

To meet the conservation challenges of the 21st century, the Global Conservation Act reduces the duplication of Federal programs by bringing all U.S. agencies involved in conservation together to establish a national strategy for global conservation. Several executive branch agencies are engaged in some aspect of international conservation, yet their efforts are not coordinated in a manner that maximizes the effectiveness of the overall international conservation efforts of the United States.

By establishing an interagency working group, a special coordinator, and a presidential advisory committee on global conservation, this bill sets up the infrastructure to coordinate the efforts of the various federal agencies under a national strategy for international conservation. The bill identifies measurable goals, benchmarks, and timeframes for long-term action in the area of global conservation.

As our nation continues to strengthen its participation in the global community through conflict mitigation, foreign aid, and economic interaction, it is essential that we promote strong international conservation initiatives focused on the involvement and support of local communities. Such initiatives will only strengthen global security, health, and economies. This bill establishes a clear and unified direction for our international conservation efforts, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to move it through the legislative process.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 3509. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to promote the research and development of technologies and best practices for the safe development and extraction of natural gas and other petroleum resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I am joined by Senator SHAHEEN and Chairman BINGAMAN in introducing a bill to help prevent future disasters like the one we are seeing unfold in the Gulf of Mexico. Our bill focuses Federal oil and gas research and development funds on well safety and accident prevention. There are many lessons to be learned from this tragedy, but one of the most important is that we need more advanced technology to prevent future accidents and ensure the safety of our oil and gas workers.

This oil spill has highlighted many problems with the operation of the oil and gas industry and the threat that accidents have to our families, economy and environment. While the industry has opened up new areas to oil and gas production, developments in safety and well control technology have not always kept pace. That is unacceptable. Eleven people lost their lives during this tragedy, and we do not yet

know the full extent of the economic, health and environmental damage that will be caused by the spill.

Unfortunately, out of control wells are not a unique circumstance. Over the last month, two major onshore incidents occurred as well. First, a gas well explosion in West Virginia injured seven workers and then another occurred in Pennsylvania where it appears that a blowout preventer did not work properly.

It is clear that oil is and will continue to be an important energy source for us for many years to come, especially for our transportation sector. But, while we will continue to drill for oil and gas, we cannot repeat the mistakes, negligence or recklessness that led to this disaster. We must learn from this accident and aggressively develop better technology to stop these spills from happening in the first place, both onshore and offshore.

That is why I am introducing the Safer Oil and Gas Production Research and Development Act. This bill would change an existing oil and gas research and development program within the Department of Energy, DOE, to refocus it specifically on technologies to improve the safety of exploration and production activities, including well integrity, well control, blowout prevention, and well plugging and abandonment.

In addition, the legislation would also require DOE to publish an annual update of the program's work and outline recommendations for the implementation of its research findings. This oversight is important so that we can ensure this information is public, transparent, and readily available to entrepreneurs and others who could further develop these technologies.

I should emphasize that my bill is only one of the many steps we must take to respond to this accident. Not only do we need to work to prevent future accidents, we need to make sure we are better prepared to respond when they occur.

It is unacceptable that the spill prevention and response technology we are using today is the same as was used in the last disaster—the Exxon Valdez spill in 1989, over 20 years ago. That is why I am a proud co-sponsor of Senator SHAHEEN's bill to create a new program at the Department of the Interior to research and develop spill response and mitigation technology. Her bill, which also is being introduced today, is a perfect complement to mine—both programs are needed to move our oil drilling technology forward.

Our two bills will take common-sense steps to improve drilling safety, prevent accidents and help ensure that if an accident does occur, we are better prepared to respond. This tragedy is a wake-up call that proves that we need to begin changing the way we generate and consume energy.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 560—RECOGNIZING THE IMMEASURABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FATHERS IN THE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN, SUPPORTING RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD, AND ENCOURAGING GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF FATHERS IN THE LIVES OF THEIR FAMILIES, ESPECIALLY ON FATHER'S DAY

Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BYRD, Mr. BURRIS, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CASEY, and Mrs. LINCOLN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 560

Whereas responsible fatherhood is a priority for the United States;

Whereas the most important factor in the upbringing of a child is whether the child is brought up in a healthy and supportive environment;

Whereas father-child interaction, like mother-child interaction, has been shown to promote the positive physical, social, emotional, and mental development of

Whereas research shows that men are more likely to live healthier, longer, and more fulfilling lives when they are involved in the lives of their children and participate in caregiving;

Whereas programs to encourage responsible fatherhood should promote and provide support services for—

(1) fostering loving and healthy relationships between parents and children; and

(2) increasing the responsibility of non-custodial parents for the long-term care and financial well-being of their children;

Whereas research shows that working with men and boys to change attitudes towards women can have a profound impact on reducing violence against women;

Whereas research shows that women are significantly more satisfied in relationships when responsible fathers participate in the daily care of children;

Whereas children around the world do better in school and are less delinquent when fathers participate closely in their lives;

Whereas responsible fatherhood is an important component of successful development policies and programs in countries throughout the world;

Whereas the United States Agency for International Development recognizes the importance of caregiving fathers for more stable and effective development efforts; and

Whereas Father's Day is the third Sunday in June: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes June 20, 2010, as Father's Day;

(2) honors the men in the United States and around the world who are active in the lives of their children, which in turn, has a significant impact on their children, their families, and their communities;

(3) underscores the need for increased public awareness and activities regarding responsible fatherhood and healthy families; and

(4) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to supporting and encouraging global fatherhood initiatives that significantly benefit international development efforts.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4376. Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BOND, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, and Mr. GREGG) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4369 proposed by Mr. BAUCUS to the bill H.R. 4213, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes.

SA 4377. Mr. BOND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4369 proposed by Mr. BAUCUS to the bill H.R. 4213, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4378. Mr. BOND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4369 proposed by Mr. BAUCUS to the bill H.R. 4213, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4379. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4369 proposed by Mr. BAUCUS to the bill H.R. 4213, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4380. Mr. BUNNING (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BYRD, and Mr. ENZI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4369 proposed by Mr. BAUCUS to the bill H.R. 4213, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4381. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4369 proposed by Mr. BAUCUS to the bill H.R. 4213, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4382. Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. ENSIGN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4369 proposed by Mr. BAUCUS to the bill H.R. 4213, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4376. Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BOND, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, and Mr. GREGG) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4369 proposed by Mr. BAUCUS to the bill H.R. 4213, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert the following:

1. SHORT TITLE; AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010”.

(b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in titles I, II, and IV of this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; amendment of 1986 Code; table of contents.

TITLE I—INFRASTRUCTURE INCENTIVES

Sec. 101. Exempt-facility bonds for sewage and water supply facilities.

Sec. 102. Extension of exemption from alternative minimum tax treatment for certain tax-exempt bonds.

Sec. 103. Allowance of new markets tax credit against alternative minimum tax.

Sec. 104. Extension of tax-exempt eligibility for loans guaranteed by Federal home loan banks.

Sec. 105. Extension of temporary small issuer rules for allocation of tax-exempt interest expense by financial institutions.

TITLE II—EXTENSION OF EXPIRING PROVISIONS

Subtitle A—Energy

Sec. 201. Alternative motor vehicle credit for new qualified hybrid motor vehicles other than passenger automobiles and light trucks.

Sec. 202. Incentives for biodiesel and renewable diesel.

Sec. 203. Extension and modification of credit for steel industry fuel.

Sec. 204. Credit for producing fuel from coke or coke gas.

Sec. 205. New energy efficient home credit.

Sec. 206. Special rule for sales or dispositions to implement FERC or State electric restructuring policy for qualified electric utilities.

Sec. 207. Suspension of limitation on percentage depletion for oil and gas from marginal wells.

