

## A RETURN TO JOBS

In closing I would like to return to the issue that is the primary focus of today's hearing—jobs. Agricultural jobs range from basic manual labor to highly skilled crop and livestock production positions. For many individuals agricultural work is both a profession and a passion. According to the 2007 Ag Census there are nearly 10,000 hired agricultural workers in my state of Wyoming. Over one-half of these work less than 150 days per year days at their agricultural job. These part time jobs are essential to both Wyoming agriculture and to the families that they help to support. They are at the highest risk in the cost/price squeeze that will be exacerbated by cap and trade.

Wyoming's experience shows that there is a well-established progression in job losses related to diminishing agricultural profitability among small and medium sized operations. First the "hired help" is dismissed. This has already been occurring at a rapid rate in our ranching industry due to drought, input costs and livestock prices. As the squeeze continues and the operation can no longer support two or more generations, the younger family leaves the farm or ranch to seek employment elsewhere. As a financial crisis approaches, the older generation "retires" and the land is sold to developers. I am sure that this scenario repeats itself in many of your states. Agriculture holds multigenerational families together. When the agricultural operation ceases, these generational ties are lost, communities disintegrate and a critical skill-set disappears. Our ability to feed ourselves as a nation is diminished. This is a price that our nation cannot afford to pay for a cap and trade system that is at best an uncertain response to unsubstantiated climate change concerns. In the words of one successful young southeastern Wyoming crop and livestock producer, "Even though there may be some benefits, dad and I both agree that we don't have confidence in our government to successfully implement such a system."

I look forward to your questions.

## COMMENDING DAVID LUSK

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased to inform the Senate about a Vermonter whose work has been a unique and meaningful contribution to the Burlington International Waterfront Festival, a celebration of the 400th anniversary of French explorer Samuel de Champlain's arrival at Lake Champlain. Vermont poet David Lusk is using his craft to recreate experiences that are inspired by the surrounding Vermont communities, the lake's natural history, the more than 300 documented shipwrecks, and the rare prehistoric artifacts that lie on the lake's floor. Mr. Lusk's poems also draw from maritime literature and his visits to the shipwrecks that he has taken with guides from the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. He intends to create a collection of poems called "Lake Studies: Meditations on Lake Champlain." Mr. Lusk says the poems strive to "reflect our mutual associations with these mysteries and to suggest something of our own psychological complexity in the process."

Below is a poem that Mr. Lusk shared with those attending the opening ceremony at the Burlington Waterfront on July 2, 2009, for the celebra-

tion of the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's explorations. I ask that the text of his poem be printed in the RECORD.

## SUNSET ON MALLET'S BAY

(By David Lusk)

For just an instant  
as the sun reclines  
between woolly clouds  
and profound, lavender  
pillows of the mountains  
a flock of sheep  
will appear to cross  
the glimmering road  
of iridescent silver  
creasing the broad back  
of the lake.

See—here they come,  
the little sheep,  
huddled together, afraid.

—for L.J. and Beth

## MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

## EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE  
CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1552. A bill to reauthorize the DC opportunity scholarship program, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND  
JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. JOHANNNS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 1553. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National Future Farmers of America Organization and the 85th anniversary of the founding of the National Future Farmers of America Organization; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1554. A bill to amend the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 to prevent later delinquency and improve the health and well-being of maltreated infants and toddlers through the development of local Court Teams for Maltreated Infants and Toddlers and the creation of a National Court Teams Resource Center to assist such Court Teams, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARTINEZ (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 1555. A bill to establish the Office of the National Alzheimer's Project; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 229

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 229, a bill to empower women in Afghanistan, and for other purposes.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 423, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize advance appropriations for certain medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs by providing two-fiscal year budget authority, and for other purposes.

S. 585

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 585, a bill to provide additional protections for recipients of the earned income tax credit.

S. 644

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 644, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include service after September 11, 2001, as service qualifying for the determination of a reduced eligibility age for receipt of non-regular service retired pay.

S. 941

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 941, a bill to reform the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, modernize firearm laws and regulations, protect the community from criminals, and for other purposes.

S. 1038

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1038, a bill to improve agricultural job opportunities, benefits, and security for aliens in the United States and for other purposes.

S. 1065

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1065, a bill to authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of \$20,000, 000 or more in Iran's energy sector, and for other purposes.

S. 1066

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1066, a bill to amend title XVIII of