

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

(The remarks of Mr. DORGAN pertaining to the introduction of S. 3561 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

#### NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I am going to talk briefly about an issue I think is really very important dealing with the country of India and nuclear weapons that are possessed by India and other countries around the world.

Yesterday, one of my colleagues in the Senate indicated that weapons of mass destruction had been found in Iraq. I guess he was referring to some inert artillery shells that were produced in the 1980s for the Iran-Iraq war. No one believes those are weapons of mass destruction. That is an absurd claim. I think it has been described as absurd by nearly everybody. But since the subject of weapons of mass destruction has been raised I want to make a few comments.

I have in my desk in the Senate a piece of metal. I ask unanimous consent to show it on the floor of the Senate.

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

Mr. DORGAN. This is from a Backfire bomber. It used to be part of a wing strut on a Soviet Backfire bomber. This bomber, presumably, carried nuclear weapons to threaten the United States at some point. The bomber doesn't exist anymore. The bomber's wings were sawed off and it was cut into small metal pieces. We paid for that under the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program in which we spend American taxpayers' money to dismantle former Soviet nuclear weapons and their delivery systems—missiles, bombers, submarines.

I also have in my desk some chewed-up copper from the electrical wiring from a submarine that once carried nuclear weapons aimed at the United States. We paid money to dismantle weapons of mass destruction in the arsenal of the Soviet Union. So we didn't shoot this airplane down. This piece of metal from a Soviet bomber was achieved because we paid for the saw that cut the wings off of the bomber. What a remarkably successful program to try to reduce the threat of nuclear weapons.

I think the threat of nuclear weapons is the greatest threat that we face. We have roughly 25,000 to 30,000 nuclear weapons on this Earth. The loss of one nuclear weapon to a terrorist and the detonation of one by a terrorist in a

major American city will cause a catastrophe unlike any of us can imagine. There are roughly 25,000 to 30,000 nuclear weapons in this world. Where are they? Are they safeguarded? Will someone steal one? Who is building more? Who wants nuclear weapons? What are we doing about that? These are critically important questions.

A former Secretary of Defense says that he believes the question is not so much whether but when will a nuclear weapon be detonated in an American city? A former Secretary of Defense says he believes there is a 50-percent likelihood that within the next 10 years a nuclear weapon will be detonated in a major American city. I don't know whether that is true or not. I do know this: this world is full of nuclear weapons. More countries want to achieve the capability of possessing nuclear weapons. It is our responsibility—it falls to us as a world leader to stop the spread of nuclear weapons and begin to reduce the number of nuclear weapons. That is our job.

I am not very encouraged, frankly, by actions in the Congress in recent years, turning down the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty, suggesting that we want to reserve the right to test nuclear weapons again. The discussion in the administration and even some in Congress is that what we really need are new nuclear weapons, designer nuclear weapons, earth-penetrating bunker buster nuclear weapons. There is a suggestion by some that nuclear weapons are perfectly usable. They are not.

The only success we can measure will be the success by which we prevent another nuclear weapon from ever being exploded in anger on this planet. That is the only success that can matter.

I want to talk a little about the nuclear agreement the Bush Administration has reached with India, which I think undermines our nonproliferation policy of many years. It also undermines the Non-Proliferation Treaty that we have signed, and many other countries have signed. India has not signed it. It stops the proliferation of nuclear weapons. At least it says it is our resolve to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.

I want to talk about this new agreement that Secretary Rice, on behalf of the President and others, has negotiated with India, and what it means for the job we have of stopping the spread of nuclear weapons. One of our major periodicals in this country described a story that was not reported much post-9/11. In the period post-9/11, my understanding from press reports was that our intelligence picked up some kind of a report from their sources that a nuclear weapon had been stolen by a terrorist organization from the Russian stockpile of nuclear weapons and was prepared to be detonated by terrorists. I believe they said either in New York City or Washington, DC—in any event, one of America's major cities. Those who picked up this rumor

in the intelligence community were very concerned about it, very worried about it.

