House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at 12 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2015

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord God omnipotent, Your power and love sustain us. Rule the wills of our lawmakers by Your might as You use them to do Your work on Earth. Lord, give our Senators faith to look beyond today’s challenges and trials, finding in You the source of their optimism and confidence. May their confidence in the unfolding of Your loving providence lighten every task, providing them with reasons to rejoice. Give them the gift of perseverance, enabling them to refuse to become weary in doing Your will. When they fail, help them always to rise again.

Lord, thank You for providing us with faith to look beyond today’s vicissitudes, always knowing that nothing can separate us from Your love.

We Pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, in just a few minutes, President Obama will deliver another blow to the economy and to the middle class. He will unveil regressive regulations that are set to harm struggling workers and families. They are projected to cost literally billions. They threaten to ship good middle-class jobs overseas and will likely make it harder to maintain reliable sources of energy to meet demand. They will also likely result in higher energy bills for those who can least afford them, potentially raising electricity rates by double digits for people I represent.

All of this, and for what? Not only will these massive regulations fail to meaningfully affect the global climate, but they could actually end up harming the environment by outsourcing the energy production to countries with poorer environmental records like India and China.

They may also be illegal. That is why I wrote the Governors earlier this year, suggesting they take a responsible wait-and-see approach and allow the courts to weigh in before subjecting their citizens to such unnecessary pain.

The Supreme Court’s rebuke to the White House in June on another environmental regulation underlines the wisdom of this approach. Even though that mercury regulation was ultimately tossed out, most of its damage had already been done. It reminded Governors that it would be reckless not to take a wait-and-see approach this time.

Now, several Governors have already decided they will not allow the administration to rush them into adopting these regulations, and I expect more to follow. I was recently able to place language in the Senate Interior appropriations bill that would prohibit the administration from arbitrarily imposing its will on States that take this responsible approach.

Senator CAPITO also has a bill that would prohibit the regulations from moving forward until the courts have ruled on their legality. These aren’t the only legislative options Congress can consider. We can pursue other avenues like CRA resolutions and further appropriations riders as these regulations are published and as they wind their way through the courts.

Here is the bottom line about today’s announcement. If the Obama administration were actually serious about advancing renewable energy, then it would follow the example of what leaders like Senator MURKOWSKI have been achieving in the Energy Committee. She is showing how we can make big strides on energy diversification and that we can do it in a bipartisan way and that we don’t have to punish the middle class to do it.

This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
Planned Parenthood

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, the revelations we have seen from Planned Parenthood are deeply disturbing. They raise fundamental questions about what kind of society we want to be, so I want to thank Senators Ernst, Paul, Lankford, and a number of others, for accepting my invitation to lead the effort on the Senate’s response.

The legislation they worked to develop is all about restoring America’s commitment to care and to compassion. It would fund women’s health, not Planned Parenthood, and we will take a vote to advance it tonight. Instead of subsidizing a political group, this bill would protect Federal funding for health services for women. Instead of subsidizing a political group, this bill would ensure funds continue to flow to community health centers and hospitals that provide more comprehensive health services and may have many more facilities nationwide. Instead of subsidizing a political group, this bill would help women receive health services, such as screenings, prenatal and post-natal care, well-child care, diagnostic laboratory and radiology services, immunizations, and other care they need. That is a true commitment to women’s health. That is a real commitment to women’s health.

I know Democrats have relied on Planned Parenthood as an ally recently, but they must be moved by the horrifying images we have all seen. They must be shocked by the utter lack of compassion that has been on display. They must care about women’s health as much as they care about some scandal-plagued political organization. That is why tonight I am asking them to truly reflect on what is important. I am asking them not to vote with this Half-a-million-women’s-health just to protect some political group mired in scandal. Women deserve better, and our country deserves better.

Recognize of the Minority Leader

The Presiding Officer. The Democratic leader is recognized.

Planned Parenthood

Mr. REID. Mr. President, here is an excerpt from an article in the Republican leader’s hometown newspaper, the Louisville Courier-Journal:

Sara Hall started going to Planned Parenthood when she was in her late teens and needed birth control, and she’s gotten care there ever since. Without them, “I wouldn’t have a doctor to see. I don’t know where I would have gone. It would have meant I wouldn’t get the care I needed.”

Like Sara, millions of American women depend on Planned Parenthood for much needed health services. Every year, Planned Parenthood helps women, just like Sara, get the important services they need, such as birth control measures, but it is more than just birth control.

Here are a few of the health services Planned Parenthood provides to American women, and they did it, for example, in five American women will go to Planned Parenthood for breast cancer screening. 400,000 women received a cervical exam from Planned Parenthood’s medical staff, and 4.5 million treatments and tests for sexually transmitted infections were performed. Yet, here we are once again, faced with another Republican attempt to limit women’s access to health care.

A few hours from now, the Senate will vote on a Republican bill to defund Planned Parenthood. Let’s understand what that vote means. Defunding Planned Parenthood would limit American women’s access to critical health services, such as contraception, breast and cancer screenings, and well-women visits. This legislation is just another Republican attack on the health care of millions of women, like Sara from Kentucky.

Over the past few months, Republicans have worked to trick American women into believing Republicans don’t want to limit women’s access to contraceptives or other critical health services provided by Planned Parenthood, but votes like the one we are going to take in a couple of hours lay bare the truth. The fact is that a vote to defund Planned Parenthood is a vote to limit women’s access to cancer screenings, contraceptives, and other important services that Planned Parenthood provides.

Our Nation is already facing a shortage of primary care providers. For many women, Planned Parenthood is their preferred medical provider. One in five American women will go to Planned Parenthood for services at some time during their lives. Defunding Planned Parenthood and reducing the number of providers available for women to receive contraceptives and other critical health services would reduce women’s access to good health, and more importantly, their access to care, which is very direct and to the point.

To put it another way, the demand for care would still exist, but there would no longer be a home for this care. And for many women, Planned Parenthood may be the only provider where they can seek medical help. Republicans are trying to eliminate their access to health centers.

Last Thursday, I listened to the senior Senator from Texas, where he claimed this bill we are going to vote on soon would actually increase access to care for women. I am surprised this distinguished Member of the Senate, a longtime member of the Texas Supreme Court, would say something like that.

He and other Republicans believe, I guess, that clinics like community health centers will pick up the slack should Planned Parenthood be defunded. That is simply not true. I am a strong supporter of community health centers. It is part of ObamaCare, the Affordable Care Act, because I believe in community health centers. We put billions of dollars in this bill, and during the years it has been in existence, it has done so much to provide help for community health centers, but we still have far, far much to do. There are not enough community health centers, even with what we have done, to increase their ability to meet the current demand. To throw in a few more women who have been knocked out of Planned Parenthood— and “a few” is a pejorative term; it would be millions of women—is wrong.

The director of women’s health policy at the Kaiser Family Foundation says: “Across the nation, Community health centers are already at capacity.”

Take a look, for example, at the assistant Republican leader’s home State of Texas. A recent report from George Washington University detailed what it would take for other providers to replace Planned Parenthood—exactly what the senior Senator from Texas has suggested.

For example, in Midland County, TX, there would have to be an increase of 537 percent by non-Planned Parenthood clinics, if Planned Parenthood is defunded. Lubbock County would see an increase of 250 percent. Community health centers cannot handle that, nor can they handle that increase in heavily populated Dallas County, where it would be an almost 200-percent increase.

This is why the Republican legislation does is makes it nearly impossible for women who need medical attention to get the care they need. If women cannot go get health care from Planned Parenthood, where do they go?

Take a look at what happened in the State of Indiana in 2011, when that State’s legislature voted to deny State funding for Planned Parenthood health centers. Republicans then argued that
other health care providers would bridge the gap and absorb Planned Parenthood patients. They asserted that other providers would take care of those women just fine.

So what are those other health care providers or women that the Indiana Republicans said could take the place of the State’s Planned Parenthood health centers? Prisons—listen to this—prisons, they suggested, juvenile detention centers, and homeless shelters. Mainly, they said, not the kinds of places my Republican colleagues would want to send their daughters, sisters or wives for care.

It is common sense—if you take away Planned Parenthood health centers, women will have no ability to access care, and most will go without the care they need.

The Republican senior Senator from Maine agrees. Here is what she said:

The problem is, in my state and many others, Planned Parenthood is the primary provider of women’s health services in certain parts of my state. So I don’t know how you would ensure that all of the patients of Planned Parenthood would be absorbed by alternative care providers.

In Nevada, Planned Parenthood centers there serve about 22,000 patients a year. Where will these patients go if the Republicans’ legislation passes? I do not know. They will not get the care they need, that is for sure.

Senate Republicans are not being fair to American women. They are trying to shift the responsibility to someone who does not exist.

It is their responsibility in the Senate to ensure that American women have access to care. It is our obligation to protect our wives, our sisters, our daughters, and our granddaughters from the absurd policies of a Republican Party that has lost its moral compass. Today, Senate Democrats will fight this vigorously and any other attempt from Republicans to deprive American women.

Mr. President, I do not see anyone here to speak. I would ask the Chair to announce the business of the day.

MRS. FISCHER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MRS. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise to discuss federal funding for Planned Parenthood.

Every now and then we see something that is so horrific that we must answer it. And by now, we are all familiar with the deeply disturbing videos of Planned Parenthood doctors cavalierly discussing their practice and methods of harvesting baby body parts. Like so many Nebraskans, I am shocked by the lack of compassion for these women and their unborn babies.

My colleague and friend from Iowa, Senator JONI ERNST, has introduced legislation that takes immediate action and cuts off funding for this scandal-plagued organization. I am proud to join her in sponsoring this very important legislation.

This bill has nothing to do with whether one is pro-life or pro-choice. It is not going to settle the issue of abortion, which has divided our country for over 40 years. This bill simply says that taxpayer dollars should not be given to organizations mired in scandal and likely illegal activity. This has nothing to do with ideology. It has nothing to do with religious conviction. This is about the responsible and conscientious use of taxpayer dollars.

Elected officials have a responsibility to be wise stewards of public funding. I believe it is irresponsible to continue to support funding for a group that has lost the public’s trust and engages in violations of Federal law.

I believe it is important to note that Federal law clearly prohibits abortion providers from the intentional manipulation of the bodies of unborn children for the purposes of obtaining body parts. Section 498A of title 42 of the U.S. Code clearly states:

in research carried out under subsection (a) of this section, human fetal tissue may be used only if the attending physician with re- .

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following:

PROHIBITING FEDERAL FUNDING OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will re- sume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 1881, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 169, S. 1881, a bill to prohibit Federal funding of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

MRS. FISCHER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MRS. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on an issue that has shaken the moral compass of our society. The phrase “it’s a boy” is one we often use when celebrating new life. Instead, this was spoken by a Planned Parenthood employee about the body of an unborn baby boy was picked apart and harvested for organs, such as a liver, kidneys, and heart. We have watched

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steady...
as other Planned Parenthood employees talked about “less crunchy” techniques to preserve baby organs for buyers and glumly about a “war torn” unborn baby before being sold for parts.

While it would be easier to ignore these videos, today we are standing up and shining a light on what is really happening. This is human life, and Planned Parenthood—the Nation’s single largest provider of abortion services—is harvesting baby body parts. The American people are shocked and horrified by the utter lack of compassion and disregard shown by Planned Parenthood for these women and their babies. This gruesome footage resonates with our collective conscience and goes against the very principles we stand for.

As a mother and grandmother, I believe the gravity of Planned Parenthood’s callus and morally reprehensible behavior cannot be ignored. I am committed to defending life because pro-life behavior cannot be ignored. I am committed to defending life because pro-life behavior cannot be ignored. I am committed to defending life because pro-life behavior cannot be ignored. I am committed to defending life because pro-life behavior cannot be ignored.

This legislation redirects Federal funding for Planned Parenthood, protects Federal funding for women’s health services, such as prenatal and post-partum care, cervical and breast cancer screenings, diagnostic laboratory and radiology services, and guarantees there will be no reduction in overall Federal funding available to support women’s health.

This legislation prohibits Federal funding for Planned Parenthood, protects Federal funding for women’s health services, such as prenatal and post-partum care, cervical and breast cancer screenings, diagnostic laboratory and radiology services, and guarantees there will be no reduction in overall Federal funding available to support women’s health.

Community health centers provide primary and preventive health care services—except abortion—regardless of a person’s ability to pay. Meanwhile, Planned Parenthood facilities do not perform in-house mammograms.

The American taxpayers should not be asked to fund an organization such as Planned Parenthood that has shown a shear disdain for human dignity and complete disregard for women and their babies. These videos are hard for anyone to defend and pull back the curtain on Planned Parenthood’s careless practice of rummaging for unborn baby organs to be harvested and sold at a price.

I leave you with this one question: Who do we want to be as a nation? Be-}
because I know so many women whose lives have been affected by Planned Parenthood. I know so many of the staff and dedicated professionals who work at Planned Parenthood clinics.

One spoke to me on Saturday afternoon about her story. She was a teenager when she first got involved with Planned Parenthood. She said that she

so enormous, so dreadful, so irremediable was the faith and beliefs of many millions of people, that it had to be taught. So let's consider for a second what is the real work of providing health care and education—in that setting— the real work of providing health care and education—in that setting—

I believe today, just 2 hours from now, we will have a William Wilberforce moment facing the Senate. Throughout a series of video releases over the past few weeks, the American people have learned about the shocking and barbaric practices Planned Parenthood uses to terminate innocent human lives. In several different videos, senior Planned Parenthood officials openly and candidly discussed the organ harvesting of fetuses.

In one video, the senior director of medical research for Planned Parenthood explained the process by which aborted body parts are harvested. I am not going to describe that process on the floor. I talked about it last week.

It was like describing to somebody how they could go to Home Depot and pick things off the shelf: Let's see what this costs; no, maybe we can get a better price for this. But in this case we are talking about living human tissue being taken, harvested, and sold from aborted babies.

So let's consider for a second what is the bottom line. The bottom line is what we are talking about an organization that is embrace[-]
I yield the floor.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KING. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KING. Madam President, I rise to speak in opposition to S. 1881, the bill that will be coming before us this afternoon, and I have several quick points that I think need to be made.

The first is that this bill has nothing to do with abortion. Ninety-seven percent of the activities of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and its associated facilities have nothing to do with abortion. They have to do with women's health, they have to do with cancer, they have to do with contraception and early detection. The 3 percent that do involve abortion have no involvement whatsoever with Federal funds. This is not a case where Federal funds are going to support abortion or any of the related activities.

The net effect of this bill is simply to deny basic health care, including contraception, to millions of women, particularly low-income women. And the irony is that it will undoubtedly increase abortion in our country.

I have never understood why people who are opposed to abortion also seem to be opposed to the provision of family planning and contraceptive information which can prevent unwanted pregnancies and, indeed, prevent abortions. The Guttmacher Institute, a respected, nonpartisan institution, estimates that without family planning information supplied by organizations such as Planned Parenthood, abortions would increase in this country by 345,000 a year. That is not a result anybody wants. It is certainly not one I want. That would mean an increase in abortions—345,000 a year.

I understand the bill does make funds generally available to a whole host of different organizations, some of which may or may not provide the kinds of family planning services that have been provided for over 70 years by Planned Parenthood. It is a narrower network in this country by 345,000 a year. That is not a result anybody wants. It is certainly not one I want. That would mean an increase in abortions—345,000 a year.

I yield the floor.

Ms. COLLINS. Thank you, Madam President. I yield the floor.

Mr. KING. Madam President, I rise to speak in opposition to S. 1881, the bill that will be coming before us this afternoon, and I have several quick points that I think need to be made.

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I yield the floor.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, as the Presiding Officer knows, we will have a very important vote about an hour and a half from now on a bill that would defund Planned Parenthood.

But I also know that there is a rare area where there is a consensus between pro-choice and pro-life people, such as myself, and that is that we draw the line—and have since 1976—when it comes to taxpayer funding of abortions. Of course, we all know that the videos we have seen, the disturbing and extremely troubling, how the Planned Parenthood staff who seem to show so little regard for the sanctity of human life.

What was shown in these videos is outrageous and disgraceful. Many of our colleagues across the aisle have cited their own disapproval of what has been presented in these videos. They will be given an opportunity at 5:30 when we vote on the motion to proceed to get on this bill to demonstrate that their actions actually match their words.

According to one report, the junior Senator from Indiana said he found the comments by Planned Parenthood personnel on abortion disgraceful. Similarly, the junior Senator from Virginia said that he found the videos “extremely troubling.” When asked about the videos last week, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, also called them “disturbing.” And they are.

Like our recent successful bipartisan efforts to fight the scourge of human trafficking, we have a rare opportunity to make a difference and address the moral imperative to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

It is important—because I have already heard some of our colleagues misrepresent what is in the bill—to remind everybody what this bill actually does. First and foremost, it eliminates Federal funding for one of the country’s largest abortion providers—Planned Parenthood. In fiscal year 2014, Planned Parenthood performed 327,633 abortions. At the same time, Planned Parenthood received $528 million from Federal taxpayers.

Planned Parenthood reported revenue in fiscal 2014 of $1.1 billion. In other words, almost half of its income came from tax dollars from the Federal Government at the same time they performed 327,633 abortions.

You will hear some of our friends who are defending Planned Parenthood say: Oh, well, this is different because the money is kept separate. But we know that money that comes from the Federal Government can keep the lights on and keep the doors open so the abortions can continue to be performed. It is simply a fiction to claim that Federal tax dollars are not supporting conduct proscribed by the Hyde amendment for the last 40 years.

We don’t stop there, though. When it comes to this legislation. As I mentioned at the outset, we would actually redirect the corporation that taxpayers dollars that once went to Planned Parenthood now go to provide for women’s health, such as in thousands of community health centers across the country.

I am a big fan of community health centers because they really represent one-stop shopping when it comes to primary health care needs. The ironic thing is that we can actually provide better access and more access for women by transferring the money from Planned Parenthood to community health centers and other nonabortion providers.

For example, in my State, we have as many as eight times more community health centers as there are Planned Parenthood centers. We can provide women with eight times more opportunity to see that their health care needs are taken care of and at the same time respect the law that prohibits taxpayer dollars to be used for abortions and to support abortions.

In fact, according to data from 2013—the most recently available nationwide—every State in the country has more community health centers than Planned Parenthood clinics.

Since I disagree to mention all 50 of them here—that would be a little overwhelming and be hard to read at the same time—I just picked out two States, along with the nationwide statistic—13 community health centers to every 1 Planned Parenthood provider that would still be able to provide primary health care services to women under this legislation. But if we look at Indiana, for example, we would have four times more providers under this legislation. In the State of Virginia, we would have four times more providers by simply defunding Planned Parenthood, the abortion provider, and using tax dollars and transferring that money to community health centers. We can actually provide greater access for women’s health care.

Let’s be clear, because I suspect, as I have already heard when I came to the floor, that there will be a lot of misinformation about the bill. We need to be clear. This legislation defends women’s health and ensures women access across the country to essential health services.

As I said a few moments ago, in many respects the debate that we are having was already decided in 1976, the year of the Hyde amendment, named after Henry Hyde, which, as my colleagues all know, prevents taxpayer dollars from funding abortions, except in rare circumstances. We talked about that a lot during the course of the anti-human trafficking bill. But this has been the law of the land for 40 years.

I strongly encourage all of our colleagues to vote no on this legislation. An organization that so callously reduces our most vulnerable to spare parts for sale has no business receiving any money from the Federal taxpayers. If people want to raise money from other resources, I guess I can understand if they try to push that. But if they keep giving us these videos that are so outrageous and disgraceful, and they keep it up, then they should pay the price. If they want to number to fund Planned Parenthood’s abortion practice—again, the largest single abortion provider in America.

In the same respect, we have heard many of our colleagues on the other side have agreed that the vile practices that we witnessed in these videos are disturbing, still some have tried to put off having this discussion at all. I think what we are seeing is a very big test and a big test on our part—no matter what the outcome of our vote on the underlying legislation—would be to fail to have this discussion and this debate for the American people to hear so we can come to a decision. The real travesty would be if we shut this debate down because 60 Senators didn’t see fit to vote to get on the bill. That vote will be in roughly 1 hour and 15 minutes.

