

And, fourth, we can improve STEM education and skills training throughout America so that every day we are training tomorrow's future energy innovators.

We can do this. We need to do these things.

I will admit that at times it can seem quite daunting. But in this country we should have no doubt that if we focus our greatest minds on these challenges, there is no limit to what we can achieve. The bottom line to all this is that we don't have a choice. Pretending otherwise is an exercise in denial.

We need to curb emissions from transportation. We need to reduce pollution from powerplants. We need to better finance clean energy solutions. We need to strengthen our infrastructure so we are more resilient in the face of coming climate challenges. We need to address the real challenges of energy and water demand. We need to improve our regulations so that we do more to protect and conserve our land. And we need to invest in research, development, and the demonstration of new and innovative technologies. Overall, we can and should institute smart and market-based regional and national policies that will lower carbon pollution and send businesses and households the signal that the future is in cleaner not in dirtier energy technology.

We need to do all this and bring the rest of the world along as well because our national energy and climate challenges are not just ours, they are the world's, and we need to come together around the world to get this done. The administration's clean power plan rules and the recently announced accord with China are all great initial steps in this direction. It is my hope as we continue this debate that we will come together in the Senate to show we are willing to rise to these challenges as a nation as well.

Mr. President, for me, all of this ultimately comes down to our obligations—yes, of course, to our Nation, to our constituents, to our home States, but particularly as parents to our children and to future generations. Every day when I get to return home from the train station after taking what is often a late-evening train from Washington to Delaware, I get to see my family, and it is my children who leave me most concerned about the question of whether I will be leaving them a safer and healthier world than we received.

My daughter Maggie in particular is passionate about the environment and is concerned about whether what we do here is not just helping to create jobs today—although that is an important issue for us to turn to—but whether we are helping to preserve our world for tomorrow. Maggie helps keep me focused not just on this quarter, this month, this election, or this term, but on the next 50 years and on whether what we do here leaves to our children

and their children a cleaner and a better and brighter future. That is what our focus should be—on the future, on what we are doing not just for today but for tomorrow and all the days after that.

I hope when the debate about this one pipeline is over we will refocus our energies on the bigger picture and on the great and big challenges we face together. That is what we get elected to do, and that is what our time demands.

AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I would like to speak for a few minutes about our Nation's economic relationship with Africa and one area of concern I have as we work toward further strengthening our ties.

Since its passage under President Clinton, the African Growth and Opportunity Act, known as AGOA, has been a powerful tool for increasing trade and boosting economies across the African Continent, and no country has taken greater advantage of the opportunities provided through AGOA than South Africa.

Over the past 4 years, as the chairman of the African Affairs Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations, I have worked closely with African leaders and know the importance of AGOA to their economies and to their growing middle classes. Just last week I met with a group of African trade ministers who emphasized to me how important prompt reauthorization of AGOA is to them, to their nations, and to tens of thousands of men and women who work in reliance upon AGOA.

AGOA is not a partisan issue. I have worked closely with my Republican colleague and friend from Georgia Senator ISAKSON on its reauthorization. But, as I have also long believed, trade must be fair, and with increased trade comes a responsibility by both parties to play by the same set of rules.

I am concerned because I fear that South Africa's refusal to drop its antidumping duties that prevent American poultry from having free and fair access to the South African market will have negative repercussions for our relationship and South Africa's economy.

Much of the time, nations will use antidumping duties to prevent other countries from exporting artificially cheap goods into their economies, putting their own businesses at an unfair disadvantage. But what South Africa has done for years in this area lacks any merit. They are using the same justification that China has used to ban American poultry imports. They claim our poultry is being sold below market value. Not only is this claim false, the World Trade Organization recently deemed China's nearly identical ban to be illegal.

