

recently in California, of course, and problems can occur in other places. We will likely see some this summer if we continue to have the heat we have had, and the demand for electric power. There will be some problems, I suppose, relative to that.

We are seeking a policy that does several things. No. 1, it avoids having an energy crisis. There is no real need for that. We know what is needed. It is very simple to set forth what we have to have in the future. We are also seeking to try to do whatever we can. It is very possible to avoid overdependency on imported oil and fuel. We are now 60 percent dependent on overseas countries for our oil supplies. These are our challenges.

In addition, an energy policy that looks forward to cleaner air and protecting our environment is one everyone is committed to. There will be great debate over ANWR and whether or not a small footprint on 19 million acres of a wildlife refuge in Alaska would be detrimental. That is yet to be decided.

However that turns out, there are things we have to do. One opportunity we have is to continue to make coal a cleaner resource. Regarding electric generation, 50 percent is generated by coal. That will continue to grow, I suspect, and be a larger percentage over time. We need to make sure we can make the coal-generated electricity as clean as possible. Our bill will provide for additional help with respect to that. It is important we do that. Coal is probably the largest energy resource we have available in the United States.

Regarding gas and oil, again, we have become very dependent on imports. We have great opportunities in this area in the continental United States, in Alaska and the West. We need to do that and be balanced with the environment and production. We need access to public lands to do that. We will work on that.

We have an opportunity now to deal with one of the issues that impacts, probably more than anything else in this country, our policy on energy. We are ready to move with that. It needs to be balanced between renewables, production, environment, and usage. We can do that.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Connecticut.

TERRORISM INSURANCE

Mr. DODD. Madam President, we are going to start voting at 9:35. We need a roadmap to follow as to what we are going to do in the next 45 minutes with a variety of votes on matters that are related in some degree, but mostly unrelated, to S. 2600, the terrorism insurance bill, the subject of debate all day yesterday. We will be continuing with matters that have to be dealt with before we get back to that bill. I take a minute or so to express my sincere hope we will get back to that bill. I re-

gret it is taking this long. We have been at this an awfully long time.

We only dealt with two amendments yesterday that were relevant to the bill despite all the talk about this. There are people from the AFL-CIO, to business groups, developers, commercial interests, who would like to see the bill adopted soon because of the inability of major projects to move forward due to the unavailability of terrorism insurance.

We have come a long way while waiting to get here. This is an important issue. The President indicated this, and the Secretary of the Treasury, and every organization I know of, with the exception of one or two, believe this is something we must do and should have done earlier. We will deal with some of the other matters, and I don't minimize the importance of them, but we are getting off track from the underlying bill. The leader feels strongly about this, as do many Members on both sides. We had some very fine speeches yesterday by Members on both sides of the aisle in support of this underlying legislation.

My hope is sooner, rather than later, we can adopt S. 2600. We will deal with some other matters, but I hope to get back to the bill and complete it. I am prepared to stay here as long as we have to and listen to Senators all day today and all day Monday. There will be no votes until Tuesday, but we can dispense with debate today and Monday and bring us to final closure on this bill on Tuesday. The leader has to make some decisions on proceeding, but he is determined the legislation move forward.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LEAHY. What is the parliamentary situation?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. At 9:30, morning business is to be closed.

The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak for 4 minutes and delay the vote from 9:35 to 9:39.

Mr. LEAHY. Reserving the right to object, and I shall not, has there been reserved time already on this vote?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. There is no time reserved for debate on matters.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I understood the Senator from Vermont had time reserved on the Leahy-Hatch amendment. Am I incorrect on that?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. There was an order for the Senator to be recognized to offer the amendment but no specific time for debate.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the Senator from Iowa will be recognized for 4 minutes.

HARKIN-ALLEN AMENDMENT ON TERRORISM VICTIM'S ACCESS TO COMPENSATION

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, first, I thank the Senator from Virginia, Senator ALLEN, for bringing this matter to the floor. I was unavoidably detained yesterday. I had a lot of constituents from the Greater Des Moines Chamber of Commerce, about 140 Iowans, with whom I was meeting as we concluded a very busy day to cap off their annual work trip to Washington, D.C. Unfortunately, I was unable to be here in the Chamber to assist and help my good friend from Virginia in offering this amendment.

