

The new proposal makes sure these "secondary workers" get help, too.

For the first time, the new proposal also includes farmers.

As a general matter, expanded trade will provide billions and billions of dollars in economic growth for the United States.

Certainly, we can dedicate a small fraction of this gain to those Americans who are harmed. It is the right thing to do. Frankly, it will be impossible to build a broad consensus for expanded trade unless we do it right.

We should help American workers learn the new skills they need to earn a living. We should help them maintain health insurance while they're unemployed—and help protect against wage loss when they become re-employed.

I also want to reaffirm my strong support for the Andean Trade Preference Expansion Act.

Again, I wish we could have passed it quickly, this week, as I had originally hoped. But I am confident we can pass it in a relatively short period of time after we return.

Congress first passed the Andean Trade Preferences Act 10 years ago as a comprehensive effort to defeat narco-trafficking and reduce the flow of cocaine into the United States.

The program allows the President to provide reduced-duty or duty-free treatment for most imports from Bolivia, Columbia, Ecuador, and Peru.

The goal is simple: to provide farmers in a region that produces 100 percent of the cocaine consumed in the United States with viable economic alternatives to the production of coca.

The program works.

In the last decade, our Andean neighbors have made significant economic gains, and trade between the United States and the region has increased dramatically.

According to the International Trade Commission, between 1991 and 1999, two-way trade between the United States and Andean nations nearly doubled, and U.S. exports to the region grew by 65 percent.

The ITC also reports that ATPA has contributed significantly to the diversification of the region's exports.

In addition, the program has served as a catalyst for resolving regional conflicts, pushing the members of the Andean community—particularly Peru and Ecuador—to work toward resolution of long-standing disagreements that have undercut efforts at regional development.

ATPA is doing, in other words, precisely what it was intended to do. So there is every reason to extend it on its own merits.

But in addition, the bill we passed last year to expand U.S. trade with Caribbean countries has had the unintended effect of putting the Andean nations at a competitive disadvantage with other nations in the region.

The development and stability of the Andean region is as much in our interest as it is in theirs.

The package we will consider when we return will renew ATPA and, at the same time, level the playing field between Andean nations and their Caribbean neighbors.

I thank Senator GRAHAM of Florida for his leadership in putting together the proposal and again Chairman BAUCUS for putting the entire trade package together.

The word "trade" has its roots in an old Middle English word meaning "path," which is connected to the word "tread" to move forward.

The trade package we will consider when we return will enable us to move forward in this new global economy in a way that strengthens our national security and the economic security of American businesses and families. We look forward to a good and vigorous debate when we return.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BINGAMAN. 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. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I wanted to speak very briefly in agreement with the majority leader about his comments on both trade promotion authority and trade adjustment assistance. I think the two clearly have to go together and quickly. There are a great many workers in this country who are getting inadequate benefits. Many are getting no benefits because we have not modernized our Trade Adjustment Assistance Program.

We have a good proposal to modernize that program which we passed out of the Finance Committee, and I think it is very important that we bring that up on the Senate floor after we return and pass that as quickly as possible. I know that is intended to pass in tandem with the trade promotion authority.

The administration is anxious to see that pass. I think if there are disagreements about the trade adjustment assistance proposals that we have reported out of the Finance Committee, we need to have early negotiations to resolve this.

I know the administration has expressed concerns. To my knowledge, we have not had any real counterproposals that could be seriously considered. So I hope that will get done in the next couple of weeks before we return, and I hope we will be in a position to pass a new, improved set of provisions regarding trade adjustment assistance. I think that is a real priority. I was pleased we were able to move ahead in the Finance Committee. I think it is very important to move ahead on the floor as well.

Mr. President, I thank the distinguished majority leader for his comments on the trade legislation package

that we will be considering soon. Clearly, this legislation is extremely important to the economic welfare of the country and I look forward to helping him get it passed. In particular, I want to get trade adjustment assistance legislation to the floor so we can begin to help American workers and communities in a more effective way.

I have heard a lot of criticism lately about the trade adjustment assistance bill especially concerning its linkage to fast-track legislation but I have to agree with the majority leader that I see fast-track and trade adjustment assistance to be complementary. Fast-track will allow the creation of free-trade agreements that will provide broad collective benefits to Americans, but it will also result in negative impacts on American workers and communities.

From where I sit, we should not pass legislation that will negatively impact American workers without expanding and enhancing the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program. We need strong protections in place for American workers and their communities. We need a safety net that keeps these workers competitive and their communities strong. The Bush administration has stated as much many times, most recently in their trade policy agenda that came out this week.

My colleagues know that trade adjustment assistance has never been about ideologies or political parties. It has always had bi-partisan support. If my colleagues look at the number of people in their state that have used trade adjustment assistance over the years, or are using it now, they will admit the program is about helping people and communities get back on their feet. I am prepared to negotiate on the outstanding issues, and I am convinced that common ground can be found rather easily on the core components of the bill.

I thank the distinguished majority leader for his continued efforts to bring this legislation to the floor in a timely fashion. I want to thank Senator BAUCUS for his continued efforts to emphasize the importance of trade adjustment assistance, and I look forward to working with both of my colleagues in the future to ensure we pass this important legislation.

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

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

NATIONAL LABORATORIES PARTNERSHIP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001—continued

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

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

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, at this time, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be temporarily laid aside so that I may offer an amendment.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President, I say to my friend from Louisiana that we are almost getting a unanimous consent agreement. When we get it, we may ask the Senator to withhold so we can enter into this agreement.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I will have no objection to that, as long as I have an opportunity to offer the amendment sometime this afternoon.

Mr. REID. The Senator can do it now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendment will be laid aside.

AMENDMENT NO. 3050 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2917

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk on behalf of myself and Senator KYL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), for herself and Mr. KYL, proposes amendment numbered 3050.

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

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To increase the transfer capability of electric energy transmission systems through participant-funded investment)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . PARTICIPANT-FUNDED INVESTMENT.

Section 205 of the Federal Power Act is amended by inserting after subsection (h) the following:

“(1) TRANSMISSION EXPANSION COSTS.—

“(1) RATES FOR TRANSMISSION EXPANSION.—

Upon the request of a Regional Transmission Organization, or any transmission entity operating within an RTO that is authorized by the Commission, the Commission shall authorize the recovery of costs on a participant-funding basis of transmission facilities that increase the transfer capability of the transmission system. The Commission shall not authorize the recovery of costs in rates on a rolled-in basis for such transmission facilities unless the Commission finds that, based upon substantial evidence—

“(A) the transmission investment is identified and incorporated in the regional transmission plan of a FERC approved regional transmission organization;

“(B) participant funding for the investment is not feasible because the beneficiaries of the investment cannot be identified; and

“(C) the transmission investment is necessary to maintain reliability of the transmission grid within the area covered by the regional transmission organization.

“(2) PARTICIPANT-FUNDING.—The term ‘participant-funding’ means an investment in the transmission system of a regional transmission organization or any Commission authorized entity operating with the RTO that—

“(A) increases the transfer capability of the transmission system; and

“(B) is paid for by an entity that, in return for payment, receives the tradable transmission rights created by the investment.

“(3) TRADABLE TRANSMISSION RIGHT.—The term ‘tradable transmission right’ means the right of the holder of such right to avoid payment of, or have rebated, transmission

congestion charges on the transmission system of a regional transmission organization, or the right to use a specified capacity of such transmission system without payment of transmission congestion charges.

“(4) REGIONAL TRANSMISSION ORGANIZATION FACILITATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—To encourage the regional transmission organization or any Commission-authorized transmission entity operating within the RTO to identify participant-funded investment, the Commission shall allow a regional transmission organization or any entity constructing a participant funded project within the RTO to—

“(i) receive a share of the value of the tradable transmission rights created by the participant-funded expansion; or

“(ii) receive a development fee.”.

Mrs. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, many years ago Arnold Glasow said that “all some folks want is their fair share—and yours.”

Today, I rise to offer an amendment that provides for true fairness in electricity pricing and in doing so paves the way for much needed transmission expansion at a national level.

Over the past 10 years demand for electricity has increased 17 percent while transmission investment during the same period has continuously declined about 45 percent.

What is even more troubling is that current demand for electricity is projected to increase by 25 percent over the next 10 years with only a modest increase in transmission capacity of 4 percent. With projected demand exceeding projected additional capacity five times over, problems seem imminent.

It is no surprise to this Senator that in recent years electricity shortages due to transmission constraints have plagued the country from one coast to another and various points in between. Unless we deviate immediately from the past ways of doing business, our economy will be held hostage to transmission constraints with rolling blackouts becoming the norm rather than the exception.

Our existing electrical transmission system was designed to serve local customers from utility-owned generation on a State-by-State basis. However, in recent years more and more “merchant generation” operated by independent companies have begun to connect to the electrical grid in order to transmit electricity to local as well as out-of-region customers.

Though this increased generation added much needed competition, it began to strain the current transmission system. The pricing mechanism at the wholesale level still employs the old socialized rate method of continuously increasing the rates for local customers even though most of the beneficiaries are out-of-region customers. This antiquated pricing method has dampened the push to enhance transmission capacity in energy producing States as State regulators are reluctant to pass excessive transmission cost off to local customers who are not benefitting from the electricity. Meanwhile energy dependent

regions of the country are denied cheap and reliable electricity.

Electricity price spikes in the Midwest during the summer of 1998 were caused in part by transmission constraints limiting the ability of the region to import electricity from other regions of the country. In the summer of 2000, transmission constraints limited the ability to sell low-cost power from the Midwest to the South during a period of peak demand, resulting in higher prices for customers. Recent blackouts in northern California were the result of transmission constraints in southern California due to California's Path 15 transmission route. The east coast has also suffered from transmission constraints and price spikes in recent years.

Surely, there must be a more equitable way to allocate cost while simultaneously enhancing our transmission capacity. It is not fair to expect customers in energy generating States to keep paying for transmission expansion when this increased transmission is primarily being developed for out-of-region use. In addition, the lack of transmission capacity under this archaic pricing method continues to deny customers in energy importing States the benefit of cheaper electricity from other regions of the country.

The best policy for efficient competitive wholesale power markets is “participant-funded” expansion. In this system, market participants “fund” expansions to the transmission network in return for the transmission rights created by the expansion investment. This approach gives proper economic incentive for new generator location and transmission expansion decisions.

In the new world, the numbers and volumes of interstate transactions are large and growing every day. In my home State of Louisiana, there are enough new merchant generation plants planned to almost double the amount of generation in the State today.

Those who favor socializing these costs may argue that “rolled in pricing is ok because transmission is such a small part of a consumer's total bill.” This was true in the past but not anymore. If we must build enough transmission to export just a portion of this new generation—10,000 megawatts—the estimated cost would be \$2 billion to \$4 billion. Louisiana's share of this cost would be \$90 to \$180 million per year, and impose a retail rate increase of 5 to 11 percent. All with no significant benefit to local customers.

The opponents of this amendment argue that transmission upgrades may be more expensive than the delivered power is worth. If it is too expensive to build facilities to move the power, then the plant is being built in the wrong place. No one should bear these costs, least of all local consumers.

The developers need to take these costs into account when they site their plants—just like they consider gas costs, water costs, and environmental

permits. The participant funding concept is not new—this concept has been successfully implemented in the natural gas industry through incremental pricing. As a result of incremental pricing in the natural gas industry, proposed annual additions in 2002 to natural gas pipeline capacity has increased by nearly 100 percent relative to 1999.

