

the continent. That is about three-fourths of what we currently import from all of Saudi Arabia.

We need to open a portion of the Reserve to environmentally sensitive exploration and get that oil to the market. There is no question that tapping into this domestic resource will bring down oil prices.

We also need to expand our refinery capacity. It is amazing, we have not built a new refinery in the United States in over 30 years. It is next to impossible to expand an existing one today.

One reason why gas prices are so high right now is that several refineries are still offline in the wake of Katrina. Several others deferred maintenance to help after the hurricane are performing maintenance now, still at lower than pre-Katrina levels.

Adding refinery capacity will help to increase gasoline supplies and lower prices at the pump. Our plan takes important steps in this direction.

We all know America is dangerously dependent on foreign sources of oil. This dependence compromises our economic and national security. Last summer, after a decade of partisan obstruction, Congress passed a comprehensive Energy bill that goes a long way toward addressing this grave problem. We double the amount of ethanol and biodiesel in our gasoline. By 2012, this should reduce oil consumption by 80,000 barrels a day.

We passed a hybrid car tax credit of up to \$3,400 per vehicle.

The Energy bill also allocated significant funding for research and development of hydrogen fuel cells. If just 20 percent of our cars used fuel cell technology, we could cut oil imports by 1.5 million barrels a day.

We need to build on these initiatives and encourage American consumers, producers, and entrepreneurs to think beyond oil. I believe, as does the President, that America's future lies with technology that will allow Americans to use environmentally safe and diverse energy sources. America will be safer, America will be more secure with American energy coming from American sources.

We presented a strong package that will give consumers relief at the pump and will bring down the high cost of gas. I am hopeful we will vote on this package in the coming days. Filling up the tank shouldn't break the bank.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR NO. 616

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 5:30 p.m. today, the Senate proceed to executive session and to a vote on the confirmation of the following judicial nomination on the Executive Calendar: No. 616, Michael Barrett to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio. I further ask unanimous consent that the 20 minutes prior to the vote be divided between the chairman and the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee and that the two Senators from Ohio each be allocated up to 5 minutes; provided further, following the 5:30 p.m. vote, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I see my two colleagues in the Chamber, the distinguished Senators from Tennessee and Louisiana, and I see my friend from New Mexico here. I have a statement to give. It will take a few minutes to complete. I apologize, but that is what I have to do. I guess I should make an inquiry. How long are the Senators going to speak?

Mr. ALEXANDER. Five minutes.

Mr. REID. The Senator from New Mexico, it looks like he is loaded for bear there.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I have an amendment I am going to introduce on the pending bill. I will not speak longer than 5 minutes on the amendment.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I can wait and do my speech after that, if that would be OK with my colleagues. It is just a matter of trying to be nice to people. So I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from New Mexico be recognized—or the Senator from Tennessee be recognized first, the Senator from Louisiana second, and the Senator from New Mexico, the chairman of the Energy Committee, my dear friend, be recognized for 5 minutes and following that, I would have the floor and be able to start my speech and finish it.

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I would like to just make the suggestion through the Chair that the Senator from New Mexico go second and I proceed third.

Mr. REID. No objection.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I know we put together a time line. Senator KENNEDY would also like to be recognized. He can follow Senator REID, but I think he would like to be recog-

nized for 30 minutes following the four Senators we have in the queue.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, is morning business allocated this morning?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. No.

Mr. REID. So what the Senator from Washington has asked is that following my statement, the Senator from Massachusetts be recognized for 30 minutes. My statement is going to take a little bit of time, and if there is a Republican speaker who wants to come after me, that would be what should happen, and then Senator KENNEDY can be recognized after that. Is that appropriate? So I ask that following my statement, the Senator from Alaska be recognized.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Myself and Senator INOUE for 20 minutes.

Mr. REID. And following that, Senator KENNEDY be recognized for 30 minutes. So Senator INOUE and Senator STEVENS for 10 minutes each. So after 15 minutes, I will speak, and then it will be Senator INOUE and Senator STEVENS, and then following that it will be Senator KENNEDY.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Chair recognizes the Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I thank the Democratic leader for his courtesy. This will permit me to chair a hearing at 2:30 on time. I thank the chairman of the Energy Committee and the Senator from Louisiana.

May I ask the Chair to inform me when there is 30 seconds remaining of my 5 minutes.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator will be notified.

SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, across the country today, thousands of immigrants, legal and illegal, are marching in a nationwide rally. Many are saying that they, too, want to become Americans.

But I am afraid the message is quite literally getting lost in translation. As part of these demonstrations, a new version of our national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner," has been produced—in Spanish.

According to an article in the Washington Post on last Friday, at least 389 different versions of our anthem have been produced over the years in many musical styles, including rock and roll and country, but the Post also noted that never before has it been rendered in another language. This may be a first, but it is a big first step in the wrong direction. It is a mistake precisely because our Nation is a nation of immigrants.

Almost all of us are descended from immigrants from Britain or Germany or Italy or France or China or Mexico or some other country around the world. Our forefathers who came from these many different countries spoke

many different languages, but in coming here they agreed to speak one common language, one language to unify us as a nation, one language so we can all speak with one another. And that language is English. In fact, in order for a legal immigrant to become a citizen of the United States, one requirement is that he or she demonstrate at least an eighth grade level understanding of the English language.

A century and a half ago, we created common schools—the public schools—so that mostly immigrant children could learn English, learn how to write and read in English as well as to do math, and learn what it meant to be an American with the hope they would go home and teach their parents. Only 2 weeks ago, this Senate encouraged the speaking of English by saying that it would knock a year off the waiting time to become a citizen if an applicant became proficient in English and authorizing \$500 grants for people who are legally here who are seeking to become citizens. So for a long time, we have recognized that English is a part of who we are as Americans. It is a part of what unites us, just as we are united by our history and our shared values, such as liberty, equal opportunity, and the rule of law.

I worry that translating our national anthem will actually have the effect of dividing us. It adds to the celebration of multiculturalism in our society which has eroded our understanding of our American culture. Ours is a diverse nation, proudly diverse, but diversity is not our greatest accomplishment. Jerusalem is diverse. The Balkans are diverse. Iraq is diverse. What makes America unique is that we have taken all that magnificent diversity and turned it into one nation. Translating our anthem into multiple languages also erodes our sense of having a common language that allows us to speak with one another as one nation. Our national anthem is a symbol of all of those things which unite us. It is a product of our history.

“The Star-Spangled Banner” was written by Francis Scott Key in 1814. Our Nation was then in the midst of the War of 1812. On September, 13, 1814, just a few weeks after the invasion of Washington, British forces began a 25-hour bombardment of Fort McHenry in Baltimore. Through the day and all through the night, the rockets and bombs flew. And the next day, on September 14, standing aboard an American ship 8 miles out from Baltimore, Francis Scott Key looked and saw the stars and stripes were still waving over the fort, and the British were forced to withdraw. Our flag was still there.

I went to see that very same flag a few months ago at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. The museum is in the process of carefully preserving it so that our grandchildren's grandchildren will be able to see the original flag that inspired our national anthem. That flag and song are part of our history and our national identity.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. ALEXANDER. It declares some of our national ideals, in being “the land of the free and the home of the brave.”

That is why we should always sing it in our common language: English. And that is why today I will introduce, along with Senator FRIST, Senator MCCONNELL, and Senators STEVENS and ISAKSON and ROBERTS, and I hope others, a resolution that affirms that statements of national unity, especially the Pledge of Allegiance and the national anthem, ought to be recited in English. We wouldn't recite the pledge in French or German or Russian or Hindi or even Chinese, which, after Spanish, is the second most spoken foreign language in the United States, and we shouldn't sing the national anthem in Spanish or any other foreign language.

