

to 1995, at the request of Vice President Al Gore. Serving two terms (from 1994 to 1998) as President of CISAC, the International Confederation of Performing Right Societies.

Most recently, Bergman played a key role in the launch of A Bill of Rights for Songwriters and Composers, an ASCAP advocacy and awareness-building initiative designed to remind the public, the music industry and Members of Congress of the central role and rights of those who create music.

Bergman was also instrumental in the launch of the ASCAP I Create Music EXPO, the premier conference for songwriters, composers and producers. The 4th annual EXPO is set to take place at the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel in Los Angeles, April 23–25, 2009.

She has also been a strong supporter of educating young people about the creative process and the rights inherent in the creation of music. Programs established under her leadership include:

The ASCAP Foundation Children Will Listen Program—created in honor of ASCAP member and musical theatre great Stephen Sondheim (West Side Story, Gypsy, Pacific Overtures, A Little Night Music) to provide the musical theatre experience to a generation of students who might not otherwise have this opportunity.

The ASCAP Foundation Creativity in the Classroom Program—designed to help students recognize their own creative work, to understand their rights as owners of intellectual property and to respect the ethics of protecting the creative property of others.

The Donny the Downloader Experience in partnership with i-SAFE Inc., the worldwide leader in Internet safety education—an interactive school assembly program aimed at educating middle school students on what it means to be a music creator and the real cost of music piracy.

The Junior ASCAP Members (J.A.M.) Program in partnership with MENC: The National Association for Music Education—created to support and nurture music students, and to educate them on the value of music and the importance of intellectual property rights.

She also supported the development of The ASCAP Foundation/Lilith Fair Songwriting Contest—a national competition designed to encourage unsigned women songwriters, co-sponsored by The ASCAP Foundation and Lilith Fair.

“From the moment she assumed the role of President and Chairman of the Board, Marilyn worked tirelessly on behalf of our membership to the benefit of all music creators,” said John LoFrumento, CEO of ASCAP. “She has been tremendously effective in helping ASCAP anticipate the changing needs of our members—particularly given the immense shifts that have occurred in music, technology and society as a whole over the past decade. I will greatly miss the insights and collaborative spirit that she brought to our working relationship. But I am comforted to know that Marilyn will remain a strong and active presence on our Board of Directors.”

Bergman presided over the largest expansion of ASCAP membership in the history of the organization—growing from 55,000 when she assumed the Presidency in 1994 to a current membership of more than 350,000 music creators.

100 YEAR BIRTHDAY OF GLENROCK, WYOMING

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, 100 years ago today, folks living in Glenrock, WY, voted to incorporate their town. While April 30, 1909, was

Glenrock's official birthday, the town had been a vibrant and active place for decades prior.

Pioneers traveling through the Wyoming territory in the late 1800s chose to stay in the sheltered area where Deer Creek met the Platte River. Deer Creek Station became a popular rendezvous for the wagon trains and settlers traveling westward on their way to a new life.

Eventually, a community was formed. The settlers chose to call their town Glenrock, after a rock that was used by the pioneers as a landmark.

Over the years, energy has been the backbone of Glenrock's economy. First coal, then oil, and now wind, providing energy to Wyoming and America is a history the people of Glenrock embrace.

Today, the citizens of Glenrock kick off a year-long celebration of their community. I join them in honoring the brave pioneers who preceded them, and send best wishes as the town of Glenrock looks toward the next 100 years.

IDAHOANS SPEAK OUT ON HIGH ENERGY PRICES

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, in mid-June, I asked Idahoans to share with me how high energy prices are affecting their lives, and they responded by the hundreds. The stories, numbering well over 1,200, are heartbreaking and touching. While energy prices have dropped in recent weeks, the concerns expressed remain very relevant. To respect the efforts of those who took the opportunity to share their thoughts, I am submitting every e-mail sent to me through an address set up specifically for this purpose to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This is not an issue that will be easily resolved, but it is one that deserves immediate and serious attention, and Idahoans deserve to be heard. Their stories not only detail their struggles to meet everyday expenses, but also have suggestions and recommendations as to what Congress can do now to tackle this problem and find solutions that last beyond today. I ask unanimous consent to have today's letters printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

I appreciate a lot of what you stand for and accomplish in DC. I am a high school teacher in Idaho and have chosen to take a \$10,000 cut in pay to have the opportunity of teaching privately instead of remaining in the public system. So, in addition to all the common woes of teachers, I have no benefits and a smaller paycheck.

I ask not for more pay; I only work 180 days a year, for crying out loud. But I hold to that centuries-old conviction—that the free American can provide for himself, his community, his beloved nation, and for the world around him when he so chooses. But the regulated, restrained, and restricted American will find himself captive and controlled as he watches the oppression, long familiar to the history of mankind, push individual freedoms aside in favor of the omniscience of a well-meaning government.

I, with my wife and six children, used to travel every summer to Mexico and the Western states. We no longer do so, but we need no assistance from the Senate. We used to visit Yellowstone and Craters of the Moon every spring and fall. We no longer do so, but we need no assistance from the Senate. We used to drive to visit grandparents in California every Christmas. We no longer do so, but we need no assistance from the Senate. Please, as you fought against climate change legislation, fight also against any financial assistance that would result in using tax monies.

Our country flourishes best when its people are trusted to be wise beyond mere elections. Too many politicians clamor for wisdom of the people in elections, but then refuse to admit that popular wisdom remains to allow for proper local self governance.

Help remove the restrictions that so cruelly keep us dependent on others' petroleum sources. Help remove the regulations that falsely inflate corn prices. Help remove the restraints that continue to dim the American spirit of ingenuity, entrepreneurship, and liberty.

Perhaps, if Congress relinquishes their tightening grip on the energy sector, I can return to the South rim of the Grand Canyon with my wife and children to once again marvel at glory that God has repeatedly demonstrated in my country.

JASON, Rigby.

I live in the wonderful town of Hagerman. I met you personally one fall evening after you and other friends had spent the day duck hunting and were in a very close game of shuffle board. The town of Hagerman enjoys our fame for the duck hunting and the people it brings to our town. The sport of hunting is not cheap, and now with the gas prices??

I work for Con Paulos Chevrolet in Jerome. It is 33-mile trip one way. It used to cost \$30.00 to \$40.00 a week to get to my job. Now it is \$60.00 plus. Same car, a minivan, 2005. How do our farmers and ranchers survive with their pick up 44 and the farm produce trucks? So gas is up, food is up and Idaho Power needs a rate hike again. Our salaries in southern Idaho are not up. Companies cannot afford any raises due to all the ups. The oil companies report massive earnings, yet we are paying and paying and paying. Why cannot someone put a cap on the gas? Stop it dead; just say no. The gas speculators would have to deal with that, the oil companies should be sued by the people they are gouging and get busy building refineries and spend some of that money we are paying them for better fuels or give it back.

Does it seem to you that the Middle East has been planning our demise for some time now? It is working. The panic is just around the corner; why cannot we see it coming?

DEANA, Hagerman.

P.S. I was impressed with one thing about you the evening we met. You drank water!

I am a recent graduate of BYU-Idaho, and I still live in Rexburg. I have a job working for an engineering firm in Idaho Falls. Each day I commute the 30 miles to work. This commute is becoming increasingly expensive, and I am considering alternatives on how to get to work and back. Public transportation is limited to Idaho Falls, and I am the only one from work who comes from Rexburg making it difficult to carpool. One thing I have done is bought a Honda Accord. It gets good gas mileage and reliability to save on the travel costs. I would like to buy American-made cars if they could match the reliability and economy of some of the foreign cars. With the high-cost of gasoline driving my focus though, I am forced to spend our American dollars on foreign cars.

I know the automakers are rapidly trying to change, but in the meantime, they are losing money, making it more difficult.

I also know firsthand that research currently being done at the INL on syngas production from nuclear power plants coupled with hydrogen production plants could completely revolutionize the gasoline market. It would allow us to still use gasoline, and so not have to change our infrastructure, but we would never have to dig any more fossil fuels. We could make our own hydrocarbons chemically. If done the right way, this process would also be an almost zero pollution process. The carbon would come from garbage, sewage, and mulch already being collected at local dumps and waste treatment facilities. Rather than rot and naturally send methane and carbon dioxide into the atmosphere (that so many people seem to be worried about these days), it would be used in the production of hydrocarbons. The carbon that would already be entering the atmosphere through the decomposition process would just be intercepted and used it in our fuel. A patent has already been filed on this technology. I feel like one way to help in lowering energy costs is to give groups like this one in Idaho ample funding to develop these technologies. The budget on that program is entirely too small.

If you are looking for areas to get funding from, I would suggest rerouting some of the money being sent to help out "honest" consumers who did not realize they were getting into a debt-trap by overspending, overborrowing, and over-mortgaging their lives. It is a sad situation, but fiscal responsibility will never be instilled in our minds if the government is always standing by with a handout. In the long run, a future catastrophe could be avoided if we ride this crisis out and educate our consumers but do not give a handout. People are still responsible for their actions, even if millions are guilty of them. A \$300 billion handout does not seem like it teaches us as consumers anything.

Thank you for considering my comments; I hope they are helpful. If you have any further questions or comments, I would love to talk.

BRYANT, *Rexburg.*

Thank you for the opportunity to vent on energy. I believe we should look past the current prices and look to be energy independent ASAP. There is so much technology available in almost all areas of energy. Renewable sources such as solar wind and hydro should be promoted along with bios out of byproducts and waste. Fuel from our food bad idea. Assistance for private enterprise to facilitate the distribution of hydrogen gas since the current energy providers do not want to make the investment because it will cost them. Let them know it will really cost them if they do not move in that direction the tech for hydrogen is amazing and profitable at \$4 as I understand it, production cost on large scale would be under \$3 per gallon and is our best long term source. Combine that with solar as the tech becomes available our cars and homes and roads etc. will be painted with solar collectors. Right now! It should be required to have a posting of where fuel comes from (nation of origin) like seafood so we can choose not to support our enemies even if it costs us more. States should make the decisions on mining exploration and development of resources. Help the innovations get power to the people. This should be what saves freedom and liberty. Get the government out of the way and let free I mean really free enterprise be allowed to work remove the restrictions on new refineries and development of hydrogen gas take all the red tape out of the way and let

us get with it and nuclear power as well. Let us do it and do it now.

HAROLD.

I am a wife and mother of two children with another on his way (July 21st C-section is planned). We are a family who strongly believes in the importance of the mother staying at home in a child's early years to ensure confidence, morals, and stability is taught before each child starts school. Due to these strong beliefs, we are a one-income family living off \$39,500 per year before taxes and church tithing. Living on such a strict budget to ensure that I can stay home with my young children has not been easy over the last few years. We do not enjoy conveniences most Americans take for granted so we do not have to put our children in someone else's care. For example, we do not subscribe to the newspaper, cable or satellite television, any magazines, and until having the need for my husband and I to finish our degrees in an internet-based university, we did not have home internet access for six years.

Financially, we have been struggling for years; however, now gas, energy, food, health care, and utility prices have consistently risen at such enormous rates, I am facing having to leave my young children and new baby in daycare and go back to work. Even so, when I was working before and my children were just babies, my paycheck went straight to daycare and I was lucky to break even financially. Obviously, I quit to tend to my own children to ensure they were getting the nurturing they needed and due to the fact that my family financial contribution was canceled out by daycare costs. Even though I have a degree now, I will have three children as well, and I cannot imagine I will be able to find a high enough paying job to break even anywhere in the Boise area. With the economy and housing instabilities, the last thing our family wants to risk is moving to another area for an insecure job and not being able to get back into a house, which is the only secure item in our lives right now. So, we are stuck . . . not to mention I have such incredibly low confidence, (after just graduating at the end of May), that my husband and I could support a larger family; thus, I am having my tubes tied. These economic stresses are taking control of our way of life, family, future goals, and now even the size of our family (and therefore future generations of our family).

How do we battle the high rise in gasoline and energy costs (and everything being affected by these prices) when employee income levels have been stagnant or only rising 2-3% for years? Expenses have risen from 10% to 200% on varying services and products. The economy has spun out of control and, for Idahoan families like ours, we feel completely helpless and in dire straits for the future. Just making ends meet from paycheck to paycheck and trying our best to stay out of credit card debt has been tough enough, but now with two sets of student loans going into repayment with no hope of an income increase and yet substantial increases in necessity items, what hope do we have of ever saving a dime for retirement or kids' college expenses? The future is looking extremely dim, and we feel trapped. I guess my husband and me, both college-educated and wanting to obtain MBAs, may have to give up on our dreams and get two jobs a piece and put our children in full-time day and night child care to make ends meet. The sad thing is I do not feel any confidence this will be a short-term sacrifice but the way of life for the future. I only see things getting worse. I have lost confidence our country will ever get to a better place economically. America may have to change the border patrol to the Mexican side as Americans may

start jumping the border soon to a better life down in Mexico!!

Thank you for your time and what you are doing to try to get us out of this mess.

JANIEL, *Boise.*

I read your e-mail regarding your request as to how high energy prices have been affecting me and my family, and may I say the effect has been positive. Now that gasoline prices more accurately reflect what actually is happening in the global market, I have been taking steps to reduce my gasoline consumption.

