

Chief Benjamin Lewis Carpenter of Newaygo,
Died July 23, 1963

Night Watchman William A. Daniels of
Cassopolis, Died January 26, 1903

OIL INDUSTRY MERGER ANTI-TRUST ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2006

Mr. DEWINE. Madam President, I join Senator KOHL as sponsor of the Oil Industry Merger Antitrust Enforcement Act. This bill will make it significantly more difficult for oil companies to merge, and should help put an end to the record energy prices that continue to burden America's consumers and businesses.

As we all know, these high fuel costs are affecting every family, and they show no sign of coming back down. We must continue our efforts to do something about it. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, I have been working for years to combat the problem of higher energy prices. Along with Senator KOHL, I have championed legislation to make it clear that the Department of Justice has the legal authority to prosecute OPEC for its price fixing of crude oil prices. As we all know, the biggest part of our gas prices is the price of crude oil, and the only way we can restore competition in the market for crude oil is to fight against OPEC's blatantly illegal and anticompetitive conspiracy to fix prices of this crucial commodity.

I have also asked the Federal Trade Commission to monitor gasoline prices to make sure that consumers are not subject to price gouging or illegal price manipulation, and in response to that request the FTC has instituted an ongoing project to monitor gasoline prices in 360 markets across the Nation, including 12 in my home State of Ohio.

Further, the Judiciary Committee has held two hearings addressing the causes of higher fuel prices in recent months, and last month I joined with Chairman SPECTER and Senators KOHL, LEAHY, FEINSTEIN, and DURBIN, to sponsor legislation which prevents oil companies from unfairly manipulating the supply of oil in order to artificially raise prices, and also calls for investigations into how effective enforcement of oil mergers has been, whether past mergers need to be revisited, and whether the enforcement agencies need new standards for reviewing oil industry mergers. That legislation also creates a Joint Federal and State Task force to investigate information sharing in the oil industry that may lead to artificially high prices for gasoline, electricity, and heating oil. Perhaps most important, it provides a "NOPEC" provision like the one that Senator KOHL and I have sponsored in the past, which enables Justice to prosecute the illegal OPEC cartel.

While all these efforts are steps in the right direction, we continue to see increasing fuel costs, and one likely

reason is the ongoing consolidation in the oil industry. And, as our energy needs increase and as oil gets harder and more expensive to find and produce, it seems likely that this consolidation will continue. Therefore, we need to continue our efforts to maintain competition in this industry, and by making it more difficult for oil companies to merge, this legislation provides a different and useful approach for keeping these companies independent and maintaining the competition that still exists.

Specifically, this bill changes the burden of proof in cases alleging illegal mergers, so that oil companies that want to merge must prove that their merger will not harm consumers. In addition, this bill requires the antitrust agencies to specifically consider the unique conditions of the petroleum market when evaluating these mergers, in order to assure that when reviewing proposed mergers the agencies are focusing on the potential dangers of oil industry mergers. These changes, taken together, will make sure that only pro-competitive mergers are allowed, and will help protect consumers and businesses from higher energy prices.

We still have many challenges to face in our ongoing efforts to combat high energy prices, but this bill will make a difference and I strongly encourage my colleagues to join in support of its passage.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF CLARK, SOUTH DAKOTA

• Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, today I rise in order to pay tribute to the 125th anniversary of the founding of the city of Clark, SD. As the county seat of Clark County, this vibrant, progressive community has been a center of commercial and civic activity since its inception.

The site which Clark is built on was chosen by GEN S.J. Conklin, who would later become known as the Father of Clark County. The prospects of the town increased greatly when the railroad was complete in early 1882. With the arrival of the trains came a flurry of economic activity. The first businesses opened in Clark were the Clark House operated by Mattie Greenslet and a general store operated by COL W.H. Lamb. Later there would be a land office and the Big Store, known as the largest department store west of Minneapolis.

Now Clark is home to seven churches, a thriving business community, excellent hunting and fishing, and the high school's Clark Comets, among various other attractions. Each year, Clark hosts both Potato Day and the Halloween Spooktacular. Additionally, there are over two dozen civic organizations doing good work in the community.

I am pleased to announce that Clark will be celebrating its 125th anniversary with a community celebration on June 10 to 11. There are numerous events scheduled, including a parade, street dance, ecumenical church service, community potluck, and baseball games. This celebration is a fitting way to recognize Clark's long and productive history.

Even 125 years after its founding, Clark continues to be a vital community and a great asset to South Dakota. I am proud to publicly honor Clark on this memorable occasion. The citizens of Clark are continuing to live up their motto: Clark is indeed "a nice place to visit . . . a great place to call home."•

THE PASSING OF ANN WEBSTER SMITH

• Mr. CHAFEE. Madam President, I take this opportunity to recognize Anne Webster Smith, a world-renowned preservationist, who died in Washington, DC on April 20, 2006.

