

I appreciate President Bush's desire to sign a comprehensive energy bill into law, and I support his efforts to do so. I hope that Congress will put aside its parochial interests and send the President legislation that he will sign into law. Our national energy situation is not a partisan issue, and I hope that both parties can come together to do the right thing for America.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. DANIEL
MCCLURE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Daniel McClure of Bayfield, Colorado, on being awarded the 2004 Lloyd Gaskill Award. The award was named after the legendary football coach at Limon High School, and is annually given to an individual who volunteers to support Colorado high school athletics in other ways than coaching. This is the second year in a row that a resident of Bayfield, Colorado has been a recipient of the award, and is a well-deserved testament to Daniel's work with the youth in his community.

For over twenty years Daniel has selflessly dedicated his efforts to Colorado student athletes, helping them to compete and reach their highest potential. Once a week, Daniel visits both Bayfield and Ignacio High Schools to evaluate and treat student athletes at no cost to the schools or district. In addition to treating the student athletes, Daniel also attends each of the schools home and away games.

Dr. McClure has also contributed his time and skill beyond the high school level. He has had the opportunity to work with athletes at the United States Training Center, and at Olympic trial events, the Outdoor National Championships, the World Diving Championships and the FINA Cup International. He has also served as the sports chiropractor for the United States Olympic diving team in Barcelona, Spain in 1992, and again in Atlanta, Georgia in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the service and achievements of Dr. Daniel McClure before this body of Congress and this nation. His dedication to high school student athletes in his community and athletes representing our great country at the highest level is truly commendable. I sincerely thank Daniel for his service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EDGAR JOHN
NIEMANN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart after learning that a great citizen and a dear friend of mine, Edger John Niemann, passed away at the age of eighty-three. He was a resident of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, and as his community and family mourn his passing, I believe it appropriate to recognize the life of Edger John Niemann before this body of Congress and this nation.

Edger was born on May 28, 1920 in Cook, Nebraska to Louis and Ella Niemann. He graduated from Cook High School and then went off to earn a Bachelors of Science degree in mathematics from Doane College in Crete, Nebraska. He joined the Navy in 1943 and earned his wings in Florida. At the conclusion of the war, Edger decided to pursue his passion and become a florist. Shortly after, he married Naomi Fenske in 1947, and they moved to Glenwood Springs in 1952.

Once there he and his wife purchased a floral business, eventually naming it Niemann's Gardens. Together they ran their business for forty years developing a love for flowers, but more importantly a love for their community. For fifty-two years, Edger served on numerous boards and committees striving to make his community a better place. Edger served his local school district and was a member of the Re-1 school board for fourteen years. He also served his local church, the Glenwood Church of Christ, as an elder. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club, the West Glenwood Sewer Board, and the Oasis Creek Water Board. On a personal note, Edger was a good friend of mine and he was one of the most caring, loving and hard-working people I have ever known.

Mr. Speaker, Edger Niemann will be sorely missed, and although we grieve over the loss of this incredible individual, we take comfort in the lives he has touched and the legacy he leaves behind. My thoughts go out to his wife Naomi, son Scott, daughter Holly and the rest of his family during this difficult time of bereavement. I am honored to pay tribute to his life and memory today.

THE GASOLINE PRICE REDUCTION
ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4545, the so-called "Gasoline Price Reduction Act of 2004."

My opposition is based both on grounds of the bill's content and the process by which it has been considered. I don't believe this bill is good policy, nor do I think it should have been brought up in a way that severely limited debate and completely eliminated the opportunity for the House to even consider any amendments.

The bill's title—gasoline price reduction—is more of a slogan than an accurate description of the measure. And like any good advertising slogan, it has a certain appeal. But it is not an example of truth in advertising.

I do believe that the bill's authors had the right goals in mind when drafting this bill. But reducing the "proliferation" of boutique fuels won't affect today's high gas prices. According to EPA, clean air protections add, at most, a nickel to the price of a gallon of gasoline. There are many other factors that can affect supply and price, such as merger activity, refinery shutdowns, and pipeline capacity. Besides, gas prices have risen across the nation, not just in states with cleaner fuel requirements.

