

pleas with respect to this issue, which I think is a metaphor for a much larger set of problems that we in the Congress and in the administration have a responsibility to address and to address soon. This issue of big Federal budget deficits is very real. They are unsustainable and dangerous. One of the ways to deal with them is to tighten our belts and start cutting spending where spending is being wasted. This was an unbelievable waste of the taxpayers' money, and my hat is off to the reporters who discovered it. I have been following it now for a couple years on the floor of the Senate, and at least I am able to say guilty pleas have been received.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I have been here this afternoon and hope to get a little more time than we are getting. Right now we are into the final debate on the vote that will take place at 5:30. The Senator from Nevada, Senator ENSIGN, has agreed to let me have 10 minutes, so I ask unanimous consent to speak for 10 minutes as in morning business.

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

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, could we point out that we are to go to the bill at 4:30. I discussed with my colleague that we have 30 minutes on each side on the bill, and if we could go to the bill and then have my colleague speak on that portion of the bill, I think that would be the right approach.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized for 10 minutes.

ISSUES FACING THE SENATE

Mr. INHOFE. I thank the Chair.

Well, first of all, I had a few stories I was going to tell about my very good friend who is deceased now, Senator KENNEDY, and if there is time before my time expires I will get into that. I have a feeling more will take place on that tomorrow or later on tonight.

Let me mention one thing because I think it is so fresh on our minds now, having come back from the August recess. I did my town meetings in smaller communities in Oklahoma. I was in Stigler, Coweta, Chickasha, Grove, Woodward, Guymon, McAlester, and Lawton. I did this because so many times smaller communities are left out, and I wanted to know what kind of response they had. I made the comment when I was in Grove, OK, that the very institutions that have historically set America aside from the rest of the world are the ones that seem to be under attack by this administration. I am talking about free enterprise, talking about the fact of little government, big people, and all these things.

Since the junior Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. COBURN, is one of the two medical doctors in the Senate, I de-

cided to talk about the other issues. My fear is this: There was concern about socialized medicine. Everyone is concerned about what this President wants to do with the health issues in America, but we are forgetting there are other very serious issues. So I covered these, as opposed to the health problems, because these are things we are going to be dealing with in the Senate in the next few days or weeks, and they are very significant.

One of them is the cap-and-trade issue that we have talked about at some length, and I will get into that in a minute; the other is the closing of Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, or Gitmo as it is known to most people, and the other is what has happened to our military. So let me, real briefly, get into these areas. These are three areas where I will be providing leadership. These are the areas of specialty I have and I am very much concerned about.

First of all, I positioned myself in Afghanistan in February, when Secretary of Defense Gates came out with his announcement as to the portion of the President's budget dealing with defense because I knew I was going to be opposed to it, and I thought that would give me a national forum, and it did. I was concerned about such things as the F-22. Right now, the only fifth-generation fighter we have is the F-22. Initially, we were going to have 750 of them. We now have 187, and the President, in his budget, stopped it right there. He didn't say terminate, but I will use the word "terminate," because when you suspend something for an undetermined period of time, I think it is terminated.

At the same time that happened, we know that China is now working on their J-12s and Russia on their PAK-FAs. These are fifth-generation fighters they are going to be using to export to countries that could be potential enemies of ours. I have looked at the C-17 program—stopping that program—the future combat system. We haven't had in America a transition in ground capability in quite some time—about 60 years. So we have been working on the future combat system. That system has been terminated.

I think the one that probably has the greatest danger on the lives of Americans could probably be the system we had negotiated with the Parliaments of Poland and the Czech Republic. The Czech Republic was asked if they would agree to have a radar system to see any kind of incoming missile which might have been coming from Iran, and they agreed to do that. Then Poland agreed to have an interception capability that would knock down such a missile coming from Iran. I don't think there is anyone in America who doesn't realize that Iran is going to have their nuclear capability and delivery systems just as soon as they can. For the sake of Western Europe and the Eastern United States, I think it is critical we put ourselves in a position to have that capa-

bility. Well, he stopped that. So we will be talking about that for quite some time.

Gitmo. I think most people realize now that Guantanamo Bay is an asset we have had since 1903. It has all kinds of capabilities. It is the only place in the world you can put terrorist detainees where you can have a facility built for them—some seven degrees of security. We have a system there where we use military tribunals. I will never understand why President Obama is obsessed with bringing these detainees into the United States either for trial or for incarceration. For a trial, it would be the worst plan in the world because, by definition, a terrorist trains people to become terrorists. We don't need to have terrorists in our prison system teaching other people how to become terrorists.

Some of the places the President talked about sending them included my State, at Fort Sill. We will talk about that maybe some other time. But I do think, when we see just a matter of days ago, the release of Mohammed Jawad from Gitmo, nobody knows—or at least I don't know, and I should know, being the second-ranking member on the Armed Services Committee—why he would be released. We also know Mullah Zakir, who was killing American marines in the Helmand Province for quite some period of time, was released and is now back. He went into Gitmo in 2006, they released him in 2008, and he is back. Now we have received evidence that is conclusive that he is fighting on the side of the Taliban. So you can't turn these guys loose.

The third area I was concentrating on is one I will go back to 8 years ago. Redemption is kind of good for the soul, I think, because 8 years ago I was looking at the science on the notion that manmade gases—anthropogenic gases, CO₂, methane—caused global warming. It was something everybody believed. Until I looked into the science, frankly, I believed it too. Now we see the science is not there. I made the statement 8 years ago that perhaps those liberals—mostly from Hollywood and that type of mentality—who want us to believe in the notion that manmade gases cause global warming is the most significant hoax ever perpetrated on the American people. I think now there are a lot fewer people today who are upset with the statement I made 8 years ago than there were then. This is something that is critical.

I wish to conclude with that, but first of all I wish to mention that there is a document that is too long to put in the RECORD. It is some 65 pages. I will have it on my Web site. This is a brave paper done by Robert P. Smith. He has a Ph.D., he is a petroleum engineer, and he talks about the energy crisis and what we can do in the United States to resolve that energy crisis—such commonsense things as continuing to conserve, to continue to support the free market, to oppose the cap-and-trade

taxes—which I will talk about in a second—to oppose the alternative energy subsidies because we have to continue to develop and to supply energy for America while we are developing the technologies, so we need to continue coal-powered generation. We need to fast-track oil and gas exploration and use natural gas wisely. It includes nuclear plants.

I would suggest to anyone who is interested in getting into the best piece I have seen on this subject to go to my Web site—inhofe.senate.gov—and we have a lot of that information on this. But he does have only 3 pages out of the 65 pages detailing the idea that global warming is caused by manmade gases, and I think it is done in a way that is very understandable by people who are not necessarily scientists or don't have a background in it. So I strongly recommend this document—called “Energy: Present and Future,” by Robert P. Smith—to the reading list of the American people or anyone who is concerned about that issue.

Lastly, prior to the Republicans losing the majority in the Senate, I was the chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee. That chairman is now Senator BARBARA BOXER. She took over the committee from my leadership.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has used 10 minutes.

Mr. INHOFE. I was given an additional 5 minutes from our side, Mr. President.

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

Mr. INHOFE. I thank the Chair. I will conclude with this.

During the time that all the hearings—over 30 hearings—that Senator BOXER has had on the subject of global warming were taking place—and it was not just the Republicans but a total turnaround—the Democrats started to look into this and realized the Democrats, as a party—who always supported cap-and-trade systems, such as the 2003 bill and the 2005 bill and the 2008 bill—are now looking at it and they are cutting to the chase. I will give a few quotes here. These are all quotes from Democrats.

President Obama said: Electricity prices would necessarily skyrocket. Democratic Representative JOHN DINGELL from Michigan said: Cap and trade is a tax and a great big one. Democratic Representative PETE DEFAZIO said: A cap and trade system is prone to market manipulation and speculation without any guarantee of meaningful GHG emission reductions.

The best is from my good friend from North Dakota, Senator BYRON DORGAN, when he said about cap and trade: The Wall Street crowd can't wait to sink their teeth into a new trillion-dollar trading market in which hedge funds and investment banks would trade and speculate on carbon credits and securities. I totally agree with my good friend, Democratic Senator BYRON DORGAN.

Democratic Senator CANTWELL from Washington: A cap and trade program might allow Wall Street to distort a carbon market for its own profits.

We learned, of course, from Lisa Jackson, who is the new Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, when I asked her this question in a public hearing. I said: If we should pass the Markey bill in the Senate and it gets signed into law, will this reduce carbon emissions in the world?

She said: No.

Logically, obviously, she is right. If we drive our jobs overseas to places such as China and India, where they have no intention of having any kind of emission requirements, then that would have the effect of increasing, not decreasing, the amount of emissions in the air.

Senator KERRY said: There is no way the United States of America acting alone can solve this problem. So we have to have China; we have to have India.

I say we are not going to have China and India.

Senator MCCASKILL said: If we go too far with this cap and trade, then all we are going to do is chase more jobs to China and India, where they have been putting up coal-fired plants every 10 minutes.

Not quite true. I would say to my good friend, Senator MCCASKILL, it is about two coal-fired generation plants that are built every week in China. We haven't done one in 12 years here. So we know what their intentions are.

So we have had all these hearings, and we have recognized that things have changed now. You look at the groups now, and you have the agricultural community, the American Farm Bureau, and a vast majority of the agricultural groups who oppose it. The GAO says it will send our jobs to China and India. The very eloquent chairman of the National Black Chamber of Commerce did a great job of testifying before our committee and said it would destroy over 2 million jobs. The EPA and the EIA—that is the Energy Information Agency—said it would not reduce our dependence on foreign oil. The EPA said it will do nothing to reduce global temperatures. So when all is said and done, the American people will reject it. We are sure a lot further now.

I have to say this: This was a breath of fresh air, to listen to the American people standing up at these townhall meetings all around the country. In my 12 or 14 meetings I had in my State of Oklahoma, people know the right thing is going to happen. We are here to make that happen.

With that, I thank the Senator from Nevada for allowing me to have 15 minutes of his time, and I yield the floor.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

TRAVEL PROMOTION ACT OF 2009

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate resumes consideration of S. 1023, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1023) to establish a nonprofit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States.

Pending:

Reid (for Dorgan/Rockefeller) amendment No. 1347, of a perfecting nature.

Reid amendment No. 1348 (to amendment No. 1347), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 1349 (to the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 1347), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 1350 (to amendment No. 1349), of a perfecting nature.

Reid motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with instructions.

Reid amendment No. 1351 (to the instructions on the motion to recommit), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 1352 (to amendment No. 1351), of a perfecting nature.

Reid amendment No. 1353 (to amendment No. 1352), of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 5:30 p.m. will be divided or controlled between the leaders or their designees.

The Senator from North Dakota is recognized.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I want to begin the discussion, then I believe my colleague, Senator ENSIGN, who has worked hard on this legislation, will follow. Then Senator KLOBUCHAR who also has played a significant role in this will follow with comments. If others arrive, of course we want them to be able to involve themselves in the debate.

At a time when there is so much discussion about partisanship and how things don't work so well, this legislation, the cloture motion we vote on at 5:30 today, is bipartisan. Unlike some other discussions about partisanship, this is bipartisan. This legislation is called the Travel Promotion Act of 2009. It has 53 cosponsors. There are many Democrats and Republicans cosponsoring this legislation.

Just today the U.S. Chamber of Commerce sent a letter to all Members of Congress saying they strongly support this legislation. The Chamber urges Members to support the legislation and to vote for cloture.

Let me talk just for a moment about what this is. First of all, at a time when we need jobs, this is about jobs. At a time when we need to find ways to address budget deficits, this is one piece of legislation that is not going to cost money. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office scores it as actually a \$425 million reduction in deficits over a 10-year period. Let me say again, it is pretty unusual. It is bipartisan, doesn't cost money—actually saves money—and addresses one of the most critical areas of our need, and that is jobs.

What is the Travel Promotion Act and why the concern? Let me describe