There are others who say we simply humanize more important things to do. I disagree. For example, the senior Senator from New York said consideration of this bill was “wasting valuable time” and that we should instead “start urgent budget negotiations.”

Really? Really? I hardly know what to say. To those who share my disgust for the conduct depicted in these videos and who agree they are disgraceful, disturbing, and extremely troubling, how can they now turn and refuse to vote with us to get on this legislation so we can have that discussion, so we can have that debate, and so we can vote our conscience? If your conscience is shocked by the footage in these videos, you should be shocked and embarrassed by every day a person who is human could possibly vote no on this legislation at 5:30 when we vote to get on the bill.

Somewhat, we as a nation have been lulled into a sense of complacency and have become somehow so desensitized to these barbaric practices depicted in these videos that they no longer stimulate us to act. But today we have a
chance on behalf of the American people, the people we collectively represent, to act and to act in a way that protects the most vulnerable. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The SENATE is in recess until 10 o'clock a.m. tomorrow. The PRESIDING OFFICER will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order of business be suspended to allow Members to vote on S. 1998, which has passed the House and is on the calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, thanks to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, the Senate is unfortunately taking a vote on whether critical health care services should be taken away from millions of women across the country. We will be voting on whether a young woman should be able to go to a provider she trusts to get birth control, whether cancer screenings should be more or less available to women across the country, and whether the U.S. Senate is going to turn back the clock on women’s health.

To me—and to many Democrats and even Republicans who want to help women get the care they need—it is deeply disappointing that we are even having this debate because extreme Republicans have attacked Planned Parenthood and women’s health care centers once before—on the budget, the highway bill, the Affordable Care Act, and even on the legislation I introduced last week to help wounded veterans start families. That is right. Some of my Republican colleagues were more interested in scoring political points with their extreme base by picking fights over women’s health than they were in helping our wounded veterans.

Unfortunately, it is clear they will jump at any opportunity to put politics before women’s health. The bill we are talking about this evening that would defund Planned Parenthood is just more of the same.

My Republican colleagues who support this bill claim it would simply re-direct funding for Planned Parenthood to other providers. Let’s keep in mind that 2.7 million people visited Planned Parenthood for their health care last year, and 1 out of every 5 women in the United States will visit a Planned Parenthood health care center. That is right. Some of my Republican colleagues were more interested in scoring political points with their extreme base by picking fights over women’s health than they were in helping our wounded veterans.

So today, as many Members on the other side of the aisle vote to take health care away from women and their families, as they try as hard as they can to appeal to the extreme fringe of their party no matter the cost, I want to share with you a story from Tumwater, WA. When she was a teenager, she experienced “unbearable pain” and went to see a doctor to find out whether she had endometriosis. That is how some women can keep women from having children if it goes untreated. Her doctor told her she was far too young to have endometriosis and sent her home. A few years later when she turned 18, Shannon tried again, this time to a Planned Parenthood center. There, her provider confirmed that she did indeed have endometriosis. Her lesions were removed, and Shannon got the medication to manage her condition, thanks to Planned Parenthood. She no longer has to live with chronic pain, and now she is the proud mother of a little girl.

Shannon said, “My daughter is truly the gift, and I really have Planned Parenthood to thank for her.”

And, yes, 3 percent of patients who come to Planned Parenthood for STD treatment, HIV tests, STD screening, and other preventive services for poor and uninsured people.

Over the past few years, Republicans have voted to repeal the Affordable Care Act more than 50 times, including the portions that require insurers to cover contraception. Let’s be clear. It is not just Congress. Over the past 5 years Republican State legislators have passed nearly 30 new restrictions on abortion access. This year alone Republican State legislators have passed more than 50 new restrictions on women’s access to legal health care.

Let’s be really clear about something: Republicans repeatedly vote to defund Planned Parenthood is not some sort of surprised response to a highly edited video. Nope. The Republican vote to defund Planned Parenthood is just one more piece of a deliberate, methodical, orchestrated right-wing attack on women’s rights, and I am sick and tired of it. Women everywhere are sick and tired of it. The American people are sick and tired of it.

Scheduling this vote during the week of a big FOX News Presidential primary debate, days before candidates take trips to Iowa or New Hampshire, isn’t just some clever gimmick. This is an all-out effort to build support to take away a woman’s right to control her own body and access to medical care she may need.

This affects all of us, wherever your age, wherever you live. I guarantee that you know someone who has used Planned Parenthood health care centers. No one may mention it at Thanksgiving dinner or post it on Facebook for the whole world to know, but just look at the facts. One in five women in America is a Planned Parenthood patient at least once in her lifetime. In my State, nearly 2.7 million women and men show up every day at Planned Parenthood.

Why do so many people use Planned Parenthood? Because they are nonprofit and they are open. More than half of Planned Parenthood centers are located in areas without ready access to health care. Women who can’t get appointments anywhere else go to Planned Parenthood for pap tests and cancer screenings. Couples go to Planned Parenthood for STD treatment or pregnancy tests. Young people go to Planned Parenthood for birth control. And, yes, 3 percent of patients visit Planned Parenthood for a safe and look at the recent facts. In 2013, Republicans threatened to shut down the government unless they could change the law to let employers deny women access to birth control. In March of this year, Republicans held up a non-controversial, bipartisan bill to stop human trafficking. They demanded new anti-abortion restrictions to cover private funding meant to help the victims of human trafficking. In June, House Republicans passed a budget eliminating funding for the Title X Family Planning Program, the only Federal program that provides birth control, HIV testing, STD screening, and other preventive services for poor and uninsured people.
legal abortion with a doctor who will show compassion and care for a woman who is making one of the most difficult decisions of her entire life. To be clear, even though the abortions performed at Planned Parenthood are safe, the Federal Government is not paying for any of them— not one dime. For almost 40 years the Federal Government has prohibited Federal funding for abortions except in the cases of rape, incest or life endangerment.

Most of the money Planned Parenthood receives from the government comes in the form of Medicaid payments for medical care provided to low-income patients, the same payments any other doctor or clinic receives for providing cancer screenings or other medical exams. The rest of Planned Parenthood’s Federal funding comes from Title X that provides birth control to low-income and uninsured people, the same program the House Republicans voted to cut in June.

The government doesn’t fund abortions, period. A vote today to defund Planned Parenthood is not a vote to defund abortions. It is a vote to defund cancer screenings, birth control, and basic health care for millions of women.

I say to my Republican colleagues: The year is 2015, not 1955 and not 1895. Women have lived through a world where backward-looking ideologues tried to interfere with the basic health decisions made by a woman and her doctor, and we are not going back—not now, not ever.

