

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 2, 2005*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations request before us today to provide \$10.5 billion in immediate aid to our fellow Americans who have been devastated by Hurricane Katrina. This \$10.5 billion in emergency funding will allow the Department of Defense and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to continue the Federal Government's efforts to help the people of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and other States impacted by the effects of Hurricane Katrina.

I am sure that the President will be requesting additional funds in the near future, and I am equally sure that the Congress will respond as quickly to approve the additional funds as they are needed. Anyone watching their televisions over the last week realizes that the effects of Katrina have been of biblical proportions. State and local officials have estimated the number of deaths from Katrina to be in the thousands, and property damage is estimated to be in yet unknown billions of dollars.

This is a national, natural disaster, and as such it deserves a swift and effective national response. We as a nation must come together to help our neighbors who have suffered such devastating losses.

It is the proper role of the Federal Government to provide that national response to such a national emergency. That is why I am pleased that the Congress has acted so swiftly to provide this immediate emergency funding of \$10.5 billion. And we as a nation, stand ready to provide additional aid to the people affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I add my support to the swift passage of this down payment of \$10.5 billion for recovery efforts from Hurricane Katrina.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ST. FRANCIS MEDICAL CENTER COLLEGE OF NURSING

**HON. RAY LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2005*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend hearty congratulations to the Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing in Peoria, IL, as they celebrate 100 years of providing quality nursing education. This outstanding program was organized in 1905 as the Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing by The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis. Only 10 years later, the school was approved for a diploma nursing program by the State of Illinois.

As testament to their academic rigor and overall success, the School of Nursing has been accredited by the National League of

Nursing for 55 years. Additionally, in 1985, the School of Nursing established the baccalaureate in nursing degree program and became the Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing. More recently, in 2001, the College of Nursing began offering a master of nursing degree as confirmation of their adherence to the highest standards of academic and clinical instruction.

The achievements of the College of Nursing are numerous and great, as evidenced by their attainment of the highest level of accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association and National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, as well as the significant impact of more than 4,300 graduates on patients throughout the United States and the world.

I wish the Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing all the best with their centennial celebration and thank them for their dedication to developing caring professionals through the finest nursing education.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6, ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2005*

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, Congress had the opportunity and the charge to develop a comprehensive energy policy that would make America safer, decrease our dependency on foreign oil, and invest in the next generation of clean and renewable energy.

Unfortunately, H.R. 6 fails the current and future needs of our Nation miserably. As gas prices and oil industry profits rise, this bill rewards oil and gas companies with \$2.8 billion in tax breaks and provides \$1.4 billion in tax breaks for coal producers. These corporate giveaways only continue our addiction to Middle Eastern oil and enable our dependency on old and polluting technologies.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. needs to be a world leader in energy self-sufficiency through conservation, alternative energy sources, and responsible leadership from the White House and Congress. Regrettably, this bill fails on all those counts. It neglects to include a Renewable Portfolio Standard, which would have required large electric companies to obtain 10 percent of their power from clean renewable energy sources by 2020. This act, once again, fails to increase much-needed fuel efficiency standards of cars and trucks.

As if this bill was not already bad enough, a new provision appeared after the conference committee had adjourned, which steers \$1.5 billion to a private consortium located in the home district of Republican Majority Leader TOM DELAY. It provides that the consortium, of which Halliburton is a member, can keep up to 10 percent of the funds for administrative purposes. This is an outrage and a mockery of the democratic process.

America deserves a comprehensive energy policy that invests in the development of the next generation of fuel sources like fuel cells, hydrogen power and home grown Minnesota fuels like ethanol. I was pleased to see the measure tripling the amount of ethanol re-

quired in gasoline by 2012, but this bill could have done so much more to liberate our Nation from Saudi Arabian and Middle Eastern oil and move our Nation toward a sustainable and energy-independent future.

Mr. Speaker, this is an energy bill for 1950, not 2050. It would have been difficult to support this outmoded policy decades ago, and I certainly cannot vote for it today.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6, ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2005*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, of everything that can be said about this \$15 billion giveaway to the oil and gas industry—that it does nothing to alleviate the record high costs of oil, nothing to reduce our dependence on oil—the worst may be that it is a missed opportunity. And that is because it fails to harness America's entrepreneurial spirit to develop new sources of energy. It is a continuation of the status quo at a time when we need a new American energy policy—bold new thinking to foster energy independence and grow our Nation's economy in a way that addresses the threat of global warming.

But instead, this bill provides billions in tax breaks for oil companies already reaping record profits. It does little to encourage development of new forms of energy. And it restricts States' abilities to protect their own natural resources.

Mr. Speaker, Americans are rightly concerned about how our dependence on foreign oil affects our foreign policy. This bill does nothing to reduce that dependence. If anything, it enshrines that dependence into law. Today we import 58 percent of our oil, and by 2025 we will still import between 64 and 68 percent of our oil, even after enacting this legislation. Nor does it reduce skyrocketing gasoline prices—something even the president has conceded.

And that is because this bill rejects common sense ideas that could help us reduce our need for foreign oil. The conference committee rejected a measure that would have required America to decrease its oil consumption by 5 percent by 2015. At a time when Americans are fed-up with high gasoline prices, we should be looking for ways to reduce their need to fill-up at the pump. But the committee also rejected a modest proposal that would have increased the fuel efficiency of our cars by one mile per gallon per year for the next 15 years.

The final version of this bill also rejects a Senate proposal to require utilities to generate 10 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2020. This provision would have helped us to significantly reduce our dependence on traditional polluting sources of electricity. Another missed opportunity.

As if the lack of new thinking in this bill weren't enough, it also declares war on States' rights when it comes to protecting their citizens. The bill would eviscerate the role of the States in the siting of LNG facilities and grant sole jurisdiction in such matters to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,