

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2002

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3061, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3061) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I thank the assistant majority leader for his statement about scheduling. It is my hope and it is my recommendation that we proceed very promptly with this bill, with the possibility of concluding it before the end of business today, or certainly no later than midday tomorrow.

There has been ample time for Senators to consider amendments to this legislation. Last year, this bill was reported out of committee on June 30 and floor action was concluded on July 27, and because of scheduling this year, it has come at a later time, understandably. Senators have had an opportunity to consider whatever amendments they want to offer. There is real concern as to what may happen in the remainder of the legislative season, and there has been some talk and most of us, if not all of us, do not want to see a continuing resolution.

Mr. President, the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education bill before the Senate today contains \$123.1 billion in discretionary spending, the full amount of the subcommittee's budget authority allocation under section 302(b) of the Budget Act. This amount represents an increase of \$11.4 billion over the FY'01 freeze level. The bill is within its outlay allocation of \$107.7 billion. In addition, \$300 million in emergency spending is also included for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

At this time, I want to take this opportunity to thank the distinguished Senator from Iowa, Senator HARKIN, the chairman of the committee, for his hard work in bringing this bill through the committee and on to the floor for full consideration by all Senators.

The programs funded within the subcommittee's jurisdiction provide resources to improve the public health and strengthen biomedical research, assure a quality education for America's children, and offer opportunities for individuals seeking to improve job skills. I'd like to mention several important accomplishments of this bill.

Few things are more important than a person's health and few things are more feared than ill health. Medical research into understanding, preventing,

and treating the disorders that afflict men, women and children in our society is the best means we have for protecting our health and combating disease.

Since January 2001, the Labor-HHS Subcommittee has held 12 hearings on medical research issues. We have heard testimony from NIH Institute Directors, medical experts from across the United States, patients, family members, and advocates asking for increased biomedical research funding to find the causes and cures for diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, ALS, AIDS, cancer, diabetes, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, heart disease and many other serious health disorders. The bill before the Senate contains \$23.7 billion for the National Institutes of Health, the crown jewel of the Federal Government. The \$3.4 billion increase over the FY 2001 appropriation will support medical research that is being conducted at institutions throughout the country. This increase will continue the effort to double NIH by FY 2003. These funds will be critical in catalyzing scientific discoveries that will lead to new treatments and cures for a whole host of diseases.

The use of human embryonic stem cells for research has become an issue that is consistently debated in the press, on radio and television, and amongst people around the world. The fact that in fewer than 3 years, stem cell research has gone from an avant garde interest of a few select scientists to a common, contemporary issue reveals the immense potential that stem cells offer ailing patients.

Yet coming to terms with the inherent moral and ethical issues of stem cell research is difficult. We struggle with the balance of our respect for human life against the compassion we have for those who suffer from diseases that could be cured by stem cells. On August 9, 2001, President Bush recounted his own struggle with this volatile issue. The President made a diligent, valiant effort to reach an accord that would satisfy all sides.

I believe that limits on the use of Federal research money to only existing stem cell lines, will place barriers in the path of medical progress. We are just beginning to understand which researchers and companies throughout the world have ownership of these existing stem cell lines and we have little knowledge of their property rights, plans to share or license the use of those lines to other researchers, or whether the donors of those embryos have given the requisite informed consent. We know little about the quality of those existing stem cell lines, although up to one-third of them may be so fragile that they will be of no use to any researcher. We do not know how future therapies will be developed for our genetically diverse population from only a few select genetic lines. Perhaps most importantly, we are now learning that the existing stem cell

lines may be inappropriate for producing any human therapies because of their exposure to mouse feeder cells while growing in culture.

Since 1998, the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education has held nine hearings to explore the potential medical benefits of stem cell research. The subcommittee has heard more than 21 hours of testimony from some of the most preeminent scientists in the world who have described how stem cells have the potential to cure the most common diseases afflicting Americans today. We have heard from ethicists who have discussed the moral and social implications of pursuing this line of research. We have listened to company executives who recount their ideas and hopes for delivering therapies to patients and patent attorneys discussing intellectual property rights. But the most striking and most compelling testimony has been from patients who suffer from disease and disabilities that destroy lives.

The Labor-HHS and Education bill before the Senate adds a new provision to the existing embryo ban (carried in the bill since FY'96). This language permits Federal dollars to be used—at the discretion of the President—for research on embryonic stem cells from embryos that meet the following criteria: created in excess of clinical need, will otherwise be discarded, and are donated with the written consent of the progenitors. This language for the first time, states that Federal dollars may be used for embryonic stem cell research.

Since September 11, 2001, Americans have become acutely aware that our enemies will use any means to murder and maim large numbers of U.S. civilians. The use of biological agents is no longer a threat—it is a reality. The deaths of 3 individuals from inhalational anthrax and the infection of others with the cutaneous form of the disease has made all of us aware of the need to act quickly to provide the funds needed for prevention and treatment needs. The committee has included \$338 million to coordinate state and local readiness, stockpile appropriate pharmaceuticals, and build our public health infrastructure to respond to any act of bioterrorism. The anthrax found in Senator DASCHLE's office and in the House and Senate mail rooms, at postal facilities in New Jersey and the District of Columbia and surrounding areas, in news and other media facilities proves that we must try and prevent, detect and quickly respond to any further acts of bioterrorism. Additional dollars to address bioterrorism needs will be considered during supplemental appropriations bills in November.

For the first time, the committee has included \$1 million for a public awareness campaign to educate Americans about the existence of spare embryos and adoption options. During stem cell hearings, we were made aware that

there are 100,000 spare frozen embryos stored in in-vitro fertilization clinics throughout the United States. Many infertile couples could choose to adopt and implant such embryos if they were aware of that option.

Since 1999, \$2.9 billion has been devoted to programs to assist communities in preventing youth violence. This year the committee has included \$1.542 billion to continue to address youth violence in a comprehensive and coordinating manner throughout the Federal Government. Funds will be used to improve research, prevention, education, and treatment strategies to identify and combat youth violence.