So in conclusion, in this land of immigrants, let's sing it together as one American Nation in our common language: English.

Mr. DOMENICI. Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MURKOWSKI.) The Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

Mr. DOMENICI. I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator will state his inquiry.

Mr. DOMENICI. Is my understanding correct that we are now on the supplemental appropriations bill?

MAKING EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2006—RESUME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

Pending:

McCain/Ensign amendment No. 3616, to strike a provision that provides \$74.5 million to States based on their production of certain types of crops, livestock, and/or dairy products, which was not included in the administration's emergency supplemental request.

McCain/Ensign amendment No. 3617, to strike a provision providing \$6 million to sugarcane growers in Hawaii, which was not included in the administration's emergency supplemental request.

McCain/Ensign amendment No. 3618, to strike \$15 million for a seafood promotion strategy that was not included in the administration's emergency supplemental request.

McCain/Ensign amendment No. 3619, to strike the limitation on the use of funds for the issuance or implementation of certain rulemaking decisions related to the interpretation of “actual control” of airlines.

Warner amendment No. 3620, to repeal the requirement for 12 operational aircraft carriers within the Navy.

Coburn amendment No. 3641 (Divisions IV through XIX), of a perfecting nature.

Vitter amendment No. 3627, to designate the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita as HUBZones and to waive the Small Business Competitive Demonstration Program Act of 1988 for the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita.

Vitter/Landrieu modified amendment No. 3626, to increase the limits on community disaster loans.

Vitter modified amendment No. 3628, to base the allocation of hurricane disaster relief and recovery funds to States on need and physical damages.

Vitter modified amendment No. 3648, to expand the scope of use of amounts appropriated for hurricane disaster relief and recovery to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for Operations, Research, and Facilities.

Wyden amendment No. 3665, to prohibit the use of funds to provide royalty relief for the production of oil and natural gas.

Santorum modified amendment No. 3640, to increase by \$12,500,000 the amount appropriated for the Broadcasting Board of Governors, to increase by \$12,500,000 the amount appropriated for the Department of State for the Democracy Fund, to provide that such funds shall be made available for democracy programs and activities in Iran, and to provide an offset.

Salazar/Baucus amendment No. 3645, to provide funding for critical hazardous fuels and forest health projects to reduce the risk of catastrophic fires and mitigate the effects of widespread insect infestations.

Vitter amendment No. 3668, to provide for the treatment of a certain Corps of Engineers project.

Burr amendment No. 3713, to allocate funds to the Smithsonian Institution for research on avian influenza.

Coburn (for Obama/Coburn) amendment No. 3693, to reduce wasteful spending by limiting to the reasonable industry standard the spending for administrative overhead allowable under Federal contracts and subcontracts.

Coburn (for Obama/Coburn) amendment No. 3694, to improve accountability for competitive contracting in hurricane recovery by requiring the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to approve contracts awarded without competitive procedures.

Coburn (for Obama/Coburn) amendment No. 3695, to improve financial transparency in hurricane recovery by requiring the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to make information about Federal contracts publicly available.

Coburn (for Obama/Coburn) amendment No. 3697, to improve transparency and accountability by establishing a Chief Financial Officer to oversee hurricane relief and recovery efforts.

Menendez amendment No. 3675, to provide additional appropriations for research, development, acquisition, and operations by the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, for the purchase of container inspection equipment for developing countries, for the implementation of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program, and for the training of Customs and Border Protection officials on the use of new technologies.

Chambliss/Isakson amendment No. 3702, relating to the comprehensive review of the procedures of the Department of Defense on mortuary affairs.

Murray (for Harkin) amendment No. 3714, to increase by \$8,500,000 the amount appropriated for Economic Support Fund assistance, to provide that such funds shall be made available to the United States Institute of Peace for programs in Iraq and Afghanistan, and to provide an offset.