Like Rhode Island's grand dame of historic preservation, Antionette Downing, Anne Webster Smith exhibited a tireless and infectious dedication to the preservation of our cultural heritage. Just last year, Ms. Smith was awarded the Piero Gazzola Prize, given once every 3 years by the International Council on Monuments and Sites, for her lifelong efforts to protect the world's historic and cultural sites. This tribute, seconded by scores of ICOMOS leaders from throughout the world, is a statement that leadership is as much about cultivation, persistence and persuasion as it is bold initiative.

In addition to her 30 years of service to ICOMOS, Ms. Smith served as New York's Deputy Commissioner for Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and as a professional staff member at the USDOT and Advisory Council for Historic Preservation. She was most active in those critical years when she and her colleagues created the modern institutional foundation for preservation in the U.S.

In her service to ICOMOS, Ms. Smith was dedicated to recognizing the world's greatest cultural and natural sites through the United Nations World Heritage Program. At the same time, as an American she had greater ambitions for her own country. In a letter she sent me just last January, she lamented: "I have long been concerned by the fact that the United States, the first nation to ratify the Convention after its passage in 1972, has been so slow to recognize the importance of implementing the Convention. In my view the Convention has the potential for increasing community pride, for expanding educational awareness and interest in our Nation's heritage and history, for developing concern about the importance of distinguished architecture and planning, especially in urban areas, and for serving as an important tool for the expansion of development

of cultural tourism." Increasing numbers of Americans agree with Ms. Smith's vision.

Clearly, Ann Webster Smith was respected and loved by the entire cultural heritage and preservation community for a lifetime of leadership and friendship. Her work will live on because she inspired so many throughout the U.S. and the world to work as hard as they can to recognize, celebrate and protect our cultural heritage.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:33 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5386. An act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 5386. An act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 457. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to issue guidance for, and provide oversight of, the management of micropurchases made with Governmentwide commercial purchase cards, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HAGEL:

S. 2857. A bill to amend the International Air Transportation Competition Act of 1979 relating to air transportation to and from Love Field, Texas; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2858. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on acrylic or modacrylic synthetic staple fibers, not carded, combed, or otherwise processed for spinning; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2859. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on acrylic or modacrylic synthetic filament tow; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2860. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on acrylic or modacrylic synthetic staple fibers, not carded, combed, or otherwise processed for shipping; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2861. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Chloral; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2862. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Imidacloprid Technical (Imidacloprid); to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2863. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Triadimefon; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2864. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on ACM; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2865. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Permethrin; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2866. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Thidiazuron; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2867. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Flutolanil; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2868. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Resmethrin; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2869. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Clothianidin; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2870. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Mesotrione Technical; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2871. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on MKH 6561 Isocyanate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2872. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Endosulfan; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2873. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on mixtures of methyl 4-iodo-2-[3-(4-methoxy-6-methyl-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)ureido sulfonyl]benzoate, sodium salt; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2874. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Ethyl 4,5-dihydro-5,5-diphenyl-1,2-oxazole-3-carboxylate (Isoxadifen-ethyl); to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2875. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on (5-cyclopropyl-4-isoxazolyl)[2-(methylsulfonyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl phenyl)methanone (Isoxaflutole); to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2876. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Methyl 2-[(4,6-dimethoxypyrimidin-2-ylcarbamoyl)sulfamoyl]-a-(methanesulfonamido)-p-toluate (Mesosulfuron-methyl) (CAS No. 208465-21-8) whether or not mixed with application adjuvants; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2877. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on mixtures of Foramsulfuron and Iodosulfuron-methyl-sodium; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2878. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on formulations of Prosulfuron; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2879. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Spirodiclofen; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2880. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Propamocarb HCL (Previcur); to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2881. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on chloroacetic acid, ethyl ester; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2882. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on chloroacetic acid, sodium salt; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2883. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Phenmedipham; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BUNNING:

S. 2884. A bill to facilitate and expedite direct refunds to coal producers and exporters of the excise tax unconstitutionally imposed on coal exported from the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2885. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Desmedipham; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2886. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on Methidathion Technical; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2887. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on difenoconazole; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2888. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on Lambda-Cyhalothrin; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2889. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on cyprodinil; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2890. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on Wakil XL; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2891. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on Azoxystrobin Technical; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2892. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on mucochloric acid; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2893. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on Trinexapac-ethyl; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2894. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on triasulfuron; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2895. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on Imidacloprid pesticides; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2896. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on crotonic acid; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2897. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on 3,6,9-Trioxaundecanedioic acid; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2898. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on 1,3-Benzenedicarboxamide, N, N'-Bis (2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidinyl-); to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2899. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on reaction products of phosphorus trichloride with 1,1'-biphenyl and 2,4-bis(1,1-dimethylethyl)phenol; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2900. A bill to extend temporarily the suspension of duty on preparations based on ethanediamide, N-(2-ethoxyphenyl)-N'-(4-isodecylphenyl-); to the Committee on Finance.