The bill we are considering today would amend the Clean Air Act by allowing the EPA and the Department of Energy to grant waivers to states, if there is a fuel shortage, to use fuel or fuel additives, which might contribute to air pollution. The bill would give the EPA Administrator authority to waive cleaner-burning gasoline or diesel requirements indefinitely if there is a "significant fuel supply disruption," a term that the bill does not define.

I am concerned that this bill would give EPA limitless authority to streamline current regulations. In addition, since the bill calls for the EPA Administrator merely to deem a waiver "necessary," I am concerned that EPA's decision might not be subject to judicial review, or that any review would be very limited.

Finally, this bill appears to put considerations of price before those of health. It contains no obligation to mitigate or make up for the excess air pollution that may occur over the waiver period.

I understand that the more than 100 different fuel blends across the country have periodically resulted in regional price spikes, which is something we should try to address. A leading voice on energy in the other body has pressed for action from the Administration using legal authorities that the President already has. He has called first for an in-depth study to analyze the impact that federal, state, and local boutique fuels programs have on our nation's gasoline marketplace and to come up with specific recommendations for action.

I think the House should be considering mandating such a study—not passing legislation that won't address gas prices and that gives EPA unlimited authority that could be used to weaken important clean air protections. But because no amendments are permitted, that proposal cannot even be considered in connection with this bill. So, I cannot support it.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 17, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 22

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine aviation security.

SR-253

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the safety and security of Peace Corps volunteers around the world.

SD-419

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine regulatory reform proposals.

SD-538

Finance

To hold hearings to examine tax-exempt organizations, focusing on governance and best practices of charities, charities accommodating tax shelters, and current problems and issues in the charitable community.

SDG-50

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine preserving traditional marriage, focusing on states' perspective.

SD-226

Aging

To hold hearings to examine the Medicaid crisis.

SD-628

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Energy Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy's High Performance Computing research and development activities in both the National Nuclear Security Administration and the Office of Science, and S. 2176, to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a program of research and development to

advance high-end computing through the Office of Science.

SD-366

Judiciary

Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the use of subpoena authority and pretrial detention of terrorists in fighting terrorism.

SD-226

JUNE 23

Time to be announced

Conferees

Meeting of conferees on H.R. 3550, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs.

Room to be announced

10 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine transition to sovereignty in Iraq, focusing on U.S. policy, ongoing military operations, and status of U.S. Armed Forces.

SH-216

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian tribal detention facilities.

SR-485

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending judicial nominations.

SD-226

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Production and Price Competitiveness Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation permitting the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to register Canadian pesticides.

SD-628

11 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of David M. Stone, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine successes in the field of stem cell research.

SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Competition, Foreign Commerce, and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine peer-to-peer networks.

SR-253

Governmental Affairs

Financial Management, the Budget, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine weapons of mass destruction smuggling networks and U.S. programs and initiatives, such as the Proliferation Security Initiative, to counter these proliferation threats.

SD-342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the law of biologic medicine.

SD-226

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the grazing programs of the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service, including permit renewals, recent and proposed changes to grazing regulations, and the Wild Horse and Burro program, as it relates to grazing, and the Administration's proposal for sage grouse habitat conservation.

SD-366

JUNE 24

9 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the danger of purchasing pharmaceuticals over the Internet, focusing on the extent to which consumers can purchase pharmaceuticals over the Internet without a medical prescription, the importation of pharmaceuticals into the United States, and whether pharmaceuticals from foreign services are counterfeit, expired, unsafe, or illegitimate.

SD-342

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Aviation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine security screening options for airports.

SR-253

10 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (P.L. 108-148).

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine H.R. 2608, to reauthorize the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program.

SR-253

Intelligence

Closed business meeting to consider certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion.

345-CHOB

POSTPONEMENTS

JUNE 24

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine U.S. policy toward Southeast Europe, focusing on unfinished business in the Balkans.

SH-216