

in Europe is of great importance to our goals, and to those of Europe. The establishment of a carbon trading market throughout the world's most important economic area next year will be an enormous achievement, and will change the way thousands of businesses think about their energy use. Cutting carbon emissions is the way the future will be, and we have repeatedly said that there are advantages to British industry from early action.

In Britain and throughout the world, the expected rapid growth in demand for transport, including aviation, means that we must develop far cleaner and more efficient aircraft and cars.

I am advised that by 2030, emissions from aircraft could represent a quarter of the UK's total contribution to global warming. A big step in the right direction would be to see aviation brought into the EU emissions trading scheme in the next phase of its development. During our EU Presidency we will argue strongly for this.

And the UK is taking a strong lead globally.

From Europe, we need then to secure action world-wide. Here it is important to stress the scale of the implications for the developing world. It is far more than an environmental one, massive though that is. It needs little imagination to appreciate the security, stability and health problems that will arise in a world in which there is increasing pressure on water availability; where there is a major loss of arable land for many; and in which there are large-scale displacements of population due to flooding and other climate change effects.

It is the poorest countries in the world that will suffer most from severe weather events, longer and hotter droughts and rising oceans. Yet it is they who have contributed least to the problem. That is why the world's richest nations in the G8 have a responsibility to lead the way: for the strong nations to better help the weak.

Such issues can only be properly addressed through international agreements. Domestic action is important, but a problem that is global in cause and scope can only be fully addressed through international agreement. Recent history teaches us such agreements can achieve results.

The 1987 Montreal Protocol—addressing the challenge posed by the discovery of the hole in the ozone layer—has shown how quickly a global environmental problem can be reversed once targets are agreed.

However, our efforts to stabilise the climate will need, over time, to become far more ambitious than the Kyoto Protocol. Kyoto is only the first step but provides a solid foundation for the next stage of climate diplomacy. If Russia were to ratify that would bring it into effect.

We know there is disagreement with the US over this issue. In 1997 the US Senate voted 95-0 in favour of a resolution that stated it would refuse to ratify such a treaty. I doubt time has shifted the numbers very radically.

But the US remains a signatory to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the US National Academy of Sciences agree that there is a link between human activity, carbon emissions and atmospheric warming. Recently the US Energy Secretary and Commercial Secretary jointly issued a report again accepting the potential damage to the planet through global warming.

Climate change will be a top priority for our G8 Presidency next year.

Recently, I announced that together with Africa, climate change would be our top priority for next year's G8. I do not underestimate the difficulties. This remains an issue of high and fraught politics for many countries. But it is imperative we try.

I want today to highlight three key parts of my G8 strategy.

First, I want to secure an agreement as to the basic science on climate change and the threat it poses. Such an agreement would be new and provide the foundation for further action.

Second, agreement on a process to speed up the science, technology, and other measures necessary to meet the threat.

Third, while the eight G8 countries account for around 50 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, it is vital that we also engage with other countries with growing energy needs—like China and India; both on how they can meet those needs sustainably and adapt to the adverse impacts we are already locked into.

Given the different positions of the G8 nations on this issue, such agreement will be a major advance; but I believe it is achievable.

The G8 Presidency is a wonderful opportunity to give a big push to international opinion and understanding, among businesses as well as Governments.

We have to recognise that the commitments reflected in the Kyoto protocol and current EU policy are insufficient, uncomfortable as that may be, and start urgently building a consensus based on the latest and best possible science.

Prior to the G8 meeting itself we propose first to host an international scientific meeting at the Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research in Exeter in February. More than just another scientific conference, this gathering will address the big questions on which we need to pool the answers available from the science:

What level of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is self-evidently too much?; and What options do we have to avoid such levels?;

This can help inform discussion at the G8.

CONCLUSION

The situation therefore can be summarised in this way:

(1) If what the science tells us about climate change is correct, then unabated it will result in catastrophic consequences for our world.

(2) The science, almost certainly, is correct.

(3) Recent experience teaches us that it is possible to combine reducing emissions with economic growth.

(4) Further investment in science and technology and in the businesses associated with it has the potential to transform the possibilities of such a healthy combination of sustainability and development.

(5) To acquire global leadership, on this issue Britain must demonstrate it first at home.

(6) The G8 next year, and the EU Presidency provide a great opportunity to push this debate to a new and better level that, after the discord over Kyoto, offers the prospect of agreement and action.

None of this is easy to do. But its logic is hard to fault. Even if there are those who still doubt the science in its entirety, surely the balance of risk for action or inaction has changed. If there were even a 50 percent chance that the scientific evidence I receive is right, the bias in favour of action would be clear. But of course it is far more than 50 percent.

And in this case, the science is backed up by intuition. It is not axiomatic that pollution causes damage. But it is likely. I am a strong supporter of proceeding through scientific analysis in such issues. But I also, as I think most people do, have a healthy instinct that if we upset the balance of nature, we are in all probability going to suffer a reaction. With world growth, and population as it is, this reaction must increase.

We have been warned. On most issues we ask children to listen to their parents. On climate change, it is parents who should listen to their children.

Now is the time to start.

ELDER JUSTICE ACT OF 2004

Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President. I rise to speak about the Elder Justice Act of 2004, the substitute for S. 333 as reported by the Committee on Finance. This bill is designed to greatly enhance our knowledge about elder abuse, neglect and exploitation, and how to combat it in the 21st Century. First, I would like to take a moment to thank Chairman GRASSLEY, Senator BAUCUS, and the other Members of the Finance Committee for unanimously reporting this bill. I thank Senator HATCH for his unwavering support for this bill as a lead sponsor. I also thank all 45 bipartisan Senate cosponsors and over 100 bipartisan House cosponsors and their staff members. All have been instrumental in helping move this legislation forward and I appreciate all of the time and effort each has contributed.

Despite the rapid aging of America, few pressing social issues have been as systematically ignored as elder abuse, neglect and exploitation, as illustrated by the following points:

Twenty five years of congressional hearings on the devastating effects of elder abuse, called elder abuse a "disgrace" and a "burgeoning national scandal."

To date, we have no Federal law enacted to address elder abuse in a comprehensive manner.

Congress passed comprehensive bills to address the ugly truth about child abuse and crimes against women, yet there is not one full-time Federal employee working on elder abuse in the entire Federal Government.

The cost of elder abuse is high by any measure, including needless human suffering, inflated healthcare costs, depleted public resource, and loss of one of our greatest national assets, the wisdom and experience of our elders.

Abuse of our seniors takes many forms. It can be physical, sexual, psychological or financial. The perpetrator may be a stranger, an acquaintance, a paid caregiver, a corporation and, far too often, a spouse or another family member. Elder abuse happens everywhere, in poor, middle class and upper income households; in cities, suburbs, and rural areas. It knows no demographic or geographic boundaries.

With scientific advances and the graying of millions of baby boomers, last year the number of elderly on the planet passed the number of children for the first time. Although we have made great strides in promoting independence, productivity and quality of life, old age still brings inadequate health care, isolation, impoverishment, abuse and neglect for far too many Americans.

Studies conclude that elder abuse, neglect and exploitation are widely

under reported and these abuses significantly shorten the lives of older victims. A single episode of mistreatment can “tip-over” an otherwise independent, productive life, triggering a downward spiral that can result in depression, serious illness and even death.

Too many of our frailest citizens suffer needlessly and cannot simply move away from the abuse. Frequently, they cannot express their wishes or suffering. And, even if they can, often they do not, fearing retaliation.

This amendment will elevate elder abuse, neglect and exploitation to the national stage in a lasting way. We want to ensure Federal leadership to States and to provide resources for services, prevention and enforcement efforts to those on the front lines.

A crime is a crime whoever the victim and wherever it occurs. Crimes against seniors must be elevated to the level of child abuse and crimes against women.

It is clear in confronting child abuse and violence against women that the best method of prevention is three-pronged—through law enforcement, public health and social services. With grant programs in the Departments of Health and Human Services and Justice, this amendment ensures a combined public health-law enforcement coordination at all levels. In addition, because elder abuse and neglect have been virtually absent from the national research agenda, this amendment establishes research projects to fuel future legislation.

These measures lay the foundation to address, in a meaningful and lasting way, a devastating and growing problem that has been invisible for far too long. We can no longer neglect these difficult issues afflicting frail and elderly victims.

This effort takes numerous steps to prevent and treat elder abuse:

It improves prevention and intervention by funding projects to make older Americans safer in their homes, facilities and neighborhoods, to enhance long-term care staffing and to stop financial fraud before the money goes out the door.

It enhances detection by creating forensic centers and developing expertise to enhance detection of the problem.

It bolsters treatment by funding efforts to find better ways to mitigate the devastating consequences of elder mistreatment.

It increases collaboration by requiring ongoing coordination at the Federal level, among Federal, State, local and private entities, law enforcement, long-term care facilities, consumer advocates and families.

It aids prosecution by assisting law enforcement and prosecutors to ensure that those who abuse our Nation’s frail elderly will be held accountable, wherever the crime occurs and whoever the victim.

