act. I would like to tell you about one such example that has been going on for years in Wyoming in the small community I call home.

When people think about my hometown of Gillette, WY, many images come to mind—sagebrush as far as the eye can see, coal trucks, and cattle herds. We have deer, antelope, and some buffalo in the neighboring community of Wright. Our kids are great basketball players, and we work hard to get the methane gas and minerals that power this country. The list goes on. But after living in Gillette for more than three decades, what stands out about home are the people themselves, their character, their sense of community, and how they come together to help each other. And then there is the crawfish. Yes, I said crawfish.

This week, Gillette will be kicking off a 24-year tradition of flying in 10,000 pounds of crawfish for the annual Crawfish Boil. The event raises money for local families with medical hardships and was started in 1989 by the Society of Petroleum Engineers. The event raised $117,000 last year to help people get medical treatment. This weekend we hope to top that number.

Wyoming is small in population, but our families know how to help each other out more than any other State in the Nation. Wyomingites do not just rely on government for help—they talk to neighbors, they come up with a good idea, they organize, and they follow through. The crawfish feed is an example for the Nation on how to pull yourself and your neighbor up by the bootstraps and have fun doing it.

Gillette not only raised $117,000 at last year's Crawfish Boil, the Festival of Trees raised $51,500 for hospice and lifeline services, the Chili Cook-Off raised $28,800 for the Council of Community Services, the Black Cat Ball raised $26,000 for the Hospice Hospitality House, the Chucks for Charity event raised $24,000 for the Gillette Area Refuge, and the Rotary Ball raised $16,000 for United Tribes Technical College programs in Gillette. Mr. President, $287,000 in 1 year, in one community with roughly 25,000 residents. I could not think of a better place to call home.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CODY CARITHERS

• Mr. PRYOR, Mr. President, it is with the greatest pleasure that I honor and congratulate Cody Carithers who is a senior at Highland High School in Gillette, Wyoming, and will graduate on May 18, 2007. Cody has accomplished an amazing feat—he has never missed a day of school. Since kindergarten at Cherokee Elementary School in Highland until now, never missed a day.

This accomplishment has not been easy. Cody was diagnosed with a brain tumor near his optic nerve a little over 2 years ago. He experienced frequent headaches and required many trips to Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock. Cody was adamant about maintaining his perfect attendance, and the hospital worked with him to schedule his appointments on school holidays or in the evening so he wouldn't miss a day of school. What a determined young man.

Cody is involved in a number of school activities, clubs and organizations. He is an active member of Future Farmers of America and is president of the Rebels Against Drugs Program at Highland High School. He has also participated in sports.

During the summer, Cody volunteered at the Sharp County Library. He has been employed for the past 2 years at Ivey's Automotive Center in Highland. Cody's plans after graduation are to attend United States Military Academy and pursue a degree in aviation maintenance or automotive technology.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Cody Carithers for his determination, drive and incredible school attendance record. He exemplifies Highland High School's motto, "A tradition of excellence."

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID M. GIPP

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to an extraordinary scholar, leader, and friend, Dr. David M. Gipp.

On May 2, Dr. Gipp will celebrate 30 years at the helm of United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, ND. The United Tribes Technical College, UTTC, is the only intertribally owned and operated tribal college. Dr. Gipp has spearheaded an incredible transformation of the college and in higher education for American Indians. Dr. Gipp was recently selected to address the Federal Government's obligation in providing higher education for American Indians.

On May 2, Dr. Gipp will celebrate 30 years at the helm of United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, ND. The United Tribes Technical College, UTTC, is the only intertribally owned and operated tribal college. Dr. Gipp has spearheaded an incredible transformation of the college and in higher education for American Indians. Dr. Gipp was recently selected to address the Federal Government's obligation in providing higher education for American Indians.

Under Dr. Gipp's leadership, UTTC has grown from just over 100 students to a total of 1,018 students for the 2006-2007 school year with 24 different 2-year and certificate programs and bachelor's programs. In this time, Dr. Gipp has led the college's transition from traditional and online programs to programs geared toward the labor needs of Indian Country. He also propelled UTTC into becoming the first tribal college in the Nation to be authorized to offer full online degree programs. In recent years, Dr. Gipp has led the fight to restore funding for the college that was cut from the Department of Interior's budget.

Dr. Gipp has been an agent of positive change in the lives of thousands of students who have graduated from United Tribes Technical College. He is a true champion for higher education and a powerful national advocate for the tribal colleges. His passion is infectious, and he has empowered individuals to reach their goals no matter how small or large.

John Quincy Adams once said: "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." Dr. Gipp is a leader in every sense of the word. I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to an extraordinary scholar, leader, and friend, Dr. David M. Gipp.

TRIBUTE TO CECIL E. WILLIAMS, JR.

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of a man revered as the most influential man in Arkansas agriculture. Cecil E. Williams, Jr., who passed on April 12, was respected by his peers and seen as an unparalleled advocate for farmer's interests, who tried to somehow bridge their lives, but also their jobs and livelihood.

Undoubtedly, agriculture is the backbone of rural Arkansas and rural America. Today, Arkansas agriculture provides nearly one in every five jobs in my State, and we rank in the top 10 nationally in the production of many commodities, including rice and cotton, where we rank No. 1 and No. 2 respectively. Much of Arkansas' success in agriculture can be directly attributed to Cecil Williams and his hard work. Mr. Williams worked hard during his lifetime to make Arkansas agriculture a force to be reckoned with while establishing workable, sensible, and sound farm policy. For nearly 40 years, Mr. Williams has been an agent of positive change in the lives of thousands of students who have graduated from United Tribes Technical College. He is a true champion for higher education and a powerful national advocate for the tribal colleges. His passion is infectious, and he has empowered individuals to reach their goals no matter how small or large.

Undoubtedly, agriculture is the backbone of rural Arkansas and rural America. Today, Arkansas agriculture provides nearly one in every five jobs in my State, and we rank in the top 10 nationally in the production of many commodities, including rice and cotton, where we rank No. 1 and No. 2 respectively. Much of Arkansas' success in agriculture can be directly attributed to Cecil Williams and his hard work. Mr. Williams worked hard during his lifetime to make Arkansas agriculture a force to be reckoned with while establishing workable, sensible, and sound farm policy. For nearly 40 years, Mr. Williams has been an agent of positive change in the lives of thousands of students who have graduated from United Tribes Technical College. He is a true champion for higher education and a powerful national advocate for the tribal colleges. His passion is infectious, and he has empowered individuals to reach their goals no matter how small or large.

After receiving an agribusiness degree in 1960 from Louisiana State University, Mr. Williams began his career as a fieldworker for the National Cotton Council and gained valuable insight into the production, business, and policy angles of agriculture. After an impressive 5 years with the National Cotton Council, the Agricultural Council of Arkansas recognized his talents and heavily recruited him to join their ranks. Once at the council, he quickly ascended to a leadership position within the organization and went on to fight for farm policy that made sense for Arkansas, improve checkoff programs for