

the American people will be watching, because that type of justification is beyond comprehension. I know it as I hear it from families in New Jersey.

I hope we will have this debate. I hope we will be able to move forward. I want to be able to talk about how I hear my colleagues talk about drill, baby, drill. Well, I was incredulously amazed that actually we are now exporting from the United States millions of gallons of gasoline and refined petroleum products every day to other places in the world. It seems to me that if we drill it here, particularly on Federal lands and water, we should keep it here because obviously the bigger the supply we have, the more we are going to create downward pressure on prices. But I think most Americans would be pretty shocked to know that we are actually exporting. They think everything that is created here is kept here, which is why I found it interesting—I keep hearing my colleagues talk about the Keystone Pipeline. Well, there are those of us who said, You know what. If you will make it with materials made in America so that we can ensure American jobs are created with it, and if you keep the energy here and not export it someplace around the world, then there are a lot of people who would say: Yes, along with the right environmental safeguards, let's consider it. But overwhelmingly that was voted against. So so much for American jobs. So much for securing American energy. Because what is the use of a pipeline to bring an energy source and then have it sent to other places in the world? That doesn't help us.

I am a big believer if we are going to drill it on Federal lands and water, we are going to keep it here, we are going to help us lower prices. I am a big believer if we are going to do something such as Keystone, let's make sure it is made with American materials and made with American hands and, at the end of the day, the energy is kept in the United States. I am a big believer in saying at a time of shared sacrifice, it is wrong to ask working families to do more and yet give the oil companies \$24 billion, when they will make \$1 trillion in profits. It is wrong to say to a wounded soldier we are going to cut programs in his long-term health care that will ultimately help him get back on his feet, but we are going to give Big Oil \$24 billion. It is wrong to tell students who are trying to determine their future and get access to that college education and who will encumber themselves with significant costs along the way, no, they pay more, but we are going to give Big Oil \$24 billion. It is wrong to tell seniors we are going to end Medicare as we know it, but we are going to give Big Oil \$24 billion. That is beyond my comprehension.

I look forward to the debate because it is going to be very interesting to see some of the remarkable ways in which people are going to have to explain that. I don't think it is explainable to

the American people. Tonight's vote starts a process: Which side are we on? Are we on the side of the American taxpayer or are we on the side of Big Oil? I hope an overwhelming number of our colleagues will, starting tonight and moving toward final passage, say we are on the side of the American taxpayer and the American consumer. If we do that, we can create some justice in this process. We can help create competition in the energy market to drive down prices, we can reduce the deficit by another \$12 billion, and we can be a lot more fair to working families in this country. That is the choice before us. That is a choice the Senate will make in a positive way.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. KLOBUCHAR). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. BINGAMAN. I thank the Chair.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the Reid motion to proceed to Calendar No. 337, S. 2204, a bill to eliminate unnecessary tax subsidies and promote renewable energy and energy conservation.

Harry Reid, Robert Menendez, Richard J. Durbin, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Carl Levin, Charles E. Schumer, Bernard Sanders, Amy Klobuchar, Al Franken, Benjamin L. Cardin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Sherrod Brown, Mark Udall, Daniel K. Akaka, Debbie Stabenow, John F. Kerry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to S. 2204, a bill to eliminate unnecessary tax subsidies and promote renewable energy and energy conservation shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) is necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 92, nays 4, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 59 Leg.]

YEAS—92

| | | |
|------------|--------------|-------------|
| Akaka | Franken | Murkowski |
| Alexander | Gillibrand | Murray |
| Ayotte | Graham | Nelson (FL) |
| Barrasso | Grassley | Paul |
| Baucus | Hagan | Portman |
| Bennet | Harkin | Pryor |
| Bingaman | Heller | Reed |
| Blumenthal | Hoeben | Reid |
| Blunt | Hutchison | Risch |
| Boozman | Inouye | Roberts |
| Brown (MA) | Isakson | Rockefeller |
| Brown (OH) | Johanns | Rubio |
| Burr | Johnson (SD) | Sanders |
| Cantwell | Johnson (WI) | Schumer |
| Cardin | Kerry | Sessions |
| Carper | Klobuchar | Shaheen |
| Casey | Kohl | Shelby |
| Chambliss | Kyl | Snowe |
| Coats | Lautenberg | Stabenow |
| Coburn | Leahy | Tester |
| Cochran | Levin | Thune |
| Collins | Lieberman | Toomey |
| Conrad | Lugar | Udall (CO) |
| Coons | Manchin | Udall (NM) |
| Corker | McCain | Vitter |
| Cornyn | McCaskill | Warner |
| Crapo | McConnell | Webb |
| DeMint | Menendez | Whitehouse |
| Durbin | Merkley | Wicker |
| Enzi | Mikulski | Wyden |
| Feinstein | Moran | |

NAYS—4

| | |
|--------|-------------|
| Begich | Landrieu |
| Inhofe | Nelson (NE) |

NOT VOTING—4

| | |
|-------|------|
| Boxer | Kirk |
| Hatch | Lee |

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 92 and the nays are 4. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I was absent from the vote to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2204, the "Repeal Big Oil Subsidies Act." Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically vote "aye."●

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR BARBARA MIKULSKI

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I join with the entire Senate family in congratulating my great friend, the distinguished senior Senator from Maryland, BARBARA MIKULSKI, on becoming the longest serving female

Member of Congress in our Nation's history. She reached that milestone recently, having served in Congress for 12,858 days—more than 35 years—surpassing the previous longest serving Member of Congress, the late Representative Edith Nourse Rogers.

