



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 148

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2002

No. 40

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, April 15, 2002, at 2 p.m.

## Senate

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2002

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable THOMAS R. CARPER, a Senator from the State of Delaware.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Our guest Chaplain today, Father Daniel Coughlin, Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, will lead the Senate in prayer. Father.

### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Lord God of Heaven and Earth, be our shepherd and our guide. Bring light into the darkest corners of our world and the darkest recesses of our hearts. From within, bring forth desires for lasting peace that will be born not only of human compromise but of Your creation in human hearts. Shed wisdom and understanding upon the Senate, all lawmakers, courts of justice, and negotiators. Be assurance to the doubtful, fearful, and depressed. Freed of hatred and malice, bring forth purity of conscience to all and faithfulness to Your word and promises, especially to all those rooted in Abrahamic faith. Grant health to the sick, consolation to the grieving, recovery to the addicted, and safety to the children of the world. In You, O Lord God, we are renewed. In You, Lord God, we place our trust now and forever. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable THOMAS R. CARPER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, April 12, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable THOMAS R. CARPER, a Senator from the State of Delaware, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. CARPER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate is going to proceed momentarily to a period for morning business until 11:30 a.m. At 11:30 a.m., the Senate will begin consideration of the border security bill. There will be no rollcall votes today. As the majority leader had me announce yesterday, there will be a rollcall vote or votes Monday evening.

This past week we worked very hard on legislation. We, of course, did not make the progress we wanted to make, but we did OK. We were able to complete election reform, we were able to get border security, and we were able to work through some very difficult amendments. I hope, as soon as we get off border security, we will be able to go to ANWR. If not, the majority leader is going to go to other issues. We have waited such a long time for ANWR, and as of yesterday, they did not have an amendment ready to offer. We hope we can complete action on the energy bill next week.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 11:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the time to be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

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.

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

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S2605

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

Ms. LANDRIEU. I thank the Chair.

### ENERGY POLICY

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I am happy to have some time this morning to speak about the important issue that is before the Senate and has been for some time. It is very important legislation that will help us set the course of our energy policy for perhaps the next several decades.

While we have spent a great deal of time on this bill, I am glad we have spent this time because this is one of the most, if not the most, important issue we could be addressing at this time. It relates to our national security posture and it relates to the issues that are before our eyes and on our hearts: what is happening in the Mideast and around the world.

Although I understand the leadership wanting to move to other issues, hopefully, we can have the final votes and move on to other issues.

I have come to this Chamber a number of times to relay what people in Louisiana are thinking and hoping for in this bill, and I have tried to express their frustration in some ways over what they and I also perceive as a conflicting policy.

It seems as though our Nation has a test of our will every 20 or so years: Are we willing to take the steps necessary to become more energy independent? The last time we had this test was in the 1970s when oil spiked because of international circumstances. Our gas lines were very long. It put a clamp on our economy, helped to raise interest prices and threw our economy into a tailspin. We failed the test.

Over the last 25 years, we have not become more energy independent. We have become more efficient. Our technologies have improved significantly in terms of environmental impacts, but we have not passed the test for energy independence. It is now 25 years later and we are taking this test again.

It is my hope that as we cast these last important votes on this energy bill that we will this time pass the test and move our country on a steady and sure march toward energy independence.

Instead of reducing our reliance on imported oil over the last 25 or 30 years, we have increased our reliance on foreign oil and energy sources, the exact reverse of what we were hoping to do. And we have not increased renewables in our energy portfolio nearly to the point where they can help us reach that self-reliance.

I do not have to explain to the Presiding Officer, who knows this issue well, or to my colleagues, how important it is for us to pass this test now because it has a direct relation to our national security. It has a direct relation to our ability to fight clearly, and without compromise, our war on terrorism. It helps us to broker a peace

and a compromise in the Mideast based on our values of freedom and democracy.

I have a chart which I hope will help people understand how important this is. As I said, 25 years ago we failed the test of trying to help our country march towards energy independence. Instead of standing still, we have actually taken a reverse course. In the last 30 years, instead of putting more places on the map for production of oil, gas, coal, and other traditional fuels, as well as nuclear power, hydro and alternatives, we have actually taken places off the map.

