

warming, and I think that is why many Americans are dismissing their chances of speaking to the needs of this Nation. This is a critically important issue. If this Republican minority will not allow us to reach it, I predict the American voters will have the last words. We will reach this issue. They will demand that we reach this issue.

All of the fear being spread here about change in America is indicative of the problem the Republicans have today. They are afraid of change. Anything that will change things scares them. They don't think America is resilient enough and powerful enough to accept change. They are wrong.

Our Nation desperately wants change, starting in Washington, and rippling across America, to deal with the issues that face us—first and foremost, to bring peace to our Nation, bring our troops home, stabilize and strengthen our economy, and deal with critical issues, such as global warming.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. DURBIN. Yes, I am happy to.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I just ask the distinguished assistant majority leader if he and the Democratic majority would agree to an amendment designed to help bring down the price of gasoline at the pump for the American consumer, and whether they would agree to allow us to file that amendment, debate that amendment on this bill, and then have an up-or-down vote on the Senate floor?

Mr. DURBIN. My response is that we are on another bill now, while we are waiting for cloture to ripen on the global warming bill. It is our intention to move directly into the debate that you have just indicated. We have to deal with energy pricing in America. If the Republican side is going to offer a good-faith policy amendment to deal with this issue, I am sure that will be appropriate.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I take it from the answer of the assistant majority leader that his answer is no.

Mr. DURBIN. The answer is yes.

Mr. CORNYN. I take it that they would not allow us to offer an amendment on this bill that would be designed to bring down the price of gasoline at the pump by opening America's natural resources to development and production.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, time and time again we are told by the Republican side, if we could just drill for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, all of our prayers would be answered and gasoline would be \$1.50 a gallon, people would stop complaining, and the American economy would be back on its feet. It turns out this idea of drilling for oil in ANWR is not the answer to our prayers. For many of us, it is somewhat blasphemous to think we would take a section of land that was set aside by President Eisenhower as a wildlife refuge and say that we are so desperate in America for oil that we are going to change it forever.

It strikes me that we have to look at the reality. Of all the oil reserves in the world, the United States has access in our boundaries, near our shores, to 3 percent of all the oil in the world. We consume 25 percent of the oil in the world. The Republicans believe we can drill our way out—drill in the Great Lakes, drill in the ANWR—and it will all be just fine. We know better. We have to take an honest look at this and realize that drilling in those places will not answer the need.

REMEMBERING SENATOR THOMAS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I know my colleagues are waiting. I liked Craig Thomas. We served in the House together and in the Senate. When they had his funeral service, I made a point of joining many of my colleagues to make the trip out to his beloved Wyoming to meet his neighbors and supporters and friends and family. It was a wonderful, beautiful service. He was such a quiet and strong man. He and I disagreed on lots of issues, but I respected him so much. I think his real strength was shown in his last battle with leukemia and cancer. Craig kept a smile on his face, despite some very difficult days. His wife Susan at his side out in Wyoming was a reminder that we are really a Senate family.

We can debate issues back and forth, as we just did, but at the end of the day, I think he was a great Senator who served his State well, and it was an honor that I could count him as a friend.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to a period of morning business for up to 2 hours, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans in control of the first 30 minutes and the majority in control of the second 30 minutes.

The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

REMEMBERING SENATOR CRAIG THOMAS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, 1 year ago yesterday, the State of Wyoming and our Nation lost one of the great cowboys ever to ride this land. On June 4, 2007, Senator Craig Thomas, my senior Senator, my mentor, and most important of all, my friend, lost his battle with leukemia. I still expect to see him come in that door every time we vote

and go over to the candy desk and get a piece of candy and come down to the well to visit with me.

I can tell you right now, I feel him over my shoulder saying: You cannot let the Senator from Illinois get away with what he just said. That is what Craig would do. He used to do it from that desk right over there.

Craig would have said that honesty, truth, and promises are virtues of the West. When you promise three circuit court judges, you deliver them. They did not deliver. That is why, yesterday, we weren't able to do the tributes that we are doing today.

When it comes to the global warming issue, he would have said "gotcha" politics doesn't have a place here. But that is what they are doing on issue after issue.

How do you tell it is "gotcha" politics? If it didn't go to committee, it is "gotcha" politics. Oh, yes, they would argue that global warming went to committee. Well, a bill went to committee, but that is not the bill that we have shifted to. We have shifted to one that didn't go to committee. It is full of little landmines. That is not the way we used to do things around here. I know my friend, Craig, would have pointed that out. Both the cowboy and the marine in Craig Thomas would have been forced to point that out—to be honest, get the judges up; be honest, do the bills that go through the committee that everybody has a chance to amend.

As Craig comes through the door, which he does in my mind all the time, I symbolically lift my hat to him, to celebrate the life of a great Senator.

He was raised in Wapiti, WY. That is between Cody and Yellowstone Park. The school he went to now has about an 8-foot fence to keep grizzly bears out. Craig was so tough, they didn't need that fence when he went to school there. He was executive director of the Wyoming Farm Bureau, executive director of the Wyoming Rural Electric Association, he was a small businessman, a State legislator, a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and a Senator. He was a marine at heart, but he was a cowboy in his soul. He was quiet. He was focused. He was tough. He was a staunch fiscal conservative. His life became a portrait of the American West. He preferred to see the world from the saddle of a horse and from under the brim of his cowboy hat, but he sacrificed much to serve us here.

He was proud of Wyoming and our country, and we in Wyoming were proud to be represented by him. He encouraged vision, Mr. President, and, as you can tell, he still challenges me and, I think, you. The cowboy and marine in Craig made him a fierce fighter on behalf of Wyoming, and he approached his cancer no differently.

I will never forget when I learned about my friend's passing. I was overcome with shock and heartbreak, but I also felt a sense of serenity, knowing that Craig was at peace.

I can tell my colleagues that even a year later, not a day goes by without thoughts of memories of Craig passing my mind. I miss him. I miss him in this Senate Chamber. I miss him on the trail back home in Wyoming. I miss his camaraderie, his friendship, his leadership, and his unwavering commitment to the values and ideals of the people he served.

Although a year has passed since Craig left us, his spirit is alive and it is felt by all of us within this body. Work he championed on behalf of Wyoming residents and all Americans is ongoing today. As a recent example, Craig was a staunch supporter of country-of-origin labeling. He saw it as a vital provision for our State's livestock producers, and I know he would be proud to see COOL finally passed as part of the farm bill. It is something we had been working on together for many years.

Craig's spirit has also been remembered here on the Senate floor with the passage of a resolution designating July 26, 2008, National Day of the American Cowboy. Craig was the driving force behind the recognition of cowboys on a national scale for the past 3 years, and I am proud we have continued that tradition and are following in his footsteps.

Known for his love of the outdoors and the cowboy way of life, Craig's name has been recognized in Wyoming through a number of dedications in the past year. The Department of Interior recently named a large area of public land the "Craig Thomas Little Mountain Special Management Area." Now more than 69,000 acres of land surrounding the majestic Big Horn Mountains will be enjoyed and cherished by generations of Wyoming residents to come.

Also, at Grand Teton National Park in Jackson, the new visitors center now bears his name and will help us always to remember Craig's dedication to the land he loved so much.

His wife Susan, a close friend of mine and Diana's, continues to honor Craig's legacy every day in the work she does as well. She is a champion of the National Capital Chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, raising money for research and fighting against the blood cancer that took her husband's life. She also created the Craig and Susan Thomas Foundation. It is a scholarship program for at-risk youth seeking to continue their education at a Wyoming institution of higher learning. Susan, throughout her whole life, worked with at-risk youth and is now continuing it with this memorial. The cause she has taken on embodies everything Craig stood for and believed in. Susan's efforts every day are a tribute to his memory, and that foundation is something in which we all can participate.

Craig was a fine legislator, a dedicated public servant, and above all a kind, humble, and courageous man. With the heart of a marine and the soul

of a cowboy, he worked tirelessly and selflessly for Wyoming.

To my colleagues here today, I pray we never forget this man's legacy and the exceptional standard of public service he set for all of us—to serve the people with respect and integrity, always remembering it is of the utmost honor to serve. With a sense of humor, you will recall he always said, "Don't squat with your spurs on," in his trademark western grace. Craig was the modern-day cowboy fighting for the principles that made this country great.

Craig, I will never forget you. You are in my heart every day. We miss you, cowboy. Thank you for everything you have done for Wyoming and this great Nation. Ride on, my friend, ride on.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I thank the minority leader, the assistant majority leader, and Wyoming's senior Senator for taking the time to remember a departed friend and an esteemed colleague.

Wyoming's U.S. Senator Craig Thomas passed peacefully June 4, 2007, 1 year ago this week. Craig was surrounded, as always, by his devoted wife Susan, by his family, and by close friends.

Wyoming has lost a great man. We have lost many great men and women over the years, but Craig Thomas leaves behind a legacy equal to all of them. Yet Craig would be the first one to question that praise. Craig would say he was a common man, a typical cowboy who wanted simply to work hard and make a difference for the people of the place he loved. One year later, it is appropriate and right that we remember him again in the Senate and also in our own lives.

Many of my colleagues joined us in my hometown of Casper, WY, to mourn Craig's passing. The words and presence of Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL were especially meaningful to the people of Wyoming. President Bush and Vice President CHENEY each extolled Craig's character and devotion to the Wyoming people and Wyoming places.

But perhaps more to what Craig really meant to the people was the exceptional outpouring of very personal remembrances that followed his passing. In the halls of the U.S. Capitol, elevator operators, cashiers, janitors, office staff—each would say what a wonderful person Craig Thomas was. His staff, many of whom are now serving with me, speak about his kindness and the family character that was the hallmark in his office. It was Craig's nature.

In Wyoming, from all walks of life, so many reflected their experiences with Craig that left each of their lives a little brighter. They recalled his loyalty and his commitment to their future, especially the young people.

In Wyoming, after Craig's passing, folks in each town, in each community

talked about the personal loss they felt. They wrote about it in newspapers and in messages left online because Craig gave so much of himself. Craig took time each day, every day to talk to you, to say hello, and not to simply pass by. He saw everyone, whoever you are.

Because he gave his time to Wyoming and to this body and to individuals who needed help, he is remembered. He gave his passion, he gave his leadership, and his tireless energy to make this a better place.

Ronald Reagan said:

Some people wonder all their lives if they've made a difference. The Marines don't have that problem.

Craig was Wyoming's marine, and we will never need to wonder if he made a difference. Craig Thomas represented honor and dignity. Admired by those who knew him, he has given us a legacy of legislative accomplishment, a brilliant example of what one can do with a life lived with determination, with strength of character, and with vision.

To Lexie, Peter, Greg, and Patrick, and all those amazing grandchildren, we again offer our most heartfelt condolences.

Susan, today, like each day, we remember Craig for the great man he was and what he meant to Wyoming, for what he accomplished and how he did it, for what he taught us and how he touched so many.

Susan has created the Craig and Susan Thomas Foundation. For all of those who miss Craig and want to see the great work in education that she is continuing, I invite you to go to her Web site, thomas-foundation.com. It is important and lasting work in Wyoming that continues the Thomas legacy of making a difference one life at a time.

To my Senate colleagues and to the people of Wyoming, remember—remember that leadership takes courage, as Craig Thomas demonstrated in his remarkable life.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I thank my fellow Senator from Wyoming for his comments and thank him for the way he has filled in and followed the legacy Senator Thomas began and the work he has done on the issues that were undone when Senator Thomas left us, his work on the Wyoming range and his work on the wild scenic rivers and also on our joint effort to make sure Richard Honecker gets a vote as a judge. That is a nomination Senator Thomas offered well before he left. In fact, he has been waiting around—not that I am keeping track—443 days. There has been no vote on him yet in committee, so we cannot vote on the nomination on the floor. This is an outstanding person, rated highly by everybody and letters of recommendations from both Democrats and Republicans in Wyoming who would really like to have a vote. So his life has been in suspension.

I thank Senator BARRASSO for the work he has done on that issue and the kind words about Senator Thomas, and I thank Senator BARRASSO for filling in.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I miss Craig Thomas. I loved him, and I wish I had told him that more explicitly. He is worthy of the ultimate comment and praise given in my area of the country: He was a good man. And he truly was. He combined strength and genuine modesty. He was wise and insightful on important issues without any show of pride or pomposity. He had integrity. He was a man's man. He was comfortable in his skin. He was a man of courage. Most especially, he was a man of principle, much like one of his heroes, Ronald Reagan.

Craig was truly also a man of the West. It was in his bones. And he had in his very being a love for America and a deep understanding—intellectual and intuitive—of its uniqueness, its exceptionalism, and why this country is so great. He understood that. His love for America caused him to dedicate his life to her, just as our soldiers and his fellow marines place their lives at risk this very moment in service to our country.

I think that is why he undertook as part of his duties on this side to promote a policy principled message each morning in morning business on the floor. He did that for a number of years. He believed we ought to talk about the issues that made America great.

Craig Thomas loved his country, he loved his wife Susan and his family. He loved Wyoming. Truly, he was a good man, and we do indeed miss him.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, let me first thank the Senator from Texas for allowing me to very briefly work in here.

It happens that I was elected to the House and then to the Senate at the same time as Craig and Susan Thomas. And you know, sometimes you see someone for the first time and they have, as Senator ENZI pointed out, that infectious smile, and that was Craig. That was Craig. Everyone had to love Craig.

I have thought of him so often during consideration of the bill that is on the floor now. Craig had such convictions, but he never quit smiling. What the guy could do is, he could say the same thing I would say and people would love him, but they wouldn't love me. I don't know how he got by with that, but he did.

I picture him and where he would be today if he were here while we have a bill on the floor that has an increase in gas taxes, \$6.7 trillion of increases in taxes over the life of the bill, with job losses to China, and he wouldn't be sit-

ting there, he would be up here. I applaud his replacement, the junior Senator from Wyoming, Senator BARRASSO. Every time I turn around, he is coming down and saying exactly—exactly—what Craig would be saying.

I would say this about Craig Thomas: He was always there at our Senate prayer breakfast every Wednesday morning. He was a Jesus guy, like we are, and so I don't feel the sadness a lot of people do with Craig Thomas, because I can only say right now: Craig, I know you are here with us, and we are going to see you later.

I thank my colleague, and I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, may I inquire how much time remains in morning business for this side of the aisle?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator has 11½ minutes in the first 30 minutes.

Mr. CORNYN. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, I join my colleagues in invoking the memory of Craig Thomas. On our side of the aisle, there was nobody more dependable, more loyal, or more of a team player. Whenever there was an important issue, particularly one concerning Wyoming or concerning energy, he would be down here talking about it and he would be enlightening the debate, and we miss him. I can't help but think he would be down here on this particular piece of legislation, as Senator ENZI has alluded, in talking about what is obviously a game of "gotcha."

CLIMATE SECURITY ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, this is a bill where we are actually on our third version, I believe. The fourth version of the bill. I stand corrected by the ranking member of the Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator INHOFE. The last one I saw went from 342 pages to 491 pages. That was the one that was read yesterday. I daresay that not many, if any Senator who is going to be called upon to vote on that legislation, had a chance to read it yet in detail. So I don't think it was a wasted exercise to have the clerk read the bill yesterday to give people a chance to understand what is in it.

When you look at a piece of legislation that comes with a \$6.7 trillion pricetag, and one that will raise and not lower the price of gasoline and electricity, will depress the American economy and literally put people out of work, I think we need to know what is in it and we need to debate it. We need to offer amendments to hopefully improve it.

There is not one among us who does not care about the environment. I don't know any person of good will alive who doesn't care about the quality of the air we breathe and the cleanliness of the water we drink. So I think those who would suggest that because

there are questions about this huge bill, this huge tax increase, this huge increase in the cost of energy, that if you are asking questions and want to offer amendments to improve it suggests you don't care about the environment is demonstrably false.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. CORNYN. I will yield.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, Senator CORNYN is a fabulous and important Senator. He knows what has been happening here on all the important issues and he knows the importance of certain actions on the floor.

Senator REID, last night, as I understand it, stood and filled the tree. As I understand it, that impacts directly the ability of persons on this side to freely offer amendments; is that correct, I ask Senator CORNYN?

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I say to the distinguished Senator from Alabama that he is exactly right. To come out here on the floor, as the assistant majority leader has done this morning, and say, Oh, we are interested in full debate and amendments and we regret the delay that occurred yesterday from the reading of the bill, yet at the same time to say no Member of the Senate can offer an amendment because of the actions of the majority leader, unless the majority leader gives the green light, is at odds with that claim. It is not a demonstration, from my perspective, of a desire to have an open debate and an amended process.

Mr. SESSIONS. And so that act was a knowing and deliberate leadership act by the majority leader that fundamentally says unless he approves an amendment, whether it is offered by those who favor the legislation or oppose it, that is a significant event that constricts free amendments on this bill; is that not correct?

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I say to the Senator from Alabama, again he is correct. I think what it demonstrates is that the professed desire to actually do something about this important issue is, in fact, nothing more than a political game. Because I predict what will happen is that because he is blocking any amendments and an open debate about the bill, we will have a vote on the cloture motion, it will fail, and then the majority leader will attempt to pull this bill from the floor and consideration. I hope Members of the Senate will prevent that from happening by denying cloture on any future motions to proceed to other legislation. I think it is important that we have the kind of debate that a bill of this import and this size deserves.

If I can refer my colleagues to this chart, which is produced, I believe, by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Senator DORGAN, the Senator from North Dakota, the other day said this bill pales in comparison to "Hillary Care" in terms of its complexity. I remember seeing the charts at the time of the