American companies want the chance to sell healthy, affordable, and safe poultry to South Africa and at a fair

market value. So during the Africa leaders summit last August, which brought the heads of state of more than 50 African nations here to Washington and to our Capitol, I had the opportunity to meet with President Zuma of South Africa as well as other South African senior officials. During our meeting we discussed their country's policies toward our country, the importance of renewing AGOA, and also my concerns about their unfair practices with regard to our poultry industry. I was optimistic that following our constructive conversations, we could work together with them and with South Africa's poultry industry to get rid of this inappropriate trade barrier. In September we also had constructive meetings where our Ambassador and their Ambassador were present, and leaders of both poultry sectors began constructive conversation. But soon thereafter their willingness to engage abruptly stopped. They apparently think they can continue to benefit from AGOA and shirk their most basic trade responsibilities.

In my home State of Delaware the poultry industry supports more than 13,000 jobs and has long been the backbone of our agriculture sector. I have made clear to our friends and partners in South Africa that although I deeply believe in their nation's promise and future, my first responsibility is and always will be to my home State and my constituents. Across the country—and Senator ISAKSON's State of Georgia is the single biggest poultry-growing State in the country—the United States supports 1.8 million American jobs, contributing more than \$470 billion to our Nation's economy.

So I want to be clear about this tonight, as I have been before. I support AGOA's reauthorization, and I hope we can negotiate a fair path forward. But South Africa cannot expect to continue to reap the benefits of increased trade without following fair trade rules. They can't expect us to open up our markets wide to duty-free and quota-free access for South African goods if they will not fairly open theirs. If they insist on maintaining their long-standing and illegal antidumping duties on American poultry, I will do everything in my power to ensure they do not continue to benefit from AGOA. The choice is theirs.

Senator ISAKSON of Georgia and I communicated this concern to President Zuma back in December in writing, and this week we will write to the Senate Finance Committee with the same message. We only have a short period of time where we can get a long-term extension of AGOA done, and I will work hard to reauthorize and improve AGOA so its benefits are even more widely felt on the continent of Africa, but I won't allow it to include countries that violate fair trade rules, which means an important ally and partner of the United States—South Africa—won't be included if they are not willing to play by the rules. There

are too many jobs at stake, too much work to do to allow a critical trading partner such as South Africa to continue its unfair treatment of American industry.

I hope and pray we can still resolve this needless impasse, but if we don't, my commitment and my path forward is clear.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M.
TOMORROW

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:29 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

SIM FARAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2015. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

SIM FARAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2018. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

WILLIAM JOSEPH HYBL, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2015. (REAPPOINTMENT)

WILLIAM JOSEPH HYBL, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2018. (REAPPOINTMENT)

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

DALLAS P. TONSAGER, OF SOUTH DAKOTA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION BOARD, FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION, FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 21, 2020, VICE JILL LONG THOMPSON, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271(E):

To be lieutenant commander

GEORGE F. ADAMS
JOHN E. ADKINS
WILLIAMS C. ALBRIGHT
HILLARY A. ALLEGRETTI
DOUGLAS W. APPERSON
PATRICK N. ARMSTRONG
STEVEN B. ARNwine
CHRISTOPHER P. ARTAC
CHRISTOPHER A. AUMENT
JPHILIP J. BALEM
CHRISTIAN J. BARGER
JEFFERY C. BARNUM
ERIKA F. E. BARRON
NICHOLAS A. BARROW
SEAN H. BARTONICEK
JAMES A. BATES JR.
EILEEN BECK
MATTHEW M. BECK
WILLIAM W. BELCHER
MICHAEL S. BELL
NATALIA M. BEST
BRENDAN A. BLAIN
TOLAN J. BLANCHARD
ORION R. BLOOM
SARA BOOTH
AMALIA D. BOYER
SARAH E. BRENNAN
DAKATA B. BRODIE
MARK H. BROWN
STEVEN R. BRUGMANN
BRIAN J. BRUNS
BRADLY T. BURNESS
DEREK J. BURRILL
ERIN M. CALDWELL
MATTHEW B. CAPON
KYRA N. CARBAJAL
JANE N. CARLEY
MICHAEL A. CARR
MICHAEL J. CARROLL
LENELL J. CARSON
REY F. CASTILLO
STEPHEN A. CHAINE
WILLIAM R. CHEW
MICHAEL A. CHOCHOLAK

JOEL C. COITO
JUDSON A. COLEMAN
MICHELLE COMEAUX
CHRISTOPHER M. CONDIT
JAMES O. CONNER
MICHAEL P. CORTESE
WILLIAM F. COTY III
TIMOTHY N. CRONIN
BEN W. CROWELL
CHRISTOPHER K. CUMBERLAND
KRISTEN A. CURRAN
CAREN C. DAMON
LEO T. DANAHER
JOSHUA J. DAUBENSPECK
HOLLY J. DEAL
CHAD E. DEJOURNETT
ANTHONY M. DESTEFANO
ANTHONY E. DEWINTER
EDWARD L. DIPIERRO
JOSHUA M. DIPIETRO
ADAM J. DISQUE
MICHAEL J. DOUGHERTY
MEGAN L. DREWNIAK
BENJAMIN J. DUARTE
JAYME L. DUBINSKY
MICHAEL S. DYKEMA
CHAD A. ECKHARDT
DONALD W. EDMON II
SARA M. ELLIS-SANBORN
PATTON J. EPPERSON
JUSTIN M. ERDMAN
RYAN R. ERICKSON
VINCENT E. ESCOBEDO
DANIEL W. EUSTACE
SCOTT L. FARR
BOBBIE-JEAN FELIX
JOHN A. FERREIRA
BRIAN M. FINN
SUSAN M. FISCHER
KIRK C. FISTICK
ARI D. FITZWATER
DONALD F. FLUSCHE
JUSTIN M. FORBES
KARYN S. FORSYTH
PETER F. FRANCISCO
ROCCO W. FRANCO
ZACHARY D. FUENTES
LAUREN U. FULLAM
JEFFREY M. GARVEY
ELIZABETH A. GILLIS
DANIEL A. GONZALES
SARAH P. GRAHAM
SIMON C. GREENE
MARK C. HAINES
JARED A. HARLOW
JONATHAN R. HARRIS
COURTNEY A. HARRISON
ANNA M. HART-WILKINS
WILLIAM K. HAYWOOD
CORYDON F. HEARD
JAMES L. HELLER
KIMBERLY A. HESS
GORDON A. HOOD
SCOTT R. HOULE
ROBERT M. HUNTER
THOMAS J. HUNTELEY
JEFFERY B. HUSTACE
JESSE E. HYLES
KENNETH R. INGRAM
CHRISTOPHER A. JASNOCH
ROXANNE B. JENSEN
ERIC S. JESIONOWSKI
TIFFANY A. JOHNSON
JENNIFER M. JOJOLA
LEE H. JONES
ERICA KELLY
MATTHEW V. KEMPE
ANDREW A. KENNEDY
HAROLD J. KIFFER
BRUCE W. KIMMELL
RAYMOND S. KINGSLEY
JOHN M. KIRK
SCOTT R. KOSER
BRIAN A. KUDRLE
FRANK R. KULESA
GRAHAM E. LANZ
DEWEY E. LAWSON
JAN J. LEAGUE
NICHOLAS D. LEITER
JOHN M. LISKO
AMY M. LOCKWOOD
MICHAEL A. MAAS
JONATHAN R. MACKIN
ANDREW P. MADJESKA
HEATHER M. MAJESKA
BRETT A. MAJOR
ROBERTSON MARQUARDT
THOMAS E. MARSH
MICHAEL T. MARTIN
JUSTIN M. MATEJKA
BENJAMIN D. MAZYCK
CHRISTOPHER N. MCANDREW
JON M. MCCAMISH
MICHAEL D. MCCARTY
KATHRYN A. MCCORMACK
MARC R. MCDONNELL
TYLER J. MCGILL
MICHAEL S. MCCRAIL
JEREMY M. MCKENZIE
RENEE V. MCKINNON
DAVID M. MCLOUGHLIN
JACOB T. MCMILLAN
BRIAN K. MEADOWCROFT
JOSE A. MERCADO
RUSSELL P. MERRICK
MARCUS R. MERRIMAN
PAUL J. MILLER

