

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARIE HERBST

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Marie Herbst on retirement after more than thirty-seven years of service to the citizens of East Windsor Connecticut as a State Senator, Mayor, Town Councilwoman, teacher, mother, wife, and role model.

Marie has been inspiring and leading people from the East Windsor/Vernon area of Connecticut for her entire lifetime. Beginning as one of the most dedicated citizens of Vernon, she stood as an activist for her town's needs in the area of education. This commitment to the Vernon area was not limited to simple activism, as Marie saw the need to serve her constituents locally to ensure that her neighbors' voices were heard.

She was elected to the Board of Education, Town Council, and as Mayor of Vernon, and for over eight years as a State Senator representing her friends and neighbors in Hartford. She demonstrated further dedication to her fellow citizens after she left the Connecticut General Assembly to resume her position on the Town Council. In many ways, her return to local government was similar to former President John Quincy Adams decision to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives after leaving the White House.

As important as her loyalty to the citizens of East Windsor and Vernon were as a public servant, deeper than any other commitment was her passion for education. Offering her skills and dedication outside of her sizable family, Marie served honorably for over 37 years as an educator attesting to her selflessness and passion for the well-being of East Windsor, Connecticut's schoolchildren, both present and future. Countless students over that time have been inspired by Marie's passion and skill as a teacher and gone on to succeed in adult life. Marie was active to the last moment, even taking time to offer words of enduring wisdom to the recent graduates of East Windsor High School as the school's graduation speaker.

I ask that you please join with me in congratulating and commemorating the dedication and career of Mrs. Marie Herbst, a truly concerned, selfless citizen of eastern Connecticut.

AIR FORCE FIRINGS

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, with the recent firings at the Air Force, I am greatly concerned about the aerial refueling tanker contract that was awarded to a consortium dominated by Airbus.

In its internal evaluations, the Air Force gave almost identical scores to both sides. Yet, they awarded this contract to a company that has never delivered a tanker with a refueling boom to be assembled in a factory that does not yet exist.

EADS has pledged to incorporate about 60 percent U.S. content in its tanker. Yet, Boeing

already has 85 percent U.S. content in its tanker.

EADS has promised to create up to 48,000 jobs to Americans. However, a recent analysis concluded that EADS' job figure is closer to 14,000. The same study found Boeing would create at least twice as many U.S. jobs.

The sad truth is that the bulk of the EADS tanker will be built in Europe. Yet, current policies prohibit the Pentagon from considering the U.S. industrial base during a major defense acquisition. This must change. We must have the ability to build the weapons necessary to defend ourselves to be a great nation. Even Adam Smith agrees.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE EARLY DEPLOYMENT ACT

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the Carbon Capture and Storage Early Deployment Act, bipartisan legislation which will establish a non-governmental fund and entity to accelerate the deployment of carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies. CCS is a method of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by capturing and injecting underground the carbon dioxide emitted from electricity generation plants that use fossil fuels, including petroleum, natural gas and coal.

72 percent of our nation's electricity is generated through fossil fuel combustion. 51 percent is based on coal use; 20 percent is reliant on natural gas and 1.6 percent on petroleum. Given our extensive reliance on fossil fuels and the current unavailability of sufficient alternatives to them, the continued use of fossil fuels is essential to our economic security.

The Carbon Capture and Storage Early Deployment Act addresses this clear need by enabling electric utilities that use coal to have the continued ability to do so when a mandatory program is implemented to control greenhouse gas emissions.

I am preparing to draft a mandatory greenhouse gas control measure which will rely on cap and trade to address rising global temperatures and climate change. Power plants and industrial companies that burn fossil fuels will be required to lessen their emissions of CO₂ in accordance with a schedule set in the statute. As CO₂ constraints become ever more severe, not only coal using facilities will need to use CO₂ capture and storage technologies, but facilities using natural gas and petroleum will as well. The use of CCS technology will enable fossil fuel users to meet the reduction requirements of the measure while continuing to use coal, oil or natural gas.

The legislation I am introducing today represents a necessary first step toward the implementation of such a cap and trade system to address global climate change. If severe emissions reduction requirements in a cap and trade system take effect before the carbon capture and storage technologies are available, the effect on coal fired utilities in particular would be severe. They would rapidly switch from coal to other fuels. Such fuel switching would significantly increase elec-

tricity prices to the severe detriment of both residential and industrial electricity consumers. Fuel switching from coal would most likely result in far greater uses of natural gas for electricity generation, severely stressing an already constrained natural gas supply and dramatically increasing natural gas prices.

Today, 58 percent of U.S. homes are heated with natural gas, and numerous industries are heavily reliant on it. If large scale switching by utilities from coal to natural gas occurs, tens of millions of Americans would experience deep economic pain, and many domestic industries, from fertilizer to chemicals, would be dislocated. The early arrival of CCS is essential to prevent this economic disruption in a carbon constrained economy.

While some commercial CCS projects are in operation, they are small in scale and have the purpose of enhancing oil recovery. Further research, development and demonstration are necessary for the permanent storage underground of large quantities of CO₂ in a variety of storage media in widely dispersed locations around the nation.

In order to accelerate the deployment of CCS technologies, the Carbon Capture and Storage Early Deployment Act authorizes the establishment of a Carbon Storage Research Corporation. The nation's fossil fuel-based electricity distribution utilities would be authorized to hold a referendum for the creation of the Corporation. If the referendum results in approval by representatives of two-thirds of the fossil fuel-based electricity delivered to retail consumers, the Corporation is established.

The Corporation will be operated as a division or affiliate of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and will be managed by a Board of not more than 12 members, which will be appointed by the EPRI and will include representatives of investor owned utilities, utilities owned by a federal or state agency or a municipality, rural electric cooperatives and fossil fuel producers.

The Corporation will assess fees on distribution utilities for all fossil fuel-based electricity delivered to retail consumers. The assessment will be applied to electricity generated from coal, natural gas and oil and will reflect the relative CO₂ emission rates of each fuel. The assessment will total approximately \$1 billion annually. The legislation specifies that distribution utilities will be allowed to recover the costs of the fee from retail consumers, resulting in a roughly \$10-\$12 total annual increase in residential electricity rates.

The \$1 billion annual fund will be distributed by the Corporation in the form of grants and contracts to governmental, academic and private entities for projects with the purpose of accelerating the commercial demonstration or availability of CCS technologies.

I would like to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working with me on and cosponsoring this legislation.

The Carbon Capture and Storage Early Deployment Act enjoys bipartisan and industry support and will enable the continued use of our nation's most inexpensive and abundant resources for fuel generation when a mandatory greenhouse gas emissions reduction program is implemented.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.