

the efficiency of production; consumer protections to guard against fraud, market manipulation, and abuse; and environmental sensitivity to minimize the impacts from wastes and emissions.

These are essential elements for any comprehensive energy policy. These elements must be fully integrated through a policy that is designed to maximize fuel diversity and efficiency of production while minimizing consumer abuse and environmental degradation. These elements could provide a complementary path forward, but this Energy bill is a significant detour.

With these guiding principles in mind, we must then begin to make the hard choices. We must develop a truly strategic plan. Planning requires that we decide how much, to what extent, and when actions must be taken. It requires the development of criteria so the progress can be measured.

For the past three decades, the United States has struggled to find and secure its energy future. Administrations since Richard Nixon have been trying to craft a sensible energy policy, with some small successes, but mostly with little significant progress to show. All too often, America's energy agenda has shifted—lurching first in one direction, then in another. The net effect has been that the Nation has grown more and more dependent on foreign oil, making America's energy security increasingly vulnerable to manipulation and terrorist attack.

This Nation has not had a serious, thoughtful energy strategy or a comprehensive set of energy policies for a long while. Too often, the Government has, instead, reacted to shortages, dislocations, and various energy crises. For example, the Government has tried to control oil and natural gas prices, which only served to exacerbate supply shortages. For a period of time, one administration tried to prohibit the use of natural gas and forced the use of coal for power generation. Two decades later, another administration discouraged the use of coal and Federal priorities shifted to the increased use of natural gas. Today, the Nation finds itself caught in what Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan calls "the gas trap."

The energy bill soon to be before this Congress is primarily another reactionary effort. While there may be some strong trees planted, it is by no means a healthy forest. From past energy efforts, only a few actions, such as creating the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and the Clean Coal Technology Program, have proven to be truly far-sighted. I fear that most of this energy bill will continue a business-as-usual approach.

Furthermore, we must, once and for all, realize that our energy and climate change policies are two sides of the same coin. Yet we are doing little, if anything, to address seriously these critical links. This energy bill includes nothing substantial to address either global climate change or advanced

clean energy technology exports. If these and other key provisions are not included, why should I support such a flawed, misguided energy conference bill?

Furthermore, the administration has been seeking my support for its so-called FutureGen project, claiming this purported \$1 billion, 10-year proposal would build one large powerplant as an experiment to address climate change. My support for this project is largely contingent on identifying the long-term resources for FutureGen and knowing that it will not erode other critical energy programs. So I have to say that, if the administration is expecting my support for FutureGen, then, in coming years I expect that the administration will support my climate change and international technology transfer provisions as well. If the administration is still around.

Global warming is an Achilles' heel for this White House—one among other Achilles' heels. The President has shown no desire to address this problem in an energy bill or anywhere else.

In the end, the President would dearly love a showy Rose Garden ceremony in which to sign an energy bill and thus have a 2004 campaign press release to tout its so-called success. But, given this administration's track record, an energy bill would simply be another empty soapbox for the President to stand on to announce a bankrupt deal.

I say, where have we seen that before? While the Congress has passed bills and supported the Bush administration's rhetoric, the necessary resources to carry all this out never materialize.

The American people deserve much better than this. As the blackout of August 14 vividly demonstrated, this Nation's energy system—which is the lifeline of our economy and national security—is on life support. As we struggle to define and implement a national energy policy needed to address these issues, we again find ourselves on a collision course.

We need a new framework based on a consistent and cohesive set of policies. But we must recognize that we must get to that critical juncture. This new framework must be designed to strengthen the law, not gut it. Most importantly, as we approach this crossroads, we must seek to fully integrate our energy and environmental policy goals and objectives in a complementary way.

We were told we had to rush into Iraq to contain Saddam's WMD programs. Now we are being told this energy bill will reduce our dependence on foreign oil, counteract increasing fuel prices, and do so many other things.

Americans should not be fooled. They will not. There are few, if any, benchmarks or yardsticks from which we can truly chart our progress. Sadly, such milestones are anathema to this administration. At the same time, we have squandered a huge opportunity. The bipartisan cooperation in the de-

velopment of this energy bill was purely superficial. Soon this Senate could be asked to vote on this legislation. There is pressure to cajole Members to swallow hard and pass it. Despite some solid provisions, why should I be a party to this boondoggle?