I personally thank the Senator from Virginia for filling in the gap yesterday and getting this amendment up on this bill. This is an issue that needs to be addressed and I could not ask for a more dedicated and steadfast ally than Senator ALLEN in helping pursue justice for all of the innocent American victims of state-sponsored terrorism. This is an issue that must be addressed by this Congress.

That is why the bipartisan legislation Senator ALLEN and I introduced in April—the Terrorism Victim's Access to Compensation Act (S. 2134) and the amendment that Senator ALLEN joins me in offering here take two very important steps. First, this amendment would require that compensation be paid first and foremost from the blocked and frozen assets of the state sponsors of terrorism and their agents, not U.S. taxpayers, in cases where American victims of terrorism secure a final judgment in our federal courts and are awarded compensation accordingly.

Second, this amendment provides a level playing field for all American victims of state-sponsored terrorism who are pursuing redress in our federal courts and compensation from the blocked assets of state sponsors of terrorism, including their agencies and instrumentalities.

Madam President, we are united as Americans to meet the threat of international terrorism. This fight is being waged on many fronts, from the mountains of Afghanistan to the borders and streets of America.

Even as we track down the terrorists and defend America, we must never forget that terrorist acts are ultimately stories of human tragedy. We must never forget the victims.

I am talking about American victims like the dedicated, professional woman from Waverly, IA, Kathryn Koob, who sought to build cross-cultural ties between the Iranian people and the American people only to be taken hostage in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and held captive for 444 nightmarish days in Iran.

I am talking about American victims like Taleb Subh from LeClaire, IA, who, as a teenager, was visiting relatives in Kuwait and terrorized by Saddam Hussein and his troops at the outbreak of the Persian Gulf War.

These are two examples, but Americans in all 50 states have suffered. That is why Senator ALLEN and I have joined together with 17 co-sponsors on both sides of the aisle to advance this legislation to ensure that American victims of state-sponsored terrorism are justly compensated for their pain, suffering, and losses.

Current law allows American citizens to sue terrorists for compensation for their losses. Many Americans have won verdicts and judgments in our federal courts, yet have been unable to collect even though the U.S. Treasury lawfully controls at least \$3.7 billion in blocked or frozen assets of the seven foreign governments known to sponsor terrorism. Our own government has worked to prevent these families from collecting. In fact, our own State Department and Justice Department have gone into federal court to single out and block the 52 Americans held hostage in Iran and their families from even being able to pursue justice in our federal courts, let alone collect compensation.

To be clear, current law only applies to terrorist states. At present, seven foreign governments are officially designated by the U.S. State Department as state sponsors of terrorism. They are Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Sudan, North Korea, and Cuba. It is those state sponsors of international terrorism, not the American taxpayer, who must be compelled to pay these costs first and foremost.

The Harkin-Allen Amendment sends a clear message to foreign governments that sponsor international terrorism: If you sponsor terrorism, if you attack innocent Americans, we will pursue you, we will bring you to justice, and America will literally make you pay.

American victims of state-sponsored terrorism deserve to be compensated for their pain, suffering, and losses by those terrorists who sponsor and commit these terrible acts. The Congress should clear the way for those with court-ordered judgments to be paid from blocked terrorist assets and, in so doing, deter future acts of state-sponsored terrorism against innocent Americans.

Again, I appreciate the Senator from Virginia taking the initiative on this and getting this amendment up when I was unavoidably detained yesterday. I hope we have a resounding vote in favor of its passage.

Mr. ALLEN. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. HARKIN. I yield.

Mr. ALLEN. I say to my good friend from Iowa, Senator HARKIN, this is referred to as the Harkin-Allen amendment. I thank you for your great leadership. All of us have a lot of busy times around here, but we are teamed together for the victims who ought to get just compensation from these terrorists.

Mr. HARKIN. I thank the Senator from Virginia for his kindness and generosity and for propounding that unanimous consent request. He is a gentleman.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. I ask for the yeas and nays on both amendments—I withdraw that.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent I be allowed to proceed for no more than 3 minutes on the Leahy-Hatch amendment.

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

TERRORIST BOMBINGS CONVENTION

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, the Senator from Iowa has left the floor. I note he and the Senator from Virginia—we had attempted to move the Harkin-Allen amendment through the Judiciary Committee yesterday. There was an objection to moving it, on the Republican side; otherwise, I would think we could have had it on the floor as a freestanding matter.

We are considering the Leahy-Hatch substitute for the Terrorist Bombing Convention. This bill brings the United States into immediate compliance with two international conventions signed by the United States. Both conventions were entered into after the terrorist bombings at the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. If anybody wants to know why these treaties are important, look at the news today, the horrific car bombing outside the U.S. consulate in Karachi, Pakistan.

We grieve for the victims; we mourn with the families of the dead; and we pray for the speedy recovery of the injured. And, Mr. President, we act. Not tomorrow—not next month—but today. We act to protect future victims. We act to punish future evil doers. We act to show that the United States will lead the international community in the fight to end such terrorist bombings. That is precisely what my bill, S. 1770, and the Leahy-Hatch substitute does. Although I introduced this bill over six months ago, today's events should serve as a jolt to us all. The time for delay and obstructionism and partisan bickering is over. It is time to pass this bill.

I am pleased the Senate is considering the Leahy-Hatch substitute amendment to S. 1770, the "Terrorist Bombing Convention and Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism Convention Implementation Acts of 2001." This bill will bring the United States into immediate compliance with two important international conventions, which were signed by the United States and transmitted to the United States Senate for ratification by President Clinton. Both Conventions were entered into after the terrorist bombings at the United States embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

Consideration of these important treaties was inexcusably delayed when

the Senate was under Republican control, and passage of this implementation legislation has been likewise blocked by an anonymous Republican hold. As I urged in a statement on the floor of the Senate on June 7, Republican obstructionism on this anti-terrorism legislation should stop, the anonymous Republican hold on this bill should be lifted and this bill should pass.

The International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings—"Bombing Convention"—was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1997 and signed by the United States in January 1998. In September 1999, it was transmitted to the Senate by President Clinton for ratification, but no action was taken on this treaty while the Senate remained under Republican control.

The International Convention for the Suppression of Financing Terrorism—"Financing Convention"—was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1999 and signed by the United States in January 2000. In October 2000, it was transmitted to the Senate by President Clinton for ratification, but, again, no action was taken on this treaty while the Senate remained under Republican control.

When the Senate reorganized under a Democratic majority last summer, the Foreign Relations Committee under the leadership of Chairman BIDEN moved expeditiously to report these conventions to the full Senate. The antibombing treaty, in particular, sat in the Foreign Relations Committee for approximately 2 years without action during the Clinton administration when the Senate was under Republican control. Senator BIDEN deserves credit for acting quickly to report these treaties shortly after he assumed chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee. Under the leadership of Majority Leader DASCHLE, the two treaties were considered by the Senate, which gave its consent to ratification by unanimous consent on December 5, 2001.

Yet even as Senator BIDEN and Majority Leader DASCHLE were pushing to move the treaties themselves through the Senate, the Bush administration did not transmit proposed implementing legislation to the Judiciary Committee before or during the time that we were working together day and night to write the USA PATRIOT Act, the bipartisan antiterrorism legislation responding to the events of September 11. I remain puzzled why the administration felt that this measure should be separated from that effort.

Both treaties require the signatory nations to enact certain, precisely worded criminal provisions in their laws in order to be in compliance. That is what S. 1770, the Leahy bill, does. I introduced S. 1770, on December 5, 2001, shortly after passage of the USA Patriot Act, as a separate bill. This was the same day that the Senate agreed to ratify both treaties. I then tried to