After some period of time it was determined that this was not a credible rumor, but in retrospect the analysts determined that it is perfectly plausible. It is not unthinkable that a terrorist organization could acquire a nuclear weapon, or steal one from an existing stockpile. It is not implausible that having stolen a nuclear weapon they could have detonated it in a major American city. That ought to cause an apoplectic seizure in this country about the need to safeguard against nuclear weapons, reduce the number of nuclear weapons that now exist, and stop the spread of nuclear weapons.

It is our responsibility to provide the leadership to do that. That doesn't fall to anyone else; it falls to us.

Let me describe how the nuclear deal with India fits into this. Many countries want to possess nuclear weapons. North Korea, we believe, is now building them, and perhaps has them. I believe the administration said they believe that North Korea has actually produced nuclear weapons. We understand that the country of Iran is doing things that would lead it to be able to produce a nuclear weapon at some point in the future. We are concerned about that. Our country and others have been trying to prevent that from happening.

Our country invaded Iraq because we believed it had weapons of mass destruction. I heard a radio show this morning, with the fellow running the show saying that wasn't the case; that we invaded Iraq because Saddam Hussein was a bad guy. That is not true at all. Saddam Hussein is an evil man. We found him in a rat hole. He murdered people in his own country by the thousands, and he likely will, following trial, meet justice. I hope so. But we attacked Iraq because we believed, our intelligence community believed, and the American people were told, and the world community was told by Secretary Powell that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction that threatened the world and threatened us.

The point is that the threat of weapons of mass destruction is serious and real. It is serious and real because there are 25,000 or 30,000 nuclear weapons in the world. We have a lot of them. Russia has a lot of them. Other countries possess them. One of those countries is India.

Nowhere is the threat of nuclear war or nuclear terrorism, or the need to safeguard nuclear weapons more important than in South Asia, the home to al-Qaida, who seeks nuclear weapons. It is an area where relations among regional nuclear powers—China, India, Pakistan—have historically been tense. India and China fought a border war in 1962. India and Pakistan fought three major wars and had numerous smaller skirmishes. After both detonated nuclear weapons in 1998 and declared themselves nuclear powers, the

world held its breath as India and Pakistan fought a limited war in Kashmir. So this is a serious issue, one that is of great concern.

It is almost incomprehensible to me that the administration has agreed to a nuclear deal with India, a country that did not sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, that will gut the non-proliferation treaty and allow New Delhi to dramatically expand its stockpile of nuclear weapons and possibly ignite another regional arms race of nuclear weapons. Giving legitimacy to the nuclear arsenal that India secretly developed is not going to help us convince other countries to give up their secret nuclear programs.

The nonproliferation treaty is a treaty that, if you describe it, puts people to sleep. "Nonproliferation" as a term doesn't even sound very exciting. But it is at the root of the determination of whether we will one day see nuclear weapons exploded in American cities.

We have to stop the spread of nuclear weapons. The nonproliferation treaty isn't perfect, but there are a host of countries in this world who have decided to forgo trying to acquire or build nuclear weapons because of it. They have done that so that they can get access to peaceful nuclear assistance for nuclear power that is allowed by the treaty because the treaty would not allow access to technology for nuclear power to build nuclear powerplants unless the country signed the nonproliferation treaty and agree to forego nuclear weapons. That treaty has worked—not perfectly—but it has worked well enough.

India, as I said, has never signed it. Instead, it secretly built nuclear weapons in the 1970s and 1980s, which they revealed only after the fact that Pakistan conducted its first test of nuclear weapons in 1998. India and Pakistan are both countries which are subject to U.S. laws—and international laws, for that matter—that prohibit sending nuclear fuel and technologies to states that are operating outside of the non-proliferation treaty. Because India has very little domestic uranium, the application of those laws has severely constrained its ability to expand its nuclear power industry, and it has restrained its ability to expand its stockpile of nuclear weapons as well.

During this past year, New Delhi has stepped up efforts to get the assistance of our country to obtain nuclear fuel and reactor components so it can deal with an impending energy crisis. I understand their interest and concern about their energy crisis, but this was an opportunity, I believe, to get India to abide by and to become a signatory to the nonproliferation treaty and to cap its nuclear weapons program. Instead, the administration decided that it would initial an agreement that legitimizes India's nuclear weapons and which will make it substantially easier for India to produce more weapons grade material for more nuclear weapons. I don't understand this at all.

I was dumbfounded to discover what the administration has done, in secret, with no consultation with Congress at all. But the fact is, I have here a copy of the legislation that the Administration wants Congress to pass so the treaty can be implemented even though the text of the agreement is not even complete. They have the skeleton of the agreement. They have decided we are going to say to India: It is OK that you have decided you are going to create nuclear weapons outside of the nonproliferation treaty, but we will not have you suffer the consequences of that so we will now begin to offer you technology and fuel so that you can have the ability to produce more nuclear powerplants for your own energy needs, and you will also be able to keep some of those behind the curtain and produce additional nuclear weapons. We have said they can do that.

The agreement has not been written in its final detail, but even though its detail isn't complete, we already have legislation introduced in the Congress to say: That is OK. That is good. We approve. God bless you all.

I don't understand this at all. The fact is, this is a huge step backwards for this country in providing leadership to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.

Here is what the deal does. The final text, I am told, has not been finalized, but the substance is this: President Bush's plan will allow India to buy from the U.S. and other countries sensitive nuclear technologies that are now forbidden to India under the non-proliferation treaty. That includes nuclear fuel, nuclear reactors, and advanced nuclear technology. In return, India has agreed to allow IAEA inspections and safeguards at 14 of its 22 existing and planned nuclear reactors. So 14 of India's reactors will be off-limits for the production of plutonium for India's nuclear weapons program.

But the agreement allows India to keep 8 existing and planned reactors outside of the agreement and free from international safeguards. And it will allow New Delhi to decide entirely on its own which future reactors it will designate as civilian and therefore to submit to safeguards or not.

So the agreement allows India to keep at least eight nuclear reactors behind the curtain and use them to produce nuclear weapons.

So we have essentially said that unlimited amounts of fissile material for nuclear weapons can be produced at facilities not protected by these safeguards, and it is just fine with us.

Well, that is not fine with me. It does not meet our responsibility as a world leader to stop the spread of nuclear weapons. By seeking exception to the rules for a country with which the United States wishes to build a special friendship, this nuclear deal would reinforce the impression that our country's approach to nonproliferation has become selective, self-serving, inconsistent and unprincipled. This deal will send a signal that the United States—

the country the world has always looked to as the leader in the global fight to stop the spread of nuclear weapons—is now deemphasizing nuclear nonproliferation and giving it a back seat to other foreign policy and other commercial concerns.

I think that is a huge mistake. If the United States is seen as changing or bending the rules when it suits us, others will want to follow suit. Pakistan has already said: Us, too. We would like some of that. We would like to seek comparable treatment. Not long after the United States-India deal was announced, China and Pakistan began discussing additional reactor sales. I believe the United States-India nuclear agreement very likely will reduce the constraints on other states that want to go nuclear.

In calculating whether to pursue nuclear weapons, a major factor for most countries is, how will the United States react? What will the sanctions be if we decide to produce nuclear weapons to become part of the club that possesses nuclear weapons? The sanctions, at least suggested by the India deal, is: Don't worry. If we want your friendship at some point, we might waive all of that and say that the nonproliferation issue is much less important than your friendship.

There is no question that what has happened is the administration, secretly—with Secretary Condoleezza Rice and Ambassador Burns and others—has negotiated a deal with the President's blessing that will make it much easier for a country that did not sign the nonproliferation treaty to greatly expand its illegal nuclear arsenal. It will allow India to access fissile material from overseas, buy foreign technologies and create a curtain behind which eight nuclear reactors can produce additional nuclear weapons in that region of the world. That is a profound mistake, just a profound mistake.

I don't understand why this Congress will not decide that it has a voice as well. The Administration is asking us to rubberstamp the agreement even before the agreement is fully written. It is an insult. The legislation we are asked to approve is a rubberstamp. This Congress is being asked to say: Well, sign us up, yes, of course. Of course we agree. The geopolitics of this friendship is certainly more important than restraining the growth of nuclear weapons or the spread of nuclear weapons. Sign us up. It doesn't matter.

I am a little tired of a town in which you have one view and one political party—the White House and the Senate—saying: Sign us up. We are all there. We are all hitched up. Whichever way you want to go, we want to go.

