

Then, of course, the other issue we are always very cognizant of on this floor is how we care for our environment, how we deal with emissions from our fuel and energy sources. With geothermal power, we do not produce greenhouse gas emissions, we do not release carbon into the environment. There is a significant, a hugely significant advantage given the current concerns over global warming and climate change.

I had an opportunity, not too many weeks back, to meet with the President of Iceland when he was visiting. I know he met with many Members of this body. I talked to the President of Iceland before. Coming from an Arctic environment, we share a lot in common; we like to exchange notes. We have always talked about the geothermal energy in Iceland and how that country has truly turned to that as their primary source of energy generation.

He indicated to me that just in this past year, he has had major corporations, international and national corporations from this country, looking to Iceland to locate their businesses. There used to be a time when countries would look elsewhere to find cheap sources of labor. Well, what companies are looking for now is affordable, reliable, clean energy.

Think about the potential again with geothermal. It is about as reliable as you are going to come across, just this constant bubbling source from underneath. It is absolutely clean. If we can develop the technology, it can be that affordable source.

Right now, we have researchers in the Alaska Aleutians hoping for a Federal grant to test whether new types of unmanned aerial vehicles can be used to pinpoint these geothermal hotspots, the exact spots where wells should be sunk to tap into the hot water resources. For a nominal Federal grant, this technology could be proven up and would save all geothermal projects many millions of dollars in drilling costs. This one project is an example of why and how Federal aid could be very useful.

This amendment would authorize a couple hundred million dollars in Federal funding for all forms of geothermal work over the next 5 years. That is less than what we have authorized for other forms of renewable energy in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 or have proposed for biomass, wind, solar, or hydrogen fuel development in EPAct and in this bill.

You don't hear people talk a lot about geothermal. You hear a great deal right now about wind, you hear a great deal right now about biomass. But we need to recognize the potential, the enormous potential geothermal holds for this country. As you hold it up against all of the other renewable sources, geothermal kind of sits out there all alone, by itself, along with ocean energy, which you are going to have another opportunity to hear me speak on that and the enormous poten-

tial we have with ocean energy. Geothermal and ocean received relatively little Federal assistance in the EPAct 2 years ago, but I believe geothermal is really on the verge of making great things happen in this country.

If we encourage geothermal development, I believe it will pay enormous dividends to the Nation. If we spend the money now to advance that technology, it will help the entire Nation, not just in the West but all across the country.

I urge my colleagues to take a look at the potential for geothermal and recognize that what we would do in this legislation is provide for that very necessary assessment to find out where this exists in terms of the ability to meet our growing energy needs and our desire to find those reliable, affordable, clean sources of energy. I hope my colleagues will endorse assistance to geothermal when this amendment finally comes to a vote.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be 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.

FATHER'S DAY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the Bible admonishes us to "honor thy father and thy mother." Courtesy insists that ladies go first. Last month, the Nation honored mothers with Mother's Day. The ladies were treated to cards, flowers, phone calls, brunches, gifts, and sometimes precious handmade crafts from the preschool set. Retailers urged more extravagant manifestations of our love for our wives and mothers with a dazzling array of usually heart-shaped diamond jewelry, all of which is certainly deserved, even if not always affordable.

This Sunday, June 17, the fathers get their due. Lumpy clay bowls, aftershave lotion and cologne, odd pieces of sports paraphernalia and, of course, neckties in remarkable fashion colors constitute the classic Father's Day gift for the man who has everything. There does not seem to be quite the same level of extravagance in the gift suggestions by merchants, however, perhaps because men do not wear as much jewelry, and golf clubs do not lend themselves to heart shapes. For

that I suppose we can all be grateful. Still, I am sure that most American fathers will enjoy being the center of the family's attention on Sunday. Fathers will enjoy their brunch. Fathers will enjoy a respite from lawn care and other chores. They might even indulge in an afternoon nap, a rare luxury—a rare luxury—for most family men.

Fathers deserve their day in the limelight. Good fathers are very busy men, and their contributions to the family merit recognition, just as much as their equally busy wives do. Good fathers work hard—they do—they work hard to provide for their families, but they also invest a lot of time and energy into the home. They often fulfill the stereotypical "dad role"—they keep the house and the yard in good repair, even if it means tackling mechanical or construction activities for which they have little training. They spend countless hours coaching neighborhood sports teams so that their sons and daughters learn the values of teamwork, leadership, and good sportsmanship. They help with the homework and with assorted school projects, patiently helping to build foaming volcanoes or seaside dioramas. They teach children to set a fishing rod, paddle a canoe, ride a bicycle, or build a dog house. They urge their children to try new things to push themselves harder, to struggle, to win graciously, and to lose with honor. Good fathers want great things for their children. Good fathers help their children to achieve by letting them know that they believe in them. That is a lot to accomplish in a few precious hours between getting home from work and getting to bed each night.

The great man who raised me, the greatest man I ever knew, was my old coal miner dad. I always called him my dad. My adoptive father was just such a good man. He walked to work in the coal mines every day, and he walked home at night. Tired he was, covered with coal dust. Tired as he always was, he always greeted me with a smile, a quick smile. And sometimes he had a cake, a cupcake in his lunch box, and he always saved the cake for me.

He took pride in my school work. Even though I wanted to go into the mines like him, he always told me not to do it, but to do well in school instead. He did not want me in the mines, in those dangerous days of long ago. He wanted better for me than he had. And he put his energy into urging me to do better. His influence on me has been a resource for my whole life. He is the greatest man I ever knew. I have met with Presidents, kings, and princes. He is the greatest man I ever knew.

I was blessed with a good father. I hope that everyone's father is as special to each of you. Fatherhood is a great gift. Fathers gain new responsibilities, but also gain the joys of having children. For children, to have a great father, whether he is one's biological father or one's adoptive father