

I want to publicly recognize all of the citizens of the great State of Utah and sincerely thank them for making Utah the wonderful place that it is today. I am honored to represent the people of Utah, and I hope and pray that the next 100 years will be successful and peaceful for all those who dwell within Utah's borders. Happy 100th birthday Utah.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I rise today to bring to the attention of the Senate the current celebration which is ongoing in my home State of Utah. With the beginning of this new year, Utah begins its centennial celebration having been admitted to the Union of States in 1896.

This 100-year mark is very significant considering the long struggle for the citizens of the Utah Territory to gain statehood in the late 19th century. The people of the Utah Territory tried unsuccessfully for admission to the Union six times—1849, 1856, 1862, 1872, 1882, and 1887—before being admitted in 1896.

Today, Utah is one of the fastest growing States in the country. Business is thriving as more and more companies establish roots in the State. The banking and financial industry have a long history of success in Utah. Manufacturing industry continues to grow and succeed. Utah's software industry is growing so rapidly that it has now surpassed that of Silicon Valley. Utah provides many opportunities for the families that reside in the State. With six 4-year, degree-granting universities and colleges, including four State institutions and two private institutions, Utah provides its citizens with many opportunities to enhance their education and circumstances. Today, Utah is ranked among the top States in the Nation for the quality of its graduates.

Again, Mr. President, it brings me great pleasure to join with the people of my State in celebrating during this centennial year. I would like to pay tribute to the many people who have worked so hard to put together the events that are taking place this week and throughout the remainder of this year. In particular I would like to single out Mr. Steve Studdert for the fine job he has done as chairman of the Utah Centennial Commission. Additionally, thanks goes to Gov. Mike Leavitt and his many predecessors who have worked so hard over the past 100 years to make Utah what it is today. Of course we cannot forget our pioneer founders who saw the vision of what the desert could yield and put forth the hard work to cultivate and culture the Rocky Mountain valleys we now call home.

For Utahns who find themselves transplanted to Washington, DC, I would like to announce that a celebration will be held here on the 27th of January, commemorating Utah's centennial. My staff and I can be contacted for further details.

#### BUDGET STALEMATE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I know that this is a Presidential election year. We are going to have a hotly debated and contested Presidential election. But it is going to be on issues that are important, as indicated by the action taken by the majority leader day before yesterday.

I commend and applaud publicly the action of the majority leader in allowing the Senate to pass a clean continuing resolution. I say that because the issue of allowing the Federal workers to go to work is important. It is important to more than just the Federal workers. Therefore, I think it is important we talk about procedure so that people understand a little bit better what is going on.

The House of Representatives yesterday refused to allow to come to a vote—they refused to allow the continuing resolution that has passed the Senate to come before the House to be voted upon. They did that, the leadership in the House refused to let it come forward, because they knew if it came forward, it would pass.

That, to me, is a cowardly act. Why would they not let people stand in the light of day and cast their vote as to whether or not this Government could continue to function? They refused to do it because they knew if they brought it up for a vote, it would pass.

There are some in the House who think they are hurting what they hate; namely, the Federal Government, but they are hurting a lot more than just the Federal Government. Look at any newspaper, wherever it might be, in the United States today, and you will find the same stories.

I think the most illustrative appears in today's USA Today. In today's USA Today, Bangladesh, if not the poorest, one of the poorest countries in the world, is going to loan money to the United States to keep the Embassy open in Bangladesh. How embarrassing.

In Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest countries, the government has offered a loan [to the United States] to keep lights on at the United States embassy in Dhaka.

It is hurting more than Federal workers. Alabama ran out of Federal unemployment money, as did many other States.

U.S. embassies around the world are being forced to beg for credit.

You have businesses and governments throughout the world saying the United States cannot pay, will you give us some credit.

In Miami—

This same newspaper reports—fishing guide Mike Haines has lost \$3,000 in the past 2 weeks. Haines takes people on fishing trips in Everglades National Park which shut down December 20.

Now, 2 months after fulfilling his boyhood dream of being a full-time fishing guide, Haines is scrambling to make ends meet.