I think this is the most significant mistake—and there have been very significant mistakes in recent years—but this is one of the most significant mistakes I can conceive of.

Let me go back to where I started a minute ago. A colleague of mine yesterday said they found weapons of mass

destruction in Iraq. Of course, they didn't. They didn't. But weapons of mass destruction, no matter where they are found in the future, ought to be of great concern to all of us. We just passed a Defense authorization bill that is going to spend about \$10 billion on antimissile defense. Everyone is worried about North Korea testing a new long-range missile. So we are going to spend \$10 billion on technology to try to hit a bullet with a bullet. If anyone looks at the threat meter—I don't think anybody does much anymore—they will understand one of the least likely threats our country will face is a rogue nation or a terrorist who acquires a nuclear warhead and puts it on top of an intercontinental ballistic missile and aims it at our country and shoots it at about 18,000 miles an hour at the United States.

By far, the most likely threat is the stealing of a nuclear weapon by a terrorist organization, putting it on a container, loading the container on a ship, and having that ship pull up to a dock in a major American city at 3 miles an hour—not 18,000 miles an hour—and detonating a nuclear weapon in the middle of an American city.

There are 25,000 to 30,000 nuclear weapons, we think, tactical and strategic, in this world, the loss of one of which will be catastrophic; the detonation of one of which in an American city will be catastrophic—one. I am not talking about 5 nuclear weapons or 10 or 30 or 100; I am talking about 1. In this new age of terrorism, our responsibility is to stop the spread of nuclear weapons, be a world leader in stopping the spread of nuclear weapons, and reduce the number of nuclear weapons, trying to give teeth to the non-proliferation treaty.

Instead, we are off making deals with India. Yes, India is a fine country. I want India to be a friend of ours. But I am not willing to abrogate the non-proliferation treaty and say to India: It is all right what you did to secretly produce nuclear weapons outside of the nonproliferation treaty. That is not all right with us. It ought not be a signal we send to the rest of the world that it is all right with us. Yet that is exactly what the deal with India is signaling: We will give you the technology and the capability. You allow inspectors into 14 plants in the future, you can have 8 plants that you have behind the curtain to produce nuclear weapons, and that is fine with us because the geopolitics of this deal lead us to believe it is more important to give you this agreement.

I think that is just profoundly wrong, and it is going to injure this country's national security in a profound way.

So, Mr. President, my understanding is there are people here already working on this legislation to approve the deal—it is already introduced—saying: Yes, yes, yes.

There was a former Governor in a Southern State—I won't use names be-

cause most of my colleagues will recognize it—but he was put in place by a fellow who came to the Senate. But when he went back home on weekends he would kick the Governor out of the Governor's chair because he wanted the Governor's office and he wanted to tell him what to do, and the guy would say: OK, OK, OK. They named him Governor OK because that is all he ever said was OK. That is what is going on around here. Yes, even with the India deal. It is OK. It doesn't matter what you do, it is OK.

It is not OK with me. It is not OK with me that we have legislation introduced to approve a deal that hasn't yet been written in all of its detail, but the architecture of which we know enough of to understand, at least from my standpoint, that this is a serious breach of faith for our responsibility to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.

So, Mr. President, I don't know when the President or when our committees will decide they want to take a break from amending the U.S. Constitution. I understand beginning next week we will have the second opportunity to express that this Congress thinks that the work of Washington and Franklin and Madison and Mason was a rough draft and we have a lot of ideas and we ought to change the Constitution. If we can take a break from amending the Constitution, I assume someone will try to bring to the floor of the Senate legislation that will give a big rubberstamp to the India deal.

I only wanted to be here today to say that when that happens, I will certainly do everything I can to slow it down. I prefer to stop it. I don't know if I can stop it. I will try to do that. If not, I will slow it down a lot, and we will have a long discussion about what the responsibility is of this country to stop nuclear weapons in this day and age of terrorism.

Some don't care very much about that. They think there are other things that are much more important. There is nothing much more important in the day of terrorism, in this new age of terrorism, than making certain that we never, ever have a nuclear weapon detonated in a major American city. How do you do that? You stop the spread of nuclear weapons. You reduce the stockpile of nuclear weapons. And you make sure that we provide the aggressive, assertive leadership to try to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of terrorists and safeguard existing stocks even as we try to reduce the number. That is our responsibility. The world looks to us for that leadership. And this, in my judgment, is not providing the kind of leadership that gives me comfort.

