

In the end, I believe there are more appropriate responses Congress should pursue if current penalties for environmental wrongdoers are insufficient, and I believe expedited, targeted legislation of this nature is likely to create unintended consequences which outweigh any positive value it may add to our environmental law matrix.

Sincerely,

TOM A. COBURN, M.D.,  
United States Senator.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLEAN WATER AGENCIES

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, NACWA, on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. NACWA is a dynamic national organization, involved in all facets of water quality protection. As a key stakeholder in the legislative, regulatory, and legal arenas, NACWA has built credible collaborative relationships with Members of Congress, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal courts and other governmental bodies.

The emergence of NACWA as a nationally recognized leader in environmental policy and a sought-after technical resource on water quality and ecosystem protection issues has paralleled the maturation of one of the Nation's most successful environmental laws—the Clean Water Act. NACWA was established in 1970 by a group of individuals representing 22 large municipal sewerage agencies to secure Federal funding for municipal wastewater treatment and serve as a forum to discuss the emerging national interest in improving the quality of the Nation's waters. Based upon the shared goal of effectively representing the interests and priorities of public clean water agencies and the communities they serve, they formed NACWA.

Over the past 40 years, NACWA has expanded its member base and issue platform. It has changed its name, replacing the word "sewerage" with "clean water" to better reflect the end-product of its members' treatment services—clean water. The organization also partners with diverse stakeholders while always advocating for sound science in advancing water quality protection. Today, as the leading clean water association, NACWA represents nearly 300 member organizations.

Recent years have reflected heightened involvement for the association in a broadening array of complex 21st century water quality issues, including green infrastructure, climate change, watershed-based approaches, and clean water funding and financing. As chairman of the Senate's Water and Wildlife Subcommittee, under the Environment and Public Works Committee, I am in a good position to observe that NACWA has met the goal that its founders established 40 years ago. NACWA con-

tinues to pursue every opportunity to develop and implement sound water quality policies that advance clean water and a healthy environment.

It is my sincere pleasure to congratulate NACWA on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. This committee has relied on NACWA's strategic input for decades and will undoubtedly continue to do so as we shape the course of environmental protection for our Nation's waters in the decades to come.●

##### REMEMBERING SYL METZGER

• Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, last week I received notice from a North Dakota constituent about a funeral that was held on Friday. The funeral was for Syl Metzger from Langdon, ND. Reading about the life of this extraordinary man reminded me again about how much we owe to people we seldom thank.

Syl Metzger was not a politician or a business executive or celebrity. But he was a hero. He was one of what Tom Brokaw called the "greatest generation." He was one of those young Americans who seven decades ago was called on by his country to put on a uniform, pick up a rifle, and wage the fight for freedom half way around the world.

Syl Metzger landed on the beaches of Normandy during the D-day invasion. He fought in the campaign in northern Europe, including the Battle of the Bulge. The fights that he and his fellow soldiers waged have become legendary.

Following the Second World War, all across our country those young soldiers returned home and lived down the street, up the block, or out on the farm, and seldom spoke of their experiences in World War II. They became the members of the community who you could count on to do things. They built homes, schools, and communities and became the glue that made America work. Because they knew the horrors of war and the pain of losing fellow soldiers in the battlefield, they perhaps more than any other Americans treasured the freedoms that they had risked their lives to save.

Now with the passage of time those young soldiers have become older Americans, in many cases reaching their ninth decade of life. Every day across this country, friends and neighbors gather in the sanctuary of a local church to say goodbye to a relative or an old friend. In many cases, only then do they remember and celebrate the heroic commitment of service to our country by those American patriots.

It was Syl Metzger's son who informed me of his father's death. I had met Syl Metzger only once last fall when he and a group of World War II veterans came to Washington, DC, on an Honor Flight to see the World War II Memorial. So our lives touched only briefly. But when his son sent me the e-mail about his funeral, it reminded me again that he and his fellow soldiers did things for our country that

touched all of our lives. Yet we seldom understand the magnitude of their sacrifice and the benefit of their courage that was a gift to all Americans.

God bless the memory of Syl Metzger and the rest of the "greatest generation." America says thank you.●

##### REMEMBERING FIRST SERGEANT NICK BACON

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the life, service, and memory of 1SG Nick Bacon, U.S. Army (Ret.). First Sergeant Bacon, the last living Medal of Honor recipient from Arkansas, passed away July 17, 2010, at the age of 64. His life will be remembered not just for his heroic military service, which earned him the prestigious Medal of Honor, but also for his work on behalf of veterans in Arkansas and across this Nation.

Narrowly surviving a helicopter crash in his first tour of duty, then Staff Sergeant Bacon volunteered for a second tour of duty in Vietnam; this time he was leading a squad with the 1st Platoon of B Company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On August 26, 1968, in an operation west of Tam Ky, Staff Sergeant Bacon and Company B drew heavy resistance from enemy forces. In the ensuing action, Bacon led two platoons in stifling the enemy assault, singlehandedly killing multiple enemy soldiers, destroying an antitank weapon, and directing fire on enemy positions as Company B rescued multiple soldiers trapped to the front.

Due to these brave actions, President Nixon awarded Bacon the Medal of Honor on November 24, 1969. The Medal of Honor is the highest military decoration awarded by the U.S. Government. It is reserved for those members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguish themselves "conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his or her life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States." That definition most certainly fits the heroism that Nick Bacon, then a staff sergeant, took the night of August 26, 1968.

Nicky Daniel Bacon was born November 25, 1945, in Caraway, AR. Following his family's move to Arizona, he joined the army to escape the difficulties of farm labor. He forged his mother's signature so that he could join the army at age 17. He served in the U.S. Army from 1963 to 1984, retiring at the rank of first sergeant.

First Sergeant Bacon returned home to Arkansas in 1990, where he continued to seek opportunities to serve his community, particularly the men and women of the U.S. military. He was appointed director of the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs in 1993 and was essential to the development of the Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery, the Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery Beautification Foundation and the founding of the Arkansas Veterans' Coalition.

In addition to his work on behalf of Arkansas veterans, First Sergeant Bacon was a former president of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. In 2004, he was appointed to serve on the Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission, which made more than 100 recommendations to Congress on ways to improve veteran benefits.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the life and service of 1SG Nick Bacon. I join all Americans in lifting up his wife Tamera, his children, and all his loved ones. First Sergeant Bacon was not only a great Arkansan, but a great American, and I am humbled to express my gratitude for his life and service.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:03 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 4861. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1343 West Irving Park Road in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Steve Goodman Post Office Building".

H.R. 5051. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 23 Genesee Street in Hornell, New York, as the "Zachary Smith Post Office Building".

H.R. 5099. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15 South Main Street in Sharon, Massachusetts, as the "Michael C. Rothberg Post Office".

S. 1508. An act to amend the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (31 U.S.C. 3321 note) in order to prevent the loss of billions in taxpayer dollars.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

At 10:20 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1855. An act to promote industry growth and competitiveness and to improve worker training, retention, and advancement, 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. 126. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of Title VI international education programs within the Department of Education.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1855. An act to promote industry growth and competitiveness and to improve worker training, retention, and advancement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 126. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of Title VI international education programs within the Department of Education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following joint resolution was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.J. Res. 83. Joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on July 20, 2010, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 1508. An act to amend the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (31 U.S.C. 3321 note) in order to prevent the loss of billions in taxpayer dollars.

#### 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-6739. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Contract Reporting Requirements of Intrastate Natural Gas Companies" (FERC Docket No. RM09-2-000) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2010; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-6740. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-445, "Commercial Driver's License Minimum Age Requirement Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6741. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-446, "Community Impact Statement Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6742. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-462, "Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Support Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6743. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-472, "Families Together Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6744. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-473, "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 6172, S.O. 08-7590, Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6745. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-478, "Adoption Reform Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6746. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-479, "Rental Housing Commission Quorum Temporary Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. SCHUMER for the Committee on Rules and Administration.

William J. Boarman, of Maryland, to be Public Printer.

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Elena Kagan, of Massachusetts, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

James Michael Cole, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General.

Timothy Q. Purdon, of North Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota for the term of four years.

Willie Ransome Stafford III, of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

Arthur Darrow Baylor, of Alabama, to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of Alabama for the term of four years.

J. Patricia Wilson Smoot, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the United States Parole Commission for a term of six years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

S. 3616. A bill to withdraw certain land in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 3617. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an energy investment credit for energy storage property connected to the grid, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VOINOVICH:

S. 3618. A bill to further enable a nuclear renaissance in the United States to improve energy security, reduce future pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, provide large, reliable sources of electricity, and create thousands of high-quality jobs for the citizens of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 3619. A bill to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to improve geothermal energy technology and demonstrate the use of geothermal energy in large scale thermal applications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.