It helps consumers by creating a resource center for family caregivers and

those trying to make decisions about different types of long-term care providers.

More and more of us will enjoy longer life in relative health, but with this gift comes the responsibility to prevent the needless suffering too often borne by our frailest citizens.

Let me take a moment to thank so many people who contributed to the development of this legislation. First, I thank Senator HATCH for joining me and working with me as a lead cosponsor of the bill. Without the support of Senator GRASSLEY and Senator BAUCUS, the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Finance, this bill could never have advanced to this point. I deeply appreciate of their commitment, and perseverance to seeing this through the committee. I must thank all the members of the committee for their unanimous support of this bill. Further, I thank the 45 bipartisan Senate cosponsors and the 91 bipartisan House cosponsors, lead by Representative RAHM EMANUEL, Majority Whip ROY BLUNT, and Representative PETER KING for their tireless efforts toward passage in the House.

No legislation can advance without the efforts of an immensely dedicated staff. I would like to take this opportunity to mention the many individuals who worked to ensure the passage of this bill. I thank my Staff Director of the Special Committee on Aging, Michelle Easton, for assembling a talented staff and laying the groundwork for this important legislation, and my chief of staff Fred Hatfield for his leadership. I thank my chief investigative counsel, Lauren Fuller, for leading numerous hearings examining the nature and extent of elder abuse that resulted in the development of this legislation and for her tireless efforts to see it through to completion. I thank the following present and former staff of the Special Committee who worked on various aspects of the hearings and legislation, making many sacrifices in the process: Cecil Swamidoss, Janet Forlini, Phil Thevenet, Joy Cameron, Matt Lavigna, Arika Pierce, Dana Dupre, Kori Forster, Elaine Dalpiaz, Scott Mulhauser, Ryan McGinn and Patricia Hameister.

I also thank members of the Committee on Finance who went above and beyond the call of duty to shepherd this legislation: Ted Totman, Kolan Davis, Russ Sullivan, Bill Dauster, Liz Fowler, Mark Hayes, Andrea Cohen, David Schwartz, Emilia DiSanto, Becky Shipp, Chad Groover, Carla Martin and Robert Merulla.

I want to also mention the efforts of staff of other members including Patti DeLoatche, Bruce Artim, Kevin O’Scannlain, and Wan Kim with Senator HATCH; Pete Spiro and Liz Smith with Representative RAHM EMANUEL; Kevin Fogarty with Representative PETER KING; and Joe Trauger with Majority Whip ROY BLUNT. I would particularly like to thank the leadership of my colleagues in the House of Rep-

resentatives, Representative EMANUEL, Representative KING and Majority Whip ROY BLUNT for their efforts throughout the process.

There are so many individuals across the country to recognize for their advocacy in passing the Elder Justice Act. However, there are too many to recognize here. So, I thank the 357 strong Elder Justice Coalition, lead by Robert Blancato, for their passionate advocacy on this legislation, and the members of the steering committee: National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, National Association of State Units on Aging, National Association of APS Administrators, and National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs. Last but not least, I would like to extend my sincerest appreciation to Marie-Therese Connolly, Nursing Home Initiative Coordinator at the U.S. Department of Justice who served as a resource and who provided immeasurable assistance in the development of this bill.

I am deeply gratified by how close the Senate came to passing the Elder Justice Act on the eve of my retirement from the Congress and look forward to this bill being passed expeditiously and signed into law in the next Congress so that elder justice can become a reality for those Americans who need it most.

IN TRIBUTE TO COL ANTHONY WALKER, USMC

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I rise to note the recent death of Marine Corps COL Anthony Walker, a Rhode Islander who served his country with the highest distinction.

After graduating in 1939 from Yale College, Mr. Walker enlisted in the Marine Corps, was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1941 and was deployed to the South Pacific during World War II.

As a Raider Company commander, he led part of the successful attack on Viru Harbor, New Georgia. He was wounded in New Georgia at the battle for Bairoko. Returning to combat, he fought in the campaigns of Emirau, Guam, and Okinawa. In Okinawa, he commanded the 6th Marine Division’s Reconnaissance Company, leading numerous night patrols and attacks. The end of the war marked 30 continuous months for him in the Pacific Theater.

Colonel Walker later served tours of duty as a U.N. observer in Kashmir, as a battalion and regimental commander in the Fleet Marine Force, as a commander of Marine Barracks at Fort Campbell, KY, and at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. He was a student and an instructor at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, and in 1971 concluded 32 years of active duty, including a year in South Vietnam as the Operations Officer of the Joint Military Assistance Command.

In the Marine Corps, this Vietnam War veteran was known as “Cold Steel” in recognition of his particular