

This afternoon, as the Federal aviation authorization bill moves forward and comes to the Senate floor, I hope we all keep in mind the fine testimony we heard this morning from those fine witnesses. I want to help them.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I know that a number of our colleagues this morning and this afternoon called attention to the retirement of our colleague, the senior Senator from Rhode Island, Senator PELL. I want to commend Senator HELMS and the others for their comments and identify with the remarks made earlier today by the distinguished senior Senator from West Virginia, Senator BYRD.

There are few people who can claim the record, the respect, or the admiration of all of their colleagues as can Senator PELL. Senator PELL, as most people know, came to the Senate in 1960. Someone entering the Senate today, in order to have the same record in terms of numbers of years served, would retire in the year 2033. Thirty-six years from now, our country—and perhaps this body—will be much different, and I daresay 36 years from now, there will still be those who will recall the contribution and, again, the remarkable record of this very gentle man.

Senator PELL came during turbulent times. He became a U.S. Senator under then President Kennedy, served under President Johnson, President Nixon, President Ford, President Carter, President Reagan, President Bush, and now President Clinton. He has seen leadership of all kinds, Democratic and Republican, liberal and conservative, good and bad. Through all of this, his gentle nature, his remarkable ability to find common ground, his willingness to reach out to all sides in an effort to govern is something we can all be thankful for. He has a deep-seated belief in good Government, in democracy, and knows what it takes in this democracy to govern well. I don't recall how many times, but I can recall many occasions when Senator PELL would lecture us in our caucus about how ill-advised people are to pursue negative campaigns in Senate elections. He would remind us of that time and again. In spite of all the advice he got to be a negative campaigner, he adamantly refused. In spite of all that advice, and perhaps because of his determination to override that advice, he won every election by more than 60 percent of the vote. I think, in large

measure, that is because the people of Rhode Island know him the best. We know him, but they know him better. They know his decency, they know his commitment to them and to all of us, and they know of his record. They are proud in so many ways for all that he has done for them and for our country in the time that he served.

So it is with regret that we note his departure in this Congress. It is with a great deal of gratitude that many of us have been able to call him our friend. It is with admiration that we look at his record and aspire to the heights and to the accomplishments that it represents. We thank him for his friendship. We wish him and Nuala well in their life ahead.

In my view, there are still opportunities for Senator PELL to serve his country. I hope that that might happen. But regardless of what the future holds, no one can take away the 36 years of accomplishment, the 36 years of contribution to democracy, to the strength of this country, to the breadth and depth of the affection and love he has for it. Madam President, he will be missed. We don't wish him farewell. We only wish him Godspeed as he continues in his role—whatever it may be.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that I may proceed as if in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I thank the Chair.

THE PRESIDIO OMNIBUS PARKS BILL

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, today I am proud to announce that we have an opportunity to pass the most wide ranging national parks and public land legislation in decades; that is, the Presidio omnibus parks bill.

This report encompasses 2 years, or thereabouts, of various attempts by Members on both sides to pass bills that affect this area of our national heritage. We had hearings. We had intense negotiations. I think the bills contained in the package really meet our Nation's environmental needs. It is good news for the national parks, and good news for land and resource conservation.

This package has over 700 pages. At last count there were 126 bills included. They range from the San Francisco Presidio to the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, Sterling Forest protection, Snowbasin land exchange, Black Patriot Memorial extension, Nicodemus National Historic Site, Jap-

anese-American Patriotism Memorial, numerous Civil War sites, Oak Creek Wilderness Scenic Recreation Area, the New Bedford whaling parks, and the Women's Rights National Heritage Park. It is estimated that there are about 37 States that are going to be affected by this package.

It is quite reasonable, Madam President, to ask the Senator from Alaska, well, why do we have to have this in a big package? Why did we not move on this over the last 2 years? I will tell you. As chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, we have held hearings on these bills. So has the House. But on our side we have had holds on every single bill at one time or another in this package. The way it works around here, as we all know, is some Members feel if they want to get their bill through and they see others moving, they put what we call holds on things. We have had holds, and there is no use pointing the finger at each other because that is not going to get this package passed.

I do want to explain because some of the media cannot seem to understand why we have this enormous package. It is simply because of the way this place works. And when a Member wants to proceed with a bill out of our committee and we have voted it out and we cannot bring it up, it is because there is a hold on that bill. So we are down to the end of the 104th Congress. The name of the game is to try to address this package and recognize that we have withdrawn from the package the contentious portions that were identified potentially as veto material. These included some bills that the Senator from Alaska supported and felt very strongly about. One was the Tongass 15-year extension which would have prolonged the life of our only manufacturing plant, our only pulp mill, our only year-around manufacturing plant that wanted to convert from an old technology to a new technology by investing some \$150 million to \$200 million, but in order to do that they had to have an extension of the contract with the Forest Service to have an adequate timber supply to amortize that investment.

