

In fact, our legislation has language specifically prohibiting Medicaid and CHIP coverage for illegal immigrants. I could take it out of the bill and read it to you, but that would be unnecessary.

There is no acceptable reason for this 5-year waiting period to remain in place. All lawfully present children should have timely access to health care in the United States. We are doing our best to achieve that and will achieve that through this bill. Five years later, if we kept on that requirement, is a lifetime for young children who may have bad teeth or early cases of cancer or any other life-threatening illness or disability, to make them wait 5 years because we don't think maybe they measure up. They measure up. They are kids. They are children. That is what we are fighting for.

Those who oppose removing this arbitrary waiting period will come to the floor and offer all sorts of unrelated arguments about immigration. This is not about immigration. It is about health care for kids who need it, something that a lot of us have been fighting for since the mid-1990s. These arguments are nothing more than a smokescreen. The bottom line is that both U.S. citizen children and children in this country legally should have timely access to health care, period. This legislation covers both those objectives.

In closing, I hope we will have the same bipartisan commitment in passing this legislation as we did in 2007. Those who look upon one amendment, which is highly moral, highly deserved and entirely right, will pass it with the same margins we did in 2007. Four million children are waiting for us to finish the task at hand.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## MORNING BUSINESS

### SPADE-READY PROJECTS

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, we have some things that are going to happen this year that are very significant. In the committee I chaired when the Republicans were in the majority—it is now chaired by Senator BOXER—we have two major pieces of legislation coming up.

We have the Transportation reauthorization bill and we have the Water Resources Development Act reauthorization bill. In the case of the Transportation reauthorization bill, we had a good reauthorization in 2005. It is scheduled to be reauthorized again, and I would suggest we use that as somewhat of a pattern of what we are going

to plan to go in this coming year, in 2009.

In spite of all of the things you are hearing about the inauguration and about the various confirmations, business is going to continue. The WRDA bill, the Water Resources Development Act, is something that should be done on an annual basis or every other year. Yet the last time we passed it was 7 whole years ago. We had a lot of making up to do. There is not one State represented on this floor that is not way behind in some of the programs that are dealt with in the Water Resources Development Act.

The reason I mention this at this time is we will be dealing with some type of a stimulus bill. When they talk about \$800 or so billion, I already, in my previous remarks, talked about how big \$700 or \$800 billion is to individual families in America.

We will be dealing with this, and I regret that of the \$800 billion, only \$30 billion has to do with highway construction. We have a great need in this country for bridge construction, highway construction, and, hopefully—Senator BOXER and I both cosigned a letter to try to get a much larger percentage of whatever amount we end up authorizing in a stimulus bill.

So I would hope—and I would ask each Member to look at their own States, as I have done in my State of Oklahoma—Senators look at State projects that are out there that we call spade-ready: they have had their environmental impact statement, they have had their AS statements, and they are ready to go. They would employ people immediately. For those like me who are conservative, who do not believe the ingredients in this stimulus package, or at least do not believe what they are looking at in the House is going to really stimulate very much, one thing we do know is that there is nothing that puts people back to work faster than to get something that has already passed all of the environmental prerequisites and is ready for construction to start. Then, after it is over, you have something. You have bridges that are rebuilt. You have roads that are rebuilt.

So what I would encourage the Senate to try to do is get as much as we can out of the stimulus package that actually does provide jobs and provides things that otherwise we would have to do in the reauthorization bill.

There is no way in the world we are going to take care of the real need we have with infrastructure in America unless we get a very large amount in the front end of the stimulus bill.

### CELEBRATING THE CHINESE NEW YEAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to join with the millions of Asian Americans around the country in celebration of Chinese New Year. Last year, I was pleased to introduce a resolution honoring the historical and cul-

tural significance of this holiday, and today, I am equally delighted to recognize all those welcoming in the Year of the Ox.

The festivities surrounding the Chinese New Year are steeped in rich cultural tradition. The 15-day-long celebrations marks one of the most important times for Chinese Americans and Asian Americans from many backgrounds and ethnicities to gather together with family and friends. Mouth-watering aromas will fill their homes as families sit down to New Year's Eve meals, and children will eagerly await receiving lucky red money envelopes. Many will watch or participate in vibrantly colored dragon dances, a symbol of prosperity and good fortune.

In our State of Nevada, the festivities held in Las Vegas, in particular, draw thousands of visitors, where many of the city's hotels feature spectacular decorations, dragon dances, and restaurants serving traditional dishes. And all across our great State, families will flock to community festivals featuring dances, crafts, food, and fireworks—the sights, sounds, and smells that make Chinese New Year such a jubilant celebration.

This year marks the 4706th year in the Chinese calendar, based on the lunar cycles. As it unfolds, I hope those observing Chinese New Year will enjoy this special time to honor traditions, spend time with their families, and eagerly anticipate what blessings the Year of the Ox may bring. To the thousands of Chinese American Nevadans and many others celebrating today, I send my best wishes for a joyous celebration and a prosperous New Year.

### TRIBUTE TO DR. HAROLD C. RELYEA

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on January 30, 2009, after more than 37 years of service at the Library of Congress, Dr. Harold C. Relyea will retire as a specialist in American National Government at the Congressional Research Service, CRS. His service and devotion to the U.S. Congress will be greatly missed.

President Thomas Jefferson once observed that “information is the currency of democracy.” He also noted that “whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government.” Thanks to the fine work of Dr. Relyea and his colleagues at the Congressional Research Service, the people's representatives in Congress are well-informed—and, thus, well-armed—to preserve and defend the ideals, structure, and balance of our government as envisioned by our Founding Fathers.

As Senators and staff come and go, the best CRS specialists become repositories of institutional knowledge, deep wells of experience who offer perspective and thoughtful analysis. Such specialists tend to take a long view on issues, having seen issues and trends emerge and reemerge in varying forms.

These public servants enlighten and educate Members, and sometimes testify before congressional committees. These men and women are steeped in their field of expertise, and though some come to be recognized for their published work and analysis, most labor in anonymity, satisfied by the pure reward of helping to inform and shape the public debate.

Dr. Relyea is, and has been, reliable, authoritative, and humble—a genuine example of the true public servant over the long years of his career. A native of Oneida, NY, Dr. Relyea earned his doctorate in government in 1971 from American University—my own alma mater. He joined the Congressional Research Service that same year, shortly after the enactment of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 that provided the charter for the modern Congressional Research Service. Dr. Relyea was promoted to head of the Executive Organization and Administration Section at CRS in 1976. Twenty years later, he became the head of the executive and judiciary section of the government and finance division. As a Specialist in American National Government, Dr. Relyea garnered national recognition for his research and writings on the Presidency, and executive branch powers and organization.

I came to know Dr. Relyea in 2002, as the Bush administration attempted to expand its use of emergency and wartime powers, and I increasingly sought to defend and assert the rights and privileges of the Congress as a co-equal branch of government under the U.S. Constitution. I recall sitting across the table from Dr. Relyea in the Appropriations Committee hearing room, where I had asked several CRS specialists to brief me on the creation of a new Department of Homeland Security. I remember being impressed by Dr. Relyea's depth of knowledge, and his timely and thorough responses to my requests for information. Dr. Relyea and others sacrificed their August recess that year, in order to help prepare for a long debate when the Senate returned in September.

I welcome this opportunity to thank Dr. Relyea, and to thank everyone at the Congressional Research Service for their hard work and dedication. As a source of necessary expertise for Members of Congress, CRS helps to provide a vital counterweight to a mighty and powerful Executive branch.