For that reason, I will oppose the agreement that has been reached with India and that has been announced, much to the surprise of most of us; in fact, I think to the surprise of probably everyone in Congress who didn't know it was being negotiated.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I came to the floor to speak about the important issue of private property rights in this country, but I did not realize the distinguished Senator from North Dakota was going to be talking about another issue that is very important, and that is the proposed civil nuclear accord between the United States and India. It is a subject I have been studying. I am interested in it. I just happened to be one of the two Senate co-chairs of the United States-India caucus and, for that reason, I have been following the developments in this proposal from the beginning.

As is so often the case, we agree on the ultimate objective, and that is to reduce proliferation of nuclear weapons, but we differ about the means. I happen to support this particular agreement because I think it is in the best interests of the United States. It will take another friend of the United States—the world's largest democracy, composed of more than 1 billion people, that has a good record for nonproliferation—and it will make us partners with them for peaceful civilian use of nuclear power while avoiding the threat of proliferation and the possibility that terrorists might acquire a nuclear weapon or it might proliferate to some other irresponsible party and then endanger the United States or our allies.

The Congress, of course, will have a chance to get very much involved in this issue. Next week, Chairman LUGAR and Ranking Member BIDEN are taking this matter up in the Foreign Relations Committee. They are going to mark up—I believe it is the Atomic Energy Act, if I am not mistaken, which is the one which needs to be amended if, in fact, Congress does consent to this agreement between President Bush and Prime Minister Singh of India.

I do know there are a lot of people watching to see just what the reaction of Congress and the United States to this agreement will be. I for one believe it is an important step in our strategic relationship, in our growing friendship. It will be another way the United States and India can work together to make the world a safer place and the United States can demonstrate its good will by providing civilian nuclear technology to a country that needs the energy.

We know how much the geopolitics of the search for oil has distorted our foreign relationships, so it is important that we find clean alternatives to oil and gas. That is what nuclear power provides, that clean, efficient alternative—although it has problems in that it can, in the wrong hands, be abused. It can be used to create nuclear weapons.

As we all know, India already has a nuclear weapon, so it is not a question of whether it is going to acquire one. It already has one. It has demonstrated its responsibility and its willingness to work with peace-loving partners like

the United States in a way that looks to this alternative of civilian nuclear energy but at the same time makes sure that the dangers of proliferation are reduced to a minimum.

#### THE KELO DECISION

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, the main reason I wanted to come to the floor today was to talk about the important issue of private property rights. Today marks the 1-year anniversary of one of the most controversial decisions ever handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court, and that is the case of *Kelo v. the City of New London*. In that decision, the Court held by a 5-to-4 vote that the government may seize private property, whether it be a home or small business or other private property, for the purpose—not of public good but, rather, to transfer that same property to another private owner simply because the transfer would create an increased economic benefit to that community.

What made this such a profoundly alarming decision was that it represented a radical departure both from what the Constitution says—that the power of government to condemn private property should be used only for public use—and it represented a radical departure from the decisions handed down interpreting that constitutional provision over the last 200 years.

After all, protection of homes and small businesses and other private property against government seizure or unreasonable government interference is a fundamental principle of American life and really a distinctive aspect of our form of government. Indeed, private property rights rank among the most important rights outlined by the Founding Fathers when this country was created. Thomas Jefferson wrote that the protection of such rights is:

... the first principle of association, "the guarantee to every one of a free exercise of his industry, and the fruits acquired by it."

These protections were enshrined in the fifth amendment to the U.S. Constitution which specifically provides that private property shall not "be taken for public use without just compensation." The fifth amendment thus provides an essential guarantee of liberty against the abuse of power by eminent domain by permitting the government to seize private property only for "public use" and only upon paying just compensation.

The Court's decision in *Kelo* was sharply criticized by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor in her dissent, in which she wrote:

[The Court] effectively [has] ... deleted the words "for public use" from the Takings Clause of the fifth amendment and thereby "refuse[d] to enforce properly the Federal Constitution."

