

knows he has to be TED KAUFMAN, not JOE BIDEN, and he will do that.

We who work in the Senate know of the strength of JOE BIDEN, but one of the reasons he has had the strength he has had over these years was because his back was always protected by TED KAUFMAN.

In this time of great consequence, Senator KAUFMAN's decades of experience and the wisdom accumulated over those years will serve him well as he serves the people of Delaware and the country in the Senate.

Senator KAUFMAN, welcome to the Senate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The senior Senator from Delaware is recognized.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, actually it is not the first time I have been recognized as senior Senator. For about 2 months now, since JOE BIDEN was nominated and elected as Vice President, people have been referring to me as the senior Senator. I always have to correct them and I say no, it is 4 days, 3 hours, 12 minutes away. Today we counted down, today we counted down to zero.

Yesterday, when Senator BIDEN resigned at 5 o'clock, I think for 17 hours I was both the junior and senior Senator. DICK DURBIN was that for almost 2 months, from Illinois.

I asked one of my colleagues, Do you think I will get paid more for that? He said no, probably not. You shouldn't be.

We lament the loss of JOE BIDEN from the Senate. I am thrilled he is going to have the opportunity to become the first Delawarean ever to be the Vice President of the United States. As wonderful as he is as a Senator, he will do more good for his country in his new role than he could have done in this service, so it is a good thing for the administration and for the country and ultimately for Delaware.

If we have to lose JOE BIDEN to the Vice Presidency of the United States, we could not ask for a better person to take his place than TED KAUFMAN. Sometimes people come here and they have never served in elected office. TED has not. But he comes here steeped in the knowledge of the Senate. He knows the place, knows the way this place works, has a pretty good idea of how to make it work better.

He has served as JOE BIDEN's chief of staff for about 20 years. JOE has been in the Senate for 36 years. For over half those years, TED was his chief of staff and maybe in a sense his alter ego. We all have those. You couldn't ask for a better one than TED KAUFMAN.

Our leader said, TED couldn't get into University of Delaware but he was able to get into Duke as an undergraduate and studied mechanical engineering there. Later he couldn't get into the University of Delaware MBA program but he did get into the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and went on to work for the DuPont Company for a while and met a guy running

for the Senate at the tender age of 29. A lot of people in our State got excited by JOE BIDEN, signed up to volunteer for his campaign, and then ended up being his chief of staff.

I think it is fair to say that JOE BIDEN would not have been maybe the only Senator in our State's history to be elected to 7 terms as U.S. Senator but for the support of TED; not just for those 19 years, but for being his friend all those years and all the years since to work with JOE through two Presidential campaigns, to be his adviser and counselor, and to always have his back.

TED is smart. We have a lot of smart people here. But he is also wise. TED is very well spoken. He is a wonderful speaker. There are a lot of good speakers here. He is also a very good listener.

TED takes his work seriously, takes our work seriously. One of the things I love about TED is he doesn't take himself all that seriously. He is a lot of fun to be with. He will be a good colleague and a good friend.

He inherits a good staff. He shared with me he expects to largely keep that staff together. People come and go in these jobs, but the good news is most of the people on board now will stay on board. For us, myself and our at-large Congressman MIKE CASTLE, I think that is very good news. He will be taking over the same committees Senator BIDEN has been serving on, in Judiciary and Foreign Relations, and I am sure he will do an excellent job there.

In addition to working for DuPont and spending 20 years as JOE's chief of staff, he has also taught. He taught at Duke in a couple of capacities there. He taught at Sanford, as I recall. And for the last, gosh, I want to say for 15 years, he served on the board of governors that oversees and tries to make sure we promote democracy in other countries. We do that through a variety of ways but in part through our media operations. He has been confirmed, I think, on the board of governors maybe four terms. I don't know he will serve four terms here. He promised his wife he would not but time will tell.

Speaking of his wife, TED tells me he started dating his wife when she was 12—no, it was 18—and they have been married since 1960. They have three kids. They are not kids—daughters, and they have seven grandchildren, something like that. It is a wonderful family.

I was talking about JOE BIDEN when he stepped down yesterday and gave a beautiful speech. I said JOE is the real deal in terms of family values—a loving father, grandfather, and TED is very much out of that same mold.

