

2010 is strong as well. SO₂ is a harmful particulate that is a major component of acid rain which does serious damage to plants and trees. States in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast see the worst of acid rain's effects on our forests and croplands. EPA's acid rain program has yielded tremendous success and the SO₂ reductions that the bill calls for would help us achieve greater SO₂ reductions.

These important limits on two harmful air pollutants are very important measures to protect the public health and the environment.

Nitrogen Oxide, NO_x, is a dangerous air pollutant that contributes to haze, water nitrification, and ground level ozone during the summer months which is extremely dangerous to breathe particularly for people who suffer from respiratory diseases like asthma and emphysema. Maryland, and Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States struggle to achieve attainment of healthy air standards because of NO_x emissions. The Federal Government must do what it can to help these States achieve healthy air through reductions in NO_x.

I am committed to working with Senators CARPER and ALEXANDER to make the bill achieve the goal of NO_x reductions to protect the public health of citizens of all States including Maryland.

Maryland's experience as a downwind State motivated the Maryland legislature and our Governor to take firm and decisive action to reduce mercury, SO₂ and NO_x emissions in the State by implementing the toughest powerplant emissions law on the east coast. The Healthy Air Act, enacted in July 2007, established an ambitious timetable of 3 years for Maryland's powerplants to meet a new set of robust clean air standards.

Using 2002 as its emissions baseline, Maryland's Healthy Air Act has the State well on its way to reducing NO_x emissions in Maryland by 75 percent by 2012, after already achieving an interim goal of 70 percent reduction target for NO_x in 2009. SO₂ emissions will be reduced by 80 percent this year with a second phase of controls in 2013 to achieve 85 percent SO₂ emission reductions. The Healthy Air Act also sets a 90 percent reduction in mercury by 2013.

Maryland's powerplants quickly met this challenge by immediately installing and operating pollution emission reductions technologies. In less than 3 years Maryland's State electricity generators began achieving significant mercury, SO₂ and NO_x emissions reductions. The Maryland Department of Environment tells me that all of our power generators are either meeting or are on schedule to meet the near term targets of Maryland's Healthy Air Act.

The Clean Air Act Amendments of 2010 supports Maryland's mercury and SO₂ reductions goals. Because Maryland has taken positive steps to also reduce NO_x emissions I must work to

ensure that any national standard supports Maryland's healthy air attainment limits for NO_x as well.

Being a downwind State that must mitigate or offset pollution that travels in from other States has made it especially challenging for Maryland to be in attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, NAAQS, for ozone and fine particulate matter by the Federal deadline of 2010. Maryland is doing its part.

I mention all of this so that my colleagues understand how important strong clean air requirements are to me and to Maryland. I support the goal of cleaner air and I think the approach the Clean Air Act Amendments of 2010 takes is correct. I very much want to save lives by cleaning up our air and I want to work with Senator CARPER, Senator ALEXANDER and the other sponsors of this bill to make it stronger. Specifically, I want to ensure that EPA will review its air quality standards. Should the agency's analysis of the ozone standard indicate that additional NO_x emissions reductions are necessary to protect public health it is important that the EPA has a congressional mandate to act to strengthen the emission reduction requirement on NO_x to address this public health threat.

In a matter of days, EPA will issue its revised Clean Air Interstate Rule, CAIR, following the DC Circuit's determination that CAIR did not adequately address transport. Later this summer EPA will also propose new National Ambient Air Quality Standards. These landmark policies ought to guide what steps need to be taken to better protect public health and inform us about the congressional authority needed.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN BERRY

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, my hometown of Silver City, NM, is in the southwestern corner of our State. It is the county seat, and the largest town for about a hundred miles around. Right on the edge of the Gila Wilderness, it has been called by others, not by just me, "One of the 100 Best Small Towns in America."

One of the reasons it is so outstanding is because of the tireless, thoughtful work of Susan Berry. For 36 years, she has been involved in historic preservation work in and around our town, and throughout the State of New Mexico. An early force of the MainStreet Project in Silver City and a longtime member of the Design Review Committee, she has done so much so well, that the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division recently gave her its Lifetime Achievement Award which she earned during a career of preserving the past for the future.

On Saturday of this week, she will retire after decades of service as director of the Silver City Museum. Her accom-

plishments in that capacity are too numerous to list, but as a result of her vision and skill, that museum has been accredited by the American Association of Museums, one of only thirteen in New Mexico to be so designated.

She has helped make Silver City a significant destination for travelers to the Southwest, and added to the list of reasons that 10,000 people like to call it "home." We are so fortunate that she chose to make the town the focus of her considerable ability and vision for so many years.●

REMEMBERING POLLY ARANGO

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the extraordinary life of Polly Arango, who died on Saturday, June 26, 2010, in a tragic accident in Alamosa, CO. Her husband, children, grandchildren, family, and friends have lost a very special individual. And New Mexico and the Nation lost a tireless advocate for children, particularly those with disabilities.

Polly spent her life working on behalf of the most vulnerable in our society. Early in her career, she organized programs that allowed American families to adopt orphans from Ecuador. She and her husband John later adopted themselves, providing loving care to a son who had severe developmental difficulties. Shortly thereafter, Polly began her lifelong to work to ensure that other families in similar situations had access to vital education, health care, and support services.

To do so, she cofounded Parents Reaching Out, a nonprofit organization that works with parents, caregivers, educators and other professionals to promote healthy, positive and caring experiences for New Mexico families and children.

Polly also founded and served as the executive director of Family Voices, an advocacy group that strives to bolster both the access and the quality of health care for children with special needs. In her work for Family Voices, she, more than any other leader in the advocacy world, fought for family-centered care for children with disabilities. Her efforts with officials in New Mexico led to many important successes such as establishing the Medically Fragile Children's Program and the New Mexico High Risk Insurance Pool, reducing the school age for children with disabilities, and increasing coverage and services for children in Medicaid Programs.

Polly was very helpful to my staff and me over many years as we worked together on major health reform and education issues. She was in contact with us monthly and even weekly to inform us of developments in New Mexico and across the Nation and she had a wonderful ability to blend an understanding of complex policies with the practical needs of New Mexicans. I know she was particularly heartened by our recent passage of national

health care reform. And, I know she would agree that we all must continue to fight to ensure that the needs of children remain central in our efforts to forge a more effective and equitable health care system.

I extend my sincere condolences to Polly's husband and children, and the entire Arango family.●

● Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life—and mourn the loss—of one of New Mexico's finest public servants.

The Land of Enchantment suffered a tremendous loss last Saturday, when Polly Arango was involved in a fatal accident in Alamosa, CO. As a long-time resident of Algodones, NM, Polly was one of the most exemplary advocates for children living with disabilities our State has ever known. During her time with us, Polly taught us that regardless of socioeconomic status, culture, race, religion or health conditions, our children have inalienable rights that we must fight to protect.

Born in Green Bay, WI, Polly moved to our State in 1962 to attend University of New Mexico. After marrying John Arango, she began her career as an advocate placing Ecuadorian orphans with families in the United States while her husband served as Peace Corps director in Panama and Ecuador.

A turning point for Polly and John came with the adoption of their son Nicolas. As Polly learned that Nicolas had a severe developmental disability, she began her work securing full education and access to health care for children with chronic health conditions. Nicolas inspired Polly's work to open the eyes of school officials, policymakers, community leaders, friends and neighbors to the challenges facing children with disabilities. Her efforts were not only for Nicolas, but for thousands of other New Mexican families in need.

In 1992, Polly cofounded a national grassroots network called Family Voices. Today, Family Voices consists of more than 45,000 New Mexican families and friends working together to improve health care for children and youth with special needs. Polly served as the first executive director and most recently served on the board of directors. Polly also cofounded Parents Reaching Out, a statewide network of programs designed to meet the ever changing needs of New Mexican families. Based on her leadership, this organization continues to connect children and their families to resources that will improve their quality of life.

Polly represented families and family-centered care on many national boards, commissions and international forums. She was named to the New Mexico Medicaid Advisory Committee and served as a member of the New Mexico Supreme Court's Court Improvement Project on foster care. She also co-authored several books and many articles on health care, foster children, and families, and she was ex-

ecutive producer and writer of a PBS documentary about inclusion titled: "What Does Normal Mean?"

