

Further, I have seen what the U.S. has done to destroy the drilling industry in the states as well as driving out any U.S. Coast Guard licensed personnel, U.S. flag vessels and shipyard work done in the U.S.

Now let us consider alcohol fuels and blended gasoline:

As a developing country, Brasil needs oil, they do not have a large export economy and until recently, did not have a large internal oil supply. To offset the cost of importing oil, they mandated the use of alcohol as a fuel for their automobiles. Since labor is cheap and technology was not, Brasil had a huge labor intensive industry of raising sugar cane for the purpose of making fuel. In fact this was nothing more than rum!

Sugar cane derived fuel is still recognized as the "hottest" fuel as compared to corn.

Brasil mandated that alcohol fuel be the same price as gasoline and forced Petrobras to manufacture and distribute alcohol to do so.

Even at \$50/ month average worker wages, sugar cane growing almost unattended, IE no need for irrigation or fertilizers, the cost per liter of alcohol was 4 to 5 times that of the cost the same liter of gasoline! This resulted in an enormous tax base to Brazilian citizens, up to 60% and a horrid inflation spiral you cannot imagine, inflations of 100% per month!

In my opinion, alcohol is not only a stupid idea; it accelerates the consumption of oil and the earth's resources and causes MORE pollution. Here is why:

(1) Alcohol loves water and will absorb water while in storage and in use. This causes any iron or steel parts in the engine to wear out faster. This means more parts and or more engines are needed sooner. These parts can only be derived from metal which means more mining, smelting and more heavy metal pollution.

(2) Alcohol does not give as much power per unit of liquid as gasoline, no matter what! Anyone can do this and it does not need a scientific degree for real average Joe results. Drive in South Dakota where it is mandated to have 10% alcohol/ 90% gasoline blended fuel. The interstate is flat so you can set your cruise control. I did this in my Mazda pickup and have seen similar results by being forced to use alcohol fuels in Washington in other vehicles. By driving say 320 miles on the interstate with gasoline only, you can achieve say 20 miles per gallon which would use 16 gallons of gasoline.

Now, blended fuel decreases the fuel efficiency of any internal combustion and lowers its economy. This same vehicle with the blended fuel gets anywhere between 20 to 25% less MPG. In our same example, this vehicle would get 15 to 16 MPG, which means the same 320 miles would take 21 to 20 gallons of blend. Now, this blended fuel is 90% gasoline in 21 gallons of blend there is $21 \times 0.9 = 18.9$ gallons of gasoline and 20 gallons of blend is $20 \times 0.9 = 18$ gallons of gasoline.

So, our blended fuel consumes at least 20% more gasoline!!!! In this journey that means an average of 3 gallons more of gasoline for the trip.

These are real results I did myself!

Even autos designed for alcohol blends get less economy and consumes more fuel! You can check in Phoenix, Arizona, as they mandate blended fuels in the summer and the cars get poorer economy.

So, what does alcohol fuels do?

(1) Consumes more oil

(2) Consumes more of the earth's metals by wearing out engines quicker

(3) Consumes more of the earth's energy. You have to plant, harvest, ferment, distill and purify corn to generate alcohol. It costs about 6 times more per gallon to make than gasoline and wastes water, electricity and

fuel to make. Since the government subsidizes this, we the tax payers loose big time and the environment suffers at an even accelerated rate.

(4) It takes food out of circulation and raises prices.

(5) Who wins? Big oil for more demand, the automobile industry, farmers and the government in the form of more taxes.

(6) Who loses? The American citizen.

Now, what have I seen? Well, much of the U.S. does not have public transport and we have to drive for food, work, shopping and anything else. I have seen my gasoline bills almost double in the past 6 months and I am driving much less.

Much of the U.S. does not have natural gas and we use propane. Propane has jumped 50% in price the past 6 months that means heating bills have jumped 50%. Even though we are mainly hydroelectric for electricity, my power bill has increased an average of 25% due to pressure from fossil fuel increases.

I am retired and on a fixed income and cannot afford to pay my bills any longer due to the significant increases!

And please do not get me started on the fallacy of fluorescent lighting and electric autos. Both are dangerous and will cause tremendous heavy metal pollution as well as a larger demand for mining and thus more toxic waste.

Not to be a cynic but I know this will fall on deaf ears as it is not politically expedient to take the correct position instead of the one Washington currently has taken.

FRANK, *Spirit Lake*.

We recently took a three-night trip to Yellowstone Park, driving from Boise. Our VW Passat station wagon, a roomy and very comfortable car, uses about half the fuel of a pickup truck (29 to 34 mpg highway). For this trip for four adults, the cost of lodging and food (meals eaten in restaurants) dwarfed the cost of gasoline.

The higher price of fuel will spur both innovation (www.aptera.com) and conservation. As Boise is close to being under EPA "supervision" for air quality non-attainment (ozone), the higher price of gas can only help as demand slackens.

Let us face it, most of us are not wise users of energy, and with a little extra effort we all could reduce our consumption by 10% to 25%. I see many more pedestrians and bicycles on the streets, most of us need more exercise. Our consumptive habits and the growth of said consumption is not sustainable—innovation and conservation will have to happen to solve our energy problems.

In reading your email regarding this problem, I have to ask you who is responsible for lack of public transportation in this country?

DAVID, *Boise*.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING EIGHT KENTUCKY STATE POLICE

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating eight members of the Kentucky State Police. These brave individuals went above and beyond to help keep the Commonwealth safe. The Excellence in Highway Safety Awards are given to troopers who have the highest numbers in driving under the influence, occupant protection, speed, and commercial vehicle citations written in 2008.

Trooper Chris Steward from the Dry Ridge Post received the award for the highest number of speed citations. Trooper Steward was praised by the Dry Ridge Post Commander for his dedication to saving lives on Kentucky's roads.

Sergeant Steve Walker from the London Post received the award for the highest number of DUI arrests in 2008. DUI related fatalities numbered 175 in Kentucky in 2008 and Sergeant Walker's extra effort to remove impaired drivers from the road has made Kentucky roadways a safer place to travel.

Trooper Walt Meachum from the Harlan Post received the award by hosting 484 community education events relative to highway safety issues. Trooper Meachum's vigorous commitment to educating younger people about unsafe driving is something every Kentucky citizen is grateful for.

Sergeant Derris Hedger from the Campbellsburg Post received the award for the highest number of seat belt citations in 2008. This area has seen a 50-percent reduction in highway fatalities compared to 2007, and Sergeant Hedger's efforts are playing a direct role in those reductions.

Officer Anthony Bersaglia from the Pikeville Commercial Vehicle Enforcement division received the award for the highest number of Commercial Motor Vehicle citations in 2008. Officer Bersaglia's work ethic and dedication are unmatched.

Officer Travis Rogers from the London Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Region received the award for the highest number of Commercial Motor Vehicle safety inspections. Officer Rogers continually strives to make Kentucky's roads a safer place and he is a credit to the division.

Officer Glenn Perry of the Louisville Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Region has received this award for the highest percentage of Commercial Motor Vehicle "Out of Service" inspections. The work Officer Perry performs on a daily basis and his professionalism on the roads is unmatched.

Inspector Marty Young from the Georgetown Commercial Vehicle Region received the award for the number of "Out of Service" inspections by a civilian employee. Investigator Young's success is evident in the Georgetown Region and his eye for detail has made a significant impact on highway safety.

I am humbled and grateful of the men and women who serve this agency every day by patrolling our roadways and keeping the Commonwealth safe. I am also confident that the coworkers of these eight individuals are proud to work along side of them.

Mr. President, I would like to thank these individuals for their contributions to the State of Kentucky and I wish them well as they continue to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to

the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 131. An act to establish the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-922. A communication from the Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of two violations of the Antideficiency Act that occurred within the Appalachian Regional Commission; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-923. A communication from the Director, Pentagon Renovation and Construction Program Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's Annual Report for the year ending March 1, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-924. A communication from the Vice Chair and First Vice President, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Turkey; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-925. A communication from the Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Space Vehicle and Test Flight Activities from Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB), California" (RIN0648-AX08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 9, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-926. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Implementation Report: Energy Conservation Standards Activities"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-927. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Archaeological Material from Honduras" (RIN1505-AC11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-928. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to overseas surplus property; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-929. A communication from the Acting Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Employees Health Benefits Program Acquisition Regulation: Miscellaneous Clarifications and Corrections" (RIN3206-AL66) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-930. A communication from the Acting Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living Allowance Rates; 2007 Interim Adjustments: Puerto Rico" (RIN3206-AL65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-931. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-19, "Disclosure to the United States District Court Temporary Amendment Act of 2009" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-932. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-20, "Metropolitan Police Department Subpoena Limitation Temporary Amendment Act of 2009" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-933. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-21, "Library Kiosk Services Temporary Act of 2009" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-934. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-22, "Vending Regulation Temporary Act of 2009" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-935. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of General Counsel, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-936. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of change in previously submitted reported information in the position of Associate Director of National Intelligence and Chief Information Officer, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-937. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of discontinuation of service in acting role in the position of Associate Director of National Intelligence and Chief Information Officer, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-938. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of change in previously submitted reported information in the position of Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-939. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of discontinuation of service in acting role in the position of Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2009; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-940. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to crime victims' rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-941. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to data-mining activities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. UDALL of Colorado (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 555. A bill to provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 556. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to modernize the process by which interstate firearms transactions are conducted by Federal firearms licensees; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARTINEZ (for himself and Mr. KOHL):

S. 557. A bill to encourage, enhance, and integrate Silver Alert plans throughout the United States, to authorize grants for the assistance of organizations to find missing adults, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BURR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 558. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to nutrition labeling of food offered for sale in food service establishments; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 559. A bill to provide benefits under the Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence program for certain periods before the implementation of the program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. REID (for Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. DODD, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BYRD, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. REID, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER,