

current 2010 levels—which surged in the last 2 years by double-digit increases. He would freeze it at that level. That is very small and will not alter the path we are on to doubling the debt in 5 years and tripling in 10. It will not alter that. That is how small an impact that proposal would have.

We have to get together here in Congress and wrestle with it, but we need some leadership. If we could get at the cloud of debt and fear that is out there among a lot of Americans on the street and fear among a lot of the world's best financial minds who move money around in huge amounts—they are afraid too. The only people who do not seem to be quite sufficiently grasping this are our Washington bureaucracy. I think the Congress is beginning to get it. I think Congress is thinking about it. I believe the Washington establishment is still sort of in denial. They think we can somehow make a few token changes in what we do and everything is going to be OK, but it won't.

I am saying, how do we create jobs now? Take some real firm steps, and the world says: Wow, the United States has gone off an unsustainable path to a path that could lead to prosperity and growth, and we are willing to invest in the country again.

Let me mention one more thing. We have a border that is still wide open and lawless. Thousands, millions of people are coming in illegally still, and they are taking jobs from American citizens. We arrested 500,000 people at the border last year. How many more got by? We just added 36,000 jobs this month. Some think that was a good number. It is below what we have to add. But we had that many illegal people coming into the country and seeking work and taking jobs from American citizens, providing competitive employment that drives down wages.

One of the things you do in a time of high unemployment is you reduce guest worker programs and you reduce illegal immigration.

Mr. Bernanke testified before our Budget Committee a couple of weeks ago that we are treading water. We need 150,000 jobs added every month to stay even, and to change the dynamic of high unemployment we need at least 250,000 a month. We have had that coming out of previous recessions. We are just not seeing it in this one. An economy that only creates 36,000 jobs, even if that number is somewhat low because of bad weather, is in bad shape. It is below what the experts projected. I believe we can say now with great confidence that the Federal Government's attempts to borrow money—on which we pay interest as long as we live on this Earth—to pump into the economy as a short-term stimulus, a sugar high, is not effective. It is not working.

We have to do the kinds of things I mentioned, and there are a lot more that would actually create productivity, make our corporations and busi-

nesses more competitive, and therefore allow them to compete against foreign competition, create jobs, growth, exports—reduce our imports of oil and gas that are helping drive up our energy costs and moving jobs out of the country and moving American wealth out of the country.

If we do those kinds of things, we can make real progress. I think we can. We need help from the administration. I believe the American people are open to these ideas. The idea is that this is not a popular plan because we are talking about cutting taxes on corporations and nobody wants to do that, they don't believe that, the American people won't support that. But I think the American people will understand we cannot tax our corporations more than they are doing in Canada—35 percent to 16 percent—and expect to win competition for jobs and business. We have to look at the taxes that are killing jobs and try to make our tax policy nurture growth and prosperity.

Spending restraint is necessary now because of our profligate habits and the situation we find ourselves in. But it is not the future, if we do the right thing. This country can compete if we take on good policies in an effective way.

I yield the floor.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 289. A bill to extend expiring provisions of the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005, the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, and the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 until December 31, 2013, and for other purposes.

S. 290. A bill to extend the sunset of certain provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act, and for other purposes.

S. 291. A bill to repeal the sunset provisions in the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and other related provisions and permanently reauthorize the USA PATRIOT Act.

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 Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 292. A bill to resolve the claims of the Bering Straits Native Corporation and the State of Alaska to land adjacent to Salmon Lake in the State of Alaska and to provide for the conveyance to the Bering Straits Native Corporation of certain other public land in partial satisfaction of the land entitlement of the Corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 228

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from South Caro-

lina (Mr. DEMINT) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 228, a bill to preempt regulation of, action relating to, or consideration of greenhouse gases under Federal and common law on enactment of a Federal policy to mitigate climate change.

AMENDMENT NO. 29

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 29 intended to be proposed to S. 223, a bill to modernize the air traffic control system, improve the safety, reliability, and availability of transportation by air in the United States, provide modernization of the air traffic control system, reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 292. A bill to resolve the claims of the Bering Straits Native Corporation and the State of Alaska to land adjacent to Salmon Lake in the State of Alaska and to provide for the conveyance to the Bering Straits Native Corporation of certain other public land in partial satisfaction of the land entitlement of the Corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise to speak to a bill that I am reintroducing, being cosponsored by my colleague MARK BEGICH from Alaska, to resolve a land conveyance dispute in Northwest Alaska, the Salmon Lake Land Selection Resolution Act.

Shortly after Alaska became a State in 1959, Alaska selected lands near Salmon Lake, a major fishery resource in the Bering Straits Region of Northwest Alaska. In 1971, Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to resolve aboriginal land claims throughout the 49th State. In that act Congress created 12 regional native corporations in Alaska, providing the corporations with \$966 million and the right to select 44 million acres of land in return for giving up claims to their traditional lands. The land and money was to go to make the corporations profitable to provide benefits to their shareholders, the native inhabitants of Alaska. The Bering Straits Native Corporation, one of those 12 regional corporations, promptly selected lands in the Salmon Lake region overlapping State selections promised the State at the time that Alaska joined the Union in 1959. The corporation selected the area around the lake because the waters upstream and downstream from the lake are a prime fishery spawning area and contains fishery resources of significance to Alaska Natives, in addition to offering land suitable for a variety of recreational activities.