Through her work, Polly displayed a noble commitment to fight for the health and civil rights of all children, especially disabled children, who often cannot fight for themselves. Polly actively demonstrated one of our greatest American values: that families can be the most important caregivers, and every child deserves a family.

She was survived by her husband, John; her four children—Carlos Arango, Francesca Wilson, Maria Arango and Nicolas Arango; her seven grandchildren—Sloan Wilson, Conor Arango, Gabby Arango, Kellen Wilson, Grace Arango, Lenor Arango and Isabel Arango; and seven of her eight brothers and sisters—Richard Egan, Kevin Egan, Martha Egan, Kathryn Stout, Patrick Egan, Michael Egan and Thomas Egan.

In her recent obituary, Polly's friends and family kindly thanked me for my role in health care reform and my support for rural health programs. While I appreciate these sentiments, I want to thank Polly. I want to thank her for her invaluable contributions as a mother, friend, and public servant on behalf of all she touched. Our State won't be the same without her. I am blessed to have known her. New Mexico will miss Polly Arango, but we know that her legacy will live on.

As Polly Arango is laid to rest this week, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable public servant.●

TRIBUTE TO PETE JOHNSON

● Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to commend Pete Johnson of Clarksdale, MS, for his service as the Federal Co-Chairman of the Delta Regional Authority.

The authority was formed in 2001 as a Federal-State partnership to enhance the quality of life of the people of the Mississippi River Delta region. Since its inception, Pete Johnson has led the Delta Regional Authority as the Federal cochairman in its efforts to advance the economic opportunities of the residents of 252 counties and parishes in parts of 8 States, which make up the delta region.

Pete Johnson has served the 9.5 million residents of the region and the Governors of Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana, with distinction in his capacity as the Federal cochairman.

Under Chairman Johnson's leadership, the Delta Regional Authority has established successful Federal grant programs, as well as the Delta Leadership Institute, Healthy Delta, I-Delta, and the Delta Development Highway System, the Delta Doctors Program, and a multimodal system for the region.

Pete has proven himself to be an exemplary and proactive leader, and the far-reaching effects of his leadership

are evidenced by the numerous Delta Regional Authority contributions to the region over the years. The Delta Regional Authority has leveraged limited Federal resources with other Federal, State, and local investments, resulting in over \$434 million for 510 projects focused on economic development throughout the eight-state region. Over \$1.5 billion of private funds has also been invested in these projects.

In addition, the implementation of the Delta Regional Authority Federal Grant Program has created 5,472 jobs, trained 3,315 individuals for jobs, and improved the water and sewer systems for 11,860 families in the area.

In Mississippi, we are very grateful for the outstanding service of Pete Johnson and his wife Margaret and for the sacrifices they have made to improve the economy and the quality of life in the delta region.●

ELGIN, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a community in North Dakota that recently celebrated its 100th anniversary. On June 17–20, 2010, the residents of Elgin gathered to celebrate their community's history and founding.

Elgin, a Northern Pacific Railroad town site, was first named Shanley but became Elgin in 1910. The residents were having difficulty agreeing on a new name, and Isadore Gintzler is said to have looked at his pocket watch to check the time at a very late hour and suggested its brand name, Elgin, as a compromise name for the town site. The post office was established August 11, 1910. Elgin was incorporated as a village in 1911.

Some of the present day businesses and accommodations that continue to thrive within the city of Elgin include the Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center and Clinics, Dakota Hill Housing, a dentist, an eye clinic, a cafe and bowling alley, a grocery store, a hardware store, gas stations, a bank, accounting offices, a drug store, insurance agencies, a newspaper, the post office, a lumber yard, a motel, a new public library, and grain elevators.

Citizens of Elgin organized numerous activities to celebrate their centennial. Some of the activities included an opening ceremony, historical Power Point presentation, historical bus tour, musical entertainment, an alumni football game, a magician show, and an antique parade.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Elgin, ND, and its residents on the first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century. By honoring Elgin and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Elgin that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.