

more of you in DC that can support the policies you want to support in your letter.

We do need to start drilling again in the US and Off-Shore. We need to make sure that we take precautions to avoid damage to the environment. We cannot sacrifice one for the other. But we must start drilling again, and do so in a respective manner of Mother Nature.

And we are going to need some new refining capability. Again, do it new technology and with respect to our environment. Build it in Eastern Idaho—we have the space and we could use the jobs and economic boost. Tough to get oil here, but if they need a place for it, bring it here.

We must start the nuclear programs again. We need to build some new reactors soon. I do not know for sure, but I am betting some of our older reactors are getting long in the tooth, and if they go off the grid, then what happens? Besides we need more power and money spent to renew our grid system.

We need to take a serious look at Ethanol. I am not sure it is all it is being promoted to be. I am not sure the benefits outweigh all of the costs. With the flooding in the Midwest, I wonder what the cost of corn will be now? But it is not just food issues, but the processing issues as well.

Wind Power should be promoted as well. But a Nuclear Power Plant is much easier on the eyes than 1000 wind towers, and not as susceptible to the changes in the wind.

Coal alternatives should be looked at as well. We need to check if the benefits we can gain from technology like coal gasification are valid and have low impact. Some of the claims you hear and read about look promising. But as I am learning with Ethanol, there may be some significant costs to chase this type of technology.

But the short of it—we need to develop our energy and become more independent. The amount of jobs created would be incredible in the process. You want a better health care system and less unemployment and less government care programs—just set the energy companies loose (for a change) and see this economy rebound in a heartbeat. These energy companies can afford health care plans and benefits for their workers. Our current policies are killing us—and I really hope there are enough Senators and Representatives in DC to turn this around. We have been shooting ourselves in the foot for more than 20 years. Guess it took that long for the “brain” to finally realize the pain in doing so.

Good Luck.

STEPHEN KAISER, *Rigby*.

TRIBUTE TO ARDIS DUMETT

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Ardis Dumett for her 20 years of service to the U.S. Senate and the people of Washington State. Ardis has served on my staff for the last 16 years of her distinguished public career. For 4 years prior to her service in my office, she worked for the revered Senator Henry “Scoop” Jackson. On January 20, Ardis retired from my office. We are sad to see her go and hope that she enjoys her well-earned retirement.

Throughout her career, Ardis has been a thoughtful and dedicated public servant. Initially, as my constituent services director, she led by example in her commitment and compassion to the constituents of Washington State. Covering immigration and environmental casework, she ensured the people of my State were well served by their Federal Government.

As the director of special projects in my Seattle office, she worked on numerous issues on my behalf over the years, ranging from the environment and emergency response to tribes and the transfer of military property. She worked tirelessly to guarantee that our State's people and communities received a fair process—and often a successful outcome—when working with Federal agencies. Over the years I have received many notes from constituents thanking me for Ardis' diligent work.

I would like to thank Ardis for her years of service to me and the people of Washington State. Her career is a tremendous example of public service; and her dedication to her work is truly appreciated. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

UNI-CAPITOL WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME 2009

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I am proud to be involved for a third year in the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme, UCWIP, an exchange program in which outstanding college students from Australia's top universities compete to serve as interns for the U.S. Congress. The program is in its 10th year of bringing the Washington experience to our friends from Australia, firsthand. In addition to working in congressional offices, the program provides students with a number of other opportunities and activities including visits to historic sites, visits to government agencies, meetings with government leaders, and educational events.

This year, Nicholas Tam, a student from Melbourne University in Australia, is taking a 2-month hiatus from his law degree to help me serve Idaho constituents. Of the program, Nick says, “Working with Senator CRAPO has been a gateway to developing a nuanced, sophisticated understanding of the United States and its precise position and role in the world. UCWIP has been culturally enriching and enhancing of my own professional development. It has been a real privilege to aid in the advancement of strong conservative principles whilst working here in the United States Senate.” Nick is a terrific temporary addition to my staff and, like past interns, an intelligent individual, hard worker and personable.

Director Eric Federer and his wife Daphne have shown a decade of tireless commitment to enlarging the educational experience of Australian students. Now with 81 program alumni, this educational and highly successful exchange program has earned a rightful place among leading international academic exchange opportunities. I am honored to continue to participate in this well-crafted and successful program.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to

the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:52 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, without amendment:

S. 181. An act to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and to modify the operation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to clarify that a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice that is unlawful under such Acts occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to the discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 26. Concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment of the House.

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-547. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Golden Parachute Payments” (RIN2590-AA08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 24, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-548. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Final DTV Table of Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations; Rio Grande City, Texas” (MB Docket No. 08-141) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 24, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-549. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Implementation of Short-term Analog Flash and Emergency Readiness Act; Establishment of DTV Transition ‘Analog Nightlight’ Program” (MB Docket No. 08-255) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 24, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-550. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the certification to Congress on the effectiveness of

the Australia Group; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-551. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the quarterly report of the Department of Justice's Office of Privacy and Civil Liberties; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-552. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Secure Our Schools Program, FY 2008—Annual Report to Congress"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INOUE, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 336. An original bill making supplemental appropriations for job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment, energy efficiency and science, assistance to the unemployed, and State and local fiscal stabilization, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-3).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brigadier General Donald A. Haught and ending with Colonel William M. Ziegler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. John M. Croley and ending with Brig. Gen. Tracy L. Garrett, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 8, 2009.

Army nominations beginning with Brigadier General Peter M. Aylward and ending with Colonel Michael T. White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 14, 2009.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Air Force nomination of Edmund P. Zynda II, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Daniel C. Gibson, to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Donald L. Marshall and ending with Charles E. Peterson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Air Force nominations beginning with Paul J. Cushman and ending with Luis F. Sambolin, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Air Force nominations beginning with Christopher S. Allen and ending with Deepa Hariprasad, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Air Force nomination of Ryan R. Pendleton, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Howard L. Duncan, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jeffrey R. Grunow and ending with Pamela T. Scott, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Air Force nomination of Eugene M. Gaspard, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Michael R. Powell and ending with Valerie R. Taylor, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Air Force nominations beginning with Mary Elizabeth Brown and ending with Gerald J. Laursen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Air Force nominations beginning with Gary R. Califf and ending with C. Michael Padazinski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Air Force nominations beginning with Stephen Scott Baker and ending with Phillip E. Parker, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Air Force nominations beginning with Joseph Allen Banna and ending with Joseph Tock, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Air Force nominations beginning with Keith A. Acree and ending with Steven L. Youssi, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Army nomination of Scott A. Gronewold, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Robert L. Kaspar, Jr. and ending with David K. Scales, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Army nomination of Emmett W. Mosley, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Andrew C. Meverden and ending with April M. Snyder, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Army nominations beginning with Douglas M. Coldwell and ending with Stephen Montaldi, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Army nomination of Thomas S. Carey, to be Major.

Army nomination of Scottie M. Eppler, to be Major.

Army nomination of Pierre R. Pierce, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Cheryl A. Creamer and ending with Aga E. Kirby, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Army nominations beginning with Kathryn A. Belill and ending with Suzanne R. Todd, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Army nominations beginning with Christopher Allen and ending with D060522, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Army nominations beginning with John L. Ament and ending with Wendy G. Woodall,

which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Army nominations beginning with Terryl L. Aitken and ending with Sarahtyah T. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nomination of Matthew E. Sutton, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Andrew N. Sullivan, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Tracy G. Brooks, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Peter M. Barack, Jr. and ending with Jacob D. Leighty III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with David G. Boone and ending with James A. Jones, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with William A. Burwell and ending with Balwinder K. Rawalayvandevoort, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Kurt J. Hastings and ending with Calvin W. Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with James P. Miller, Jr. and ending with Marc Tarter, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nomination of David S. Pummell, to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Robert M. Manning, to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Michael A. Symes, to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Paul A. Shirley, to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Richard D. Kohler, to be Major.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Julie C. Hendrix and ending with Mauro Morales, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Christopher N. Norris and ending with Samuel W. Spencer III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Anthony M. Nesbit and ending with Paul Zacharuk, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Gregory R. Biehl and ending with Bryan S. Teet, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Travis R. Avent and ending with Gregg R. Edwards, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Jose A. Falche and ending with Clennon Roe III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Keith D. Burgess and ending with Brian J. Spooner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2009.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Mark L. Hobin and ending with Terry G. Norris, which nominations were received by