Primarily, my family and I are no longer taking unnecessary trips, but are trying to consolidate trips to the store or other venues so as to maximize the efficiency of our trips, rather than taking repeat trips to the same or nearby locations. We are attempting to carpool as much as possible, and have been utilizing alternative forms of transportation such as bicycling. Also, I have been altering my driving techniques in order to be more fuel efficient, for example, driving slower, and slowing and accelerating more gradually.

All these techniques are simple and painless, as well as being beneficial both economically and environmentally. It is unfortunate that those of you who have the power to act to change how we as a nation utilize our energy lacked the perspicacity to make changes in our energy policy which would likely have prevented, or at least softened the impact from these market changes.

However, now that the market has taken over, I believe it would be disingenuous of you to attempt "reform" that would ultimately lead to more of the same. Please allow the market to drive oil prices upward. This will result in ordinary citizens such as me conserving fuel, which will lead to diminished greenhouse gases and less global warming. It will also allow alternative forms of clean and renewable energy to be more competitive in the global market, encouraging entrepreneurship which will stimulate our lagging economy, create new jobs, and will be a market driven path to decreased greenhouse gas emissions and reduction in global warming.

I hope you have the courage and the integrity to evaluate what is currently occurring in the energy market rationally. Please do not interfere with the counterproductive and likely ineffectual means you are proposing.

FRANK.

I would like to tell you about how the high energy prices are affecting me personally, as well as my family. I am an outside salesperson with my company, and as such, I must travel around to see different clients as well as potential clients. Even though I do not necessarily travel great distances as in metropolitan areas, the distances between towns here in the Magic Valley are substantial. So, in order to service my clients and get new business, I have gone from spending approximately \$150 per month in fuel to almost \$300 per month, and that with cutting back on who I see. My salary is based on sales, so the more I see and sell, the more I make. With cutting back on where I go and who I see, my potential for better earnings, for my family, is greatly inhibited; and with the increase in fuel, I have actually taken a decrease in pay!

Then there is the issue of my parents who are on a fixed income, with the increase in their fuel costs and the costs at the grocery store, results from the increase in fuel. They have no choices!

I believe that we need more domestic oil production, from drilling where there is plenty of supply, to more refineries, to whatever it takes! We here in rural Idaho do not

have mass transit, or any other alternative. I believe it is high time that Congress stop catering to Big Oil and conservationists who do not have a clue. Please help your constituents!

VERN, *Twin Falls.*

Thank you for soliciting and receiving emails about the high energy prices. As is so often heard these days, "something has to be done". We are a middle class, working family with two adult children (one in the Coast Guard, one soon to leave for college) and one teen driver (yikes!) still at home. I could elaborate on and on about how gas prices are affecting all of us but will try to keep it concise. We had been planning a congratulatory vacation to Hawaii for our family for quite some time—to congratulate one son for graduation from high school and to honor our son in the Coast Guard for his promotion. Due to gas prices, we have had to scale down our trip and will now be camping on the beach in Oregon. Our youngest is working full time, so we have given him the use of our fuel-efficient car to get to and from work. He is unable to ride a bike due to traffic and for his safety. Therefore we are using a vehicle (not by choice) that is not fuel-efficient to commute to work. In an effort to keep it affordable, we are carpooling and will soon be taking the motorcycle safety course in hopes to utilize a motorcycle. Using a motorcycle is only a band aid as it will not help in the winter. We have been looking for a used fuel-efficient vehicle, but the prices have climbed dramatically and they are very hard to find. I am so disappointed in the gas mileage for all cars on the market. I know that our country can improve this. Hondas and Toyotas for example have gotten over 30 mpg for many years. Why cannot we raise the bar and demand at least 35 mpg?

My husband and I have discussed the huge "trickle-down" that the gas prices will have on the economy. Because of the high gas prices, we have chosen to cut out other services. We are no longer subscribing to the Idaho Statesman (which we have always taken), we will be discontinuing our home phone service and are cutting back any way we can. I know of other people such as us who are doing the same. The impact of these cutbacks is just beginning to be seen, such as with Starbucks, Round Table and other businesses closing. We understand that we will be contributing to this downturn by cutting back on services but it is necessary.

Again, thank you in advance for your help with this matter.

GAIL and DENNIS.

Here is an addition to the testimonials you asked for recently concerning the effects on the high price of fuel. Not only am I going broke due to high gas prices, food costs, etc., but also this is the first year we have had to scratch items off the grocery shopping list. This is literally taking food off the table and taking food away from my family.

DEWEY, *Idaho Falls.*

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

GEORGE J. MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, as our world continues to face unprecedented challenges, now more than ever, we must work with our allies and friends. I support the work of the George J. Mitchell Scholarship Program which seeks to strengthen relations between the United States and Ireland. Like the

great man it is named after, the George J. Mitchell Scholarship Program fosters connections between future generations of American leaders and their Irish counterparts, regardless of ancestry. It seeks to further the education of American students through post graduate studies while building bonds between the Mitchell Scholars and the Irish and the Northern Ireland communities in which they live and study.

Like many Pennsylvanians, my family can trace its ancestry to Ireland. Through the generations, our connection with and affinity for the Emerald Isle has deepened. However, with fewer and fewer Irish moving to America, it is critical that we encourage all Americans, not just those with Irish ancestry, to forge connections with the Irish people. While Irish Americans have become Mitchell Scholars, so too have young Americans from different backgrounds.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will soon be welcoming Alexandra Chirinos, who will work as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Legrome Davis in the Federal Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Alexandra was born in Mexico and graduated from the University of Texas, Austin. Her college thesis explored the factors that cause migrant women to endure domestic abuse and examined the reasons why existing abuse prevention programs were ineffective in migrant communities. She founded the UT Bilingual Mentoring Program as well as the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar Chapter dedicated to providing academic and service opportunities for students of all backgrounds. As a Mitchell Scholar, she obtained her MA in human rights law from the National University of Ireland Galway and Queen's University, Belfast. She then graduated from Harvard Law School, where she was the executive editor of the *Latino Law Review*, the copresident of the Latin American Law Society and one of the founding members of the Harvard Immigration Project.

Alexandra's journey and commitment to intellectual achievement, leadership, and public service is just one example of the many young Americans participating in and being inspired through the George J. Mitchell Scholarship program. The bond between Pennsylvania and Ireland will only deepen as Dan Rooney of Pittsburgh, PA, is the President's nominee to become the next U.S. Ambassador to Ireland. In that capacity, I fully expect Dan to advance the cause of peace among the Irish people and to continue developing relationships between the United States and Ireland like those created through the George Mitchell Scholarship Program. •

REMEMBERING MILFORD JUNE "DOLLY" COOPER

• Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of a dedicated serv-

ant and leader, Milford June "Dolly" Cooper. After a lifetime of unprecedented service to his State and Nation as a World War II veteran and a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, Mr. Cooper passed away in Greenville, SC, on April 26, 2009, at the age of 88.

While he will be remembered by most as a man who loved to help people and demonstrated an unwavering dedication to the community, I will remember him as a spirited, commanding, honest giant of a man. Affectionately referred to as "Dolly" by all who knew him, he was a World War II veteran who prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our freedom. He served in the 30th Infantry Division and saw 11 months of combat in Europe, at Normandy, at the Battle of the Bulge, and at the Rhine River. He was also involved with the capture of the last large German city, Magdeburg, which was 45 miles from Berlin. For his service he was awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, American Defense Silver Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, and the Belgian Forragere Award.

Perhaps one of my greatest honors was to see that Mr. Cooper was in person at the dedication of the National D-day Memorial on June 6, 2001. This memorial is a tribute to Mr. Cooper's valor, fidelity, and sacrifice, and those who served along side him during the allied invasion of Western Europe.

Born and raised in upstate South Carolina, Mr. Cooper attended Piedmont High School in 1937 and joined the South Carolina National Guard in Easley. After his service in the military, Mr. Cooper opened the Piedmont Economy Store, which he solely owned and operated from 1955 to 1999.

In 1974 he was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives on a platform of bringing health care services to rural South Carolina. Mr. Cooper served House District 10 for 16 years.

In addition to his time in politics, Mr. Cooper was active in the Pelzer Lions Club for 55 years. He was member of the Medical University of South Carolina Board of Trustees from 1989 to 1996. Mr. Cooper also served as a board member for the Pelzer Rescue Squad, the Appalachian Health Council, and the Baptist Hospital Boards for Easley and Columbia. After decades of serving South Carolina, Mr. Cooper was awarded the Order of the Palmetto from Governor Carroll Campbell in 1989.

Mr. Cooper is survived by his wife of 61 years, Melba Blackmon Cooper, by his four children, six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

I ask that the U.S. Senate join me in commemorating Mr. Cooper's lifelong dedication to service to our country and to the State of South Carolina. •

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HALEKULANI HOTEL

• Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, the Halekulani is, without question, one of