A cherry-picked energy plan based on soliciting big industry campaign contributions is a bankrupt policy. It takes this Nation nowhere, and it puts our Nation's future at risk. It is time that the dots were connected. The same pattern by this White House continues to repeat itself. That pattern is statements of policy that build on infinite mirages and boundless facades.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for morning business with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today, in the few days before Veterans Day, to pay tribute to one of America's and one of Ohio's fallen sons. Twenty-seven year-old Army Specialist James Christopher Wright, who served in the 4th Battalion, 42nd Field Artillery Regiment, of the 4th Infantry Division, passed away on September 18, 2003, while trying to secure a hostile area near Tikrit, Iraq.

James Wright—known as Jimmy by his family and friends—was from Delhi Township, OH. In the early 1990s, he graduated from Oak Hills High School and Diamond Oaks Vocational School.

Growing up, Jimmy was a fun-loving kid. Friends say he was always ready with a smile or a joke. He could make any situation seem comfortable.

He could put people at ease.

Christina Schwaller, who attended Oak Hills High School with Jimmy said that he was "very outgoing and lovable, very much the clown. He was always laughing—you never had a bad moment when he was around."

Jimmy also loved cars. It's a love he shared with his older brother, Eddie. When Jimmy was still in high school, and Eddie had just graduated, they bought low-riding pick-up trucks and spent hours upon hours outfitting them. In Iraq, Jimmy was the proud driver of a Humvee. Today, Eddie drives a Porsche with a memorial to his brother painted on the front hood.

In 1996, Jimmy enlisted in the Marines and served four years. In that time, he toured in Bosnia, Greece, and Italy. Jimmy felt strongly about serving our Nation. He had a deep, abiding sense of duty—something he learned from his family. His father, Edward, served in the Army for 20 years and did two tours in Vietnam. He learned from his family about sacrifice and service.

After his tour with the Marines was over, Jimmy decided to settle down for a short time in Delhi Township and later Waco, TX, with his wife, Alina, whom he had met when they were both stationed at Fort Bragg in North Carolina. She, too, had been a Marine. As they were settling in to their new civilian life, the world turned upside-down with the tragic terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Once again, Jimmy and Alina felt the familiar pull of duty—duty to the victims of September 11th, duty to their families, duty to our country. Alina remembers Jimmy saying then that “it was time to put the uniform back on. He couldn’t just sit back and not do anything.”

Jimmy and Alina both enlisted—this time into the Army. Jimmy was deployed to Iraq on April 1, 2003. Three weeks later, he learned that his wife was pregnant with a baby boy whom they named Jamison Edward. Five months later, Jimmy Wright gave his life fighting to secure the safety and freedom of the Iraqi people—fighting to secure a peaceful world and future for his unborn son. As his brother Eddie said, “When Jimmy died, he was doing something he loved. I’m proud of my brother. He’s a hero.”

He received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Armed Forces Services Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

Specialist James C. Wright did not have to re-enlist. He did not have to fight and die for us and for his son, Jamison Edward. But he did. As Reverend Thomas King said at Jimmy’s memorial service in Ohio, “Jimmy knew the dangers he faced, but he never backed down.” He felt it was his duty—his calling—to serve. He believed in what he was doing—in what he was fighting for. He wanted his son to live in a world without terrorism—a safe world—a world of freedom and liberty and hope.

Pliny the Elder wrote that “hope is the pillar that holds up the world.” Jimmy was a man of courage, of love, of duty—and his broad shoulders of hope will continue to hold up the world safely above our heads.

He will continue to be that pillar as we remember his life—as we remember how he followed his heart, lived a life full of love, and dutifully responded to the call of his country.

Left to cherish and honor his life are his wife, Alina; his unborn son, Jamison Edward; his parents, Edward and Barbara; his two brothers, Eddie and Mark and their families; and his grandmother, Josefa Wright. Let me say to all of them that you all remain in my thoughts and prayers.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

Mr. ALLARD. Madam President, today, I rise to honor recently fallen soldiers in Iraq and to recognize the mission these men and all Fort Carson soldiers have been accomplishing since the conflict began.

This past Sunday the State of Colorado lost four of its courageous army warriors when a Chinook helicopter assigned to the 12th Aviation Brigade and attached to the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment crash landed outside of Baghdad. These were brave and loyal soldiers defending the principles of freedom and liberty and fighting the terrible war against tyranny and terrorism.

This helicopter was shot down in the single deadliest attack on American troops since the war began. This attack killed a total of 16 troops and injuring another nineteen. It was transporting the troops to Qatar. Some were headed home for leave while others were getting much needed rest before returning to Iraq to wage peace and rebuild the country after more than twenty years of neglect and oppression.

As I learn more of the four men from Fort Carson who lost their lives, my heart swells with pride. I am very proud of the commitment and sacrifice these soldiers gave to our country and our way of life. Yet, I am also saddened. I am deeply grieved knowing that for each of the brave souls have a family left behind.