Representative Rogers famously quipped, “The first 30 years are the hardest.” But I dare say that Senator MIKULSKI has had a somewhat different experience. As with other pathbreaking women, she has encountered sexism and discrimination. But from her first day in the House in 1977 right up to today, in her much respected role as dean of women Senators, BARBARA MIKULSKI has been a singularly formidable and forceful public servant. Pity the Representative or Senator who has made the mistake of in any way underestimating this remarkable person.

For three and a half decades in Congress, BARBARA MIKULSKI has been an outspoken and proud progressive—a tireless advocate for quality public education, access to health care, and a strong safety net for those she calls “the least of these our sisters and brothers”—including the elderly, people with disabilities, and the poor. Her passion for social and economic justice was nurtured by the nuns who taught her at Catholic school in working-class east Baltimore.

Senator MIKULSKI's legislative accomplishments are too numerous to cite here. But I am particularly grateful for the lead role that she played in early 2009 in passing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act—the very first bill signed into law by President Obama. This law reversed an outrageous Supreme Court decision that allowed discrimination against women to go unpunished. But, as Senator MIKULSKI knows all too well, even the Lilly Ledbetter Act leaves in place an outrageous status quo where women are paid only 78 cents for every \$1 that their male counterparts are paid. That is why she and I have continued to work closely together to advance the cause of equal pay. We are the respective leads on the two Democratic equal pay bills in the Senate.

As chair of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, I want to pay special tribute to the extraordinary role she has long played on our committee.

Senator MIKULSKI's legislative skills and leadership were critically important in crafting and passing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act 2 years ago—an achievement that she calls one of the “greatest social justice initiatives” of our time. She led the team that wrote the quality title in the bill, insisting that higher quality care does not have to be higher cost care. Thanks to Senator MIKULSKI, the health care reform law includes a whole range of provisions that shift the emphasis—rewarding providers not for quantity of service but for quality of service. I would add that throughout the debate on health care reform and

during the many months the bill was being written, Senator MIKULSKI was a fierce advocate for women's health and for ending the brazen discrimination against women by health insurance companies.

On the HELP Committee, and also in her role as chair of the Appropriations subcommittee that funds the Legal Services Corporation, Senator MIKULSKI has been a great leader on another issue near and dear to my heart: legal services for the poor. She has fought hard—and it has always been an uphill struggle—to provide adequate funding so that people without resources are not barred from the courthouse door.

Of course, Senator MIKULSKI has also been one of the Senate's leading proponents of national and community service. In 2009, she was the Senate manager for the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which retooled our national service programs for the 21st century and provided expanded opportunities for young people to gain valuable skills and experience by helping neighbors in need.

Let me share a brief anecdote that illustrates the remarkable role that Senator MIKULSKI plays in the body and the respect that she commands among her colleagues. We all remember the debate, in late February, on the Blunt amendment, which would have allowed employers to deny health insurance coverage for contraception. In my role as chair of the HELP Committee, I was invited to attend a press conference in the LBJ Room of the Capitol organized by Senator MIKULSKI to speak out against the amendment. Let me tell you, this was a remarkable event. Senator MIKULSKI spoke first, with tremendous power and passion. One by one, other Senators spoke—women who, over the decades, have been counseled and mentored by Senator MIKULSKI: Senator PATTY MURRAY of Washington, Senators BARBARA BOXER and DIANNE FEINSTEIN of California, and Senator JEANNE SHAHEEN of New Hampshire. Senator MIKULSKI's message, echoed by the other Senators, was characteristically loud and clear: Decisions about medical care should be made by a woman and her doctor, not a woman and her boss. Needless to say, Senator MIKULSKI carried the day; the amendment was defeated.

Other Senators have noted Senator MIKULSKI's many firsts, including the first woman elevated to a leadership position in the Senate. I would simply add that BARBARA MIKULSKI is also first when it comes to a Senator being true to her roots, a fierce and effective champion for her State and passionate fighter for social and economic justice. Again, I salute the Senator on reaching the historic milestone as the longest serving female Member of Congress, and I wish her many more years of distinguished service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Mr. BURR. Madam President, I am very proud to extend my recognition and congratulations to the congregation and administration of the Grace Episcopal Church in Plymouth, NC, as this wonderful institution celebrates 175 years of providing spiritual guidance and community service to Washington County and the State of North Carolina.

This year marking the 175th anniversary of the founding of Grace Church, we give the citizens of Washington County as well as the State of North Carolina the opportunity to pay tribute and homage to a place of worship that has impacted many and assisted those in need of spiritual guidance.

Plymouth, NC traces its historical roots back to the 18th century and the beginnings of our Nation. It has served as a port on the Roanoke River off the Albemarle Sound for over two centuries, acting as a place of trade for much of North Carolina and the United States. By 1837, Plymouth had grown into an important port in North Carolina and with that growth came the establishment of the Grace Episcopal Church.

Plymouth was one of the ports targeted for blockade by Union forces during the Civil War and in that time it is believed that only 11 buildings survived the war, 1 of them being the Grace Episcopal Church.

Grace Episcopal Church has provided the town of Plymouth and the surrounding areas in Washington County spiritual guidance and leadership for the last 175 years. This institution has been a beacon of light and hope to many people in the region and the world.

Grace Episcopal Church has provided many charitable services and events for citizens in need, for example one guild at the church is comprised of a group of knitters and other handcrafters that make goods for distribution to those in need locally and abroad. Grace Episcopal Church has also been an active partner in the Washington County Habitat for Humanity projects, providing financial donations in addition to donating office space for the organization.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Grace Episcopal Church in Plymouth, NC for the countless acts of charity and good will this institution has provided and will continue to provide eastern North Carolina. May their work be recognized and forever appreciated by the citizens of North Carolina as well as this Congress.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK DOYLE

● Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Patrick Doyle, an intern in my Rapid City, SD, office for all of the