While we lament the departure of JOE and are thrilled about his opportunity to be our Vice President, we very warmly welcome TED to this family. I think in the history of this country there are maybe 1700 or so people who

have been privileged to serve as Senator. Add a few extra ones this week out of the regular order. But this is a good thing for our State, for the Senate. As a point of personal privilege, it is a special joy for me.

TED KAUFMAN, to you and Lynne and your family, welcome to this family. God bless you.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, one of the really great things about this job is I am going to be able to achieve one of his great objectives; that is, to be the senior Senator from Delaware. I thank you for your remarks; they are gracious as usual.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, we are joined on the floor today by Senator BIDEN. He is standing back here talking to three of our new Senators. Unfortunately, he cannot speak as a Senator, but we will find an opportunity for him to preside from time to time and get some things off of his chest. But I know if he could speak he would like to share with us.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Rhode Island is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO SENATORS

JOE BIDEN

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I thank you.

I welcome and commend Senator KAUFMAN as he succeeds Senator JOE BIDEN.

I particularly want to say a few words about JOE BIDEN. He has had an extraordinary career in the Senate, and he is going to be an extraordinary asset for President-elect Barack Obama.

Senator Obama, the President-elect, said very clearly why he chose JOE BIDEN. He said that when the tough decisions come, and they will come quickly and often, JOE BIDEN is the guy he wants in the room with him. And I think that choice was extraordinarily inspired because no one can bring the breadth of knowledge and experience, not only with respect to the Senate but with respect to domestic policy and indeed international policy, as JOE BIDEN.

The other thing JOE brings to this great challenge of the country is his profound decency and sense of fairness and his commitment to make sure America is still a place of opportunity for all citizens. Those values were shaped in Scranton, PA, where he grew up. They were shaped by his mother and father. His mother, Jean Finnegan Biden, is still an inspiration to him today, and I am sure one of the reasons he is the guy who should be in the room with the President is because if he needs advice, his mother is still there, and I think that is something he cherishes.

JOE has served in this body for many years. He was the author of the Violence Against Women Act to ensure that our criminal justice system, our system of law, recognized the particular dangers posed to women. He was the chief architect of the COPS bill, which put hundreds of thousands of police officers on the street, recognizing that the basic responsibility of government is to provide safety and security to its citizens. There are a lot of people who talked about that, but JOE recognized that if there are more police on the streets, that would happen, and indeed it has. We have seen that statistic over the last few years.

As the preeminent expert on foreign relations, he has traveled the world and brought his wisdom to foreign leaders but also sought their candid advice with respect to our leadership in the world, and he will continue to do that. He has just concluded a trip to Iraq and Afghanistan. I had hoped to be with him, but duties here prevented me. But that is typical of JOE—hands-on, go to the source of the issue, examine the problem, and move forward.

He has had an illustrious career. Beyond his success as a Senator, his success as a master of foreign relations, a leader in terms of domestic policy, has been his extraordinary family: his wife Jill, an extraordinarily gifted professional in her own right; Ashley, Hunter, and Beau; and I know the five grandchildren are particular joys to JOE. We are particularly respectful that today his son Beau serves in the uniform of the United States overseas and is someone JOE thinks of constantly. Once again, in those tough decisions in the White House, I think JOE will have a special equity because his son serves along with the sons and daughters of other Americans, and he will recognize that when they make difficult decisions regarding the deployment of our forces.

It has been an honor to serve with him. It is an honor to call him a colleague and a friend.

HILLARY CLINTON

Mr. President, I also wish to say a few words about our other colleague who is departing, Senator HILLARY CLINTON, an extraordinarily gifted lady. I had the privilege of traveling with her to Afghanistan and Iraq in 2003. I was impressed with her knowledge of international affairs and her personal knowledge of so many leaders; it was a first-name basis. So I think we have, in the presence of HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, an extraordinary asset to the State Department.