Under the Court's decision in *Kelo*, Justice O'Connor warns:

... the specter of condemnation hangs over all property. Nothing is to prevent the State from replacing any Motel 6 with a

Ritz-Carlton, any home with a shopping mall, or any farm with a factory.

She further warns that, under *Kelo*, under the Supreme Court's decision just 1 year ago "any property may now be taken for the benefit of another private party," and she said, "the fallout from this decision will not be random."

Indeed, as noted in a friend-of-the-court brief filed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the AARP and other organizations:

[a]bsent a true public use requirement, the takings power will be employed more frequently. The takings that result will disproportionately affect and harm the economically disadvantaged and, in particular, racial and ethnic minorities and the elderly.

Again, that is the brief of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and AARP and others.

Suffice it to say that the *Kelo* decision was a disappointment. What I find particularly troubling is that the *Kelo* case is just one of many examples of the abuse of the power of eminent domain throughout our Nation. Its use for private development is now widespread. The Institute for Justice has documented more than 10,000 properties either seized or threatened with condemnation for private development during the 5-year period between 1998 and 2002. Despite the fact that so many abuses of that power were already occurring, the *Kelo* decision is particularly alarming, and local governments, the condemning authorities most often, have become further emboldened to take property for private development.

As this pattern has continued elsewhere, courts very quickly used this decision to reject challenges by owners to the taking of their property for other private parties. In 2005, for example, a court in Missouri relied upon *Kelo* in reluctantly upholding the taking of a home so that a shopping mall can be built. As the judge commented:

The United States Supreme Court has denied the Alamo reinforcements. Perhaps the people will clip the wings of eminent domain in Missouri, but today in Missouri it soars and devours.

I firmly believe legislative action is appropriate and necessary, and I am not alone in that belief. Several State legislatures have taken immediate action. Indeed, my home State of Texas passed legislation that was signed into law by the Governor last summer that protects private property from seizure for purposes of economic development. But it is also necessary and appropriate that Congress take action consistent with our authority under the Constitution to restore the vital protections of the fifth amendment. That is why the week after the Court handed down its decision I introduced S. 1313 entitled "the Protection of Homes, Small Businesses, and Private Property Act of 2005." I am delighted that other Senators have joined in that in broad and bipartisan support, including

the immediate support shortly after it was filed of the Senator from Florida, Mr. BILL NELSON.

Today I am happy to report that a total of 31 of our colleagues have joined me as cosponsors of this important bill. This bill would ensure that the power of eminent domain is exercised only for public uses, consistent with and guaranteed by the fifth amendment of the Constitution. Most important, though, it would make sure the power of eminent domain would not simply be used to further private economic development interests.

The act would apply the standard to two areas of government action which are clearly within Congress's authority to regulate: No. 1, all exercises of the power of eminent domain by the Federal Government itself; and No. 2, all exercises of the power of eminent domain by State and local governments using Federal funds.

While we work to protect private property rights, we are mindful that the language we craft could have far-reaching implications. There is no question that where appropriate, eminent domain can play an important role in ensuring that true public uses are preserved. But now, just 1 year after the Supreme Court shut the door on *Suzette Kelo* and her fellow homeowners in New London, CT, it is imperative that Congress act soon to ensure that private property remains free from the long arm of government so that no American will have to worry about the Federal Government being involved in taking their private property for private development.

Chairman SPECTER of the Senate Judiciary Committee, on which I am proud to serve, is working with me on legislation that I hope he will choose to move soon through the committee. I look forward to working with him and my other colleagues to develop a solution that reaffirms our commitment to the protection of private property rights, one that will help stem the tide of egregious abuses of private property rights that we have seen throughout the Nation by the illegitimate use of the power of eminent domain.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### STEM CELL RESEARCH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, just a few days ago U.S. researchers at the National Institutes of Health announced they were able to help paralyzed rats move again by using embryonic stem cells from mice. This study is evidence that these stem cells will likely treat and cure people with spinal cord injuries or nerve-destroying illnesses such as Lou Gehrig's disease, MS—multiple sclerosis—muscular dystrophy, and other things.

On this breakthrough, Dr. Elias Zerhouni, Director of the National Institutes of Health, issued the following statement: