

can delay the United States in its embrace of the biorefinery concept, they will succeed in sustaining the position and profitability of their industry.

I will address the opponent's arguments issue by issue. It is my hope that, ultimately, an objective and thoughtful overview will lead to acceptance of the Renewable Fuel Standard.

I would first like to stress the urgent needs for a "Manhattan" type project to commercialize the biorefinery industry in the United States. This industry will take agricultural and forestry crops and residues, rights-of-way, park, yard and garden trimmings as well as the clean portion of municipal wastes that are disposal problems or end up in the our land fills or sewers and convert these renewable resources into biofuels, biochemicals and bioelectricity.

Poster 1 shows existing ethanol plants in gold, plants under construction in green, and other biorefineries in the planning stage in red.

You can see that the dispersal of biorefineries will be nationwide, not limited to the Midwest, and not limited to any location or region within our country.

Moving from planning to construction is largely contingent on implementation of the RFS since capitalization will not proceed without an assured and profitable market for their outputs.

America needs a Manhattan-type project to accelerate this process and to ensure the development of smaller, fully integrated, community-based biorefineries bringing new basic industries and quality jobs to rural and urban communities with ownership/partial ownership and value-added benefits accruing to local people. The RFS is part of this approach because it expands the market for biofuels and provides a 1.5 credit for cellulosic biomass ethanol and biodiesel compared to 1 credit for corn-based ethanol; that is, each gallon of ethanol from cellulosic biomass will be worth 1.5 gallons of corn-based ethanol. This extra credit is an important driver in advancing technology so that California, New York, and other States can join the Midwest in benefiting from new industries, better jobs, and improved incomes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator's 5 minutes has expired.

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, we hope the cloture vote will move forward and that we will, in fact, pass the RFS.

Thank you very much.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I have been in consultation with the distinguished Republican leader and our terrific chair of the committee, as well as others, with regard to finding some procedural arrangement to accommodate Senators and continue the effort to bring this bill to a close.

I think we are making progress, but in order to accommodate further dis-

cussion, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote be postponed until 2:30.

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

Mr. DASCHLE. I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

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

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

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time during quorum calls in this period be charged equally against both sides.

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

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

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

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, what is the pending business?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate is in morning business.

Mr. BAUCUS. I thank the Chair.

FINANCE COMMITTEE TAX INCENTIVES

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, the cloture vote has been suspended until 2:30 this afternoon. I think that is very wise. There are a few provisions that various Senators are trying to work out. I hope very much that they are worked out.

One of the big provisions is the Finance Committee-passed tax package which I believe members of the Finance Committee believe very much should be part of this bill.

The Finance Committee has worked long and hard on tax provisions to help wean America from OPEC. They are not huge incentives, but on the margin they will help a bit. They are divided roughly equally between conservation incentives on the one hand and production incentives on the other. The conservation incentives are renewable energy provisions. For example, they extend and modify what is called the section 45 credit.

In addition, the alternative fuels and alternative-fuel vehicles credit is to help America develop automobiles that are much more fuel efficient so we will consume fewer gallons of gasoline for

every mile driven. There are a lot of great ideas, whether hybrids or fuel cells, but it is important to give those incentives.

There are also some conservation and energy-efficiency incentives for energy efficiency in existing homes, for new home construction, a credit for residential solar, for example, wind, fuel cell properties, a credit for more efficient air-conditioners, water heaters, heat pumps, and the list goes on. That is the conservation side. As I said, it is about half of the total package.

The tax incentives for 1 year total about \$8 billion and over the life of the bill—that is 10 years—\$14 billion. Half of that, as I mentioned, is renewables and conservation. The other half is production incentives. The production incentives are for clean coal technologies. We know we can utilize coal significantly in the future. It makes sense that we use cleaner technologies so that there is less pollution. There are oil and gas conventional incentives as well as some electric industry restructuring incentives.

I might say, for our Native Americans on Indian reservations, we have provided accelerated depreciation and wage credit benefits for businesses that are on Indian reservations. This provision was thrashed out in committee. It passed out of the committee unanimously, albeit on a voice vote.

I believe that, by and large, most Members of the Senate support—and support strongly—these provisions. They do help, on the margin, wean us a bit from our dependency on OPEC because they provide a little more self-sufficiency and have actual, honest to goodness provisions; that is, the myriad of conservation measures I mentioned.

I take my hat off to our leader Senator DASCHLE, to Senator REID, and to Senator LOTT for trying to figure out ways to put this together so we can finally pass the energy bill. It is an almost impossible situation. You have 100 Senators, each with a different point of view. But as to the Finance Committee provisions, by and large, the President proposed many of them in his proposed energy tax package. Senator BINGAMAN, chairman of the Energy Committee, has proposed energy tax incentives. Senator MURKOWSKI has proposed energy tax incentives. That is some indication why we in the Finance Committee passed this measure out unanimously.

It is bipartisan by definition. It is broad based, but it is not germane, obviously. That is why I hope we can get the agreement in some responsible fashion to take up and pass the Finance Committee package in a posture so it will be included in the bill, that it is not excluded perhaps because cloture is invoked, therefore making the provision not germane.

It is a good provision, the Finance Committee package. I think it is also important we pass it because there may be scoping issues in conference. I

cannot guarantee 100 percent, just because the House has about \$30 billion in tax incentives, that necessarily any provision the Senate has in mind would be within the scope; it may not be.

Second, if we do not pass our energy tax incentive package, we will be disadvantaged in negotiating with the House. The House will have passed \$33 billion, the Senate zero. One can argue, look at what is in the Finance Committee package, but I can tell you, having worked with the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee in conference many times, I know what he is going to say. I know it is going to give him a leg up. It is going to give him an advantage. And it is going to make it more different for us in the Senate to get provisions we want.

Third, that is no way to operate. The Finance Committee has done its business. We had many hearings. We have had a markup. We have debated these issues. We passed out our provision incentives to add, to complement—in fact, supplement—the underlying energy bill. We waited until the rest of the bill was about ready to pass to bring up our package. I think it is only appropriate—in fact, it is for the good of the country, definitely—that these provisions be included.

So with great respect I urge all my colleagues, in the next couple hours, to help all of us together, as 100 Senators, figure out a way we can bring up and pass the Finance Committee tax incentives. They are good. They are good for America—half conservation, half production. I think it is basically by and large agreed to.

I yield the floor.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority whip.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the morning business be extended until the hour of 12:30 and that there be no controlled time, and that Senators be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the time from 2:15 to 2:30 be equally divided with the time controlled by Senator DASCHLE or a designee and Senator LOTT or a designee to debate the cloture vote which will occur at 2:30.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FEINSTEIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE MIDDLE EAST

Mr. WELLSTONE. Madam President, I have about only 5 minutes to speak on an issue that is important for all of us in our country and in the world. That is the Middle East. There is much to say, and 5 minutes is just a beginning.

We were not in session on Friday so today I will briefly present my analysis of Secretary Powell's trip. There was a lot of discussion in some of the media that Secretary Powell was unsuccessful in his endeavor. I actually choose to view his effort as but a first step. It is extremely important—I know the Chair believes as well—that our Government be engaged, even more so now.

Secretary Powell's trip was an important first step. There are now discussions under way, very tough discussions, about security measures. Ultimately, the question is, how do we get from where we are right now to where we all hope we can be so that there can be peace for Israel and for her neighbors? That is the question. The emotion people feel, the sentiment people feel, that I feel, that all of us feel, is very vivid.

When Israelis were murdered at a seder meal, as a first-generation American of a Jewish immigrant who fled persecution from Russia, it sent chills down my spine. When I read about the rise of anti-Semitism in Europe, some of what has happened in France, the targeting of Jewish teenagers, the physical attacks, the hatred, it is frightening. Inside, you feel the indignation, and you say to yourself: We will not let people do this to Jews anywhere in the world.

I called Assistant Secretary Wolfowitz, who spoke at the rally, and said: We also have to be concerned about the loss of life of innocent Palestinians—not terrorists, innocent Palestinians. He is right. I called him and said: I believe, based upon my own background, when I think about my mother and father, who are no longer here, what you said should have been said. I think it was important to say that. It is a very Jewish thing to say in terms of my sense of Jewish justice. I can't imagine my mother and father not saying exactly the same.

I thank Secretary Powell for his trip. Clearly, it takes courage to do what he did. He is out there. Frankly, he is doing the right thing. I believe now, however, we have to come forward with some very creative political ideas about how we can move to some kind of framework. It seems as if the present course will result in a deeper river of blood. How can we get to some kind of a framework that makes some sense so that we can get to where we want to get, which is people living in dignity side by side, with secure borders, and an end to the killing. That is, how do we get there?

I wish I had the answer. Secretary Powell needs to go back. I don't know whether he thinks I should be saying this in the Senate, but we will need

him to go back. Our government has to stay engaged in these negotiations.

Over the next couple of days, I will try to talk about some of the discussions I have had with people about ways in which we can move to a different framework—not the present course but a different course. It is terribly important. I am not naive about this. It is very complicated, and it is very difficult.

Since we were not in session Friday, I didn't want to let some of the interpretation of Secretary Powell's work be the only interpretation. Again, the emotion we feel and the indignation that many of us have is quite understandable. The real question is, how can we be constructive? What can we do gestaltwise that makes sense? What kind of proposals can we propose that are credible, that somehow will result in a place and time when Israel lives in peace and Israel's neighbors also live in peace. That is the question.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

THE ENERGY BILL

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I thank the Chair. Madam President, I want to take a moment to discuss where we are currently in the continued movement on the energy bill.

A cloture motion was filed last Thursday, and we are looking forward to moving forward on this bill. I know many Members have been somewhat frustrated with the pace. We have been on the bill almost 6 weeks, not continually but certainly for the most part.

I know the majority leader is working in good faith, and I support his efforts to move the bill forward in a timely manner, but I remind my colleagues that we are on an extremely difficult and complex piece of legislation. We have divisive issues, and we have dealt with them as best we could through a process of amendments.

Since the debate on this issue began, we have had 172 amendments—some 60 Republican, 112 Democratic. We have dispensed with 92 amendments—35 Republican, 57 Democratic. Most of the remaining amendments are currently on the other side of the aisle, but that is neither here nor there. I am sure we can deal with them in a relatively short timeframe.

Some of the more difficult amendments we have dealt with are: Whether Congress should decide on new vehicle standards or leave that discretion to the experts, specifically CAFE standards; whether Congress should impose a renewable portfolio standard on some