RYAN C. MILLER
GARY R. MILLS
MATTHEW J. MITCHELL
DANIEL P. MOCHEN
JASON M. MOLINARI
JEREMY J. MONTES
MICHAEL C. MORGAN
FRANKLIN J. MORRISON
SEAN F. MORRISON
MATTHEW K. MOTHANDER
ELLEN M. MOTOI
LISA T. MOTOI
DENNIS R. MOULDER
MICHAEL T. MYERS
GINNY R. NADOLNY
AARON G. NELSON
NATHAN L. NOYES
WAYNE T. O'DONNELL
ANDERSON J. OGG
ERIC D. OLIPHANT
JEFFREY S. OLK
ROLAND T. ORR
BRIERLEY K. OSTRANDER
JEFFREY K. PADILLA
JON P. PARKER
STARR E. PARMLEY
TREVOR E. PARRA
ANDREW L. PASZKIEWICZ
MICHAEL A. PATTERTON
JENNIFER G. PAULSON
KRYSYNN E. PECORA
PIERO A. PECORA
KENNETH E. PEPPER
KRYSIA V. POHL
BRITTANY C. POLEY
RYAN B. POPIEL
CHRISTOPHER D. PRESNELL
MATTHEW J. PRESS
STEVEN L. PUFFER
NICHOLAS O. RAMIREZ
HECTOR R. RAMOS
JEDEDIAH A. RASKIE
DARYL J. REED
RAYMOND J. REICHL
PATRICK S. REID
BENJAMIN M. ROBINSON
MICHAEL T. ROSS
SARAH K. ROUSSEAU
ERIC E. ROY
KYLE T. RUSSELL
JOSHUA H. SAGERS
LARRY J. SANTOS
NATHANIEL F. SARGENT
DERRICK D. SAUNDERS
SHANNON F. SCAFF
MICHELLE M. SCHOPP
MAEGAN R. SCHWARTZ
JOSEPH R. SEMKE
NICHOLAS C. SENIUK
BROOK I. SERBU
BONNIE M. SHANER
REBECCA B. SHULTS
JARED L. SILVERMAN
RICHARD S. SLOCUM
CLINTON P. SMITH
DALLAS D. SMITH
JACK B. SMITH
JUSTIN C. SMITH
KELLY L. SMITH
LAURA M. SPRINGER
ERIC D. STAHL
ROBERT C. STARR
PARRIS R. STRATTON
JUSTIN W. STROCK
RACHEL A. STRYKER
RACHEL A. STUTT
COLLEEN A. SYMANSKY
MICHAEL C. THOMAS
TIMOTHY S. TILGHMAN
JONATHAN T. TILLMAN
GERALYN M. VAN DE KROL
JUSTIN O. VANDENHEUVEL
STEVEN B. VANDERLASKE
ERIC J. VELEZ
OSVALDO E. VERA
GABRIEL T. VIGIL DIAZ
PHILIP C. WADE
JEREMY A. WEISS
JONATHAN I. WELCH
KEITH R. WILKINS
SCOTT K. WILLIAMS
BRADLY G. WINANS
KEITH D. WOOLDRIDGE
MARK L. WYCKOFF
CHRISTOPHER T. YANE
CARLTON D. YOUNG
JEFFREY S. ZAMARIN
JOSHUA L. ZIKE
ANDREW H. ZUCKERMAN

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

KOREY E. AMUNDSON
MICHELE MARIE E. ARMENTROUT
JOHN D. BEATTY
BRUCE M. BENDER
VICKEN ALBERT BEZJIAN
JEANNE E. BISESI
SEAN C. BITTNER
AMY JEANETTE BOEHLIE
DANIEL R. BOURQUE
JUDAH C. BRADLEY