The Republican plan to defund Planned Parenthood is a Republican plan to defund women’s health care. For my daughter, for my granddaughters, for people all across Massachusetts, and all across this country, I stand with Planned Parenthood, and I hope my colleagues will do the same.

I take my place as the Presiding Officer, and I yield the floor.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, Congress provides billions of dollars in taxpayer money for many different programs in various areas, including women’s health. Sometimes, however, we have to draw the line, rearrange our priorities, and put some things off-limits. This is one of those times. The taxpayers should not be funding an organization engaged not only in the abortion business but also in the harvesting and selling of baby body parts.

In the last fiscal year, Planned Parenthood received more than one-half billion dollars of taxpayer money in the form of government grants, contracts, and Medicaid reimbursements. That is nearly $1.5 billion per year, every day, and more than 40 percent of Planned Parenthood’s revenue. The group’s annual reports reveal what it does. In the last 3 years, it performed nearly 1 million abortions. In fact, this taxpayer-funded organization is the nation’s largest abortion provider.

Some of Planned Parenthood’s propaganda suggests the group focuses more on promoting pregnancies than ending them. But the numbers reveal the truth. Abortion accounts for 94 percent of Planned Parenthood’s pregnancy services. The number of Planned Parenthood abortions dwarfs its recipients of prenatal care by more than 15 to 1. It is clear that the organization engages not only in the abortion business but also in harvesting and selling baby body parts. The Center for Medical Progress, which released the video, has made the full video and complete transcript available.

Planned Parenthood also claims that it receives cost reimbursement for the “services” it provides. I remind my colleagues of two things. First, even if that were true, these are costs associated with the harvesting of baby body parts. We must never forget what is at the heart of this whole thing—the harvesting and selling of human body parts. Second, Planned Parenthood’s senior director of medical services says in one of the videos that if they can “do better than break even,” they are “happy to do it.” It appears that Planned Parenthood’s only guideline is that “this is not something that you should be making an exorbitant amount of money on.”

In the fourth video, a Planned Parenthood medical director talks about how “a little bit of training” will make sure that fetal organs can be removed intact. She says that charging a fee for each body part “works a little better, just because we can get a little bit of money that we can get out of it.” And to top it all off, this medical director talks about how calling this gruesome business “research” helps to avoid getting caught. The truth about Planned Parenthood is finally coming out, and Congress should respond in two ways. First, we should exercise our oversight authority to investigate how Planned Parenthood is using the hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars it receives. Federal law, for example, makes it illegal “for any person to knowingly acquire, receive, or otherwise transfer any fetal tissue for valuable consideration.” If our investigation turns up an evidence of criminal wrongdoing, such evidence should be turned over to the proper authorities.

Second, we should stop giving Planned Parenthood taxpayer money. Even if the investigations show that Planned Parenthood has broken no laws, regulations, or other rules, we should get American taxpayers out of the business of harvesting and selling baby body parts. Senator Enzi’s bill would do just that.

The abortion lobby’s misdirection, distraction, and spin are already in high gear. Last week here on the Senate floor, one of my Democratic colleagues said that this bill is an “attack on women.” It is no such thing. Planned Parenthood is not the only provider of prenatal services or cancer screenings. It is, however, the only organization financed by American taxpayers that traffics in baby body parts.

Just as everyone should judge Planned Parenthood’s words for themselves, everyone should also read this bill for themselves. It says that while Planned Parenthood will no longer receive taxpayer money, overall funding for women’s health will not decrease. This bill supports women’s health but defunds Planned Parenthood.

This bill does not prohibit Planned Parenthood from performing abortions, it does not even prohibit Planned Parenthood from continuing its practice of harvesting and selling baby body parts. But if Planned Parenthood wants to be in this gruesome business, it should do so with money being subsidized by American taxpayers.

I reiterate that this bill does not reduce services for women’s health by a single dime. Healthcare providers all over this country, including community health centers, offer all sorts of services for women. These include the very services that my Democratic colleague mentioned here last week, such
as cancer screenings, vaccinations, breast exams, and HIV testing. Under this bill, Federal funding for such services will not be reduced, but rather redirected to providers who are not involved in the sordid and contemptible baby business.

The recent revelations about Planned Parenthood have pulled back the curtain on something very ugly in our culture. Millions of abortions over multiple decades have devalued human life to the point where even the idea of aborting an unborn baby is more fashionable than commodities, collections of parts that can be harvested and sold. Is that the kind of country we want? No, it is not. We should use this opportunity to examine our values to chart a better course.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, we are now 7 months into the 114th Congress, and our Nation is faced with many challenges. Less than 1 year ago, the American people were promised that the focus of Congress would be on the health of the American people. As Senate, our focus would be on committee-reported bills and promoting bipartisanship. Leader MCCONNELL pledged not to fill the amendment tree and instead to allow for an open amendment process when bills are brought to the floor. These promises have already been broken and this week we will likely see them broken again.

We are just a few days before the first debate for the many Republicans seeking their party’s nomination for President. Given the crowded stage, they have already resorted to attention-getting attacks designed to excite the most extreme wing of their base. It should surprise no one then that at the top of the Senate’s agenda this week is a bill that would jeopardize the health and well-being of women across the country.

I spoke in opposition to this misguided plan last week. It is disappointing that instead of using the few remaining weeks before the end of the fiscal year working to reach an agreement on how to fund the government, we are considering ideologically-driven legislation to bar funding for Planned Parenthood health centers. This issue is unfortunately all too familiar. A few years ago, a small but vocal minority nearly shut down the Federal Government over a provision prohibiting funding for Planned Parenthood. Thankfully, we prevailed in the end, removing the rider and assuring women’s access to vital health care. I hope the Senate makes the right choice again today.

This latest attack on women’s health is fueled by an extreme organization that is in the process of releasing surreptitiously recorded videos, which the group heavily edited in a misleading way to suggest wrongdoing on the part of Planned Parenthood. The Attorney General is currently reviewing the matter, and I have every confidence that if there is credible evidence to warrant an investigation of any of the parties involved in the videos, the Justice Department will act.

The bill before the Senate today would affect the lives of millions of American women, men, and young people who trust and depend on Planned Parenthood for their health care needs, including annual health exams, cervical and breast cancer screenings, and HIV screenings. Last year in Vermont, Planned Parenthood centers provided critical and preventive services to over 16,000 patients. In a small State like Vermont, this impact cannot be overstated.

Proponents of this bill argue that if we defund Planned Parenthood, women will find care at other health centers. This is not the case. Planned Parenthood centers overwhelmingly serve populations in rural and medically underserved parts of the country where access to health care, especially for low-income individuals, is difficult. In fact, over 90 percent of Vermont’s Planned Parenthood centers are located in rural or medically-underserved areas. Many women in my State served by Planned Parenthood describe their center as their primary source of health care. What this partisan bill would do is force the women in Vermont who have trusted Planned Parenthood for their health care to try to find another doctor who is willing, under the Hyde amendment, to go without care at all. That undermines all of our efforts to strengthen our Nation’s health care system, and ensure access to care for everyone.

Planned Parenthood health centers are eligible for funds in two ways, and under the Hyde amendment, funds cannot be used for abortion services except in very limited circumstances. First, Planned Parenthood centers can receive Federal grant funding through Title X of the Public Health Service Act. Title X is the only Federal grant program dedicated to offering comprehensive family planning and related preventive health services. President Nixon was instrumental in its creation, and it has long been supported by lawmakers and Presidents of both parties. It cannot be emphasized enough that Title X is a remarkable breakthrough in women’s health care. The second way Planned Parenthood receives Federal funding is through Medicaid reimbursements, when women using Medicaid choose a Planned Parenthood provider as their doctor.

The federal and state health services offered by Planned Parenthood are the core of their work and mission. Despite the misleading and blatantly false statements of some ideologically-driven advocates, more than 90 percent of the care that Planned Parenthood health centers offer is preventive care like cancer screenings, annual checkups, and contraception. As noted by several observers over the weekend, the irony is that defunding Planned Parenthood would result in widespread pregnancies, and probably more abortions.

Should we walk back from the remarkable progress we have made as a nation in women’s health? Of course not. But I am concerned that we still see this same irresponsible attack surfacing again and again. It is time for the mean-spirited and ideologically-motivated attacks on women’s health care to end.

The arrogance and shortsighted attitude of a minority has put at risk the lives and health of millions of women. Does this Congress care more about what looks good on a bumper sticker or what is best for America’s women? My wife Marcelle is a cancer survivor. We were lucky. We had good health care and the ability to pay the bills when she got sick. Others are not so lucky. Without the services that Planned Parenthood provides, thousands of low-income women in Vermont would lose their ability to have regular cancer screenings that could save their lives too. That we are even considering the elimination of these health services to America’s women is shameful.

What a travesty it would be to gut health services that have literally meant the difference between life or death, health or grave ill health for millions of American women. This bill is merely an effort to score political points at the expense of women’s health. I hope the Senate rejects this irresponsible, partisan legislation. I urge the Senate majority leadership to return to its promise that it would lead this Chamber responsibly and act through regular order.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I am strongly opposed to the bill before us today, S. 1881, introduced by Senator ERNST.

I stand in strong support of Planned Parenthood, which every year provides 2.7 million people—including over 30,000 Marylanders and one in five women—with important health care services, such as breast and cervical cancer screenings, sexually transmitted disease, STD, testing and counseling, and birth control.

The bill before us today does one thing. It defunds Planned Parenthood. Every year Planned Parenthood health centers receive approximately $250 million in Federal funds to provide preventive health services to 2.7 million people in the United States, including one in five women. These services include cancer screenings, STD testing and counseling, and birth control. If the Ernst bill passes, Planned Parenthood would lose that money and could no longer provide those services to women and men in need.

For decades, anti-choice activists have looked for any excuse to eliminate funding to Planned Parenthood health centers because they want to use Federal funds to provide legal abortions. This time around, the excuse is that we should defund Planned Parenthood because of some misleading videos. Videos that, while uncomfortable to watch, have shown nothing illegal to date.

Let us talk about what Planned Parenthood means to Maryland. In my
State, Planned Parenthood is a leading provider of high-quality and affordable health care for so many women, men, and young people. Every year in MD, more than 33,000 patients receive health care from Planned Parenthood health centers. And what types of health care do these patients get from these health centers? Approximately 5,000 breast exams every year. Nearly 4,000 cervical cancer screenings and Pap tests. More than 34,000 STD tests and counseling sessions. And more than 26,000 Marylanders rely on Planned Parenthood health centers for birth control.

The bill before us today is just the latest in a series of unrelenting attacks on Planned Parenthood. Those supporting this bill are simply latchng on to yet another misguided attempt to try and eliminate Planned Parenthood in an effort to undermine women’s reproductive rights.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill and defend Planned Parenthood, 2.7 million people, and in 1 in 5 American women, who rely on Planned Parenthood for their health care.

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, before us this evening is a decision whether or not to take money away from Planned Parenthood.

For close to 100 years, Planned Parenthood has provided critical health services to millions, providing care to 2.7 million people in 2013 alone.

In 2013, Planned Parenthood affiliates operate in rural and medically underserved areas. In some cases, closing these facilities could cause patients to travel great distances to receive health services.

Now, that said, I find the videos at issue to be extremely disturbing and I believe we have a responsibility to determine all the facts.

More investigation is needed before we even start talking about taking away services like local wellness exams and cancer screenings from the millions who rely on them for care.

Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I would like to take a moment to express my sincere disappointment in Planned Parenthood’s apparent disregard for human life. As a father of four and a strong advocate for the sanctity of life, I am deeply disturbed by reports of the gruesome and inhuman actions being performed by Planned Parenthood and their affiliates.

I am proud to be a lead coauthor of Senator Ernst’s bill, of which I am a strong advocate for the sanctity of life, and hope my fellow Senators will consider today to defund this organization.

The bill’s lead sponsor claimed that “[t]here will be no reduction in overall federal funding available to support women’s health.” Another cosponsor of this legislation claimed the bill would “provide additional money for women’s primary health care services,” but the bill’s operative language makes no health. Instead, it advances a political agenda that threatens women’s ability to receive often lifesaving care. In my State of Minnesota alone, Planned Parenthood provided more than 9,000 cervical cancer screenings and nearly 14,000 screenings for breast cancer in just 1 year. These screenings save women’s lives, women such as Liz Steele from Minneapolis.

Liz’s first job after graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire didn’t offer health insurance, so she relied on Planned Parenthood for basic health care services. When a blood sample taken during a routine physical exam more than 25 years ago indicated that Liz had a deadly form of leukemia, the nurse practitioner who cared for Liz at Planned Parenthood tracked her down and connected her with a physician who treated her cancer and saved her life. Liz said, “Without [the nurse’s] persistence, I quite frankly wouldn’t be here right now. Planned Parenthood is responsible for saving my life.”

Unfortunately, the bill we are discussing today ignores women like Liz. Rather than recognizing Planned Parenthood’s role in protecting women’s health, this legislation advances a series of unrelenting attacks on Planned Parenthood and on women’s access to basic health care. We have seen this strategy before. In 2007, the Senate voted on a measure that would have defunded Planned Parenthood. In 2011, the Senate voted on a proposal that singled out Planned Parenthood by name and would have disqualified it from receiving Federal support. Each time, these attempts to weaken political hurdles between a woman and the health care provider of her choice failed—by a vote of 41 to 52 in 2007 and 42 to 58 in 2011. Today’s attempt will fail as well.

Recently, antiabortion activists secretly recorded videos of Planned Parenthood doctors and staff. In these videos, some of the physicians captured on tape did not treat the issue of reproductive health services with the appropriate level of sensitivity. I was glad to see that the president of Planned Parenthood apologized for the tone of those remarks. But these videos—deceptively edited to paint a misleading picture of the organization—were designed to distort the truth and create controversy, a controversy that opponents of reproductive rights are now exploiting by pushing the same failed strategy, only this time they have focused their opposition to reproductive rights in disingenuous efforts to disqualify any health care provider—including Planned Parenthood—that provides safe, legal abortion services. In 2011, the Senate voted on a proposal that singled out Planned Parenthood by name and would have disqualified it from receiving Federal support. Each time, these attempts to place political hurdles between a woman and the health care provider of her choice failed—by a vote of 41 to 52 in 2007 and 42 to 58 in 2011. Today’s attempt will fail as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. FRANKEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRANKEN. Madam President, I rise today to speak in strong opposition to legislation that would defund Planned Parenthood and jeopardize women’s access to health care.

Each year Planned Parenthood opens its doors to millions of Americans, including more than 54,000 people in my State of Minnesota, people who need affordable, quality health care, such as breast and cervical cancer screenings, child care, prenatal and postnatal care, immunizations, and cervical and breast cancer screenings.

The sanctity of human life is a principle that Congress should proclaim at every opportunity. The time has come to respect the wishes of the majority of Americans who adamantly oppose anything and everything by which Planned Parenthood is denying Federal funds to these abortion providers. I strongly encourage the support of my fellow Senators on efforts to defund Planned Parenthood and protect these innocent babies from being the target of Planned Parenthood’s gruesome practices.

Ms. WARREN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The roll call will now proceed.
such commitment. It merely provides that ‘no federal funds may be made available to Planned Parenthood.’ What the bill’s proponents choose not to acknowledge is that Planned Parenthood health centers serve 36 percent of all U.S. women. We need to look inside the doors of a federally supported women’s health center—not only any other provider—but those sponsors have no particular plan for where the millions of patients currently receiving health care from Planned Parenthood would go if this legislation were successful—no plan.

Moreover, claims that opponents of Planned Parenthood support continuing or even increasing funding for women’s health services are especially hard to believe in light of the fact that some of the same people also support cutting the very programs that fund women’s health services now. Just a little over 1 month ago, House appropriators approved a spending bill that would completely eliminate the Title X family planning program—the Nation’s only Federal program exclusively dedicated to reproductive health care. Senate appropriators proposed slashing title X—a program that is already running out of money $30 million. So claims that the bill to ban one of America’s most trusted health care providers from Federal programs would support women’s health—claims made while the bill’s proponents are working to gut Federal programs that provide services and pelvic exams, contraceptives, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections and HIV—are nothing short of preposterous.

It is no secret that attacks on Planned Parenthood are part and parcel of a longstanding campaign to make safe and legal abortion in this country virtually impossible to access. Ironically, the defunding of Planned Parenthood would interfere with the delivery of primary health care that annually prevents unintended pregnancy and reduces the need for abortion. If the proponents of this bill were truly sincere in their desire to support women’s health, they would embrace efforts to improve contraceptive coverage and increase access to birth control rather than continue to attack the Nation’s No. 1 provider of basic women’s health services.

The ability to access reproductive health care is reduced by the services that Planned Parenthood provides has a powerful effect on the choices women and families make every day—choices about finishing college or graduate school, whether to buy a home or start a business. The ability to decide whether or when to start a family shapes lives, and for nearly 100 years Planned Parenthood has played an important role in ensuring that women are able to make that decision for themselves and shape their own destinies. I urge my colleagues to remember that politics stand between a woman and her health care and to oppose legislation to defund Planned Parenthood.

Thank you, Madam President.
I yield to my colleague from Montana.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. TESTER. Thank you, Madam President.

Once again, this 114th Congress is proving its priorities are completely misguided. Last week the House of Representatives adjourned for a 6-week recess instead of taking up the Senate’s appropriations bill. The bill would strengthen our transportation infrastructure and reauthorize the Export-Import Bank, which helps businesses compete globally and returns hundreds of millions of dollars to the Treasury. By skipping town, the House forced an other short extension, delaying long-term investments and denying States and businesses long-term certainty.

Today we are debating whether to defund Planned Parenthood and deny millions of women access to primary health care. Outside of these walls, this debate was settled decades ago. Most voters—including over 70 percent of Independents—oppose this effort because they see it for what it is: an aggressive assault on women’s health care.

If you don’t believe me, let me tell you the story of one of my constituents named Liz from Billings. Planned Parenthood has been Liz’s primary health care center for over 30 years. The doctors and nurses at her local facility found precancerous cells and got her the treatment she needed to prevent a life-threatening disease. Despite a complicated medical history, she was able to start a family thanks to the prenatal care she accessed at Planned Parenthood. Now she has a daughter of her own and trusts the providers of Planned Parenthood to provide critical health care to her and her family. But Liz isn’t alone.

In 2011, in my home State of Montana, over 15,000 men and women were patients at Planned Parenthood for everything from affordable primary care to cancer screenings, to family planning services. Four out of ten women who receive care at a title X-funded health care center consider it their only source of health care. Taking away this funding is political, shortsighted, and outright dangerous. Unfortunately, it is not their only attempt to rob women of their health care choices. As it sits now, next year’s U.S. House appropriations bill for Health and Human Services eliminates all of the title X family planning health clinics. While that is the kind of shortsightedness we have come to expect from the House in recent years, the Senate Labor-HHS appropriations bill isn’t much better because it significantly cuts title X funding. It cuts teen pregnancy prevention funding by 81 percent. In a large rural State like Montana, closing health care access is a serious challenge. Without a serious effort to recruit more doctors and nurses, we could soon be facing a crisis-level shortage of qualified medical providers.

This bill is designed to score political points, no doubt about it. It is certainly not designed with women’s health or public health in mind. This is a show of power. We need to look at the average American people more options when it comes to their health care, not fewer.

I would urge my colleagues to stop the political gaming and simply vote no on this bill.
I yield the floor.
I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, there comes a time in the history of nations when a civilized people must stand up and decide whether life is important, whether life is something special, and whether there is maybe something greater than just us that has to do with life.

It sickens me to see what has been going on with Planned Parenthood. Some of my first memories of my children were the ultrasounds I saw before they were born. We still keep those. We now find out, though, that this technology that can do wonders, that can save babies—now we perform surgery in the uterus and the baby can survive. These same techniques are being used by Planned Parenthood to manipulate the baby into a position to harvest the baby’s organs. I think all America should be sickened by this. It should also trouble us if we are a society that is not sickened by this.