Members say, why is Alaska different? Why do you have to have a contractual commitment? The reasons are simple. We have no other source of supply than the U.S. Government through the U.S. Forest Service because we do not have private timber which is exported out of the State. The Forest Service timber, Government timber is prohibited from export, and as a consequence nobody is going to make that kind of investment without an extension of the contract. And their current contract expires in the year 2004. But the administration found that unacceptable and advised us that they would proceed with a veto if it were in the package. So the Senator from Alaska withdrew that.

Boundary Waters Canoe Area, which is an issue that some Members feel

very strongly about in Minnesota, was also noted by the administration that if it were in there, they would initiate a veto. Other issues that were contentious that were threatened for veto included Utah Wilderness, and that issue is somewhat academic because of the action taken by the President in invoking the antiquities; grazing issue, which many Members in the West felt very strongly about. So they are not in the package. We have taken them out—grazing, Utah wilderness, Tongass, Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

Now we are left with a situation where it is very late in the Congress. This legislation is crucial in California not just to the Presidio but to an area that I feel very strongly about, and that is the cleanup of the San Francisco Bay area. I know how strongly the California delegation feels about that. If the administration wants to find an excuse to veto this, obviously they can do it. But they are contemplating, if you will, a veto message per correspondence with the White House, and I ask unanimous consent that a letter from the Executive Office of the President be printed in the RECORD.

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

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,

Washington, DC, September 20, 1996.

Hon. FRANK H. MURKOWSKI,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MURKOWSKI: I am responding to your September 16th request for the Administration's view on the proposed conference report on H.R. 1296, the Omnibus Parks legislation. The Administration received this legislation late Tuesday night, September 17th, and is carefully reviewing this massive proposal, which now incorporates over 100 free-standing bills and spans over 500 pages of legislative language.

We strongly support legislation to improve the management of the Presidio in San Francisco, use Federal funds to help acquire the Sterling Forest in the New York/New Jersey Highlands Region, and establish the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in Kansas. These are measures that would protect nationally significant natural resources, have been the subject of thorough public review, and enjoy broad, bipartisan support.

Your letter, however, indicates that the conference report will contain a number of wholly unacceptable provisions—ones which erode protection of nationally significant natural resource areas, override existing legal requirements, and prevent responsible management of federal lands. Your letter indicates, for example, that the report includes a mandated extension of the Ketchikan Pulp Company (KPC) contract in the Tongass National Forest (AK) and a requirement to allow motorized use in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (MN). Department of Agriculture officials have repeatedly indicated that the Secretary would recommend veto of a bill that would mandate an extension of the KPC contract. Similarly, actions such as opening up three portages at the Boundary Waters Wilderness areas to motorized use would be cause for a veto of this bill.

On July 26th, the President urged the Congress to refrain from including controversial measures during the conference on H.R. 1296.

Unfortunately, it appears that many of these objectionable provisions remain.

We are committed to working with the Congress on legislation that protects our Nation's natural resources. As soon as the Administration completes its review, we can work together to eliminate controversial items and discuss other provisions that could move forward in a bipartisan way.

Sincerely,

FRANKLIN D. RAINES,
Director.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. They cite specifically what their veto threat covers, and we have eliminated those, Madam President. Now I am told some Members on the other side are going to insist that the bill be read. That is fine—700 pages. It is going to take 10 hours. Talk about delay tactics. What is the objective of that? I do not know. They say they have not read the bill. We ought to go back to the Members because this stuff has been hanging around for 2½ years. We have had hearings on it. We have had discussions. The Members who are motivated from the 37 States know what is in the bill. We are talking about further delay which is not necessary. We should act now. It is late in the game. If we do not act now, we are going to lose.

Let me tell you what the parliamentary procedure is. I hope this will come up today. It should come up now. We have the time. But if a Member moves to recommit the package, the whole package is dead. It is over. It will not happen.

What we have done in this bill, we have created new parks, established five new parks: Shenandoah Valley National Battlefield in Virginia to protect the Civil War battlefields; Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in Kansas to protect one of the last remaining unplowed sections of tallgrass prairie in the country; Nicodemus National Historic site to protect the town established as a community for freed black slaves after the Civil War; New Bedford National Historical Park to honor the whaling industry—not just in Massachusetts because the whaling industry started in Massachusetts and where did they whale? They whaled in Alaska, my State. They went around Pt. Barrow, and that is where they whaled. You go to Pt. Barrow today and you can see the remnants of the contribution of the New Bedford whalers. So this is a joint effort; Boston Harbor Islands to protect unique islands in the Boston Harbor.

There is better protection of existing national parks. It provides for boundary modifications, expansion of 20 parks around the country from a 1,000 percent increase in size at the Richmond National Battlefield in Virginia to minor boundary adjustments in Zion National Park in Utah. It protects existing national parks. The legislation provides protection for important historical events and persons by expanding the boundary to further protect the Manzanar National Historic Site in California, adjusting boundaries at Independence Hall, improved manage-

ment of the route taken by voting rights marchers from Selma to Montgomery as a national historic trail, and reauthorizing funding for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

We established new memorials. This legislation provides for the construction of memorials on The Mall in Washington, DC, the Martin Luther King, Jr., Black Revolutionary War Patriots, and the Japanese American Patriots. We protect rivers from coast to coast. The bill protects important rivers, from the Columbia in Washington to the St. Vrain in Colorado and the Lamprey in New Hampshire. And we protect hallowed ground, where the blood of American soldiers was shed in battle. The bill protects important battlefields from Yorktown, where Americans won independence, through the Civil War battlefields in Virginia, Mississippi, Louisiana and Georgia, and establishes the American Battlefield Protection Program.

Madam President, it authorizes funding to begin restoration of the San Francisco Bay. This bill authorizes \$450 million over 3 years to provide restoration for that jewel of the west coast.

This bill is not just about expanding the role of the Federal Government. It also contains significant reforms of existing programs and policies, and makes unneeded Federal lands available for use by other levels of government. We have a reduction of unneeded Federal lands. The legislation transfers unreserved BLM land in the State of Wyoming for schools, removes inappropriate limitations from developed lands across the coast of North Dakota, corrects a 90-year-old survey of public lands in Idaho, provides lands to the Taos Pueblo tribe in New Mexico.

The administrative reforms of the national parks are addressed. The bill includes a number of provisions to improve the management of the National Park Service, from encouraging private sector involvement to improving the housing of park rangers, which is sorely needed; Senate confirmation for the park director; the elimination of unnecessary congressional reporting requirements, and numerous other authorities to increase the leverage of Federal funds.

Recreation Fee Policy Program: The bill provides for the complete overhaul of the current recreation fee policies, which will provide improved funding for the parks and forests by establishing a permanent program to permit agencies to retain recreation fees without appropriations.

The environmental agenda: We have tried to address it within my committee, and the legislation provides two key provisions which represent the vision of how we intend to better protect the environment without the heavy hand of the Federal Government.

One of those issues is the significant development of the Presidio trust. I

have been out to the Presidio on several occasions. I know how the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation, which brought about the tremendous and successful renovation of Pennsylvania Avenue here in Washington, DC, has worked for the benefit and the beautification of this city. The Presidio, a former military installation at the foot of the Golden Gate, has been managed by the park service. But, clearly, the park service does not have the expertise or the knowledge to develop that area in compatibility with its unique recreational attractiveness and the traditional association of what that military facility was.

As a consequence, we have created a Presidio trust. Instead of the \$1.2 billion proposal at one time that was advocated by some for the Federal Government to manage the Presidio, San Francisco, in perpetuity, what we have here is a bipartisan approach. We talked about it this morning in a press conference with the two Senators from California. It turns the real estate management aspects of the Presidio over to a private volunteer nonprofit trust—again, similar to the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation.

I have met with the volunteers in San Francisco that have worked to put this concept together. I am satisfied that they have the vision and the expertise and the capability to make this work. It will reduce the burden of the Federal Government's role. It will still provide a presence for the National Park Service, and it will add dramatically to the full utilization, with the right balance, by the people on the ground who have the best interests of the Presidio and San Francisco at heart.

This is a bill for all Americans, and that is why it is so attractive, and that is why it is so necessary we move at this time. The bill authorizes, as well, a land exchange in Utah. The significance of this is the Olympics, which are going to take place in Utah in the year 2002. This would provide a very simple exchange that would make the downhill event for the 2002 Olympics a reality, which will permit thousands, hundreds of thousands of persons around the world to enjoy it.

So, what we have here, as a consequence of action taken last night, where my conferees agreed to sign off on the package and send it over to the House of Representatives, and the House stayed in until midnight last night to accommodate their procedure and sign off on the bill, and now it is over here, the package. So, Mr. President, it is fair to say that now is the time to take it up.

I have been advised there had been some concern on the other side. I have yet to be privy to what that concern might be. But, again, we have been waiting 2 years for this material to get this far. If we pass it, it will go over to the House, and I am satisfied the House will move it because we have taken the contentious portions out of it. I do not know what more we can responsibly do,

what more and greater obligation I have as chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee to try to move this, because I know how much it means to each Senator with regard to various parts and portions of the 126 parts that are in this bill. And I am sorry that we were not able to be responsive, as we reported these bills out of committee individually. But, again, I want to make reference to the way this place works, when Members put holds on every bill and we cannot move them on the floor to passage. We are left with this dilemma, which is the 126-bill package.

Some people say, why do we have to have it this way? I am sorry we have to have it this way, but it is this way now or nothing, because there is simply no other alternative and there is no more time left.

The leadership has indicated we are winding this session up. The end of the fiscal year is coming. It is now or never for the Presidio package, because if it is held up, those people who are holding it up have to bear the responsibility for annihilating, killing the largest single environmental package of parks bills that have come before the Congress in this session and, I am told, for the last decade.

I am pretty reasonable. I have been around here for a while. I have tried to accommodate everybody. I have taken my licks on this one. I have lost, in my State, my only year-round industry because I could not get enough support for a 15-year extension of the Ketchikan Pulp Mill, so they could put in a \$200 million investment. That is my sacrifice. That probably means more to me than any other single thing. But the obligation I have to move this package is real as well. So, at the dictate of the administration, we have stricken the Tongass out of it.

Some might ask, do you have any fallback? Yes, I suspect there is a fallback. Perhaps the RECORD should note what it is, because without getting too technical, what we asked for was a 15-year extension of a contract that was going to expire in the year 2004. The administration said they would veto the bill if that was in.

What we have proposed in this package, I will be very direct with the President, is not to pursue the 15-year contract which would mandate 15 years beyond the year 2004, but to simply take the remaining years on that contract, which are 8 years, and simply transfer that from pulp utilization to our two operating sawmills. That is all we have left in Alaska of any significance.

In brief, the contract for the remainder of the term through the year 2004, for the next 8 years, would simply be transferred over from pulp utilization to sawmill utilization.

The 15-year extension, as a consequence of the Presidential veto threat, has been withdrawn. I understand that that has been satisfactory to those who have objected. Of course, the Utah wilderness has been withdrawn. Grazing has been withdrawn.

The boundary waters canoe area, which was also under Presidential veto threat, has been withdrawn.

To those who are scrutinizing this, I wish them well, but that is the package, that is what we are left with. It is now or never, and we better do it now because we simply don't have time, and we will walk out of here in the next few days leaving behind us a truly monumental bill with monumental implications.

I might add, the Senator from New Jersey and I have had differences of opinion relative to his role in the bill. I am not going to prolong those differences other than to say Sterling Forest is it. He is a winner. He can leave the U.S. Senate bringing home something that is very meaningful to New Jersey and New York.

I could go on into the history of the process over the last 2 years, but I don't know that that would serve any purpose at this time. I could lament the dissatisfaction of my friends from some of the States whose issues we simply had to take out of here in the spirit of compromise relative to trying to get the job done and get a package out that is meaningful, but I hope that those who are listening and reflecting now recognize that they, too, have an obligation. That obligation is either to come forth and support this package now, this compromise package that is so important, that is so significant, that is so meaningful, or accept the responsibility of killing a package that has been over 2½ years—one Senator reminded me that his particular interest in the bill had been in this over 4 years.

So I encourage my colleagues to look through the title portion and recognize the items that are of interest to their State, whether it covers rivers and trails, historic areas, civil rights issues, Civil and Revolutionary War sites, fee generations for their own parks, recommended administration management provisions, boundary adjustments, the Presidio, certainly the California bay environmental enhancement, and recognize that it is now or never. We can get it done now and go out of session with the most meaningful bipartisan legislative package that has come before the U.S. Senate, or we can grouse around, object, send it back for reconsideration and leave with nothing done.

But I want the RECORD to note, as chairman of my committee, I have discharged, along with my conferees and our committee, both Democrats and Republicans, our obligation. We have held the hearings, we reported it out, we moved on it last night through a conference process. The House signed off on it. It is over here now. I do not want to be presumptuous in being critical, but I don't know what we are waiting for, Mr. President. We are ready to go. We can get this done now. The Senator from Alaska is ready to bring it to

the body. I have discussed it with the leadership. I am awaiting word.

So the rest is up to you, I say to my distinguished colleagues, whether this package is meaningful enough to recognize, just like every package, that sure, there are some things in there somebody doesn't like. But you try to put together 126 bills and have to put it in a package like this because there is no other way that you are allowed to bring them up individually because Members put holds on them.

I implore the media that is going to scrutinize this to recognize the reality. The poison pills, so to speak, have been taken out. I am not going to reflect on the fact there are an awful lot of westerners who are unhappy because their concerns are not met in this package. That is going to be for the next session. That is going to be for, perhaps, the election. But we have to do what we have to do, and right now, the thing to do is to move this bill out because the poison pills are out.

I ask unanimous consent that my letter and Representative DON YOUNG's letter to the President asking for a position on those items that he would veto be printed in the RECORD.

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

U.S. SENATE, COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, September 16, 1996.

Hon. WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
President of the United States, The White
House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We are about to conclude action on H.R. 1296, a bill to provide for the administration of certain Presidio properties at minimal cost to the Federal taxpayer. As you may know, a number of popular and also controversial measures have become part of the conference discussion; therefore, this bill is now known as the Omnibus Parks legislation containing well over 100 specific legislative provisions.

Among the controversial issues discussed for inclusion in this conference report are the Senate-passed grazing reform legislation, S. 1459; reforms to the management of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, S. 1738; Sterling Forest Protection Act, S. 223; S. 884, the Utah Public Lands Management Act; S. 1877, the Ketchikan Pulp Company contract extension; and S. 1371, the Snow Basin Land Exchange, which is necessary for the winter olympics.

We are about to file a conference report on this omnibus legislation, and it is important that we have your views. Because of your Administration's long-standing opposition, we are prepared to propose excluding the grazing reform legislation, any Utah Wilderness proposals, and several other controversial measures to which the Administration has expressed opposition. Attached is a list of measures we propose for inclusion in the conference report. Among these measures, we feel the need to include two items which your Administration has expressed opposition to in the past. One is the extension of the Ketchikan Pulp Co. contract, S. 1877; and the other is a proposed compromise on the Boundary Waters Canoe Area which would allow motorization on three portages, but nothing more.

It is important that we have your views on this conference report prior to close of business on Wednesday, September 18. We are

ready and prepared to discuss any of the measures proposed for inclusion in this conference report at any time, and our staffs are prepared to provide any additional information you may need in your consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

DON YOUNG,
Chairman, House Com-
mittee on Resources.
FRANK H. MURKOWSKI,
Chairman.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I encourage those who are responsible for the movement of the process around here to reflect on my words.

I compliment all those who have worked so hard to bring this package together, both in the minority and majority: Senator JOHNSTON, Senator BUMPERS, Senator DOMENICI, Senator NICKLES. I also thank the California delegation for their tireless efforts to push this legislation. I thank those who have volunteered their time in San Francisco, as well as other areas of California, to push the merits of the creation of the trust in the Presidio package, and I thank the staff on both the minority side and majority side: Tom Williams, GREGG Renkes and many others, who worked night and day to put this package together; my colleague in the House, Representative YOUNG, of course; my senior Senator, Senator STEVENS, because oftentimes we, as Alaskans, are typified as those who want to run through the public domain with development schemes of one kind or another.

We will take our lumps as we go along the road in trying to communicate the particular posture of our State, which is only 38 years old, and the realization that we are still trying to create land patterns in a State that is 80 percent owned by the Federal Government, at a time when the other States accomplished that 150-200 years ago. They developed their land patterns. They had private ownership within their State. We have public ownership in ours one-fifth the size of the United States.

We are a storehouse of natural resources. What we try to communicate is that with science and technology we can do a better job of developing our resources. We look at our timber industry. We have the largest of all our national forests at 17 million acres. We set aside two-thirds of that forest in perpetuity, set aside 5 to 7 million acres of prime timberland. We are trying to maintain a timber industry in the largest of all our forests on about 1.7 million acres in perpetuity and a 100-year regrowth cycle. They cut more firewood in New York than we cut commercially in Alaska in the Nation's largest forest. They cut over 1 billion board feet for their commercial activities, yet there are those who want to close us down, terminate all timbering in our forests.

The Sierra Club wants to terminate all timbering in the national forests. But what we are trying to do is maintain a viability based on renewability,

do a better job. Our fisheries are at an all time high. We have had record runs 8 of the last 11 years. We have been doing it right. We think others could learn from us. It is a little like rowing uphill.

You talk about oil and gas exploration. We know we can open up ANWR safely, given the opportunity. But we have become an environmental cause. We have over 60 environmental agencies that have established themselves in Anchorage, AK. The young attorneys come up and do their missionary work, because these organizations need a cause. The cause is far away. It is a "good cause," idealistic. When we attempt to say, well, just a minute now, we have an opportunity and a right to come into the Union, develop our resources, manage them correctly; they, through extreme rhetoric, suggest that we are desecrating the country. The media picks up on it. And it is simply not true.

So we feel a little sensitive when we are criticized with any development scenario. We could open up ANWR safely. We know it. We have the technology. We are selling American ingenuity short. The environmental community has in many cases established a fear mentality in the American public that somehow we cannot develop resources safely. It is evidenced in the debate around here on the grazing issue, on the timbering salvage issue, on oil and gas exploration, on mining—drive them offshore; bring them in from other countries; send those jobs overseas.

The deficit balance of payment; what is it all about? Over a third of it is the cost of imported oil. What are we doing today? We are 51.4 percent dependent on imported oil. In 1974, we were about 36 percent dependent. We took action. We created the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. Now we are selling it off. The Department of Energy says by the year 2000 we will be two-thirds, 66 percent, dependent on imported oil. What does that do with our leverage with the Mideast? The Mideast is in a crisis. One of these days, we are going to pay the price because we have increasingly become more dependent on imported oil.

Well, I am using my time to vent my frustration, but what I want to communicate here is we have put aside some of our Alaskan issues relative to the merits of this bill, issues that we feel very strongly about, simply because this is a good bill. It is a compromise bill. And it is time, after 2½ years, or 4 years, depending on your point of view, or at least the 104th Congress, to move it now. If we do not move it now, it is not going to be moved this session.

Those who have the responsibility for it not moving are going to have to stand up and be counted and explain to me and the other conferees specific reasons as to why, because, again, I would challenge the administration, and my colleagues, if you are looking for an excuse to veto it, yeah, you will find an excuse to veto it. But the poison pills have been taken out because

Representative Young and I and others working together went through a laborious process to identify those contentious issues that were veto bait. Again, for the benefit of those who do not recall, grazing is out, Utah wilderness is out, Tongass is out, the boundary water canoe area is out. And what we have left is a good package, 126 bills, everything from the Presidio to the New Bedford National Historic Park to honor the whaling industry.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the entire titles of those bills, including Sterling Forest and the land transfer for the Winter Olympics, the entire group be printed in the RECORD so each Member can recognize what is in the package.

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

Authorizes funding to Begin Restoration of the San Francisco Bay—the bill authorizes \$450 million over three years to provide for restoration of the San Francisco Bay.

The Bill is not just about expanding the role of the Federal Government, it also contains significant reforms of existing programs and policies, and makes unneeded Federal lands available for use by other levels of government.

Reduction of Unneeded Federal Lands—the legislation transfers unreserved BLM lands to the State of Wyoming for schools; removes inappropriate limitations from developed lands along the coast of Florida; corrects a ninety year old survey of public lands in Idaho; and provides lands to the Taos Pueblo tribe in New Mexico.

Administration Reform of the National Park Service—the bill includes a number of provisions to improve the management of the National Park Service from encouraging private sector involvement in improving the housing of park rangers, Senate confirmation for the Park Director, to elimination of unnecessary Congressional reporting requirements and several other authorities to increase the leveraging of federal funds.

Recreation Fee Policy Program—the bill provides for complete overhaul of the current recreation fee policies which will provide improved funding for parks and forests by establishing a permanent program to permit agencies to retain recreation fees without appropriations.

New Republican Environmental Agenda—the legislation provides two key provisions which represent the vision of how Republicans intend to better protect the environment without the heavy hand of the Federal government.

1. Presidio Trust—instead of the \$1.2 billion proposal advocated by some for the federal government to manage the Presidio of San Francisco in perpetuity, this bipartisan approach turns the real estate management aspects of the Presidio over to a private, non-profit trust similar to the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation.

Enhancement of the National Park Foundation—the bill enhances the ability of the existing National Park Foundation to raise private sector funds to support National Parks.

A bill for all Americans. This bill authorizes a land exchange in Utah which will make the downhill event for the 2002 Olympics a reality and permit billions of persons around the world to enjoy it.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BILL

This package is the biggest and most important parks and public land package since 1978 (nearly 20 years).

It provides for protection of some of the most important natural and historical events and landscapes in the country as follows:

Creation of New Parks—Establishes five (5) new parks: the Shenandoah Valley National Battlefield in Virginia to protect important Civil War battlefields; Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in Kansas to protect one of the last remaining unplowed stretches of tallgrass prairie in the country; Nicodemus National Historic Site to protect a town established as a community for freed Black slaves after the Civil War; New Bedford National Historic Park to honor the whaling industry in Alaska and Massachusetts; and Boston Harbor Islands to protect a dozen unique islands in Boston Harbor.

Better Protection of Existing National Parks—provides for boundary modifications and expansions of 20 parks around the country from a 1,000 percent increase in size at Richmond National Battlefield in Virginia to a minor boundary adjustment at Zion National Park in Utah.

Protection of Important Historic Sites—legislation provides protection for very important historical events and persons by expanding the boundary to further protect the Manzanar national Historic Site in California; adjusting the boundary at Independence Hall to improve management; designating the route taken by voting rights marchers from Selma to Montgomery as a National Historic Trail; and reauthorizing funding for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

Establishment of New Memorials—legislation provides for the construction of memorials on the mall in Washington, DC to Martin Luther King, Junior, Black Revolutionary War Patriots and Japanese-American patriots.

Protection of Rivers from Coast to Coast—the bill protects important rivers from the Columbia River in Washington to the St. Vrain in Colorado and the Lamprey in New Hampshire.

Protects Hallowed Ground Where the Blood of American Soldiers was Shed in Battle—the bill protects important battlefields from Yorktown, where America won independence, through the Civil War in Virginia, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Georgia and establishes the American Battlefield Protection Program.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. That may save them from threatening to read 2,700 pages of the bill.

Mr. President, I have just been given a list of the States that are affected here, and if my colleagues will just give me a couple more minutes, I will conclude my remarks with this, because it is so important that each Member understand what is in this for his or her State.

Alabama. Selma to Montgomery Historic Trail designation, historic black college funding.

Alaska. Anaktuuk land exchange, Alaska Peninsula land exchange, Alaska PLT, unalaska historic site, Glacier Bay fee, unrecognized communities, Federal borough recognition, village land negotiation, conveyance to Gross brothers, regulation of Alaska fishing, University of Alaska.

Arizona. Walnut Cameron exchange, Wupatiki boundary adjustment, Alpine School District conveyance, ski fees.

Arkansas. Arkansas-Oklahoma land exchange, Carl Garner Federal lands clean-up.

California. Presidio, Elsmere Canyon protection, San Francisco Bay enhancement, Butte County conveyance, Modoc Forest boundary adjustment, Cleveland National Forest, conveyance, Lagomarsino visitor center, Tular conveyance, Mineral King, Merced irrigation district land exchange, Manzanar historic site exchange, AIDS memorial grove, timber sale exchange, Santa Cruz Poland acquisition, Stanislaus Forest management, Del Norte School conveyance, ski fees.

Colorado. Cache La Poudre corridor designation, Rocky Mountain Park visitor center, Grand Lake Cemetery authorization, Yucca House boundary modification, Rockwell ranch, Black Canyon of the Gunnison, St. Vrain exchange, ski fees, Greeley, Colorado land exchange.

Florida. Florida coastal barrier amendments.

Georgia. Chickamauga-Chattanooga authorization increase, Fort Pulaski.

Hawaii. Kaloko-Honokohau Advisory Commission extension.

Idaho. Craters of the Moon boundary adjustment, waterman fossil beds boundary adjustment, Cuprum conveyance, Targhee exchange, ski fees.

Illinois. Illinois and Michigan Canal, Calumet Ecological Park study.

Kansas. Tallgrass prairie National Preserve authorization, Nicodemus Park establishment.

Louisiana. Civil War center, Laura Hudson visitor center.

Maryland. Lower Eastern Shore hedge study.

Massachusetts. Boston Harbor Islands park establishment, Blackstone heritage area, Boston Public Library on Freedom Trail, New Bedford establishment.

Michigan. Pictured Rocks boundary adjustment.

Mississippi. Corinth visitor center historic black college funding, Natchez visitor center.

Missouri. Ozark wild horses preservation.

Montana. Lost Creek exchange, ski fees.

New Hampshire. Lamprey River, ski fees.

New Jersey. Sterling Forest, Great Falls historic district.

New Mexico. Bisti/De-Na-Zin wilderness, Taos Pueblo conveyance, Rio Puerco project, Father Aull land transfer, ski fees.

New York. Women's rights boundary adjustment, Sterling forest.

Ohio. Dayton Aviation Commission.

Oklahoma. Arkansas/Oklahoma land exchange.

Oregon. Sumpter conveyance, Upper Klamath basin restoration, Deschutes basin restoration, Mount Hood corridor exchange, Coquille Forest establishment, Bull Run watershed protection, Oregon Islands wilderness, Umpqua River exchange, ski fees.

Pennsylvania. Delaware Water Gap fee, Independence Park boundary adjustment.

Rhode Island. Blackstone heritage area expansion.

South Carolina. Historic black colleges funding.

Tennessee. Historic black colleges funding.

Texas. Big Thicket exchange.

Utah. Snowbasin exchange, Sand Hollow exchange, Zion Park exchange, ski fees.

Virginia. Cumberland Gap boundary adjustment, Richmond Battlefield boundary adjustment, Shenandoah Valley Battlefield establishment, Shenandoah NP boundary adjustment, Colonial Parkway boundary adjustment.

Washington. Vancouver Reserve establishment, Hanford Reach protection, ski fees.

West Virginia. West Virginia Rivers.

Wisconsin. Pictured Rocks boundary adjustment.

Wyoming. Bighorn County conveyance, Douglas County conveyance, Ranch A conveyance, ski fees.

Generic. RS. 2477, Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial, MLK Memorial, advisory council historic preservation, Revolutionary War & War 1812, Am. battlefield protection, ski fees, recreation fees, recreation lakes, National Park Foundation, NPS administrative reforms, BLM reauthorization, Japanese-American Patriot Memorial, REA right-of-way.

Finally, Mr. President, do not be misled. These bills will not pass, they will not pass as part of an appropriations bill. Some Members may be under the impression that you can just cherry pick this thing and their bills will pass as part of the final appropriations. Do not be misled. This is not going to happen. As chairman, I will not let it happen. I want to put those Members on notice if this conference bill fails, all the bills, all of them, are absolutely dead for this Congress.