Senator Obama made a wise choice. She brings not only great experience with great recognition but a tenacious attitude toward work and service. She is one of the hardest working people I have ever met. All of these skills are going to be important at this moment in our history. We have to reform and transform, indeed, our national security posture away from the unilateral military force, which I think was the

wrong approach of this administration, to a much more nuanced, broader embrace of diplomacy, backed up by a strong military force. HILLARY CLINTON can and will do that, working together with President-elect Barack Obama and Vice President-elect JOE BIDEN.

She has been a friend to me, she has helped me, she has inspired me, and indeed, perhaps the true test, she has taught me a great deal about not only substantive issues but about how one conducts one's self to a higher standard. I believe she will continue to maintain those standards as she goes forward.

So we are losing several dear colleagues—KEN SALAZAR, JOE BIDEN, and HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON. The good news is that America still has their extraordinarily valuable services.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Washington State is recognized.

ENERGY

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I join my colleagues in congratulating the new Member from Delaware just sworn in this morning and wish him well in his tenure here in the Senate. I look forward to working with him as we move forward on an important stimulus bill.

Everyone knows our economy is in tough shape, and that includes the folks in my home State of Washington where we have seen too many housing foreclosures and too many jobs cuts. That is why it is very important, as we start the discussion on the stimulus next week, that we get our priorities right, that find a way to inject capital and confidence and construction back into our economy.

Although we must act urgently, I believe we must also take care to get things right in the stimulus package and take the time necessary to make sure we are getting it right. Getting it right means maintaining a laser focus on job-creation activities in the short term and over the next few decades. This should be our top priority when putting together the stimulus package and making sure we are providing businesses with the certainty they need in the Tax Code to make investments now. That is why I believe now is the time to put all of the good ideas on the table. I was so happy to hear President-elect Obama stating a willingness to embrace any good ideas Members or America had for this critical stimulus package.

Well, to me, there is no better idea or opportunity than ensuring this stimulus provides a bold and definitive step toward a clean energy future. Clean energy will create millions of family-supporting jobs that cannot be outsourced and can provide a secure foundation for a very prosperous future for the United States.

Investing in clean energy also reduces a lot of risk that is in the mar-

ketplace right now. Whether it be the billions of dollars we spend overseas on foreign energy, or the fuel price volatility we saw last year, or the fear of supply shock that comes on a regular basis. And obviously there is uncertainty about global warming and the crisis it might lead to here and across the world.

South Korea understands this. Last Tuesday, the country's Prime Minister announced that South Korea would invest \$38 billion over the next 5 years on environmental projects to stimulate the economy and create nearly 1 million jobs. Now, \$38 billion may not sound like a lot here in the United States given some of the numbers people have been throwing around lately, but \$38 billion for a country with a GDP less than one-tenth of our size—that would be like the United States putting up \$400 billion just to match the downpayment South Korea is investing in its clean energy future.

South Korea understands that a nation that manages to win the international race to develop clean energy technologies and industries will have a leg up in determining the energy platform and all of the other solutions that will follow. South Korea knows this because it has already been a leader in lithium-ion battery technology made for cell phones and for laptops, and now they are utilizing that knowledge base to come up with lithium-ion battery solutions for cars.

Early movers will have the edge in the largest new industry of the 21st century—clean energy. The question is, Are we going to put up the resources to make sure the United States has that first-mover advantage? Well, I would say that the Government lately has spent or put at risk an incredible amount of tax dollars—or I should say future tax dollars. In the last 16 weeks or so, some people have estimated that number as high as \$10 trillion. If you think about it, how do you add up \$10 trillion? Well, about \$2 trillion in FDIC assurances, about \$1.75 trillion in Federal Reserve commercial paper purchases, about \$900 billion in term auction facility lending, about \$600 billion to insure money market funds, about \$600 billion to cover Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, about \$550 billion for discount Federal Reserve loans, about \$500 billion to insure FDIC deposits, about \$300 billion for FHA mortgage relief, about \$250 billion for CitiGroup debt, about \$225 billion for security loan facility lending, about \$200 billion for continued debt, about \$112 billion for AIG, and a few more items that are not only in the billions of dollars.

So while I can quibble about how some of this money was spent, I do believe the Government should take bold action. I think there are many things agencies should be doing to help our economy. But my point is, in light of those obligations on future taxpayers and the amount of money we are spending, spending just \$100 billion to make our Nation's energy system cleaner and