

areas within the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge. It is easy to see why so many are committed to protecting the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge's 5,000 acres are home to rich and diverse wildlife habitats, including coastal salt marshes, barrier beaches, forested wetlands, coastal meadows, and upland forests.

During the course of the year, more than 250 species of birds, 47 species of mammals, and 35 species of reptiles and amphibians can be found at the refuge. What is most remarkable about the refuge is that all of this wildlife and habitat diversity is located in Maine's most populated region. So this makes this wildlife refuge a particularly special place to the people of southern Maine.

The funding in this bill for Rachel Carson will help protect the habitat found on these lands. In addition, it will preserve open space in a region of Maine that faces tremendous development pressure. This project serves as yet another example of how nonprofit and community organizations can work together with the Federal Government to identify and acquire critical lands from willing private sellers that otherwise might be lost forever to sprawl and other development.

It takes considerable resources for the Federal Government to be an effective partner in the effort to protect habitat and preserve open space, particularly in high-growth areas such as southern Maine where the cost of land is increasingly high. That is why I have worked so hard in Washington to secure the resources needed to support these community-based conservation efforts in my home State.

Rachel Carson, the patron of the Wildlife Refuge, once said of her substantial accomplishments:

The beauty of the living world I was trying to save has always been uppermost in my mind. . . . Now I can believe I have at least helped a little.

I think Rachel Carson would agree that the land conservation funding in the Interior bill we are considering today is helping, piece by piece, to preserve "the beauty of the living world" and to "help a little." I am very pleased to support the land conservation efforts in the bill. Again, I thank the managers for their leadership in this area.

Madam President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CARNAHAN). 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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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. Without objection, it is so ordered.

STATE FAIR FOCUS GROUP

Mr. WELLSTONE. Madam President, I say to my colleagues, Senators LIEBERMAN and THOMPSON and others who

will be here, I have been known to speak for several hours, but I will not. I will just take a few minutes. When Members come to the floor to start debate of the homeland defense bill, I will be pleased to finish.

As a matter of fact, I will have an amendment, which will be the "no Federal contracts for expatriates" amendment, which is very similar to what I did on the Department of Defense bill. The House of Representatives actually took action on this with a pretty strong vote. What this says is, if you have companies that have moved to Bermuda and renounced their citizenship, they will not be getting any Federal contracts. It is a pretty simple proposition. I look forward to introducing the amendment and hope to do it shortly, this afternoon. I am ready to get going.

We have so much to do in such a short period of time that I hope Senators will come to the floor with amendments on both sides. I will be ready to do so.

As long as I am on the topic, I wanted to talk about my experience back home. I don't know about you, but we all have our own focus groups. The greatest focus group in Minnesota is the State fair. It is really quite a happening. In about 12 days, almost half the State's population comes to the State fair—2.5 million. That might be a slight exaggeration but not by much.

There are a couple of things I really like about the fair. One is, it is sort of the essence of political equality. Nobody has a lobbyist. Everybody counts as one and no more than one. Everybody comes up and talks with you.

I also like what we call the greater Minnesota focus. We have a very thriving metropolitan community, but we are also an agricultural State. It is great to see the very strong emphasis on agriculture at the fair.

It is a focus group because you can be at your own booth, and lots of people come up, and I guess that is self-selection, where maybe it is a lot of supporters and whatnot. But even there, certainly walking around, you will run into everybody and anybody, and people are going to tell you what is on their mind.

I heard a lot—a lot, a lot—about corporate responsibility. I don't know if people used those words, but there is really a lot of concern about this flat economy. And look at the news yesterday and today. That is what we have. People really are worried that they will not have any pension, and they are worried they might not have a job. In Minnesota, Mr. Joseph Nacchio, CEO of QWEST, Minnesotans, starting with the QWEST employees who worked so hard to build that company, they are not one bit pleased that while Mr. Nacchio was cheerleading them to invest a big part of their 401(k) in QWEST stock, he was dumping his own and walked away with around \$230 million. There is a lot of that.

People are looking for those of us here to be watchdogs for them. They

are looking for us to not be too influenced by all the big economic interests with all their money and lobbyists and their connections and clout. People are saying to all of us, we want you to be for us. I guess sometimes they are not so sure the Senate always is for them. In that respect, the Sarbanes bill was a very positive step forward.

We had a stalemate here in 1994 on health care when we were talking about universal health care coverage. Really between 1994 and now, it is as if this never was an issue. But the issue of health security, of affordable health care coverage for people, for their loved ones and families, has walked into people's living rooms. I heard more discussion of the cost of it—the premiums, the copays, the deductibles, the inadequate coverage—just unbelievable—and, of course, prescription drug coverage by the elderly and also by others. Health care has emerged. I don't have my own poll on all these issues, but I think it is a top issue for families.

In Minnesota, children have just started school, as in other States, and education is right up there. I am not without my bias. Two of our children are teachers. I will just tell you that Minnesota and a lot of States around the country are still counting on us to provide the resources that we committed to providing to them for education. There is a lot of discussion about education.

There were questions about Iraq, what is going to happen, concern. I don't think people feel they have much information. They want more information. They want to know about the different options and consequences of those different options.

Over and over again, if you want to say politics is very concrete and doesn't have much to do with labels, whether it was suburbs, inner city or greater Minnesota small towns, so much of the discussion was about the economy, so much of the discussion was: Senator, what is going to happen to our schools? We had to cut all these teachers. We don't have enough resources. Senator, my wife or my husband has \$800 a month or \$500 for prescription drugs. Senator, why do the pharmaceutical companies have so much power? Senator, what is going to happen to my pension? Senator, how did those big companies get away with what they have done to us?

That is really what I heard about again and again: I have no coverage; I don't have enough insurance.

I could go into a whole separate discussion. I see my colleague, Senator LIEBERMAN. I said when he came to the floor I would finish. I will.

I could have a separate discussion about agricultural policy and about small business and about veterans who are coming up, facing long waiting lines for health care in Minnesota. I just want to remind everybody: We have a lot of work to do in a short period of time. We ought to have amendments out here on the floor. We better

make sure that we do not lose sight of these basic bread-and-butter economic issues so important to families and so important to people's lives.

We have a lot of work to do. I hope we will do it.

I say to my colleague from Connecticut, the reason I came over is that I am ready to offer an amendment. I think we need to do the work. I want to wait to see what my colleague has to say. I congratulate him on his superb work.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Madam President, I thank my friend and colleague from Minnesota. In a moment, I will call up an amendment, which is the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee substitute amendment on homeland security, the substitute for the House bill that was sent over here. I will speak on the substitute amendment.

It had been my thought that, in the normal course, Senator THOMPSON, as ranking member on the committee, would introduce the first amendment. I have some reason to believe he may not be prepared to do that right away. But we are prepared to go forward.

I want to indicate—and perhaps my friend from Minnesota will want to talk to the leader about this—that I understand that Senator DASCHLE and Senator LOTT are prepared to move to table any amendments that they consider to be non-relevant to homeland security. Although, as the Senator from Minnesota knows, I share his anger about tax traders—if I may use that term—or tax evaders and support what he wants to do.

Mr. WELLSTONE. I say to my colleague, in the strict text, I have drafted it as a relevant amendment.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I look forward to reasoning with the Senator and the leadership on that very question.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. Madam President, is the bill going to be reported now?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. It is.

Mr. REID. I thank the Chair.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 5005, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5005) to establish the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from

Connecticut is recognized to call up amendment No. 4471.

Mr. REID. Madam President, will the Senator from Connecticut yield to let me say a word or two?

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I will.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I have been a part of some conversations. I think the two leaders are going to have Senator LIEBERMAN and Senator THOMPSON, the managers, determine what is relevant. I don't think they are going to do that. They will follow your lead on that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 4471

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Madam President, I call up amendment No. 4471 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Connecticut [Mr. LIEBERMAN] proposes an amendment numbered 4471.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Madam 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 printed in the RECORD of Tuesday, September 3, 2002, under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Madam President, this legislation is a result of the bipartisan work of the committee, and the occupant of the chair, the Senator from Missouri, has been a contributing member of it. It was endorsed by our committee on July 25 by a 12-to-5 vote. I believe very strongly that this deserves passage by the full Senate.

The substitute I am offering was modified in two respects after the committee held its business meetings in July. First, we added an offset to certain direct spending in the bill related, in fact, to civil service reform. Second, we have clarified earlier language about the conduct of risk and threat assessment by the new Department. Both changes were made after canvassing members of our committee and with the approval of the majority of the committee. I will describe them in more detail in a few moments.

This amendment, almost a year in the making, would create a focused and accountable Department of Homeland Security to enable our domestic defenses to rise to the unprecedented challenge of defeating terrorism on our home soil. Our defenses are either disorganized or organized for another day that is past.

This bill aims to reorganize our homeland defenses to meet the unprecedented threats from terrorism that are sadly part of the 21st century. This amendment would also create a White House office to ensure coordination across the many offices involved in the fight against terrorism, including intelligence, diplomatic and law enforcement agencies, foreign policy agencies,

and economic assistance agencies that will remain outside the Department.

We recognize that the threat of terrorism on American soil will painfully be with us for some time. Therefore, the American people deserve and demand a Government equipped to meet and beat that threat. This committee-endorsed bill is presented in three divisions. Division A establishes a Department of Homeland Security, a White House office, and a national strategy for combating terrorism. Division B incorporates the provisions of the bipartisan Kennedy-Brownback reform of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

We are going to hear a lot during the debate, I am confident, about the need for further reorganization of the constituent agencies we have brought together in this bill. But the committee-endorsed bill actually does undertake a massive reorganization of the one agency that just about everyone agrees is in desperate need of reform, and that is the INS. Division C incorporates consensus civil service reforms, themselves the product of intensive collaboration and discussion over a period of time—months and perhaps years—that were added as an amendment by the bipartisan team of Senators VOINOVICH and AKAKA.

I expect we will hear people saying that our legislation hasn't given the President all the management flexibility he has asked for. Of course, that is literally true because we believe the administration's request simply went too far, usurping not only the fundamental responsibility of Congress to adopt civil service laws, but to undermine important protections that guard the workplace and Federal workers against favoritism and also that create some limits on the executive, some sense of accountability that is placed on those who have sway over those who have chosen to serve the public as Federal employees.

I urge my fellow Senators on both sides of the aisle to look carefully at the reforms we have incorporated and the new flexibilities that we do provide, which are sensible and significant indeed and, I believe, if passed, would give the Secretary of Homeland Security more management flexibility than any Secretary operating under current law has ever had.

I know this promises to be a controversial discussion, a serious discussion, and sometimes a passionate discussion. I look forward to airing our differences, resolving them, and getting a good bill to conference and then to the President's desk, certainly by the end of this session.

We in the Congress have accomplished great and seemingly daunting tasks in the past; but, honestly, I can think of few in my time in the Senate, which is now 14 years, that have been more critical to our common future and cry out to us to work across party lines, to raise America's guard against the savage, inhumane, cunning threat