It is a somber realization that some parent or spouse will receive the worst possible news. Men in dark green uniforms will show up to explain the unexplainable. As honorable as this task is, no one from the army can comfort the families of Specialist Darius Jennings, Specialist Brian Penisten, Sergeant Ernest Bucklew or Staff Sergeant Daniel Bader. These were good men and proud Americans who were pausing briefly in their duty to improve the conditions in Iraq and fully expected to return soon to rejoin their units.

This tragedy is magnified when you learn of the stories behind these young men and the lives they left behind.

Sergeant Dan Bader was returning to Fort Carson to see his wife and fourteen-month-old daughter. Last spring he tearfully kissed his wife and child goodbye and deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom promising to return soon and was ever more eager to see his daughter grow with each passing day. He was a towering man of six foot three who was not afraid of anything. He fought for his family, for his unit and for America. His daughter will grow up knowing her father was a hero but not knowing her father.

Specialist Brian Penisten was also coming home but he was coming home to start a new family. He was coming home to his fiancée in Pueblo, CO so they could get married this month. He called her before heading to the helicopter and told her everything was okay and ended the conversation with

the words, “I love you Mrs. Penisten.” But now instead of a wedding his two families will be attending a funeral for this fallen hero.

This attack represents another example of the cowardice and terror tactics employed by Saddam loyalists and the foreign insurgents intent on our failure to bring peace and freedom to Iraq and the region.

They will not succeed. Both the American troops and the Iraqi people are working hard to make the country better. Everywhere you turn, the message is the same. The Iraqi citizens are happy to have us there and our troops understand why we must be there. Whether you count the social programs being worked by our soldiers, the re-enlistments of our Fort Carson soldiers or the over all morale of the troops, the message is clear. We are committed and will not quite until our task is done.

Some of these troops have been in the country since before Christmas of last year. This deployment and combat environment could easily destroy morale and incentive to re-enlist. That is not so for these fine soldiers of Fort Carson.

Even through Sunday’s disastrous loss, the spirit of Fort Carson stays strong. The executive Officer for the 3rd Armored Cavalry, said after losing his four men, that, “morale is saddened and humbled but we remain resolved to continue the fight.”

The unit’s 5,000 soldiers serving in Iraq don’t have time to be horrified or mourn the dead. They have a job to do.”

He added that they were obviously saddened by the events but “we are soldiers, cavalry troops and have to execute the mission given to us.”

There has been plenty of discussion lately of America’s resolve and commitment to seeing this through. Let me tell you that the men and women serving in Iraq are not confused and know how committed this country is to ensuring that democracy flourishes in Iraq.

The men and women of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment are still fighting the war on the Syrian border but that has not deterred them from performing great measures for the Iraqi people. The 3rd Cavalry helped rebuild a town’s schools and hospitals with the help of the local mayor and town council.

Another program brought bookbags full of school supplies to over 200 local youth. This is a sharp contrast to the Hussein regime who did not provide basic education for all children.

One of the American commanders said “most people in the communities here are peaceful and just want to resume moral lives but the actions of the aggressors place them in a position where they feel they can’t publicly support coalition forces.” And the Iraqi mayor said “we are very grateful for what they have done.”

Fort Carson has retention goals that it must meet to fulfill its mission. This is true during war as well as during times of peace. Fort Carson has deployed over 12,000 troops to Iraq since last year. That constitutes 80 percent of its troops. Men and women from the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Special Forces Group and 7th Infantry Division have all supported Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Surprisingly, though the 3rd Armored Cavalry is still deployed in Iraq, the unit has not only reached its retention goals, it has greatly exceeded them. In the last quarter of this past year 294 soldiers re-enlisted while the objective was 129. This unit is retaining almost three times its goal for that period and for fiscal year 2003. Over the year, the regiment had 834 soldiers re-enlist though the goal was 554 reenlistments.

It is clear to me that the soldiers who are laying their lives on the line; they are committed to this cause; and we need to follow their lead. Secretary of State Colin Powell, while leading the first gulf war, said that the truly great leaders were also great followers. We in the Congress need to follow the lead of men and women from Fort Carson and commit to this cause. We must not waver when it is politically correct to do so, when the elections are near, or when the costs are high.

The cost of failure is greater than any supplemental bill brought forward to this body. The cost of failure is immense. The cost of failure will be realized not only here but through out the Arab world. Iraq is a unique opportunity to show that freedom and democracy can flourish in the region.

This mission is that important.

Any loss of life is tragic and we must reflect on the ultimate sacrifice we ask of our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines when we send them into harm's way. We always hope that every person that deploys to a war zone will return home to their parents, wives, children and community. Today we have four families who will be met by the dark green uniforms that they all dread.

We can never bring SP Darius Jennings, SP Brian Penisten, SGT Ernest Bucklew or SSG Daniel Bader back to their families alive. As much as we would want, that is not possible. What Fort Carson is doing is 'continuing the fight' and that is exactly what this Congress and this country needs to do. We need to continue the fight even when that means more money appropriated, even when that means a new round of deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan or other yet to be determined hot spots, even if that means standing up to the world community and demanding they do their share.

The war on terror is not going to be won over night. The terrorists have been honing their skills and will not quit because we ask them to. Surgical strikes to obscure targets will not deter them. United Nations resolutions

with no force deployment will not dissuade them. What will convince these international thugs is a commitment to stand firm in our responsibility and not second guess our actions when things get difficult.

I stand today to honor these four fallen soldiers, each of the injured, and all of the men and women of Fort Carson. Your commitment and sense of duty is a commendable example to all Americans. I salute Fort Carson and everything the soldiers stand for, so let this body recognize SP Darius Jennings, SP Brian Penisten, SGT Ernest Bucklew, SSG Daniel Bader and all of Fort Carson left to carry on the fight and more importantly carry on the peace.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENZI). Without objection, it is so ordered.

AIR QUALITY AND THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I stand here to raise some questions and issues of importance.

There are so many difficult problems that Americans must face every day. These include crowded roads, finding adequate and affordable health care, getting a good education for their children, and improving their economic situation.

I believe our constituents want and should expect the Federal Government to do whatever is possible to minimize these burdens with minimal intrusion.

I also believe that Americans want to trust that the government is working to protect them from involuntary risks or dangers that will affect their lives, like defective products, unfair trade practices, and corporate fraud.

Or, perhaps one of the public's greatest expectations about such risks is that the Federal Government will effectively stop pollution that would shorten lives, put people in the hospital or otherwise harm their quality of life or their earning power. Not to speak of cancer or developmental damage that might occur to their families.

It is my duty, as a Senator from Vermont and as the ranking member of the Environment and Public Works Committee to see that the Federal Government meets the public's expectations. Sadly, it is my duty to say that in this matter the administration has grossly failed those expectations and has betrayed the public's trust.

I am not here to simply be critical. I am here representing those people, those communities, those populations who are suffering because this administration refuses to acknowledge that air pollution causes illness and death.

Actually, maybe they do know this, but they're willing to look the other way at the misguided request of big polluters.

There is a reason we have a Clean Air Act. To protect human health and the environment. I can not imagine any member of Congress or any elected or appointed official that would say that we don't need a Federal Clean Air Act. But this administration is getting close to that point.

I want my colleagues to know that I will be vigilant in pointing out places where this administration is at war with the Clean Air Act. And they are numerous.

I plan to work vigorously to defend the Clean Air Act throughout my tenure in this body. I will not bend on this. I will fight efforts to undermine the act in the energy bill, in appropriations bills, in any venue that members may look for an opportunity.

Mr. President, 32,000 or more people are dying every year due to power plant pollution. This is not a new number. It was first reported in the year 2000 and is based on reliable, peer-reviewed science. That is a crisis by anyone's definition. It is a call to action.

But, instead of taking urgent steps or really any steps at all to control that pollution, this administration has given the dirtiest, oldest power plants a permanent exemption from installing modern controls that would cut millions of tons of pollutants.

Not only will this administration not force these power plants to cut pollution in the future, but they announced earlier this week that they would no longer penalize those power plants and refineries for violating pollution limits in the past.

This reversal is stunning and unprecedented, to my knowledge. Just weeks ago, we were assured that the administration would continue to prosecute polluters who violated Clean Air rules in the past. Now they are saying let's just pretend nothing bad ever happened.

That is like saying, "Let's pretend that the thousands of lives shortened by increased pollution from those illegal activities don't matter."

The combined effect of the change in rules and the evisceration of enforcement cripples the Clean Air Act.

This Bush administration is trying to unilaterally reverse the great progress in air quality that we have made due to the bipartisan agreement in the amendments to the act passed in 1990.

I hope and will be working to stop this reversal through the courts or by other actions.

The so-called "clear skies" proposal that the Administration has advertised with taxpayer dollars is too little and too late.

It puts off real reductions in smog and acid rain causing pollutants from power plants for many years beyond what the public's health demands.

It puts them off beyond what the Clean Air Act could do right now if