

With this chart in the background, I conclude by saying, let us move, after immigration, to an energy subject. Let us take the opportunity Senator DOMENICI is going to give us to bring lease sale 181 up for debate. I will show where it is. Lease sale 181 is going to be a new area, which sits on the border of Alabama and Florida, that we are going to try to open.

I know, Mr. President, this is a sensitive subject for Florida because I have worked with you and Senator NELSON.

The Presiding Officer and Senator NELSON have been outstanding in their advocacy of trying to balance the needs of Florida and their tourism industry, which we have as well, with the needs for the gulf coast.

As we can see on this map, there is plenty of room to give a buffer to Florida that is reasonable and allow for more drilling. That is the idea. It has to be reasonable and provide some additional areas to get some oil and gas far enough off the coast so it will not affect the beaches because Florida does have a tourism industry based on beaches. Our tourism industry is not based on beaches. We only have two beaches, and they are only 7 miles long, and we can't hardly get to them. But we have great wetlands and we are proud of them. We have a lot of ecotourism, pirogues, canoes, hunting and fishing, which is extraordinary in our State, and we are proud of that, just as Florida is proud of its beaches.

Mr. President, you heard me say this to you privately many times. Half the people of Louisiana have grown up on the beaches of Florida. We don't have that much money. We can't go that far. So we manage to go to the Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida beaches. We are happy for the day or two spent on a beach in Florida. We are happy for it. But there is a reasonable compromise to be had.

I have been proud to work with many of my colleagues to try to come up with a way to open up this drilling, provide revenue sharing for these States on the gulf coast that have given so much and that want to continue to give and benefit the Nation, and finally to give our people some hope.

It has been a struggle to build the levees through the years. We needed to repair the levees that broke. The hope that we could give to our people all along the gulf coast as hurricane season starts June 1—hurricane season starts June 1. Millions of people living along this coast are reading the reports that this hurricane season might be worse than last. Wouldn't it be wonderful for the Congress of the United States to say this is a security issue for America, that this means a great deal to us, and we are going to act now to provide some hope to the people of the gulf coast?

We have lived in this area a long time, and we are going to stay living here. We have been living here for over

300 years. We were a colony before there was a country. We were living here, and we are not leaving. Whether the country helps us or not, we are going to stay here and keep doing our job. It has gotten to the point where it is so grossly unfair. We have to find a solution so that the people who live here can have hope that the country they live in actually cares about them, not just about how fast they can get out to the rigs to turn on the oil and gas for everybody else, but maybe we would care enough about their homes that have been flooded and the children's schools they can't go to or their churches that got flooded and help them to rebuild their homes, their schools, their churches so they can continue to work out on these rigs and send the oil and gas to New York and to Illinois and to Florida.

We will build smartly, we have built smartly, and we will build even more in that way, but we cannot abandon this coast because if we did, who would keep the rigs working? Who would keep the pipelines open? Who would navigate the ships up the port?

Mr. President, I have taken all or maybe more of my 30 minutes, and I appreciate the time. Again, when we get to lease sale 181, let's try to come together and come up with a reasonable solution, one that works for the Nation, one that works for the gulf coast States, and one of which we can actually be proud.

I yield the floor.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THUNE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

##### LANCE CORPORAL ROBERT LOUIS MOSCILLO

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to U.S. Marine Corps LCpl Robert Louis Moscillo of Salem, NH, for his service and his supreme sacrifice for his country.

Robert, also called Bobby by family and friends, was a 2003 graduate of Salem High School where he played baseball and was on the wrestling team. On January 22, 2005, he answered a call to serve our country during these tense and turbulent times by enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps. He successfully completed recruit training, marine combat training, combat engineer school, and the Martial Arts Program with a Tan Belt and was assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA, where he served as a combat engineer. In February 2006, Bobby deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Free-

dom and the following month was promoted to the rank of lance corporal.

Tragically, on May 1, 2006, this brave 21-year-old marine was killed in action by an improvised explosive device explosion while conducting combat operations against enemy forces in the vicinity of Fallujah in the Al Anbar province of Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Iraq Campaign Medal, Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Patriots from the State of New Hampshire have served our Nation with honor and distinction from Bunker Hill to Baghdad—and Bobby served in that fine tradition. Daniel Webster said, "God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it." Bobby was one of those proud and dedicated volunteers who believed in fighting for our country and guarding our precious liberty, and for that we will always owe our sincere gratitude. His service and sacrifice are a shining example of the highest caliber of person this country can produce. This athletic and spiritual young man realized a calling and chose to employ his youthful energy and considerable talents for his country. He understood that the freedoms and opportunities provided by this Nation need continuous defense and that they are among the most precious gifts he can give to his family and loved ones.

My heartfelt sympathy, condolences, and prayers go out to Robert's parents, Frank and Donna, and his family and friends who have suffered this grievous loss. Robert was, and forever will be, a strong and integral part of his family and will be missed by all. Because of his devotion and sense of duty, the safety and liberty of each and every American is more secure. May God bless LCpl Robert Louis Moscillo.

##### ARMY MASTER SERGEANT ROBERT H. WEST

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I rise to commemorate the life of a fellow Coloradan: Army MSG Robert H. West. Master Sergeant West was killed last week near Baghdad in service to this Nation. He was 37 years old, and lived with his wife and daughter in Arvada, CO.

Master Sergeant West arrived for his second tour of duty in Iraq just 3 months ago. He was there to train Iraqi police officers, shouldering the difficult burden of helping to build lasting peace and democracy in Iraq at a very personal level. Master Sergeant West felt that his firsthand experience as a drill instructor made him a better fit to train Iraqis than many of the young U.S. soldiers serving in Iraq with him. Master Sergeant West's family was not happy about his decision to return to Iraq, but he did so with confidence and courage, telling his aunt, "I'm a trained professional, it'll be all right."

One of the hallmarks of Master Sergeant West's life was his commitment to excellence in everything he did. As a