So in 2002, we have this great, mighty, and very wealthy United States of America that consumes more energy per capita than any nation on Earth and any nation in the history of man, and yet we refuse to produce it. We want to consume it. We do not want to produce it.

We have been misled to believe that we cannot produce oil and gas without great environmental damage. This is simply not true.

What is true is when we began producing oil and gas in the 1930s, the 1940s, and the 1950s, prior to rules and regulations, before the science was clear and before we were able to understand some of the great negative consequences, we did make a lot of environmental mistakes.

We have now minimized the risk financially, economically, as well as environmentally in our drilling, whether it is onshore or offshore. Are there still problems? Yes. Are there some environmental risks associated with drilling? Yes.

I do not know any exercise in life that is without risk. The question is: what is the measure and the weight of the risk? I say unequivocally, coming from a State that has done a lot of oil and gas drilling, the benefits of drilling outweigh the environmental risks if rules are followed and polluters are prosecuted.

When we are free of Mideast-set oil prices it helps our Nation be secure internationally. Every time violence escalates in the Mideast, it drives prices higher causes our economy to tailspin.

When our economy takes a tailspin, as I have tried to explain, it is not only charts and graphs where the lines start moving. Dreams are shattered. Houses are lost. Businesses are lost. People lose their jobs. Kids do not go to school. Families fall into despair. These are serious issues. These economic trends affect real people, in my State, and all over our country. Let us take a step now for more domestic drilling.

We have no amendments to open these places shown here where moratoria exist. But we must consider opening drilling both on and off of our shores because there are rich, significant reserves of meaningful proportion. Let me give one example.

In the Gulf of Mexico, where we see this blue area where we have been drill-

ing for many years, the red dots indicate all current and active leases. Where it says "gas, 105.52 trillion cubic feet," that is the estimated reserves of the gas that is located in this part of the gulf. Notice this is only the central and the western part of the gulf, not the eastern part, off of the Florida coastline.

One hundred and five trillion cubic feet of gas is a lot of gas. In the whole Nation, we use 22 trillion cubic feet a year. So in this one small part of the gulf, if we drilled it in its entirety and were committed to a good drilling program, we could supply enough gas for the entire United States, according to my math, for between 4 and 5 years.

I have to assume that the geology does not stop at this line. Just because the political boundaries divide Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida does not mean the geographic or geological formations stop. So there are tremendous gas and oil reserves in this part of the gulf. There are probably tremendous reserves all along our Nation's shorelines. Does that mean we have to drill within sight of the coast? No. It used to be that way 20 years ago, where drilling would have to be in shallow water. But one of the great advances that has occurred because of wise tax credits, encouragement, research, and development is that we now can drill safely in deeper water.

What does that mean? That means we can have great beaches, wonderful coastlines, a tremendous tourism industry, and never see an oil rig.

The technology is there to drill, and drill safely, and move gas and oil throughout this country. We would not have to rely on Iraq or Saudi Arabia and be held hostage to world oil prices.

We need more oil and more gas. It is simply hogwash when people say it will not help. That is not true. It will help, and we can do it.

Regarding the ANWR situation, people might not be clear. It was not to me until I visited Alaska and began to understand how huge Alaska is. I asked my staff to place Alaska on the map of the continental United States so we could appreciate how big the State is. We are lucky to have purchased this land, this wonderful State with so many resources. It is a great asset for the United States of America.

When we purchased Alaska, people thought it was a folly. We have the last laugh. It has given us great natural resources, an abundance of wildlife, timber, and oil and gas.

We cannot turn all of Alaska into a national park. We cannot afford to do it. We have set aside some areas of Alaska. One area the size of the State of South Carolina is a refuge. It is the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Are we suggesting to drill in the whole refuge? No, the debate over ANWR is regarding 1.5 million out of 19 million. That is what the fear is about. A huge number of people say we absolutely, positively, cannot drill in this little dot because a major catastrophe will befall our environment or Nation.