The Federal court system, including the Supreme Court, is running out of funds. It has tapped into a \$120 million emergency fund drawn from fees collected by the courts.

They are going to run out of money on the 7th. That is Saturday, or Sunday. The Federal courts are going to run out of money.

About 15,000 employees of Government contractors are temporarily out of work.

On television last night in the news it was very, very graphic—people with uniforms, protective uniforms, faces covered, every part of their body covered, working in toxic waste dumps, being laid off.

The L.A. Times—this is not something just within the beltway. It is all over the country. The L.A. Times:

Shutdown Begins To Hit Home Across the United States.

The effects of the shutdown have spread gradually during the holidays, customarily a slow time in the public and private sectors, but this week the pace quickened and the closure is being felt in everything from restaurants and tourist businesses to toxic waste cleanup.

National parks, Mr. President, according to the New York Times, average 383,000 visitors a day. They are closed; a potential loss to businesses of \$200 million a day. That \$200 million goes to people's wages. Those people can buy cars. This, Mr. President, is an economic disaster based upon an unwillingness of a certain small group of people in the other body to allow an up-or-down vote on whether or not the CR should continue. Of course, it should continue.

Mr. SARBANES. Will the Senator yield for just a moment?

Mr. REID. I will be happy to yield to my friend from Maryland.

Mr. SARBANES. I wish to add one further example. In Mariposa County, CA—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada has the floor.

Mr. REID. I yield to him. He wanted to ask me a question.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Do so through the Chair, please.

Mr. SARBANES. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. REID. I will be happy to yield for a question.

Mr. SARBANES. I thought that was the question that had been put earlier, I say to the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. No.

Mr. SARBANES. Is the Senator aware that apparently,

In Mariposa County, CA, home of Yosemite National Park, which has been closed through one of the busiest times of the year, the number of private sector layoffs has climbed to over 1,600 people. Most are hotel, restaurant, and gas station workers who usually can depend on the revenue they collect during the holiday season to carry them until the summer. One-fourth of the adults in that county are out of work. Officials there have declared an economic emergency.

I say, is this not yet another example of the kind of harm that is being felt across the country as a consequence of this closure of the Government?

Mr. REID. I would respond to my friend's question that the answer is yes. Even in Reno, NV, northern Nevada, why, we have significant numbers of people coming from California

all the time, and they many times do continue when they are visiting Yosemite, which is so close to Nevada. That has been lost.

This is felt by not only Federal workers; this is felt by non-Federal workers, and it is really reverberating throughout the entire United States. And I also respond to my friend that it is going to get worse, as indicated in these newspapers about which I was talking.

The L.A. Times goes on to say that "at the other end of the economic spectrum"—they are talking about people. The reason they say this is, unemployment compensation checks, as indicated by the minority leader, are not being sent out in a number of States, but at the other end of the economic spectrum, many businesses are unable to obtain needed export licenses or are being left with no way to obtain required Federal approval of special imports or other transactions.

That is jobs. It is fancy talk, but it means jobs.

Also, the Securities and Exchange Commission cannot approve various offerings that have been made. Why is that important? It is important because each time a new company, a new stock offering is made, people are hired, put to work. They are simply not being put to work, all because a few people in the other body refuse—the leadership led by the Speaker of the House of Representatives refuses to allow that issue to come to a vote.

I see in the Chamber my friend from the State of Virginia. One of his fellow Members of Congress, Congressman DAVIS, with whom I am not personally familiar but someone I have followed, he publicly, a Republican, spoke out yesterday saying let us at least have a vote on the House floor as to whether or not a continuing resolution should pass.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. REID. I would be happy to yield for a question.

Mr. WARNER. I just left, Mr. President, Congressman DAVIS' office. The delegation here in the greater metropolitan area, Congressman DAVIS, myself, Congresswoman MORELLA, who represents Montgomery County, and Congressman WOLF, and we were joined by Congressman BATEMAN, who represents the Tidewater district of Virginia, all met this morning, as we have been regularly meeting on this.

I wish to inform my distinguished colleague that Congressman DAVIS and the entire group this morning unanimously are going to do everything they can to oppose the House of Representatives going into recess tonight, as contemplated for a period to extend perhaps until the State of the Union Address around the 22d or 23d of January, while these employees are out of work.

I shall on my own time—and perhaps these statements could be charged to time I will eventually seek—talk about the ripple effect here in northern Vir-

ginia. So I thank my distinguished colleague from Nevada for mentioning Congressman DAVIS. I said yesterday publicly he and other Republicans in the House of Representatives from this area indeed deserve a great deal of personal credit for their courage in this situation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair is going to add 2 minutes to the time of the Senator from Nevada because of the statement from the Senator from Virginia. The Senator is recognized for 2 minutes. His first 10 minutes has expired.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I think we should recognize that this should be a bipartisan resolution of the problems we have facing this Government. I have not been a party to the talks with the President, the two leaders from the House and the Senate. I hope they are progressing, but they are very difficult. We know that.

There are 80 different issues that are issues dealing with public policy that they have to work out. There has been an agreement on both sides that there should be a balanced budget, there should be a balanced budget within 7 years. They will use CBO figures. That has been stated publicly. That is not a secret. But in the meantime, let the Government go forward and go back to work, as it should.

I also say there are a few people—the House leadership is holding up the ability to vote on a CR. What are they afraid of? They are afraid of the fact that if this comes up for a vote before the House of Representatives, it would pass. I understand that in the House of Representatives yesterday in a secret meeting that they had, a Republican conference or caucus, 54 Republicans there voted to have this brought to the floor. It would pass. Clearly it would pass.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 3 additional minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

The Chair would state under the previous order morning business would not extend beyond the hour of 12 o'clock.

Mr. REID. I ask for 2 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized for 2 minutes.

Mr. REID. I say that Mr. President, because I have been interrupted a couple times.

Mr. President, the Los Angeles Times:

... budget analysts warned Wednesday that if the standoff continues for even a few more days, the impact will spread to larger and larger slices of the American economy and stopgap solutions will be more difficult to achieve.

Several federal agencies reported that they have begun to halt contracts with private companies that provide supplies or services for federal programs. The White House Office of Management and Budget said [that] no overall estimates are available, [but they are strong].

It is the same in other newspapers.

The New York Times talks about the real problems that face this Government.

Mortgages. Work has halted on an estimated 200 million mortgages a day on mortgage loan processing for American people.

Veterans' Administration. That 170,000 veterans are not going to receive their benefits.

Mr. President, I say that this has gotten out of hand. This is not fair to the Federal workers, but more importantly it is not fair to a wide segment of the American population. This has got to stop. It is folly. I say, let those people come forward and allow an up-or-down vote in the House of Representatives. Speaker GINGRICH should allow an up-or-down vote if he believes in the democratic process.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. WARNER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S VETO OF THE INTERIOR BILL

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the President vetoed the Interior bill December 18. We are not here to try and reopen the debate in terms of what has taken place in the past, but I must say that this action by the President of vetoing the bills that were passed in the Congress just simply cannot help but to worsen the situation.

This particular bill, of course, embraces so many of our national parks and other places that people come from all over the world to visit, as well as our own citizens. This has been a point of very significant contention, the fact that people who have planned for a long time to visit these sites and many others cannot do so as a consequence of this deadlocked situation between the Congress and the President.

#### ENDING THE BUDGET STALEMATE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I join all those who wish the President and indeed the leadership of both the House and the Senate to get these talks to reach a point where we can have a reconciliation of this problem. We have finally, after some months, focused the country's attention on the need for a balanced budget. And that is the centerpiece of this controversy. But I feel that this shutdown is taking the public attention away from that important and historic landmark achievement by the leadership of both the Senate and the House, and others; that is, bringing a final agreement on a balanced budget within a 7-year period of time.

If the President would be forthcoming, if he would be forthcoming with a balanced budget, with his own ideas as to how he can achieve it within that 7-year period of time with the CBO figures, I think these negotiations could very quickly resolve such differences that remain and allow the current stalemate to be concluded.

Mr. President, earlier I spoke about the meeting on the House side this