To enable all children to develop and function at their highest potential, the bill included \$6.6 billion for the Head Start Program, an increase of \$400 million over last year's appropriation. This increase will provide services to 916,000 children in 49,420 classrooms across the Nation.

To help provide primary health care services to the medically indigent and underserved populations in rural and urban areas, the bill contains \$1.34 billion for community health centers. This amount presents an increase of \$175.1 million over the FY 2001 appropriation. These centers provide health care to nearly 12 million low-income patients, many of whom are uninsured.

Again this year, the committee has placed a very high priority on women's health. The bill before the Senate provides \$818.7 million for programs specifically addressing the health needs of women. Included in this amount is \$27.4 million for the Public Health Service, Office of Women's Health, an increase of \$6.1 million over last year's funding level to continue and expand programs to develop model health care services for women, provide monies for a comprehensive review of the impact of heart disease on women, and to launch an osteoporosis public education campaign aimed at teenagers. Also included is \$266 million for family planning programs; \$124.2 million to support the programs that provide assistance to women who have been victims of abuse and to initiate and expand domestic violence prevention programs to begin; \$167.2 million for sexually transmitted diseases; \$195 million for breast and cervical cancer screening; and \$39 million for the Office of Research on Women's Health at the National Institutes of Health.

In FY'01, the Labor-HHS Subcommittee held several hearings to explore the factors leading to medical errors and received testimony from family members and patients detailing their experiences with medical mistakes. The Institute of Medicine also gave testimony and outlined findings from their recent report which indicated that 98,000 deaths occur each year because of medical errors and these deaths may cost up to \$29 billion in excess health care expenditures and lost productivity each year. The bill before the Senate contains \$60 million

to determine ways to reduce medical errors, an increase of \$10 million over the FY'01 appropriation.

The bill maintains \$2 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. The amount, when combined with the additional \$300 million in emergency appropriations, will provide a total of \$2.3 billion for the LIHEAP Program in FY'02. LIHEAP is the key energy assistance program for low income families in Pennsylvania and in other cold weather states throughout the Nation. Funding support grants to States to deliver critical assistance to low income households to help meet higher energy costs.

For programs serving the elderly, the bill before the Senate recommends \$2.4 billion. Included is: \$366 million for supportive services and senior centers; \$561 million for congregate and home-delivered nutrition services; and \$202.5 million for the national senior volunteer corps; \$450 million for the community service employment program which provides part-time employment opportunities for low-income elderly. Also, the bill provides \$909.1 million for the National Institute on Aging for research into the causes and cures of Alzheimer's disease and other aging related disorders; funds to continue geriatric education centers; and the Medicare insurance counseling program.

The bill includes \$5.1 billion for AIDS research, prevention and services. Included in this amount is \$1.833 billion for Ryan White programs, an increase of \$75.4 million; \$781.2 million for AIDS prevention programs at the Centers for Disease Control; and \$2.375 billion for research at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

To enhance this Nation's investment in education, the bill before the Senate contains \$48.5 billion in discretionary education funds, an increase of \$6.3 billion over the FY'01 freeze level, and \$4 billion more than the President's budget request.

For programs to educate disadvantaged children, the bill recommends \$11.8 billion, an increase of \$1.8 billion over last year's level. The bill also includes \$200 million for the Even Start program to provide educational services to low-income children and their families; \$36 million for the education of homeless children, and \$30 million for migrant education programs.

For school improvement programs, the bill includes \$8.7 billion, an increase of \$1.6 billion over the FY'01 appropriation. Within this amount, \$3.039 billion will be used for a new state grant program for improving teacher quality. To assist States and local education agencies in developing education reform initiatives, the bill includes \$410 million. Also included is \$925 million for grants to local education agencies for emergency school renovation and repair activities. The committee recommendation includes \$712.1 million for educational technology state grants, as authorized under the Senate-passed version of

H.R. 1. This program consolidates the four current educational technology programs.

For the 21st century After School Program, the bill provides \$1 billion, an increase of \$154.4 million over last year's level. This program supports rural and inner-city public elementary and secondary schools that provide extended learning opportunities and offer recreational, health, and other social services programs. The bill also includes language to permit funds to be provided to community-based organizations.

For Impact Aid programs, the bill includes \$1.130 billion, an increase of \$137.1 million over the 2000 appropriation. Included in the recommendation is: \$50 million for payments for children with disabilities; \$954 million for basic support payments, an increase of \$72 million; \$68 million for construction and \$50.5 million for payments for Federal property.

The bill provides \$516 million to assist in the education of immigrant and limited-English proficient students. This recommendation is an increase of \$56 million over the 2001 appropriation.

The \$8.4 billion provided in the bill will help local educational agencies meet the requirement that all children with disabilities have access to a free, appropriate public education, and all infants and toddlers with disabilities have access to early intervention services. The \$999.6 million increase over the FY'01 appropriation will serve an estimated 6.5 million children age 3-21, at a cost of \$1,133 per child. While also supporting 612,700 preschoolers at a cost of \$637 per child.

To improve post-secondary education opportunities for low-income first-generation college students, the committee recommendation provides \$805 million for the TRIO program, a \$75 million increase over the 2001 appropriation. These additional funds will assist in more intensive outreach and support services for low income youth.

For student aid programs, the bill provides \$12.3 billion, an increase of \$1.6 billion over last year's amount. Pell grants, the cornerstone of student financial aid, have been increased by \$250 for a maximum grant of \$4,000. The supplemental educational opportunity grants program has also been increased by \$22.1 million, the work study program is held at the FY'01 level and the Perkins loans programs is increased by \$15 million.

In this Nation, we know all too well that unemployment wastes valuable human talent and potential, and ultimately weakens our economy. The bill before us today provides \$5.5 billion for job training programs, \$80.8 million over the 2001 level. Also included is \$1.4 billion for Job Corps programs; \$950 million for adult training; and \$1.549 billion for retraining dislocated workers and \$1.127 billion for youth training.

The bill provides \$1.422 billion for worker protection programs, an increase of \$63.8 million above the 2001

appropriation. While progress has been made in this area, there are still far too many work-related injuries and illnesses. The funds provided will continue the programs that inspect business and industry, assist employers in weeding out occupational hazards and protect workers' pay and pensions.

The bill includes \$395 million for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, an increase of \$30 million over the FY'2003 appropriation. In addition to the core amount provided for CPB, the Committee recommends \$25 million for the conversion to digital broadcasting.

There are many other notable accomplishments in this bill, but for sake of time, I have mentioned just several of the key highlights, so that the Nation may grasp the scope and importance of this bill.

Mr. President, I again want to thank Senator HARKIN and his staff and the other Senators on the subcommittee for their cooperation.

This bill has very substantial additional funding for education—some \$4 billion more than last year. It has very considerable additional funding for the National Institutes of Health, which funding has been a priority, on which the distinguished chairman, Senator HARKIN, and I have worked during his chairmanship in the early 1990s and mine for 6½ years, beginning in 1995 through earlier this year. If there is a continuing resolution, those increases will not be realized.

I think there is also an appropriate point of emphasis with what is happening in the country. I believe other Senators share my belief that there is a real need for us to spend time in our States with our constituents, telling them what is happening in the world and telling them what is happening in America. We all know that all of this work should have been finished by September 30. Here we are on October 30.

So I urge my colleagues, in furtherance of what the distinguished Acting majority leader has said, to let us know what the amendments are and offer to bring them. If we are not accorded that kind of consideration, it is my hope we will move to the third reading so that we can go to conference.

This is not going to be an easy bill to conference. Unless we proceed with dispatch, we will not have the benefit of these very substantial increases in funding.

I thank the Chair and my colleagues. The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have spoken with the managers of the bill, and being a member of the committee, I have been so impressed with the hearings these two Senators have held over the last several years. It does not matter who is the chairman of the subcommittee; they have done outstanding work. They are always on the cutting edge of what is going on in the country. So I hope people will realize what an important bill this is.

I am going to work to have a unanimous consent agreement in order that by 4 o'clock this afternoon there will be a filing deadline for first-degree amendments on this bill. We will work on that while the managers are giving their opening statements.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I thank our assistant majority leader for his efforts in this regard. I thank him for all of his support through the years, and especially this year, for bringing this bill before the Senate. It is an important bill.

I will give my opening statement in a moment. I certainly hope we are able to reach some agreement on the filing of amendments sometime this afternoon. This bill has been laid to the side for a long time. People have known it was going to come up. I hope we can get the amendments filed. I hope we can dispense with this bill, if not today, as was said, early tomorrow. There is no reason we cannot finish the bill today. I hope we can move in that direction. I thank Senator REID for his efforts in this regard.

AMENDMENT NO. 2017

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I send a substitute amendment to the desk, which is the text of the Senate-committee-reported bill, and ask the clerk to report it.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN], for himself and Mr. SPECTER, proposes an amendment numbered 2017.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that the amendment be considered as original text for the purpose of further amendment; and that no points of order be considered waived by virtue of this agreement.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, as chairman of the Labor, Health and Human

Services, and Education Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I am very pleased to bring before the Senate the 2002 appropriations bill for the Department of Labor, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Education, and related agencies.

I am also pleased to report that the bill was approved on a unanimous bipartisan vote on October 11.

I begin by thanking my good friend and partner in this effort, Senator SPECTER, and his excellent staff for working with me and my staff to put together this bill on a bipartisan basis. This is always one of the most difficult bills to put together, and it is certainly one of the most important.

Our Nation's health and the strength of our tomorrow are shaped by the critical health, education, and labor investments made by this bill.

I also thank Chairman BYRD and Senator STEVENS for their steadfast support and guidance throughout the year and for their good work in helping us get an enhanced allocation.

The bill we are putting forward today obviously is not perfect, not by a long shot, but given the limited resources with which we had to work, I think it is a very strong bill and one I can strongly recommend.

As we have done throughout our over 10-year partnership working on this subcommittee, the fiscal year 2002 bill is truly the product of bipartisan negotiation as Senator SPECTER and I have worked closely together to shape it. We have done our best to accommodate the literally thousands of requests we have received from our colleagues.

Mr. President, I will highlight some of the main features of the proposal before us.

First, it takes a number of important steps to improve the quality, affordability, and accessibility of health care in America. By providing a record \$3.4 billion increase to medical research funded by the National Institutes of Health, we are keeping our 5-year commitment to double our national investment in potential medical breakthroughs. This action holds the hope of improving the lives of millions plagued by killers such as Alzheimer's, cancer, Parkinson's, diabetes, osteoporosis, spinal cord injuries, and so many others.

The bill also makes a major improvement in access to affordable health care by providing a record \$175 million increase to community health centers and major increases in critical prevention activities such as cancer and heart disease screening. These changes are preventive in nature and will save lives and improve health.

The bill also has a major new effort to improve health care in our rural areas and small towns. We will bring more doctors and nurses and other health professionals to places they are needed by expanding the National Health Service Corps and the Nurse Loan Repayment Program. Our struggling rural hospitals are given help to

deal with Medicare paperwork burdens and help to expand into other activities such as adult daycare.

As a Senator from Iowa and as co-chair of the Senate Rural Health Caucus, I know how sorely these changes are needed.

Education continues to be a top priority of this subcommittee, and while our bill provides substantial new investments in quality education, it is my strong hope and expectation that more resources will be provided when we complete action on the education reform bill now in conference.

I also sit on that conference committee, led by our distinguished chairman, Senator KENNEDY. That bill, which is now in conference, contains an amendment that was offered by Senator HAGEL and me that the Senate approved without one dissenting vote, that we will finally meet our commitment to fully fund special education. We need that provision to do right by our schools and our local property tax payers.

That amendment in that bill—I am talking not about the bill before us, but the education reform bill that is in conference—the amendment Senator HAGEL and I offered, would over the next several years increase from the present level of 15 percent to 40 percent the amount the Federal Government will put into special education on an average-cost-per-pupil basis.

Twenty-five years ago when we passed the special education bill, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, we stated at that time that the goal of the Federal Government was to provide 40 percent of the average-per-pupil cost. That was 25, actually 26, years ago, and we are now at 15 percent.

Special education continues to be one of the highest costs to our local school districts, one that is burdening our local school systems and our local property tax payers. Yet the Federal Government has not lived up to its commitment. So in that education bill, Senator HAGEL and I offered an amendment to boost that funding. It is now in conference, and hopefully we will keep that provision in the bill.

That will, of course, free up some money for other parts of education which we did not have in our bill and were unable to meet all the needs.

I especially want to say with the downturn in the economy, I believe we are going to need more money especially for title I programs in education for the next year, and beyond that depends on what happens to the economy. Certainly we are going to need it for the next year.

Again, I am hopeful the education bill that is in conference will continue; that the House will recede to the Senate and will keep that money for special education.

I am also very pleased to report this bill before us today contains nearly \$1 billion to make needed repairs to our schools, including necessary security

enhancements. Last year, this subcommittee, under the leadership of Senator SPECTER, started an initiative to help our local school districts make their schools safe. It has been extremely popular in the States, and in a time of economic downturn, this job-creating initiative is even more urgent and it should be continued.

I will, at some appropriate point, point out on a chart how much all of the various States have received in the last year to make needed repairs, to bring their schools up to fire and safety code requirements, and to make needed security enhancements for their schools. As I said, it has been very helpful to the States. The Governors all support it; the school boards support it; and the parent-teacher associations. There is no one who is opposed to it.

So we put the money back in this year to keep it going. With all of the talk about stimulus and stimulus package, and looking at the stimulus package the House sent us with all of the tax breaks for huge corporations, it seems to me the best stimulus we could provide would be to send money directly to our communities so they could repair and modernize their schools. We get a couple bangs for the buck on that. We put people to work; it stimulates local economies, and of course that has a backup effect because there will be suppliers of different equipment, and it provides for all kinds of multiplier effects in the economy.

The second thing we get when we finish is we get something of lasting value for our country: better schools. So I am hopeful this program will be continued.

This bill also makes college more affordable for millions of young people by increasing the Pell grant maximum to \$4,000 and increasing the TRIO by \$75 million, which brings that program's total funding to \$805 million.

The bill also makes an important downpayment on needed improvements to elementary and secondary education. It increases funding for title I by \$1.4 billion, to a total of \$10.2 billion. It increases afterschool programs by \$154 million, which brings that to a total of about \$1 billion. It increases funding for teacher quality by over \$900 million for a total of just over \$3 billion for teacher quality.

This bill also funds crucial worker protection and job training efforts. I am pleased we have been able to improve our commitment to worker training and safety in this bill. We have also funded our State unemployment offices to handle the increased caseload they will face with the economic downturn.

Coming from a State with one of the highest percentages of senior citizens in the Nation, I am keenly aware of the many needs of our Nation's seniors. Accordingly, our bill contains a substantial initiative to improve services to our Nation's elderly. We will allow many more homebound seniors to receive Meals on Wheels. This is a very

good, low-cost program that helps the elderly and disabled in small towns and urban centers all over our country. For many of the seniors it is their only hot meal of the day and often the person who delivers the meal is the only visitor they have during the entire day.

This bill also provides a major increase in services such as adult daycare, to help seniors remain in their own homes and to give their loved ones needed respite and support care.

Finally, our subcommittee has held a series of hearings on the need to better protect Americans from the threat of bioterrorism, which, of course, is on so many of our minds today, especially those of us who have offices in the Hart Building, knowing we are not going to be able to get our staffs back in the building for, I guess, a few more weeks, from what I understand. It is a concern of Americans all over America about the mail they receive and whether they are going to be exposed, whether or not our food is going to be safe. So bioterrorism is something we have to address.

This Friday, our subcommittee will be having a hearing on the potential threat of smallpox and what we are doing and what more we need to do to protect our country against this possible terrorist threat.

While the bill before us contains a modest level of funding to address this need of bioterrorism, a much larger package will be included in the antiterrorism supplemental appropriations bill. We have developed a detailed \$2.3 billion plan that would beef up our public health system, boost our vaccine stockpiles, help hospitals respond to potential surges, boost vaccine research, and increase lab security.

This subcommittee is serious about meeting this threat head on, and we are prepared to fully fund a comprehensive, commonsense, antibioterrorism effort.

I conclude by saying Senator SPECTER and I are now prepared to move this bill. The leaders have asked us, as we heard earlier, to move the bill quickly. We are eager to complete it so we can get to conference with the House. So I hope, if Members have amendments, they will come to the Chamber and offer them. Hopefully, we can wrap up this bill sometime today.

As the chairman, I usually am aware of possible amendments. I must say at this point in time I have not heard of any amendments. So if any Senators have amendments, I hope they will come and offer them as soon as possible.

I want to thank my colleague, Senator SPECTER, and his staff for all their help in putting this bill together. As he said earlier, we have had a great partnership now going on over 10 years. We keep switching sides. One is the chairman or ranking member, then chairman or ranking member. Quite frankly, I like it a little bit better this way, but I could not have asked for a better chairman when I was ranking member.

I appreciate all of the many kindnesses he has afforded me, and the closeness with which we have worked over the years to develop our appropriations bills, especially this one this year.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, to reiterate, I thank my distinguished colleague from Iowa for those very generous comments. It is not uncommon to hear hyperbole when one Senator talks about another, but the relationship which Senator HARKIN and I have developed for more than a decade represents bipartisanship at its best.

I understand when Senator HARKIN says he likes it a little bit better when he is the chairman. Some people would not be surprised to hear he likes it a lot better when he is the chairman. Senator HARKIN chaired the subcommittee prior to 1995 when I became chairman and was chairman for some 6½ years. The transition has been seamless. TOM HARKIN and ARLEN SPECTER learned a long time ago that if one wants to get something done in Washington, they have to be willing to cross party lines.

Our work on this subcommittee involves three of the most important subjects on which the Congress has to appropriate, and that is on education, where it is a priority second to none; and health, which has a standing with education; and labor and work safety are matters of enormous importance where the public interest is very well served by this kind of bipartisanship and this kind of cooperation.

We have structured a bill with the assistance of a superb staff. Both Senator HARKIN and I refer to our deputies, Ellen and Betty Lou, as deputy Senators because they take over. We have the final say, but they are tremendous.

Mr. HARKIN. We do?

Mr. SPECTER. Senator HARKIN just said, "We do?" And I would add: Yes, sir, we do.

Mr. HARKIN. We think we do.

Mr. SPECTER. It is an enormous staff contribution. Senator HARKIN and I have received more than a thousand requests from Senators for inclusion in this bill, and we have done our best to accommodate all those requests. We have accommodated a surprisingly high number as we have worked through the priorities on this bill.

This bill provides for \$123 billion in budget authority, and that is an increase of \$11.4 billion over last year, and we are within our 302(b) allocation. We are within the budget. This represents a determination by the Senate of the very high priority on these issues.

In providing funding for education, health and labor, with emphasis on worker safety, we have added funds to the National Institutes of Health which we believe to be the crown jewel of the Federal Government. We started on this very substantial increase for fiscal year 1998. Up until that time there had

been increases but not enormous increases. Senator HARKIN and I determined this was the highest priority because of the tremendous number of ailments which were addressed by the National Institutes of Health.

That year, we asked the Budget Committee for an extra \$1 billion; we were turned down. So we came to the floor and offered an amendment on the budget for an extra \$1 billion; we lost 63-37. We got out the sharp pencils and found the extra \$1 billion in priorities. The next year, having lost our effort for an extra \$1 billion from the budgeting process, we asked for \$2 billion; we were turned down again. We lost again on the floor, 52-48. But we have pursued this matter with tenacity and diligence, so that last year when we asked for \$2.5 billion—this year we are asking for \$3.4 billion—we had a vote of 96-4. We have had that kind of support. That reflects the Nation's mood.

From fiscal years 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001—and if we mark in the \$3.4 billion this year—we will have increased NIH funding by \$11 billion on an existing budget in fiscal year 1997 of \$12.7 billion. We believe that has been good for America. We have been able to watch NIH and, with other oversight, move within 5 years, perhaps, of conquering Parkinson's disease, delaying Alzheimer's disease, and made enormous achievements in cancer research and therapy and in heart disease.

I ask unanimous consent that at the end of my comments the long list of diseases tackled by the National Institutes of Health, with remarkable success, be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See Exhibit No. 1.)

Mr. SPECTER. Among the hearings our subcommittee has held since December of 1998, there were nine on stem cells, which burst upon the scene in November of 1998. The President has taken a significant step forward in authorizing Federal funding for all of the stem cell lines which were in existence as of August 9 at 9 p.m. Subsequent hearings by our subcommittee have disclosed the likelihood is high that will not be sufficient to have the kind of medical research which is necessary. The determination of that will await another day, candidly, as our country has been so heavily involved on the war against terrorism.

In response to very legitimate concerns which have been addressed by many about the possibility of having life from those embryos which are discarded on in vitro fertilization, we have included in this bill \$1 million as a starting project to have an embryo adoption awareness campaign.

In in vitro fertilization, perhaps a couple will create a dozen of these embryos. Then there will be selected three or four of the strongest embryos for implantation, for in vitro fertilization. The bulk of the remaining embryos will be discarded. An issue has been

raised about the possibility of adoption of these embryos. Certainly, if it were possible to bring all of these embryos to life, no one would suggest remotely they be used for research for stem cell extraction. But it is only because they are going to be discarded that it is concluded it is better to use them than to simply lose them and throw them away.

In an effort to have the maximum utilization possible of these embryos if life can be produced, we have started on this embryo adoption awareness campaign and have allocated \$1 million—not an enormous sum of money, but enough for a start. If it moves ahead, we will be revisiting this matter with increased appropriations in subsequent years.

Our funding has been very extensive on other critical programs of the Department of Health and Human Services. The Centers for Disease Control, which is now very much in the headlines, was the subject of an additional \$170 million last year for improvement of the plan. About 18 months ago, I made a visit to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta because I could not believe the stories I was hearing about renowned scientists working in corridors with their desks under extraordinarily difficult circumstances. I went to Atlanta. I found that the conditions were even worse than had been described.

Senator HARKIN and I crafted \$170 million for our budget for capital improvements which will exceed some \$1 billion over the course of years. This year, we have added some \$250 million to that program. We have had a substantial increase in Head Start, of some \$400 million, and we are now at \$6.6 billion. The Ryan White AIDS program has an increase of \$75 million to \$1.888 billion. Children's Graduate Medical Education, a very important item, has had an increase up to \$243 million.

On education on title I, disadvantaged youngsters, we have had the remarkable increase of \$2.4 billion, or a total of some \$11.8 billion. On the important item of teacher quality State grants, an increase of \$930 million to \$1.9 billion, we have had a virtual doubling of that important account. On special education, an item I hear about so often in my town meetings as I visit the 67 counties in Pennsylvania, we have had an increase of \$1 billion, moving toward the goal of having the Federal Government fund 40 percent of special education.

Pell grantees have been raised consistently. Now they are at \$4,000, an increase of \$250 over last year. Gradually we are moving them up and up and up.

With respect to labor, the dislocated worker account, which is so important today with the economy having the difficulties which are so well known, we have an increase of \$136 million, for a total of \$1.5 billion.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration, OSHA, has an increase of

almost \$25 million; mine safety, an increase of almost \$10 million; the National Labor Relations Board, an increase of \$10 million to try to get them to cope with their very heavy backlog.

That is a summary of some of the items in this bill. We think we have crafted the priorities in accordance with America's needs. These are three Departments of enormous importance. We have a substantial allocation for bioterrorism which we have addressed each year.

That will be in our regular budget—\$338 million. That is going to have an increase yet to be determined.

We had a special hearing several weeks ago where the indications were a minimum of \$1.5 billion, which was the request at that time. That is going to be substantially increased to enable us to cope with the very serious threat which confronts America today.

That is a very brief summary. I urge my colleagues to come to the Senate floor. Now is a good time to offer amendments. There is no competition; Senators may offer amendments right at the head of the line.

EXHIBIT No. 1

DISEASES

Alzheimers.
Parkinsons.
ALS
Muscular dystrophy.
Diabetes.
Osteoporosis.
Cancers: breast, cervical and ovarian; lymphoma; multiple myeloma; prostate; pancreatic; colon; head and neck; brain; lung.
Pediatric renal disorders.
Multiple sclerosis.
Deafness and other communication disorders.
Glaucoma.
Macular degeneration.
Sickle cell anemia.
Heart disease.
Spinal cord injury.
Sudden infant death syndrome.
Arthritis.
Schizophrenia and other mental disorders.
Polycystic kidney disease.
Hepatitis.
Cooley's anemia.
Primary immune deficiency disorders.
Autism.
Stroke.
Obesity.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. This assistant majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, prior to Senator STEVENS, a minority member on the Appropriations Committee, speaking on this bill, I want to announce to everyone that as soon as we come back from the party caucuses, after the recess at 2:15, there will be a unanimous consent agreement setting a time for filing—not for filing but for calling the cloakroom. We are going to come up with a list of finite amendments at a certain time today.

We would like to offer that unanimous consent right now, but we have been given information that the minority wants to complete their caucus lunch before they make a decision. I only state we hope that can be worked out. I am confident it will be, but if it

is not, we are going to offer the unanimous consent and someone will have to come and personally object to it. We need to move this bill along.

The Republican senior member of the committee is on the floor and he has worked very hard. We now have two bills that have been sent to the President. We have two or three conference reports we are going to complete this week, so we are making progress. One of the things we can do to show some significant progress is complete this bill tonight or prior to lunch tomorrow and then move on to another appropriations bill.

I hope we can have that agreement on a finite list of amendments entered shortly after we come back from lunch.

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

Mr. REID. I will be happy to yield to my colleague from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. So I understand what the Senator from Nevada is saying, I am going to offer an amendment to this bill and every bill that comes to the floor. It is something that was dropped out of the bill last week on counterterrorism. It deals with what is called advanced passenger information systems. We have airlines landing this morning from Pakistan, from Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, airliners coming from those countries for which there is no passenger information forwarded to the Customs Department.

Eighty-five percent of the airlines do voluntarily provide that information. Fifteen percent of the airlines do not. I have described the countries from which the airlines come that do not provide that information. Everyone agreed we ought to do this. I offered the amendment and it was knocked out in conference on the counterterrorism bill because we had some people worried about their jurisdiction. They would not allow it in conference.

Today we have literally thousands of people coming on airplanes from that region and the names of those people are not provided to the Federal law enforcement authorities as they are from 85 percent of the other carriers. In this case, those names are not provided now. It seems to me that compromises this country's security.

I aim to fix that as quickly as we can. I intend to offer that as an amendment to every bill, and I will offer it this afternoon to this legislation as well. I want to make sure I am not prevented from doing so.

Mr. REID. I say to my friend from North Dakota, he certainly is not prevented from doing so. I hope he offers that amendment as soon as possible. The sooner we get to it, the quicker we are going to move through the bill, but Senators will have an opportunity to offer any amendments they want. We are not trying to cut off any amendments. We are simply saying we want to cut off time so we know what amendments we are going to have to work through before we complete this legislation.

I look forward to supporting my friend, the Senator from North Dakota, on this most important legislation dealing with airport security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, while the Senator from North Dakota, who made the comment concerning the advanced lists, is present, I want to make a comment on another subject. But I say Alaska has suffered recently because of the loss of cargo lines that came through Anchorage and went on to other parts of the United States or Mexico or Canada. They landed primarily for fuel. The Customs regulations were changed and because of those changes, one of which was the request for the advanced lists, a series of those cargo lines have now decided to land in Canada and not land in the United States. So their first landing is in Canada.

I do not think the Senator is going to propose we get an advanced list of passengers on Canadian airlines. I am not sure it is possible under NAFTA. So I urge him to consider some way to deal with this problem of requiring lists that might lead to these planes deviating and going into Canada and actually we would have less information than we have today. I do not want to debate it now, but I will talk to him about it and tell him what happened in Alaska. I hope he understands.

Mr. DORGAN. Will the Senator yield for a question? I understand he wants to talk about other things. My interest is in making sure we have the passenger lists of people coming into this country. As I indicated, in 85 percent of the cases we do, but we do not now from Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and so on. It seems to me that security is paramount at this point, and I certainly will visit with the Senator from Alaska about the issue he raises. I am talking especially about passenger lists at this point. I will talk more about it this afternoon.

Mr. STEVENS. I support the Senator's request. I supported his amendment before, and I will support it again, but I do think we have to take a look to see what the consequences of some of these requirements are and be prepared to meet the changes that come in terms of the airline travel.

Mr. President, I want to talk about the Labor-Health and Human Services appropriations bill. I know it will be up after lunch. I welcome the statement of the distinguished majority whip that we will seek a listing of these amendments today. I also am delighted I was able to be with Senator SPECTER who spoke about a matter that he and I have discussed at other times, and that is the creation of some type of category that will allow us to distinguish between normal visa applicants, or holders who are privileged to be in this country, and those who should properly be on a list of known terrorists.

I, for one, do agree with him. We should find some way to treat those

people as we would agents of foreign nations and treat them as prisoners of war. We ought to start getting tougher, as the Senator from Pennsylvania says.

What worries me most, as one of the few survivors of the World War II era, is I do not think we understand how tough we have to get to deal with some of these issues that are coming before our country. I hear people saying once again there is a global threat warning out and we are sort of crying wolf.

Well, it is not crying wolf. I really believe the Attorney General and the head of our new homeland defense agency are right to warn the people of the United States, and I think it is high time we decide how tough we are going to be in facing the challenges that have now beset us because of our global war against terrorism.

As I said, I came to talk about the Labor-Health and Human Services bill. It is the largest bill that comes before the Appropriations Committee. It is the largest because its breadth of coverage, as well as its size, means it does more to help everyday Americans than any other bill we consider in this Congress. It addresses American's health needs from community clinics to bioterrorism to immunizations. It provides services for Americans who need a helping hand from electric bills to job training. It helps narrow the education gap, providing Pell grants to lower income university students, to assistance to Alaska native colleges. I am pleased the committee has agreed to fund the Denali Commission. It was a commission I urged Congress to create to adopt a novel approach to providing assistance to remote areas in my State. The overhead of this commission in handling Federal funds is held to 5 percent or less. It is probably the lowest rate in the entire Federal Government.

We have found by handling money through a commission that has on it members of the State government, of the Federal Government, of business and labor, of the environmental community, as well as the native community, we can make decisions on how to spend and where to spend Federal money without the enormous overhead of the rest of the Federal executive branch. It has already helped build health clinics in remote villages where there are no doctors or nurses. We have pioneered in telemedicine and tele-education in my State. I am most pleased that the Appropriations Committee has agreed to continue to support this approach.

Sadly, my State leads the Nation in domestic violence, child abuse, and alcoholism. I am deeply grateful to the chairman and the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education for including an initiative to develop a statewide plan to combat domestic violence and child abuse in Alaska. Likewise, I am very pleased funds have been provided to implement the physical education for progress legislation Congress adopted last year at my request.

It is my hope we will move forward on this legislation quickly. I urge our colleagues to come to the floor as soon as possible to clear any amendments with the managers of the bill. We have other bills to which we should move. I know the chairman of the committee, Senator BYRD, will be speaking on this matter. I join him in requesting we consider how we can move the remaining legislation that comes from our Appropriations Committee and still finish our business in time to get home for Thanksgiving.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I will speak at more length on the subject I talked about a few moments ago, the issue of the advance passenger information system, which sounds like an innocuous system but it is a very important system by which we help provide for this country's security. Let me describe exactly what has happened.

We have 57 million people enter this country every year by airplane. Commercial airplanes from all around the world come into this country. We have some 57 million people on those airplanes entering the United States. There are 94 different air carriers flying those people into our country. There were 400,000 international flights with passengers processed into our country in the last year.

The question, especially since September 11, and since the terrorist threats against this country resulted in these devastating attacks of mass murder, the question is, Who are these people who are entering our country? What is their background? Do their names show up somewhere on a list of people who are affiliated with or associated with a terrorist cell? Are they known or suspected terrorists? Who are they?

In order to answer that question, we have what is called the advance passenger information system, which has 85 percent of the passengers covered by APIS because the carriers that are bringing them into this country voluntarily provide information to the Customs Service in America, saying here is our passenger list. That list then is cross-checked against the list of the Customs Service, the FBI, and others, to try to determine whether there are people who are trying to enter our country who should not enter. Pretty simple.

But the 15 percent of the passengers who are not part of this system, whose names don't come in to be checked, includes passengers on airplanes coming from, among other countries, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan, Egypt, and

Pakistan. Let me give carriers that do not comply. They are not part of the voluntary system and do not provide passenger lists or information about passengers: Air Lingus, Aer Transat, Bahamas Air, Champion, Saudi, Kuwait, Royal Jordanian, Air Pakistan International, Canada 3000.

I chaired hearings in the appropriations subcommittee dealing with Treasury and general government. We had the Commissioner of the Customs Service testify. He talked about this. He talked about this being an important piece of information we get in our attempt to try to prevent terrorists, or known or suspected terrorists, from coming into our country. He said it is voluntary. There is 15 percent of the information we don't get; 15 percent of the 57 million passengers, with their names, are not given to our Customs Service to be checked. I asked, should it be checked? And he said of course it should, but he said at present it is not mandatory. I said, it is not mandatory? And he said, of course, it should be mandatory.

I indicated we would try to get that done after the September 11 attacks when there were 19 people riding the airplanes who came into this country to commit murder. While they committed an act of self-destruction, they murdered thousands of American citizens. Especially following that, we ought to be concerned about border security. This is one part of border security.

We had a piece of legislation called the counterterrorism bill which the President signed into law last week. That bill had an amendment I offered on the floor of the Senate that would have required the airlines coming into this country to provide the advance passenger information lists. My amendment passed. The Senate said yes. It was in the Senate bill. It came back from conference, and, mysteriously, it was gone. That somehow got destroyed.

That amendment was destroyed in conference. Why? Apparently, because there were some Members who decided in conference they have jurisdiction over this, it didn't go through this hoop or that hoop or didn't have this hearing or that hearing. Therefore, they asserted jurisdiction on this and said they would not allow it to be in conference.

What is the result of that, in my judgment, small-minded decision by some in Congress? What is the result? The result is that today, on Tuesday, there are airplanes landing all across this country coming in from Pakistan, from Egypt, from Saudi Arabia, from Kuwait, from Jordan, and there is no advance passenger list given the Customs Service against which they can check the lists and determine whether there are passengers we don't want coming into this country.

The result of knocking that out of the conference so it was not in the counterterrorism bill last week, in my judgment, injures this country's ability to provide for secure borders. It is

small thinking in the extreme, in my judgment.

Today and tomorrow these airplanes will haul passengers into this country and we will not have information about who those passengers are. We will have information on most of the passengers coming in from South America, from Europe, from most of the countries with which we have trading relationships and good relationships; they have signed a voluntary agreement with us. But the fact is, some of the key countries, some of the key carriers from that region that we need to be very concerned about at this point, are not involved if we receive no passenger list.

Someone said, when you read the names—Pakistan, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and more—aren't you profiling passengers? I said it is not about profiling passengers but about getting a list of all passengers coming into this country and trying to profile who might be known or suspected terrorists and keeping them out. If they happen to come from one region of the country, I regret that. But we are not profiling passengers; we are profiling terrorists to see if we can keep out of this country those whom we don't want to let in because they have suspect ties to terrorist organizations.

Coming into this country with a visa is coming into this country as a guest of the United States. We have every right to keep out of this country those who have ties to or those who are associated with known terrorist organizations. But today, Tuesday, we cannot do that because of behavior that represents monumental littleness, as one of our great former Presidents said in a conference last week, knocking out the amendment to which the Senate had already agreed, knocking out the amendment that came to that conference from the Senate.

As a result, I intend to offer this amendment just after lunch today on this piece of legislation, and I will offer this amendment on every piece of legislation until it becomes law, until it is in a vehicle signed into law by the President of the United States. So at 12:30 on Tuesday next week or a week after when a plane lands in this country, carrying passengers from abroad, we will know that in every circumstance information on the passenger list from that plane is provided to the U.S. Customs Service before departure.

Some might say, well, isn't this an unusual, intrusive and difficult thing to ask of others? The answer is no. Anyone who watched those commercial airplanes fly into the World Trade Center in New York knows that a lot has changed since September 11.

This country's security is critically important. Border security, it seems to me, is where you start. The President said yesterday, as reported in the papers today dealing with visas, that we should be tightening up on visas. I fully agree with that. You have to maintain control of your borders. That doesn't mean you build a wall and keep

people out. It means you have sufficient capability to understand who is coming in and to keep the wrong people out. That is what it means.

My hope is that we will be able to add this amendment to this appropriations bill. I understand this isn't an appropriations amendment. I understand that completely. My hope is that my colleagues who have already approved this—the Senate has already approved this legislation—will understand that our job is to keep sending this matter to conference on every vehicle possible so that the next airplane that lands from abroad is an airplane with a list of passengers that we have, and that list has been checked against the Customs list, against the FBI list, and against all of the lists of some 20 different agencies that have lists that tell us about people who should not be allowed to enter this country because of their known or suspected ties to terrorist organizations.

I will come back after lunch with an amendment I will formally offer. My hope is that the chairman and the ranking member will see fit to agree to it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for no longer than 5 minutes as if in morning business.

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

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I sat here for the last few minutes and listened to my colleague from North Dakota talk about border security. Certainly what he has said I agree with in principle. I haven't seen his amendment. I will now search it out and read it.

I have always believed if you have a guest in your home and find out that guest is going to burn down your home, you are going to get that guest out of your house just as quickly as you can before he or she touches the match. Foreign nationals in this country are guests of our country. They are guests in our home. There is nothing wrong with asking them to play by a few rules and for us to know who is on the guest list.

If that is what the Senator from North Dakota is talking about, I will support him in that effort.

NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I come to the floor this morning to ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD letters from J. Eldon Yates, chairman and founder of the Vietnam Veterans Institute; the American Legion national commander, Richard Santos; the Veterans of Foreign Wars executive director, Robert Wallace; and Joseph Lipowski, the national commander of AMVETS.

They joined me, several of my colleagues, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Anthony Principi, just a few moments ago outside our Capitol to call on this Senate and our leader, Tom Daschle, to bring a national energy

policy bill before this Senate before we adjourn this year.

Clearly, the President has been outspoken in the last month—and I agree with what he is doing—about strengthening our resolve and protecting our freedoms as the country cries out for a national energy policy that is a policy of national security.

Today the administration announced that we are going to start buying oil to put into our national Strategic Petroleum Reserve to beef up the total volume in that reserve in case of a national crisis. But even when that is done, if the oil of the Middle East were cut off, that reserve would last only for a few weeks before we would be in a significant energy crisis.

Our President as well as the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Energy, the Vice President, labor unions, chambers of commerce, National Association of Manufacturers, and small business groups speaks out. America is being told today that national energy is a national security issue.

Strangely enough, the chairman of the Energy Committee even spoke this last weekend saying he wanted a national energy policy addressed before the end of the year. Yet nothing is done. The Energy Committee has been shut down by orders of the majority leader. Republicans are producing an energy bill. We have been to the floor time and time again asking for a time certain on which to debate this critical issue. The House acted in August. Our world would come tumbling down around us at this moment, economically speaking, if the oil of the Middle East were shut off from this country. Our economy would stifle. It is an issue of national security.

I ask unanimous consent that these letters be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letters were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

AMVETS,

Lanham, MD, October 26, 2001.

Hon. TOM DASCHLE,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR DASCHLE: On behalf of AMVETS, I am writing to encourage you to bring H.R. 4, the Securing America's Future Energy Act of 2001, before the full Senate for consideration at the earliest possible moment prior to the close of the 1st Session of the 107th Congress.

As you know, our current reliance on foreign oil leaves the United States vulnerable to the whim of individual oil-exporting countries, many existing in the unpredictable and highly dangerous Persian Gulf. And it cannot be overstated that energy supplies touch nearly every aspect of our lives from our economy to our national security.

Passage of H.R. 4 would greatly assist in our ability to secure a more dependable and diversified domestic supply of energy. And, I would note that since the Persian Gulf War our security has become more threatened with our dependence on foreign sources of oil growing from 35 percent of domestic supply to nearly 60 percent.