

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE KENTUCKY FIRE SPRINKLER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

• Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate and honor the Kentucky Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association, KFSCA, Foundation of Frankfort, KY for winning an American Society of Association Executives', ASAE, 2002 Associations Advance America Award of Excellence. They were one of just 18 organizations nationwide to receive this notable distinction.

The ASAE, based here in Washington, D.C., recognizes associations and industry partners each year that advance American society with innovative programs in areas like education, skills training, standard setting, citizenship and community service. Oftentimes, these associations perform invaluable services for their communities that would typically be the responsibility of local, State, or Federal Government. As a member of the Kentucky State legislature, U.S. Congress, and now the U.S. Senate, I have come to realize how truly important these associations are to the everyday lives of the men and women residing in their communities.

The Kentucky Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association Foundation was selected to receive the AAA Award of Excellence out of 100 entries for its highly successful fundraising efforts for Burn Prevention. The KFSCA Foundation came into existence 7 years ago to provide a charitable base for burn prevention and education activities. In these 7 years, the foundation has donated more than \$130,000 to a Pediatric Burn Center and to support a program to provide psychological intervention for juvenile fire starters. Also, the foundation operates and maintains a mobile burn education trailer that is used by fire departments across the commonwealth to educate school children and the public about fire and fire prevention. By winning a AAA Award of Excellence, the KFSCA will be automatically eligible to receive ASAE's highest honor, the Summit Award. In all, eight Summit Award winners will be chosen this summer to be formally honored at ASAE's 2002 Annual Meeting in Denver August 17-20, and at the ASAE Summit Awards Dinner, being held in September at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.

I am honored to have such a reputable and committed foundation working in the State I represent. I would like to thank all of those involved with the KFSCA for their hard work and urge them to continue their good deeds. They certainly are making a difference in people's lives.●

RICHARD HAIRE'S CONTRIBUTION TO NEW MEXICO'S FUTURE

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Madam President, after serving as an exemplary elementary school teacher in New Mexico for more than 32 years, Richard Haire is

retiring this spring. At that time he will have enriched the lives of his fifth grade students at Corrales Elementary for 23 consecutive years.

Mr. Haire has unfailingly given our children the gifts of knowledge, goodwill, humor and a disciplined attention to detail. He has consistently set the highest standards for performance in the classroom and offered enthusiastic, dedicated support to each child's endeavors.

From the start, Mr. Haire has had a very impressive career. Voted "most likely to succeed" by his senior classmates, he graduated second in a class of 360 in 1965 from Commack High School in upstate New York. Mr. Haire obtained a BA in psychology from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo in 1969 and graduated cum laude among the top students. He then went on to receive his MS in Education from Syracuse University in 1970.

Mr. Haire dedicated much of his life to teaching. He taught at Adobe Acres Elementary School in Albuquerque from 1971-1978 and continued at John Baker Elementary School from 1978-1979. Mr. Haire joined the teaching staff at Corrales Elementary School in 1979. Scattered across the country, Mr. Haire's students have made remarkable achievements in such fields as education, literary criticism and science.

Good teachers are essential to maintaining New Mexico's unique cultural heritage and fostering the state's economic growth. Mr. Haire has made a very generous commitment to future generations.●

VOTE EXPLANATION

[Reprint of RECORD statement of Friday, April 12, 2002]

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I submit this statement to explain my absence on Wednesday, April 10 on the rollcall votes regarding the amendments offered by the distinguished Senator from California. Senator FEINSTEIN, and the distinguished Senator from Idaho, Senator CRAIG. Unfortunately, I was absent for medical reasons and was unable to vote.

I wanted to express my support for Senator FEINSTEIN's amendment and had I been here, my intention was to vote "yes" on the motion to invoke cloture on her energy derivatives amendment. I understand that this body specifically exempted over-the-counter trading in energy derivatives from anti-fraud, anti-manipulation and other oversight regulation by the Commodities Futures Trading Commission back in 2000. However, I believe the Enron collapse, and the dramatic energy price spikes we saw last year in California and the Northwest, including in my State of Montana, tell us that we should take a closer look at energy markets and make sure we are catching market manipulators. I was disappointed that cloture was not invoked on this amendment.

I also wanted to express my support for Senator CRAIG's amendment, and had I been here, my intention was to

vote for the Craig amendment to strike title II of S. 517. With so much uncertainty in today's energy markets, I was not convinced that the modified electricity restructuring provisions in S. 517 did enough to protect the best interests of consumers. This is a complicated area of Federal law, and I think the Senate needs more time to get it right. For that reason, I would have supported Senator CRAIG's amendment.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3762. An act to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional protections to participants and beneficiaries in individual account plans from executive investment in employer securities and to promote the provision of retirement investment advice to workers managing their retirement income assets, and to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prohibit insider trades during any suspension of the ability of plan participants or beneficiaries to direct investment away from equity securities of the plan sponsor.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3762. An act to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional protections to participants and beneficiaries in individual account plans from excessive investment in employer securities and to promote the provision of retirement investment advice to workers managing their retirement income assets, and to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prohibit insider trades during any suspension of the ability of plan participants or beneficiaries to direct investment away from equity securities of the plan sponsor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1009. An act to repeal the prohibition on the payment of interest on demand deposits.