Sec. 208. Direct payment of energy efficient appliances tax credit.

Sec. 209. Modification of standards for windows, doors, and skylights with respect to the credit for non-business energy property.

Sec. 210. Credit for electricity produced at certain open-loop biomass facilities.

Sec. 211. Excise tax credits and outlay payments for alternative fuel and alternative fuel mixtures.

Sec. 212. Credit for refined coal facilities.

Sec. 213. Credit for production of low sulfur diesel fuel.

Subtitle B—Individual Tax Relief

PART I—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 221. Deduction for certain expenses of elementary and secondary school teachers.

Sec. 222. Additional standard deduction for State and local real property taxes.

Sec. 223. Deduction of State and local sales taxes.

Sec. 224. Contributions of capital gain real property made for conservation purposes.

Sec. 225. Above-the-line deduction for qualified tuition and related expenses.

Sec. 226. Tax-free distributions from individual retirement plans for charitable purposes.

Sec. 227. Look-thru of certain regulated investment company stock in determining gross estate of non-residents.

PART II—LOW-INCOME HOUSING CREDITS

Sec. 231. Election for direct payment of low-income housing credit for 2010.

Subtitle C—Business Tax Relief

Sec. 241. Research credit.

Sec. 242. Indian employment tax credit.

Sec. 243. New markets tax credit.

Sec. 244. Railroad track maintenance credit.

Sec. 245. Mine rescue team training credit.

Sec. 246. Employer wage credit for employees who are active duty members of the uniformed services.

Sec. 247. 5-year depreciation for farming business machinery and equipment.

Sec. 248. 15-year straight-line cost recovery for qualified leasehold improvements, qualified restaurant buildings and improvements, and qualified retail improvements.

Sec. 249. 7-year recovery period for motor-sports entertainment complexes.

Sec. 250. Accelerated depreciation for business property on an Indian reservation.

Sec. 251. Enhanced charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory.

Sec. 252. Enhanced charitable deduction for contributions of book inventories to public schools.

Sec. 253. Enhanced charitable deduction for corporate contributions of computer inventory for educational purposes.

Sec. 254. Election to expense mine safety equipment.

Sec. 255. Special expensing rules for certain film and television productions.

Sec. 256. Expensing of environmental remediation costs.

Sec. 257. Deduction allowable with respect to income attributable to domestic production activities in Puerto Rico.

Sec. 258. Modification of tax treatment of certain payments to controlling exempt organizations.

Sec. 259. Exclusion of gain or loss on sale or exchange of certain brownfield sites from unrelated business income.

Sec. 260. Timber REIT modernization.

Sec. 261. Treatment of certain dividends of regulated investment companies.

Sec. 262. RIC qualified investment entity treatment under FIRPTA.

Sec. 263. Exceptions for active financing income.

Sec. 264. Look-thru treatment of payments between related controlled foreign corporations under foreign personal holding company rules.

Sec. 265. Basis adjustment to stock of S corps making charitable contributions of property.

Sec. 266. Empowerment zone tax incentives.

Sec. 267. Renewal community tax incentives.

Sec. 268. Temporary increase in limit on cover over of rum excise taxes to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Sec. 269. Payment to American Samoa in lieu of extension of economic development credit.

Sec. 270. Election to temporarily utilize unused AMT credits determined by domestic investment.

Sec. 271. Reduction in corporate rate for qualified timber gain.

Sec. 272. Study of extended tax expenditures.

Subtitle D—Temporary Disaster Relief Provisions

PART I—NATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF

Sec. 281. Waiver of certain mortgage revenue bond requirements.

Sec. 282. Losses attributable to federally declared disasters.

Sec. 283. Special depreciation allowance for qualified disaster property.

Sec. 284. Net operating losses attributable to federally declared disasters.

Sec. 285. Expensing of qualified disaster expenses.

Sec. 286. Special depreciation allowance.