

levels of practice and patient care. She is a visionary leader who has implemented a broad range of initiatives that will continue to improve care for patients whose lives depend on dialysis and other kidney replacement treatments.

Professionally, Ms. Bodin graduated with a bachelor of arts and a master of arts in nursing from the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN. She became a registered nurse in 1977 and a certified nephrology nurse in 1992. After completing work at Miller-Dawn Medical Center and St. Mary's Hospital, Ms. Bodin is currently the lead clinical informatics analyst and application coordinator at the SMDC Health System in Duluth.

I honor the efforts of Sandra M. Bodin to promote the care of those suffering from kidney disease and I recognize her achievements as a nurse, patient advocate, and healthcare leader. I commend her on her service to the American Nephrology Nurses' Association and our country. Please join me in honoring Ms. Bodin for her years of vision, leadership, and commitment.

IDAHOANS SPEAK OUT ON HIGH ENERGY PRICES

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, in mid-June, I asked Idahoans to share with me how high energy prices are affecting their lives, and they responded by the hundreds. The stories, numbering over 1,000, are heartbreaking and touching. To respect their efforts, I am submitting every e-mail sent to me through energy_prices@crapo.senate.gov to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This is not an issue that will be easily resolved, but it is one that deserves immediate and serious attention, and Idahoans deserve to be heard. Their stories not only detail their struggles to meet everyday expenses, but also have suggestions and recommendations as to what Congress can do now to tackle this problem and find solutions that last beyond today. I ask unanimous consent to have today's letters printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Dear Senator Crapo: I work for Micron Technology in Boise Idaho as an Engineer. I love my job, but it is getting harder to pay my mortgage, food, gas and cost of living expenses. My wife used to work for Micron, but she got laid off last summer and has not found a new job. My job as an Engineer covered our expenses, and my wife's job was the extra money we used to go camping, out to dinner, and have fun with. Right now, we are barely getting by. All we do is sit home and complain about the politicians in Washington that are not doing anything to create jobs, lower gas prices and promote a stable economy.

I have given up on Washington. I am voting for a third party all the way from now on because the Republicans and Democrats can't play well together.

Sincerely,

TOM, *Kuna.*

Good afternoon Senator Crapo: First of all I want to thank you for the great job you do as my U.S. Senator!

I am an avid outdoorsman and like to backpack, hunt, fish, camp and enjoy all that Idaho has to offer! I am also a Scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts of America. In that capacity, it is necessary to have a big truck to haul gear and Scouts around. One of the Laws of Scouting is that a Scout is thrifty and, as such, we (I) make every effort to camp smartly to keep costs down for the parents so as to make scouting more affordable and enjoyable. We also believe in "Leave No Trace Camping," and try very hard to be good stewards of the environment. Up until recently, most of the Scoutmasters, including myself, have donated their trucks, fuel and maintenance costs as part of our monthly campouts. Unfortunately, fuel costs over the last few years have now taken a real toll on us, and we have had to pass many or most of those costs onto the parents. Additionally, my family enjoys camping, and the costs of fuel are definitely negatively impacting our families ability to get out and enjoy nature as much as we used to. Furthermore, as a Scouter, outdoorsman, businessman and family man, I am very concerned about the environment and want to preserve it for my kids, grandchildren and others. Therefore, a very careful look into preserving nature is important to me!

For years I have seen the United States being wasteful users of gasoline and other natural resources and sought to do my part to recycle and conserve energy. I have tried in earnest to reduce water waste and electric waste by turning water off as well as lights to reduce use and costs. Last month, I began to carpool with a neighbor on a daily basis to work to cut down on my personal consumption. I am trying to do my part in the effort; however, our country (my country) has been very shortsighted and unwilling to do a number of key things to lessen our dependence on foreign oil and gas.

For one, there has been a group within the United States that has successfully put a stranglehold on our ability to develop and extract petroleum products from known oil reserves. They would be best described as ultra radical tree huggers! That is as nice as I can put it! Again, I am an avid lover of nature, but our unwillingness to use those reserves has given OPEC and other oil producers around the world a wonderful opportunity to hold us hostage and run the prices up and watch us squirm! In my opinion some of our citizens and their elected officials have failed to protect our independence in the world market, by allowing ourself to become so dependent on foreign oil.

As a respected Senator, I implore you to take this message to the Senate floor and loudly state that enough is enough!!! Remove the obstacles that prohibit the extraction of oil on our soil and within the territorial waters of the United States and get the control of oil back in our hands! Furthermore, with as much scientific talent that exist in our own country, we need to develop cleaner and more efficient vehicles while at the same time finding alternative engines powered by solar, nuclear, hydrogen or other alternative fuels to get our country back within our own control and not other governments or private companies! I enjoy having a big truck for all the activities I like to do, and there must be a safe, efficient, cost-effective power plant that can run a truck as well as a car, and we are long overdue on finding that alternative! Furthermore, the costs in fuel have really driven food costs as well as other household products costs way out of control!!!!

I am fed up with the ultra extreme protectionist attitude in this country that has put

us in this predicament! I do want responsible, well thought-out procedures to safeguard the environment while at the same time (for the short term) use our own oil while we think of new ways to make driving more cost-efficient, safe and with less pollution to the environment. I seriously think we are more than up to the task and believe that we can safely do both!!!

Sincerely,

JEFF, *Boise.*

With the price of gas going up, it just does not affect us with how much we drive; it affects groceries and price of common goods like carpet. Up till just this last month, we haven't had to make any drastic changes to our spending habits, but because of the price of everything, we are going to have to. A vacation we were going to take will have to wait, carpet that we were going to purchase will have to be put on hold, etc.

What makes matters worse is to find out that China is drilling in the Gulf Coast, right off our shore. Why aren't we drilling there, why aren't we becoming energy independent? If the Senate and the House can't get it right, which is not more taxation I might add, we need to get people in office that will. I thank you that you did not go along with the last bill and hope that you continue to fight for good legislation.

DONALD, *Post Falls.*

Dear Senator Crapo: Thank you so much for the opportunity to offer my views on our energy crisis. I'm 48 years old and grew up on a farm. In fact I can remember buying bulk fuel for 25 cents per gallon. Most of my growing up time gasoline cost between 35 and 50 cents. This is the first time in my life I have ever made decisions based on the cost of fuel! My family spends about \$250 per month on fuel and that is a burden but that is not the major problem. Fuel used in industry and transportation has affected the cost of every area of our lives. I know that India and China get the blame for increased demand but I do not believe that is the only factor. "Green" is most definitely a factor and I cannot believe the "science" behind this movement. Seems they assume that if I do not buy their dogma hook, line, and sinker that I am dooming my children to hell. Please do the correct thing vs the "political thing" concerning green. Next, I would wonder about the sense of using our corn crop to make ethanol rather than to feed people. This may be the biggest reason for my increased cost of food. Lastly, America needs to stand for the right, not the popular. I feel that the USA is acting rudderless because we have forgotten what we are. Please read the Constitution and lets get back to where the Founding Fathers wanted us to be. One Nation Under God . . . not one nation under Gore.

Thank you

MATT.

I had heard from a friend of a friend one time that the INL outside of Idaho Falls produces enough energy to easily run a few cities. And that this energy is simply being pumped into the ground and completely wasted. Because the government cannot legally enter into the competitive energy market, I suppose.

As INL is a secure site and having never been there, I am not positive this information is accurate. But knowing how our government usually works, I would not doubt that it is all true and to the point.

If there is truly energy that can be used at the INL, let's use it! Credit back the INL funds to produce further employment and benefit everyone all around.

ROBERT.