

to +X time line through +Y (revenue earnings, income, direct and indirect taxes) by -Y sales (cost, value, expenses) then back to -X from +X.

The price of fuel has been affecting my family tremendously. I am currently enrolled in college classes and I live about 30 miles from my school. I have to live here because living in a college town means the price of the home is considerably too high. I drive 60 miles a day, and spend at least \$60 a week on gas for my vehicle alone. I am married and my spouse is in a carpenters' union. This requires he drive to wherever the employment is. Please do something, Congress. I have never had to reach my hand out for help before. My family believes in taking care of ourselves, but the food bank is becoming more and more of an option. I do not have a solution, but something needs to be done. Thank you for your time.

DIANE.

Thank you for your newsletter regarding the energy problem facing our nation. People are [frustrated with the inaction from Congress], and those of us in Idaho recognize how much harder this makes your work which is greatly appreciated.

Regarding the impact of gasoline prices upon me: I am a retired widow living on my Social Security income. As to my driving habits, they have practically come to a standstill. My car sits for days at a time, not driven due to the cost of gasoline, driven only for necessities. My tracking of the daily oil commodity prices does not paint a pretty picture.

Then there [are politicians who do] not favor drilling in ANWR or offshore. I agree with you that we must do all the things possible to provide sufficient energy for our own use. To think that Americans historically are known for innovation, one ponders "What has become of our ingenuity?" Is it politics as usual? Those more astute than I will figure out how to handle the problem of drilling for oil, the building of nuclear power facilities, the construction of windmills, the development of biofuels, the use of oil shale. The use of corn for ethanol is one of the crazier ideas put forth. Anyone suggesting penalizing oil companies or suggesting that they are making obscene profits needs to look at the dollar amount of taxes put on gasoline. The lack of understanding by some of business economics is sad. Stop putting restrictions on energy companies so that they can proceed without government red tape. Work with, not against, companies to proceed post haste.

There is no reason that America cannot move forward with programs to make us energy self-sufficient. It is embarrassing to read that France has nuclear power while we are sitting on our hands. It is upsetting to read that foreign countries have leases to drill for oil in the Gulf of Mexico. It is maddening to hear people say we are becoming a Third World nation. I am proud of my country but I am disgusted with [partisan politics]. It would seem that earmarks come ahead of doing what is right for our country.

Needless to say, the energy problem has impacted our food prices. This makes it hard for those of us on limited income. Families with children should not be limited when it comes to buying food for growing children.

In closing, we are at the crossroads of history. By not looking ahead in the past, we are suffering the consequences now. Now is the time to do something besides talk. The American public wants action now. Americans have spoken. Why is not Congress listening?

LAVERGNE, *Hayden*.

I appreciate your desire to at least try to find answers to this energy debacle. I am

greatly concerned over the attitude of our lawmakers and their passive attitude toward this vital issue. There is a great feeling of uncertainty as to whether we will be able to afford visiting families, harvesting crops, and the myriad of other activities that are vital to our livelihood. I believe environmentalism is accomplishing what communism could not. It has brought our economy to its knees. It is destroying our way of life, and most disturbing it is denying us access to our own resources, which then makes us hostages to foreign nations for our hand-to-mouth existence. I fear the next step they will take will be the nationalization of the oil industry as they try to make the people feel they have the answers instead of letting private enterprise and the free market, the very principle that has made us great, have free reign. The American people have been sold a socialistic bill of goods in the name of saving the environment. They have been conditioned to think that man has no place in nature, that their meat comes from a package and their shoes from a box, with no realistic understanding of the realities of production. These are very trying times. Failure to properly address this issue could destroy our status as the hope of nations and a light to all free thinking people of the world.

DELL, *Idaho Falls*.

Over 63 years ago, Japan was using all electric cars/taxis/buses/street cars because they had no oil—duh!

UNSIGNED.

I am responding to your request for specific impacts the cost of energy is having on individual families in Idaho. In my view, targeting individuals is something like fiddling while Rome is burning. As usual, [politicians do] not seem to understand that inaction over the past 20 to 30 years in regards to a realistic energy policy will at some point destroy the country's way of life. Everything we have achieved in the past 100 years is tied to energy in one way or another. Farming, manufacturing, healthcare, transportation, building, etc. could not have been achieved without energy. [There has been a dramatic lack of leadership in] addressing the energy problems. They, like you, are focusing on how gas prices affect individuals while you should be looking at how the energy situation could shut down our whole economy. Our enemies have long ago determined that they could not defeat us and destroy our country in a traditional war, but they can destroy us from within. A few hundred people acting as environmentalists have been able to lock up our abundant natural resources. We have spent hundreds of billions of dollars for oil purchased from some of our most dangerous enemies, some who preach our death and destruction. We have with our oil purchases enabled these enemy countries to arm themselves and at some point in time our young grandsons will probably need to stand up to the use of these arms.

No one says we do not want to protect the environment because we can. The technology and proven performance is being demonstrated all over the world. The Congress must remove the road blocks to our own natural resources—now! Atomic energy must be allowed to develop and be an integral part of the solution. Some say we cannot drill our way out of this mess, which should have been done 25 years ago. If the road blocks were removed, oil prices would drop like a rock, because the speculators would need to consider the eventual increase and volume of marketable oil. There are so many things that could be done, however based on the performance of our government nothing will be done.

[I do not believe our Congress will address this problem effectively and that politicians

will continue to profit from this disaster for the American people.]

GARY, *Meridian*.

This fuel price is out of hand. I do think Congress needs to step in and do something. I think we need to drill for oil where they know it is. I am like another person who wrote in and said that it should be up to the U.S. citizens. Let us vote on whether we should be drilling in the U.S. and its coastal waters. It should be our choice.

My husband and I own a big rig and he hauls potatoes into [a processing plant] in Nampa. He gets a fuel surcharge but it does not come close to covering the amount that the fuel has gone up. We are slowly going under. We own our rig and do not have payments so I do not know how anyone could survive with making payments. My husband hopes to retire in the next couple of years and we do not even know if we can make it until that time. Then when we do retire how are we going to afford to do anything? We would like to do some traveling but with fuel so high, we will not be able to do so.

Our Senators and Representatives need to represent the people!

MARY.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATING RIVERBANK HIGH SCHOOL

• Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Riverbank High School, a school in West Fresno County with an enrollment of 540 students, for earning the prestigious College Board Inspiration Award. Riverbank High School is the first California school to receive the College Board Inspiration Award in 5 years.

Each year, the College Board presents Inspiration Awards to three secondary schools nationwide in recognition of their college preparation programs and the partnerships among the schools' teachers, parents, and community organizations that foster students' academic achievements and advancement.

Riverbank High School has consistently strived to provide its students with a challenging and rigorous curriculum. Despite its location in a traditionally underserved portion of the San Joaquin Valley in central California, Riverbank High School, where 76 percent of the students receive free or reduced lunches and 38 percent of its student body is comprised of migrant students, is an all college preparatory high school that offers 12 advance placement and honors classes. Riverbank High School's 2008 graduating class produced a 91 percent acceptance rate to a 2 or 4-year college. The school has averaged an impressive 98 percent graduation rate over the past 3 years.

As the administrators, teachers, parents, and students of Riverbank High School gather to celebrate this outstanding and well-deserved achievement, I thank them for their commitment to education and academic excellence and wish them continued success.●

TRIBUTE TO HERBERT BRUCE CLEVELAND

•Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, I wish today to recognize Herbert Bruce Cleveland of Rapid City, SD, on the occasion of his 50th anniversary of ordination in the Lutheran ministry. Herb has developed a distinguished career in the ministry, both as a local pastor ministering to the needs of South Dakotans dating back to the 1950s and on a national level, having been appointed to numerous capacities in the Department of Veterans Affairs by three Presidents.

Born in North Dakota and a graduate of the University of North Dakota and University of Michigan, Herb joined the U.S. Army in October 1952 and completed various stateside and international duty assignments. Shortly after becoming ordained as a Lutheran pastor, Herb came to western South Dakota in 1959 and immediately developed a close working relationship with the families in the Homestake Gold Mine in Lead. After ministering to the needs of hospitalized parishioners at the nearby veterans hospital at Fort Meade, he served veterans at the VA Hospital in a full-time capacity in the early 1960s, a relationship with veterans that continues today. Herb has witnessed the impacts of war on soldiers and their families, and he has met these challenges with professionalism, commitment, and dedication.

He led local and national efforts to develop a system to address post traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, and psycho-social issues. He established the first substance abuse treatment center at the Fort Meade VA Chapel. He developed a strong bond with Native American veterans, working to add a Lakota chaplain to the VA staff and the initiation of Lakota worship services and events such as powwows and sweat lodge experiences.

He worked tirelessly to address the evolving needs of veterans and their families while continuing a strong presence in Black Hills communities, assisting in youth and community events and fundraisers. In 1983, the Veterans' Administration established new leadership in the chaplains service in Washington, DC, and summoned Herb, who had been working with South Dakota veterans for 20 years, to become the new Deputy Chief of Chaplains. In this position, he served as Human Resource Director and Educational Development Director and became increasingly involved in the ecumenical relations with all the faiths that were held by members of the Armed Forces. He recruited minority chaplains to serve the increasing number of minorities serving in the Armed Forces and veterans in the VA system.

He developed numerous institutes of training to address the needs of disabled veterans and worked to educate and identify the unique issues impacting young veterans, older veterans, and women veterans. Until his term in Washington, the chaplaincy had been

exclusively male, and Herb recruited a number of women chaplains to serve the growing numbers of women veterans. He helped create the Chaplains School, which among its many missions was providing professional training to women chaplains.

President Reagan appointed Herb as Chief of Chaplains in 1988, becoming the first Lutheran and first clergy member from South Dakota named to such a capacity. He served in this position during President George Herbert Walker Bush's Presidential term.

As national VA chaplain, Herb and his wife Connie participated in the international exchange of choral and symphonic music, which helped foster better cultural and artistic understanding among numerous nations. Herb would oversee the largest single trip of a choir of 150 voices that accompanied the national VA symphony that performed with the Russian Army Chorus in Moscow and St. Petersburg on the first anniversary of freedom.

Chaplain Cleveland was then appointed by President Bill Clinton as Director of Ethics for Health Care Management, where he would continue to address the health and faith challenge and issues affecting our Nation's veterans.

After a decade of valued service in Washington, DC, Chaplain Cleveland and his wife returned to South Dakota in retirement. As a volunteer, Herb continues to service funerals, memorial services, weddings, and reunions. During 3 years of peak deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan, Herb served as chaplain to the National Guard and Army Reserve cadets at the Fort Meade officers training facility.

Also in retirement, he has established mission tours to Southeast Asia with trips to China, Korea, Japan, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and Myanmar. These people-to-people visits emphasize and foster understanding of different cultures. He was recognized by the president of Payap University in Thailand with the Distinguished Alumni Award for his missionary work. This award is among numerous important recognitions for Chaplain Cleveland. These honors include the Point of Light Award from President George H. W. Bush for his work with homeless veterans; the Exceptional Service Award from the VA Secretary for service to the Nation's veterans; the National Black Chaplains of America Award for Exceptional Service to America's Veterans, and he was nominated by Coretta Scott King to serve on the National Steering Committee for Chaplains at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center in Atlanta in 1986. He also received the ELCA Award for Exceptional Service while serving the Lutheran Church and the Chaplaincy in America. His most recent honor was notification of induction into the South Dakota Hall of Fame with ceremonies this September.

Over the years, Chaplain Cleveland has maintained a steadfast commit-

ment to his faith and God and has continued to fulfill a lifelong mission to address the emotional and spiritual needs of veterans and their families. He remains firmly rooted in his family and his community and understands the importance of service. I consider myself very fortunate and blessed to have known and worked with him in various endeavors during my years in Congress.

I want to wish Chaplain Cleveland a heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of his 50 years of service in the Lutheran ministry and for his many years of great service to veterans, their families, and to this Nation. I also wish him many more years of continued service in his many endeavors in the Black Hills region.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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.)

TRANSMITTING THREE VOLUMES COMPLETING THE BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010: UPDATED SUMMARY TABLES MAY 2009, ANALYTICAL PERSPECTIVES, AND HISTORICAL TABLES—PM 18

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975 as modified by the order of April 11, 1986; to the Committees on the Budget; and Appropriations:

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith the following volumes, which together complete my Fiscal Year 2010 Budget: Analytical Perspectives, Historical Tables, and Updated Summary Tables.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 11, 2009.

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 Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1014. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 to make