Finally, I want to recognize the work of Bill Lane, from San Francisco, a long-time acquaintance of mine, former publisher and still associated with Sunset Magazine, who has done so much groundwork on the Presidio effort. I know there are others that deserve recognition, but Bill Lane has been a stalwart, promoting the objective to get the job done, and get it done now, because if you do not, the Presidio will deteriorate to a point where it may be too late.

I have gone on longer than the Senator from Alaska usually does, not preaching to my colleagues. I am imploring you to recognize this for what it is. We have all taken a hit. The poison pills have been taken out. If the administration wants to use this as an exchange, OK. Then it becomes, perhaps, a campaign issue.

I hope we hear from the administration, their recognition that perhaps there is not everything they like in this, but there is so much in it, and it is so necessary we address these things now, and the recognition of the way this process works—that you cannot move the bills through individually be-

cause there are holds on them. You have to move them in a package. We can get this done now, for the good of the States affected, for the good of the Nation, and for the good of the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. Mr. President, the time is now. The day is now. We should get on with it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KEMPTHORNE). The Senator from Nebraska is recognized.

Mr. EXON. The Senator from Nebraska understands we are in morning business, is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator may proceed as though we were in morning business.

Mr. EXON. I ask that we continue morning business for the purpose of making remarks with regard to several retiring Members of the U.S. Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THANK YOU TO SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, while I have had ample opportunity to review the RECORD of yesterday while I was awaiting my chance to make remarks, I want to thank very much my close and dear friend, Senator BYRD, for his kind remarks about this Senator as printed in yesterday's RECORD, S. 11134. Senator BYRD made some very kind remarks about me and our association and work here in the U.S. Senate. I thank him for that.

I also wish to take this opportunity and thank others who have made farewell remarks with regard to this Senator from Nebraska, and with particular reference to Senator BYRD. I think we all recognize what a unique experience we have had here in the U.S. Senate, serving with one of the greatest U.S. Senators, by any measurement, that this body has ever seen. BOB BYRD of West Virginia has no peer with regard to his understanding of the rules of the U.S. Senate. He has written books on the history of the U.S. Senate. Certainly, as I think back over my last 18 years, and I will be thinking about this in the future, I thank the Lord for the great opportunity, and the people of Nebraska, for giving me the opportunity to serve with a truly great American, a true pillar of the U.S. Senate, ROBERT BYRD of West Virginia.

In that regard, I also would like to take just a moment, Mr. President, to thank a number of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle that stopped by a reception held for me last evening. My wife Pat and I appreciated that. A good time was had by all.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR SAM NUNN

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I would like to proceed in making some brief statements with regard to several of the retiring Members that this Senator has had the honor of serving with.

Let me start, Mr. President, if I might, with a statement with regard to

the great Senator from Georgia, SAM NUNN. We will be leaving the U.S. Senate together. This Nation will likely lose the most important Senator of all with regard to national security and foreign policy when my colleague SAM NUNN departs this body.

I believe Senator NUNN is one of the greatest leaders of the current era. He has been a leader and a close personal friend and confidant of mine since the very first day I came here 18 years ago. SAM NUNN has been my Democratic leader on the Senate Armed Services Committee. We have worked closely together, and always in harmony, on many, many issues of vital importance to this Nation's national security. SAM has been a stalwart in helping to win the cold war. I remind all that SAM is, bar none, the Senate's top expert on national security matters. No one has done more to help recruit and retain the Nation's soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines, who are on duty today and are the best that we have ever had in uniform in our Nation's history.

I was proud to be a charter member of the informal "Sam Nunn for President" group in 1988. I believed then, and continue to believe to this day, that SAM NUNN would have been an outstanding President of the United States. SAM has the unique qualities of being strong in his principled viewpoints and yet compromising in the means to achieve his goal. In short, SAM NUNN is a true statesman in every respect of the word. I will always treasure my association and my friendship with him. Pat and I want to wish him and his family all of the best and, indeed, all of the blessings of the future.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR DAVID PRYOR

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my departing colleague from Arkansas, Senator DAVID PRYOR. I have treasured our 20 years of friendship.

Senator PRYOR is one of the true gentlemen of the Senate and it has been my good fortune to serve as Senators together as it was my pleasure to serve as governors during the same time period in the 1970's. DAVID has been a good friend to me here in the Senate and I have appreciated his leadership in a number of areas including pharmaceuticals, seniors, taxpayer rights issues and many, many more.

Senator PRYOR has taken his intelligence and sense of fair play and worked to see that America's seniors are treated with dignity and respect by serving as the top-ranking Democrat on the Special Committee on Aging. Government programs do a better job of serving Americans because of the leadership of DAVID PRYOR.

A leader in keeping pharmaceutical prices low, Senator PRYOR has fought long and hard to make sure that Americans do not pay for the low prices