In a career that has spanned four decades and eight administrations, Dr. Harold C. Relyea has set a standard of superior service for the entire Congressional Research Service. It's clear that Dr. Relyea has earned the respect and appreciation of his colleagues. He is a patient and generous mentor and has assisted a full generation of CRS analysts in developing their skills. In 2008, his colleagues showered praise on Dr. Relyea as they nominated him for the prestigious Director's Award. I think their greatest tribute to him, however, would be to continue his outstanding legacy of scholarship.

I thank Dr. Relyea for his extraordinary dedication to the work and traditions of the U.S. Congress and to the country and the Constitution which we all revere.

#### LILLY LEDBETTER FAIR PAY ACT

##### LOST PAY

Mr. LEVIN. Assume that on January 1, 2007, a new employee is hired and knows that she will be paid less because she is a woman. She also knows that she is receiving less pay than a male who was hired on the same day for the same job, but she needs the job and is afraid to file suit. Two years go by and on January 15, 2009, she decides to fight the discrimination and files a complaint. Under current law, can she recover the lost 2007–2008 pay?

Ms. MIKULSKI. Under current law, as interpreted by the Supreme Court, she is not able to recover any lost pay because a claimant has 180 days to file a claim from the time that the employer first decided to discriminate, i.e. she had to file by July 1, 2007.

Mr. LEVIN. Under S. 181, would she be able to recover the 2007–2008 lost wages?

Ms. MIKULSKI. Under S. 181 she would be able to recover lost wages for the previous 2 years from her January 15, 2009, paycheck. This is because every paycheck is considered an act of discrimination and a claimant has 180 days to file a claim for that act of discrimination, and go back 2 years in determining damages.

Mr. LEVIN. Who has the burden of proof in intentional discrimination cases as to whether and when an act of discrimination occurred?

Ms. MIKULSKI. The claimant has the burden of proof.

#### REMEMBERING KAY YOW

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of Kay Yow, Head Coach of the North Carolina State University Women's Basketball Team.

I join North Carolina State University and the entire women's basketball community in mourning her passing.

My heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to Kay's family—her sisters, Susan and Deborah and her brother Ronnie—and to the North Carolina State University community that adored her.

Coach Yow had countless accomplishments on and off the basketball court that I can't even begin to do justice to as I stand here today.

After 38 years of coaching, she had amounted many achievements that everyone in the women's basketball family will admire for generations to come.

A native of Gibsonville, NC, Coach Yow started the North Carolina State University Women's basketball team in 1975 and was the school's only head coach in its women's basketball team's 34 year history.

Compiling over 700 victories during the course of her career with a record of 737 wins and only 344 losses over 38 years, she led her teams to 20 NCAA tournaments, 11 of which made it to the "Sweet 16," and in 1998 she led the Lady Wolfpack to "Final Four."

Coach Yow also captured 5 Atlantic Coast Conference, ACC, regular season championships and 4 ACC Tournament titles.

Off the court, Coach Yow was a friend, a mentor, and a leader. She was very active in the Kay Yow/Women's Basketball Coaches Association Cancer Fund, in partnership with the V Foundation, committed to finding cures for cancer.

She also was heavily involved in the creation of the "Hoops 4 Hope," a basketball game played to raise awareness and help find a cure for breast cancer.

The North Carolina State University student body embraced Coach Yow, and her colleagues recognized her instrumental contributions to the sport in which she became and remains an icon.

Coach Yow will be deeply missed, but the inspiration and the memories that she created will live forever.

Again, I send my sincerest condolences to Coach Yow's family, her athletes, her fans, and her friends.

#### 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:

Hi Mr. CRAPO,

Thanks for inviting me to drop you a line on the gasoline farce.

In 2005 I was forced from my job with Alaska Airlines at age 60 with no explanation other than "we can do what we want without explaining to you why." That stopped my income—cold. Since then Donna and I have moved in with Donna's aging and widowed mother and have been able to care for her, while at the same time not having to make a house payment. Nobody but Walmart will hire a guy my age with my particular qualifications. So I still have no job. Fortunately