The opponents of this legislation want the risk and consequences of bad siting decisions to be socialized, so that all the “little guys” will pick up the tab. In contrast, participant funding gives proper price signals for new generator location, and it assures an economically efficient level of grid expansion.

I realize this amendment is generating quite a bit of discussion; however, electricity transmission policy is not a popularity contest, it is about making tough but fair decisions. The electricity debate reminds me of something that Mark Twain once said: “Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect.”

I therefore ask my fellow colleagues to pause for a moment and reflect over the content of this amendment, what it has meant to the natural gas industry and what it will mean for our economic prosperity in the future. Let’s work together in an equitable manner toward building efficient and reliable electrical highways by adopting this amendment.

Thank you, Mr. President, and I ask unanimous consent that my amendment be laid aside.

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

The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator MURKOWSKI be recognized to offer a second-degree amendment to the Bingaman amendment relating to grandfathering; that there be 1 hour equally divided and controlled in the usual form, with no amendment in order thereto prior to a vote in relation to the amendment; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to a vote in relation to the amendment; that if the Murkowski amendment is defeated, it be in order for Senator COLLINS to offer an amendment relating to renewables with 20 minutes for debate prior to a vote in relation to that amendment, with the time equally divided and controlled in the usual form; that the Collins amendment be considered following consideration of the Kyl amendment, which is a second-degree amendment relating to “opt out,” on which there will be 20 minutes for debate prior to a vote in relation to the amendment, with the time equally divided and controlled in the usual form; that upon disposition of the amendments covered under this agreement, the Senate proceed to vote on the Bingaman amendment, as amended, if amended, without any intervening action or debate.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a possibility of four votes tonight. The two managers are aware of this. They are going to do the best they can. Everybody should be aware, these are complicated issues and pay attention to this debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

AMENDMENT NO. 3052 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3016

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] proposes an amendment numbered 3052 to amendment No. 3016.

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

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To protect State portfolio requirements)

On page 6, on line 6, strike “mix.” and insert “mix. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any retail electric supplier in any State that adopts or has adopted a renewable energy portfolio program.”

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, the amendment I have proposed would exempt the retail electric suppliers in any State that has a renewable energy portfolio requirement.

What we have behind us is a chart that I think fairly identifies the issue. This chart shows States where renewable portfolio standards would be preempted by a Federal mandate. In other words, by this current proposal in the underlying Bingaman amendment, all States would be mandated for a renewable contribution of about 10 percent, without exception.

What does this do? We have 14 States that already have initiated renewable mandates because they believed it was in the best interest of their State. We have seven other States—these are the orange States—that are in the process of considering renewable portfolio standards. What are those States? We have Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania. We have Hawaii, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada. Then, of course, we have Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin. We have the west coast.

The point is, 14 States have a program now. Again, they are Arizona, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wisconsin. Then there are seven States shown on the chart which are considering a program: California, Maryland, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Oregon, Washington, Vermont.

What does this really mean? This means the renewable mandate, the Bingaman amendment, would preempt those 14 States and the other 7 States

identified with a program which would basically disallow them from going forward. They would not have a choice; they would be mandated.

Most, if not all, of these States’ programs, in my opinion, are inconsistent with the renewable mandate in the Bingaman amendment. These 14 existing State programs were created on one simple premise—and I would encourage Members who are watching and staffs to recognize this—that purpose was to match the State’s needs and to take into account local circumstances.

Each State is different. Each State has an opportunity to consider programs that match their needs and match their levels of capability. Some States may be able to achieve more in the area of renewability. Is it their business to necessarily sell credits?

What we are trying to do is encourage across the board greater utilization of renewables. What is wrong with a voluntary system? Fourteen existing State programs were created to match their State needs and to take into account local circumstances.

As we know, some States are richer than others in wind energy sources. Some States are richer in geothermal. Other States have the potential of biomass. Some States have the potential of hydro. States have tailored their renewable programs, through their own initiative, to match their local resources with their local needs.

We are going to take that away because we are coming down, as the Bingaman amendment indicates, with a one-size-fits-all Federal program. In other words, it is not good enough for the States to address their responsibility and seek within the State’s initiative how to reach a renewable mandate.

It applies the same to Maine as it does in Texas, and clearly the States are different. They are in different climate locales. They are in different parts of the country. I do not have to explain the differences. But this would mandate one size fits all.

The amendment exempts retail electric suppliers in any State that adopts or has adopted a renewable energy program. So it exempts retail electric suppliers in any State that has adopted a renewable energy program. This allows existing State programs to continue, and it allows States to adopt a program in the future. That is the purpose of our amendment.

Now, if a State fails to act, then it will be subject to the requirements of the Bingaman amendment. So you are forcing a mandate, in a sense, that if they do not take the initiative and act themselves, then they fall under the Bingaman amendment, which is a mandate.

This allows for the existing 14 States, it allows for the 7 that are in the process of considering it, and then it gives the others an option to initiate a renewable program, but if they do not, they fall under the mandate.

It seems to me if we value States rights, if we recognize one size does not fit all, there is certainly justification for consideration of the merits of a State initiating a program that it sees fit in relation to the conscious effort to try to encourage more renewables, but where a State moves forward, this amendment allows that State effort to continue. It seems to me this is a practical, realistic, sensible approach that gives the States an opportunity to address their responsibility towards encouraging renewables by their own initiative, which the 14 States clearly have done, and 7 others are in the process of initiating that action.

I encourage Members to reflect on the value of State rights and on the value of this particular effort not only working but the States initiating an action to address a need and fill it.

Before we get carried away in the debate, again I want to recognize something I think has been overlooked rather dramatically, and that is there is a cost associated with renewables. We went into that a little bit in the debate over the Kyl amendment. But if we take a hypothetical utility, let us say, that generates a billion kilowatt hours and there is the 10-percent mandate on renewable portfolio standards, that is 100 million kilowatt hours of renewable energy, times 3 cents per kilowatt, which is about the—well, the average price is generally considered roughly 3 cents—that is \$3 million for renewable credits. Now that is a cost that is going to be passed on to the ratepayer—\$3 million for requiring a 10-percent mandate.

Let's look at a typical utility. Let's look at Wisconsin Electric: Retail sales over the year 2000, about 3,173,000,000 kilowatt hours, times a 10-percent renewable portfolio standard; that is 317,331,000 kilowatt hours of renewables. That is what they are going to have to get into Wisconsin, times 3 cents per kilowatt hour; that is \$9.5 million, the cost of renewable credits that is going to be passed on to the ratepayer in Wisconsin.

The current wholesale price, as I have indicated, is roughly 3 cents per kilowatt hour. So make no mistake about it, not only have we already mandated an increase to the utility consumers in this country by the 10-percent mandate that prevailed when the Kyl amendment failed but now we are mandating one size fits all. We are taking a relatively orderly program that the States initiated, where 14 States actually have renewable programs and 7 States are looking at those programs and saying, everybody is going to have a renewable program that meets the 10-percent standard set in the underlying bill. It does not allow the States that are not addressing it an alternative other than a mandate of 10 percent.

As a consequence, I don't think this is the best way to legislate a portfolio renewable standard by the theory of one size fits all.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise in strong opposition to the amendment the Senator from Alaska has offered. The amendment essentially guts the renewable portfolio standard contained in the amendment I proposed. The amendment I proposed has a provision called State savings clause that reads:

This section does not preclude a State from requiring additional renewable energy generation in that State or from specifying technology mix.

Any State that wants to step up and do something more, or specify the technology mix appropriate for their State, is encouraged. It is not discouraged. It will control.

That is not what the amendment of the Senator is proposing.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Could I ask a question?

Mr. BINGAMAN. I yield for a question.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I am curious. In the statement of the Senator from New Mexico that a State could go beyond, is the Senator suggesting it would go beyond the 10-percent norm? They could do anything above it but have to meet the 10 percent?

Mr. BINGAMAN. In response to my colleague, that is exactly right. They can do anything in addition in the way of requiring renewable energy generation and they can specify any technology mix they want. There is nothing in the Federal law restricting a State in this regard.

If I may continue.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I don't want to interrupt.

Mr. BINGAMAN. You are interrupting, but go right ahead.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. If a State were 5 percent, it would be mandated to go 10 percent. If another State were 12, it could set anything it wanted; is that correct?

Mr. BINGAMAN. The Senator is correct in that a renewable portfolio standard that is not as effective as the one we are proposing would not meet the Federal standard and would not be adequate. The Federal standard would still prevail.

I point out what the amendment of the Senator says:

The provisions of this section—

That would be this renewable portfolio standard we had the vote on earlier with the Kyl amendment—

shall not apply to any retail electric supplier in any State that adopts or has adopted a renewable portfolio energy program.

He then cites a variety of States that are on the chart that have adopted these renewable energy portfolio programs. He has included New Mexico on the chart. We have no renewable energy portfolio program in our State. We adopted one and suspended it for 6 years, but it is on the chart as a State qualifying to be exempt from the Federal program. He has included Illinois. I have a description that says on June

22, 2001, Illinois Governor George Ryan signed legislation creating the Illinois Resource Development and Energy Security Act. The legislation states, as an explicit goal, at least 5 percent of the State's energy production and use derive from renewable forms of energy by 2015 and 15 percent from renewable sources of energy by 2020.

However, it does not include an implementation schedule. There is nothing in the Illinois-passed law that will actually get them to the stated goal. They have adopted a renewable portfolio program under the definition of his amendment, but it has no teeth.

The summary on the Nebraska program he cites says in April of 1998 the Lincoln Electric System created a wind power green pricing program called the Lincoln Electric System Renewable Energy Program. It is a green pricing program and does not require them to make available renewable power in any way. It says they should give an option when people pay their bill for so-called green pricing.

The point is, if we want to have a national program to deal with the national electric grid we have talked about for several weeks, and we want to move this country in the direction of using renewable energy to a greater extent than in the past, we have to go ahead and maintain this renewable portfolio standard we proposed in the bill.

To say any State that wants to can adopt something, set a goal or put in a program, suspend it for 6 years, as in New Mexico, and thereby satisfy that State from being out from under the requirements of the law, totally guts the effect of the law. This is essentially another vote like the vote we had with the Kyl amendment. The Kyl amendment said renewable power shall be made available to customers to the extent it is available.

This amendment says States will comply with the renewable portfolio standard in this bill, except to the extent they determine to do something else.

We cannot let them off the hook on that basis. Either we favor a renewable portfolio standard—and I believe a majority of the Senate does; that is what the Kyl vote was an indication of; the majority of the Senate believes we should require this modest commitment to renewable energy—either we do that or we do not.

To say any State that adopts anything that they call a renewable portfolio program is out from under any requirement clearly guts the effort we are making. I strongly oppose the amendment and hope we defeat the amendment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I appreciate the Senator from New Mexico pointing out the status in his particular State. I wonder if Illinois and New Mexico suspended their programs,

I wonder if they did so primarily because they thought suspension was not in the best interests of the consumers in their State. I don't know the reason. I certainly look forward to an explanation from my friend from New Mexico if, indeed, there is one relative to why the State of New Mexico saw fit to suspend it.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I am glad to respond.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I am happy to yield.

Mr. BINGAMAN. In the case of New Mexico, the renewable portfolio was included in a much larger deregulation proposal the State adopted before the difficulties in California. Once the difficulties in California became evident with supplies of electricity there, our legislature got concerned and essentially put on hold and suspended any effect of the entire statute until the year 2006, when they said they would look at it again.

The renewable portfolio standard, which obviously is not in any way related to the issue of deregulation that they were struggling with in California, was a casualty of the concern. I am not disagreeing with the decision of our legislature to put off the deregulation, but I think they made an error in putting off the effort to move toward a renewable portfolio standard. Clearly, though, they are counted in what the Senator has in mind in his amendment as having a program in New Mexico, even though it is suspended until the year 2006.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I am happy to respond. I will not speak with the expertise that obviously my friend has from his own State, but it is appropriate to recognize they have not initiated an action in the sense of most of the other 14 States. The Senator from New Mexico indicates Illinois and Nebraska. I cannot speak for Nebraska, obviously; the occupant of the chair can. Clearly, there are some States out of the 14 that have initiated the program on their own. That is great. That should be encouraged. Texas is certainly one.

There may be a misunderstanding between the Senator from New Mexico and myself as to what happens under the current legislation with our amendment if it prevails relative to the States that are blank on the chart.

The blank States are the ones in white. They have to comply with the 10 percent that is in the Bingaman bill. They have to mandate, if you will, that they come up with 10 percent. So they are not left out. This is not a gutting, by any means, of the crux of Senator BINGAMAN's point.

We are saying all the rest of those States, more than half the States in the Nation that have not initiated a renewable program, have to do it. They are going to be mandated under the 10-percent mandate. So do not be misled, as I think a reference was made, that somehow we are gutting this provision because we are not. Those States would

be mandated in. But they would also be given an opportunity to come up, as the States in green and the States in red are, with what they believe is a reasonable, attainable renewable mandate.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Will my colleague yield?

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I want to make one more point before I respond to my friend from New Mexico.

A State with a 10-percent mandate, they say, on hydro, would now have to also meet an additional 10 percent—OK? An additional 10 percent, with something new: solar, wind—whatever, under the Federal mandate.

I think the States ought to take a look at this. The Federal Government is dictating a 10-percent fuel mix, regardless of your State program.

I am happy to yield for a question.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, let me ask this of my friend: The way I read his amendment, it says any State—this provision does not apply to any retail electric supplier in any State that adopts or has adopted a renewable portfolio, energy portfolio program.

Am I correct that a State that is one of the white States on this map, that they do not have a program right now—if they decide to adopt a program which says instead of going to 10 percent, we will go to one-tenth of 1 percent by the year 2020—that certainly is a renewable portfolio program in every sense of the word—they would be out from any other requirements because they will have adopted a program, a renewable portfolio program under his amendment and, therefore, our effort to move them in any meaningful way to use renewable power would be thwarted? Would he agree with that?

Mr. MURKOWSKI. If I may respond, I think we have to make a general acknowledgment that States are responsible. Their utility commissions are responsible. Their ratepayers are responsible. They are going to respond as they see fit to the needs of their people as opposed to what the Senator from New Mexico is proposing as a mandate—everything is equal.

It is not equal. It is not equal in my State. It is not equal in Hawaii. We are not even connected to the continental United States. Yet there is a mandate here. Hawaii has to come across the same way as Alaska, the same way as Iowa.

I think to suggest that a State would be irresponsible is selling short the American citizen.

People are concerned about energy sources. They are concerned about pollution. I do not think any State is going to stand by for irresponsible actions, or a percentage that would suggest an unrealistic contribution to renewables.

Who are we to stand here and simply mandate that everybody has to be the same? What we have recognized is realistic. We said all those States in white—how many of them are left?

Probably 35. They will be mandated under the bill of the Senator from New Mexico, 10 percent. They are uniform. We are giving them a chance to initiate an initiative based on their own recognition of what is responsible, what is attainable, what is available.

We have a terrible inconsistency. Some States have the convenience—and it is very convenient—of the renewable hydro. But under this proposal, a State with a 20 percent mandate based on hydro would now have to also meet an additional 10 percent with solar or wind, under the Federal mandate. The Federal Government is dictating a 10-percent fuel mix, regardless of the State program. This is ignoring the State program.

The Senator from New Mexico says it is OK if you go above a mandate with your State program—that's OK.

It is one size fits all, 10 percent, make no mistake about it.

This one says, if you are a white State, you can initiate a program that meets your needs and makes a contribution. I think that is responsible legislation. I do not think it is gutting the renewable package because if a State doesn't want to do it, it is going to be forced to do it. But the States that have initiated a program, let's honor that.

There is nothing magic about 10 percent. Where did they get 10 percent? Why isn't it 8 or 9? Why isn't it 11?

We said it is 10 percent, that is why it is 10 percent. Some States are saying it should be 6 percent. It should be 5 percent. Some States do better than 10 percent. Some States have hydro. Yet we are not recognizing hydro in this.

I suggest Members think a little bit about this. They are going to have to go home and face not only the ratepayers, they are going to have to face their utility commissioners and people are going to say: So one size fits all? You made a mandate in Washington. You are going to take away the initiative of our own program.

The suggestion that States would act irresponsibly I find unacceptable. If utility commissioners and those responsible for decisions act irresponsibly, they are voted out by the local process.

What does Maine have? Maine has 30 percent renewables. They have hydro. What about that which comes in from Canada? You can buy power from Canada. I assume we can buy credits from Canada as well. I think we have addressed some in the technical amendments, that we address the issue of buying credits outside the United States?

My friend from New Mexico has indicated we are going to, I think, agree to prohibit purchase of credits, say, from the Chinese, who are building the Three Gorges Dam, or the Canadians. These, in my opinion, are significant aspects that have been overlooked in this bill. The reason they were overlooked is we have not had an opportunity to go through the committee

process because, as you know, this bill came directly to the floor.

So do not be misled that somehow we are getting the renewable program. Everybody gets it, under my amendment—everybody. The existing States have to maintain it, whatever they believe is their level. The States in red that are generating an interest in it are going to have to, and the rest of them, if they do not do anything, are going to have to come under Senator BINGAMAN's mandate.

In my State we have a long winter. In some areas it is pretty hard to get running water, so hydro doesn't necessarily carry it. We dare not tread on ANWR around here because that is sacred.

Nevertheless, we have a situation that I hope Members and staff will recognize. This is not by any means gutting. This is a responsible effort to address, if you will, the initiatives of States to set their own level.

I yield the floor and retain the remainder of my time.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, how much time remains on the two sides?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska controls 6½ minutes, the Senator from New Mexico, 23 minutes.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, let me speak for just a few minutes on this issue. I don't believe I will need a full 22 minutes. Let me put it in context.

The reason we believe it is important to include in this legislation a renewable portfolio standard is that we believe it is important that the Nation have a diverse group of sources—a diverse supply for its energy needs. We are headed in the future to a situation where that diversity is not present to the extent it should be.

I have shown this chart many times. We spent nearly a week on the Kyl amendment. This is essentially the same issue coming back in another form. Let me show the chart again.

You can see that in the year 2000 we are providing about 69 percent of our total energy needs from two sources; that is, from coal and natural gas. A lot of new generation is under construction around the country. We have a lot of new generation that is expected and planned for, and 95 percent of that new electric generation that is currently planned is planned to be gas fired. It is going to be using more natural gas. We have a problem with that in that today we are not producing as much natural gas as we are consuming. The disparity between what we are producing and what we are consuming is going to grow. It is continuing to grow.

We are saying let us hedge our bets as a nation. Let us try to encourage utilities to develop some renewable energy sources. We give them a wide variety that they can pursue. But do something in this regard. We are saying in the amendment I have at the desk, try to do 1 percent in the year 2005. That is what we have in the bill. Try to do 1.6 percent in the year 2006. We have very small increments after that.

The whole idea is that by the year 2020 we would try to do 10 percent of their total generation from one or more of these various sources.

We specifically provide in the legislation that it is up to the States to decide the right mix. It is up to the individual utility. The individual utility can decide what the right mix is. We are not trying in any way to dictate that.

There are some States that have stepped up and are doing something useful. Texas is the most successful. They have a very credible program. Then-Governor Bush—President Bush now—signed that into law. It has moved that State very significantly towards the use of renewable resources. I think they are being held up as a model by many experts for what we ought to see around the country.

We are not saying everyone has to do as much as Texas. We are saying let us do as much as we have in this amendment.

We have all sorts of flexibility about how they get from here to there. There are some States that produce more than the 10 percent from renewable resources. There are States that have adopted programs that will get them to a higher level than the 10 percent. More power to them. We do not do anything to discourage that. We want to discourage the opportunity for States to essentially give this lip service and not really do anything.

We want to encourage the opportunity for States to do as Illinois has done. Illinois has a great goal. They say: We want to be at 5 percent. We want to be at 15 percent. That is wonderful. But they do not have any teeth in their bill.

New Mexico has a good goal. I cannot recall exactly what the goal is. But we just suspended the goal until the year 2006 because of other considerations that had nothing to do with the renewable portfolio standard issue.

The majority of the Senate favors having a renewable portfolio standard. Let us do it. Let us keep this provision in the law.

The Senator's amendment would, in my strong opinion, gut the renewable portfolio standard. It says if you have adopted any other program that you can call a renewable energy portfolio program, it doesn't matter how much teeth there is in it, or standard. If you adopted anything, you are exempt. If you haven't adopted anything, then you need to adopt something in order to be exempt. We are not telling you what it has to be. We are just saying it has to be something. If you adopt anything, you are exempt.

That is a gutting of the provision, in my opinion. Clearly, that is not what I believe the majority of the Senate wants to do.

I strongly oppose the amendment by the Senator from Alaska.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I wish the occupant of the chair, the former Governor, could join us in this debate. He may have some opinion.

I remind my colleagues that ordinarily we do not practice dentistry here, and the reference to teeth in the bill may have an application. But I have to go back to my firm belief in the government being closest to the people as usually the government that is most responsive.

I fail to acknowledge that if we don't adopt this mandate, we are somehow being irresponsible. I think the way we have crafted this second degree is, again, not by any means an opportunity for the States to opt out. On the other hand, if they don't develop a program, they are going to be mandated in. Let there be no mistake about it. All those States on the chart in white are going to be mandated to meet the 10-percent renewable requirement.

Talk about teeth in the bill. I think those are teeth. They are saying if the States don't take the initiative to do it, you are going to have to do it.

The Senator from New Mexico says the majority wants a renewable mandate. Every State in the Union is going to be affected and, in effect, mandated because those in the white will have to come up with a program. Those in the red and green are already initiating programs.

I think the generalization of my friend from New Mexico is a little misleading. All States are going to be mandated in one form or another, either by the fact that they don't have a program or the fact that they do have one. If they want to drop this program, such as the State of New Mexico did, they are going to be mandated into a program—a 10-percent mandate.

I hope I am making myself clear. Some are going to be left out of this. Everybody is going to have to have a renewable program. The only difference is, under my proposal the States affected clearly would have some flexibility.

If it is up to the States to decide what the renewable mix should be—I say if it is up to those States—why not let them choose the level of their renewable?

Does the Senate believe it knows better than the States to do what is cost effective and appropriate given the States' renewable resources?

As I have said, the Midwest has wind. The East may have biomass. The Southwest may have solar and geothermal. Different levels are cost effective.

As we practice dentistry around here, and recognize that the allegation has been made that there is no teeth in this, there is teeth in my proposal. There is plenty of teeth in it. Nobody has opted out. What I think we have in this proposal is some false teeth.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, might I inquire, does the Senator have about 1 minute I could take?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Two minutes are remaining.

Mr. KYL. I would like to take 1 minute.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Go ahead and take 2.

Mr. KYL. I thank the Senator.

Mr. President, I support the amendment of the Senator from Alaska. Clearly, those States that have moved forward with the program for renewable resources to generate electricity have made a determination over a period of time about what they can best do in their particular States and what is in the best interest of their consumers.

It seems to me, since they have taken the trouble to do that, and they have done a lot of work on it, that it would be wrong for us—at least premature for us—to come in as the Federal Government and say: No. No. We know what is best for you. Even though we have not had any hearings, we have not had any markup in the committee, we are doing this all on the floor of the Senate, we instinctively know what is best for your State. That is really a supreme arrogance, even for the U.S. Senate.

So what the Senator from Alaska is saying is, look, for those States that have already chosen to do this, let them run their programs the way they want to, and even for those States that chose to do so in the future.

This really satisfies the argument that those on the other side have made that we need to do something—they use the words—“to encourage” States to use renewables. A mandate is a lot more than an encouragement, but be that as it may, for those that have already chosen to do it, they have been encouraged. Let's recognize that and acknowledge their programs and accept them as they are. And, perhaps, for the rest of the States, our mandatory program will encourage them as well. They, then, should be allowed to move forward with the programs as they see fit.

So given the fact the Kyl amendment was defeated before—and I accept that—it seems to me this is a very good compromise, in effect, that recognizes what the other side wants: to make the States have some kind of a program, but it also provides them flexibility in recognition of the unique circumstances of their individual States.

I think it is a good compromise. I think the Senator from Alaska should be complimented for it. I certainly support his amendment and hope others will as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, how much time remains?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Seven-teen minutes.

Mr. BINGAMAN. All of that is in opposition?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I am informed that Senator JEFFORDS wants to speak in opposition. I also want to speak for another couple minutes, but I

would like to do that after him. I would have to suggest the absence of a quorum at this time in order to preserve his right to speak.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. We have had a few requests for time from Senators who would like to catch airplanes.

Mr. BINGAMAN. I assume time runs against me during the quorum call.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Time would run against the Senator.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. AKAKA). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, let me be very brief. I will speak for a couple minutes and then yield back the remainder of our time. I am informed Senator JEFFORDS will not be arriving in time to speak prior to this vote.

Mr. President, I strongly urge Senators to oppose this Murkowski amendment. It does, in my strong opinion, gut the underlying provision which we have been debating now for the last several days.

The renewable portfolio standard that we have in the amendment I have sent to the desk requires certain things from utility companies over the next 18 years, between now and the year 2020. We all understand that.

What the Murkowski amendment says is that any utility located in any State that has something else in the way of a renewable portfolio program, no matter how weak it is, is exempt from the Federal requirement. It also says that if you are in a State that does not have anything, the State can adopt anything, no matter how weak. And then utilities in that State are also exempt. So it is very clear that his amendment does eliminate any meaningful mandate on utilities anywhere in the country.

I strongly urge Senators to oppose the Murkowski amendment. It would gut our renewable portfolio provision. For that reason, I think it should be defeated.

Mr. President, I know of nobody else on our side who wishes to speak in opposition. So I yield back the remainder of my time.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 3052. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the

Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTOR), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND), are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 39, nays 57, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 58 Leg.]

YEAS—39

Akaka	Frist	McCain
Allard	Gramm	McConnell
Allen	Hagel	Miller
Bennett	Hatch	Murkowski
Bond	Helms	Nickles
Bunning	Hollings	Roberts
Burns	Hutchinson	Santorum
Campbell	Hutchison	Sessions
Cochran	Inhofe	Shelby
Craig	Inouye	Smith (NH)
Crapo	Kyl	Thomas
DeWine	Lott	Thompson
Domenici	Lugar	Warner

NAYS—57

Baucus	Dodd	Levin
Bayh	Dorgan	Lieberman
Biden	Durbin	Lincoln
Bingaman	Edwards	Mikulski
Boxer	Ensign	Murray
Breaux	Feingold	Nelson (FL)
Brownback	Feinstein	Nelson (NE)
Byrd	Fitzgerald	Reed
Cantwell	Graham	Reid
Carnahan	Grassley	Rockefeller
Carper	Gregg	Sarbanes
Chafee	Harkin	Schumer
Cleland	Jeffords	Smith (OR)
Clinton	Johnson	Snowe
Collins	Kennedy	Stabenow
Conrad	Kerry	Torricelli
Corzine	Kohl	Voinovich
Daschle	Landrieu	Wellstone
Dayton	Leahy	Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Enzi	Stevens
Specter	Thurmond

The amendment (No. 3052) was rejected.

Mr. BINGAMAN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LOTT. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I see several of the interested parties are here, and I do want to propound unanimous consent requests on a couple of issues.

I had hoped we would be able to reach agreement to move on the debt ceiling before the Senate went out of session. It appears that we are not going to be able to do that. I think we should.

Also, I had the impression we were going to try to do the Andean trade bill before we left. The President is on his way to Mexico, and he is going to Peru. The Andean countries feel very strongly about this issue and have said it is not only a trade issue, but has become a very serious political issue.

I would like for us to do these two things, and I will propound unanimous consent requests on both. Is there a preference as to which one I do first? I will propound the Andean request first.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS—
H.R. 3009, S. 517 and H.R. 6

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 295, H.R. 3009, the Andean trade legislation; further, I ask unanimous consent that the committee amendment be agreed to, the bill be read a third time and passed, with the motion to reconsider laid upon the table; finally, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. HOLLINGS. I object.

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. The majority leader is recognized under a reservation?

Mr. HOLLINGS. I object.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, will the Senator from South Carolina withhold?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I wish to point out that Senator LOTT and I have talked about this matter on a number of occasions. I share his strong desire to complete our work on Andean trade. We will do so.

I have also indicated a desire, and I know it is a desire held on both sides of the aisle, to finish the energy bill. It would be my hope we could move to many of these other pressing legislative priorities as soon as we finish energy.

We had agreed to take up and finish our energy responsibilities, and that is what we are doing. We have been on the bill now for 13 days, as my colleagues will note. There is one item that may keep us from reaching some agreement in the near future, and that is the ANWR amendment. We have been attempting to get some understanding about how we might resolve the issue relating to ANWR. So I ask unanimous consent that on Monday, April 8, at 2 p.m., the Senate resume consideration of S. 517; that Senator MURKOWSKI be immediately recognized to offer his amendment relating to ANWR; that the amendment be debated Monday and Tuesday; and that the Senate file cloture on his amendment Monday; that if cloture is not invoked on the amendment, then the amendment would be withdrawn and no further amendments relating to drilling in ANWR be in order.

If the Republican leader could agree to this, then I think we would be in a position to move very quickly, as soon as we finish our work on ANWR and on energy, on this and other matters.

Mr. LOTT. Reserving the right to object to that additional request, the request would not include the UC with regard to Andean trade; it would be strictly with regard to ANWR?

Mr. DASCHLE. This would allow us to complete our work on ANWR and on energy so we could move to not only

Andean trade but TPA and border security as well.

Mr. LOTT. Let me assure Senator DASCHLE, under my reservation, I would like for us to get a vote on ANWR included in the energy bill and move to completion of the energy bill as soon as possible thereafter, too. Beyond that, I have urged the manager of this legislation, on our side of the aisle, to move to the ANWR issue as early as possible when we come back. I hope that would be, hopefully, even Tuesday, but of course we will have to dispose of a couple of pending issues because we do not want that to still be pending at the end of the week. We would like to finish the energy bill the week we come back because I know we need to go to the budget resolution and the trade bill.

My encouragement to the managers is we do ANWR earlier in the week so we can then do the tax provision which, I presume, would be last, and we would be prepared to go to the final passage of the bill.

At this time I object to that addition.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. LOTT. I objected to the request with regard to ANWR.

Now, did Senator GRAHAM want to speak on the Andean trade issue, or will he speak on it after the reservations?

Mr. HOLLINGS. After the objection.

Mr. LOTT. After the objection?

Mr. HOLLINGS. Right.

Mr. LOTT. That would be fine.

Mr. HOLLINGS. I object.

Mr. LOTT. The Senator from South Carolina objects?

Mr. HOLLINGS. I do.

Mr. LOTT. I want to make sure. There are others who might object as did the Senator from South Carolina so the record is complete.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida is recognized.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I appreciate the minority leader's efforts to get unanimous consent to consider the Andean Trade Preference Act, which I consider to be a matter of not only urgency but also a matter of national moral responsibility for the United States.

For 10 years, we had a special relationship between this country and four countries in Latin America: Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and, primarily because of its size, Colombia. All of those countries now are in various forms of threat to their sovereignty, to their democracy, and to their economic well-being.

The United States, at this time of need, I believe, is morally obligated to reach out to our good neighbors in the hemisphere through the adoption of this legislation, which would essentially extend what we have done for 10 years, a very successful relationship on both sides, and modernize and bring it up to the same standards we have already provided to the countries of the Caribbean Basin.

Since we are not going to be dealing with this issue tonight, I hope we will make a commitment that early after

we return on April 8 we will give attention to this matter so we can send the strongest possible signal to these beleaguered countries that we understand their need and that we want to be a partner in their resolution.

I urge our leadership to give priority attention to this issue at the earliest possible time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, right to the point on Andean trade, we have supported it and we have indicated, of course, to the administration we would go along with an extension. However, we have given at the office, as the saying goes. I have lost 50,900 textile jobs since NAFTA, and I am wondering about these people talking of morality, if they would be glad to accept my amendment to include Brazil and orange juice. Wouldn't that be immoral?

I have another moral for a motion on the Andean pact, and that is to get a little beef and wheat to Argentina; they are in desperate circumstances. Morally, under the good neighbor policy of Franklin D. Roosevelt, we Democrats ought to be morally committed to beef and wheat to Argentina.

We have all kinds of amendments we can present. My point is, this country has lost its manufacturing capacity. That goes right to the heart of the economy and the recovery from the recession. Under the Marshall plan, yes, we sent over our technology and expertise. It worked. Capitalism conquered communism. However, there comes a time to face reality and that is that there is no such thing as free trade. We have the enemy within—the Business Roundtable. Boy, I have gotten awards from them. But what has happened over the years is they have moved their production.

I would like to print in the RECORD about Jack Welch squeezing the lemon. He said on December 6, 2000, the year before last, squeeze the lemon. He said General Electric was not going to serve or contract with any supplier that didn't move to Mexico.

So we have an affirmative action plan to get the jobs. Then comes free trade, promotes jobs.

The gentleman Welch is squeezing something else. That is not a problem. I don't think we are going to handle that tonight.

Let's now get on with what we are morally committed to on the idea of trade. I am morally committed to the economic strength of this country.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I do not relish questioning legislation that the President and the distinguished Republican leader are seeking to move through the Senate, but I feel obliged to make sure that the RECORD reflects that I am genuinely opposed to the request to move to the Andean trade bill because I am committed to standing up for the men and women from North Carolina who earn their living in the textile industry.