I think the time has come to have a full-throated debate. The time has come to end all taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood. We, as a country, should say: Well, where will people get their health care? We have 9,000 community health centers and 700 Planned Parenthood clinics. The only difference is abortion. In fact, you can get many things at a community health center you cannot get at Planned Parenthood, but the only thing you get at Planned Parenthood that you cannot get anywhere else is an abortion.

But this debate is not just about abortion; this debate is about little babies who have not given their consent.

It is about time we had a debate in our country about this, and it is about time we said enough is enough. The question is, Can a civilization long endure that does not respect life? Do we lose everything else that makes us human if we are unwilling to protect life? Can we stand up and defend our other rights if we are not willing to stand up and defend the most basic right of all?
Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to have a colloquy with several Members of the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I would first like to enter into a colloquy with Senator Daines. This is an issue which many of us here in this body feel extremely passionate about. We will talk about Planned Parenthood and what is going on and the basic issue of children.

This has been spun multiple different ways, but really this is not about a lot of other issues other than one thing. This is about children—children who are recognizable outside of the womb, and once they have been carved up and set out on a table to be sold as parts, they can be plainly seen to be children.

So my conversation today will circle around a little bit about what we are doing, where we are headed, what this vote this evening is all about, and what this debate is that should begin here in America about what happens with Planned Parenthood.

So I would like to entertain a conversation with Senator Daines.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Lankford, thank you for the Senator from Oklahoma for having this colloquy today because I do believe we are at a crossroads. With this vote we will have in about 20 minutes, we have a choice set before us, one that each one of us must make as a Senator and one that each American must make with us.

With a "yes" vote—a "yes" vote is to defund Planned Parenthood—we reaffirm our dedication to women's health. In fact, we recommit every dollar made available to support things such as well-baby care, cervical and breast cancer screening, prenatal and postpartum care, immunizations, family planning services, including contraception, sexually transmitted disease testing and relevant diagnostic, laboratory, and radiology services.

This bill does not take a single dollar away from women's health. I think it is very important, as we debate this decision in front of us, that we do not get caught up in rhetoric. Let's get focused on the facts, on what this does and what it does not do. This is a vote about our culture. This is a vote about our values. It is important and we can say this as a daddy of four children, two boys and two girls—this is about the value of our children.

Over the last few weeks, we have seen these videos. Americans have been horrified by the videos of a Planned Parenthood executive who were callously discussing the price of baby organs harvested from the tiny bodies of aborted babies. In fact, just last week we witnessed an abortion doctor poking through the pieces of a tiny and broken body and dismembering the heart and lungs and discussing what each of them should cost when sold, meanwhile exclaiming it is a baby.

We have heard so many arguments today: Well, this is about the woman's body. We respect the body of the woman, and we want to make sure that the proper services are allowed to protect a woman's health. But this is not about children. This is about the body of a different body with a different DNA. This is about a little baby—a baby who now has a price not just on its head but on literally every part, as these videos exposed.

When we place a price on the outcome of the destruction of our children, we incentivize it. In another setting, we would call this price-per-specimen arrangement a bounty scheme, because with potential for such financial gain, cancer is a little rapider. In fact, just last week a complaint was filed with the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies against one of these clinics regarding a little 13-year-old girl who was sexually abused, had an abortion, and was returned to her parent. Her parents were not contacted—all in violation of a Federal Government and helping to facilitate the covering up of sexual abuse and statutory rape. In fact, just last week a complaint was filed with the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies against one of these clinics regarding a little 13-year-old girl who was sexually abused, had an abortion, and was returned to her parent. No report was made by the clinic or the abortionist. Her parents were not contacted—all in violation of the laws of Colorado.

So a "no" vote on this bill supports this culture. It devalues both the woman and that tiny little baby, that child.

We do have a choice today. We can work to change that culture if we choose to vote for women, if we would choose to vote yes, because a "yes" vote redresses—again, let's get the facts straight here and separate them from the rhetoric—funds from Planned Parenthood and provides that money for women's health services, including contraception, to those clinics, to local clinics, to hospitals, to other providers that already serve the majority of women.

You heard Senator Paul talk about 9,000 community clinics around the country versus 700 Planned Parenthood centers. It would provide these dollars to those clinics, to local clinics, to hospitals, to other providers that already serve the majority of women.

I must tell you I was deeply disturbed when I saw this most recent video where a doctor pokes around the aborted baby's parts until she finds the legs, and she shouts and exclaims: It is another boy.

There can be no denying what she was saying. We hear those words for the first time. I heard those words for the first time from a doctor during an ultrasound when Cindy and I were seeing the doctor as we were pregnant or in that ecstatic phone call that comes from home expecting a new father takes that newborn son into his arms. That doctor was the same one to say: It is a baby.

There is no doubt that this is what the little boy is; it is a baby.

I cannot support an organization that would place a dollar amount on body parts. I cannot support an organization that would incentivize his death. That is why I will vote for this bill, and my vote will be a vote for women's health.

To be very clear, this bill won't touch 1 cent of funding for women's health—not 1 cent. That means that this vote is for one thing and one thing only. A "yes" vote is a vote for women. A "no" vote is for our children. I urge my colleagues: Let us vote yes for women. Let us vote for our children. Let us vote yes.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, this ongoing conversation has happened. I would like to be able to demonstrate what I am saying is really what this really looks like in practical terms.

I brought a chart with me here for when we talk about women's health because there is an accusation that is sitting out there that this is about cutting off access to women's health. The chart I have on the right shows all Planned Parenthood licensed mammogram facilities. They would be a dot on this map. If you were looking close at the map, you would see no dots on it. It is clear there is not a single one. The accusation is, over and over, that if women are going to get access to mammograms, they have to be able to get to Planned Parenthood. The dirty secret is they are referred to other locations. They recommend that you go get a mammogram, but Planned Parenthood does not do any of them. On the left, these are the 8,000-plus facilities—the dots on the map here—where you can actually get a mammogram. We are talking about taking funding from a location that refers patients to the location that actually does the mammogram.

This is about women's health, but it is also about the health of children. I have a very difficult time talking about things such as early childhood education on this floor with individuals who are passionate about early childhood education, but if that child was just a couple of years younger, they would have no issue with them being aborted and their body parts being sold.

That is the same child. That is the same child whose early childhood education we are passionate about. That is the same child whose early childhood education we are passionate about. That is the same child whose early childhood education we are passionate about. That is the same child whose early childhood education we are passionate about.
the same child. The only difference between the child in the womb and the child who is a preschooler is time. We just think it is important in this incredibly divisive issue of abortion that we treat this seriously as a nation.

With that, I yield to the Senator from Louisiana in this colloquy. I see my colleague from California as well. I think she would also like to have a moment in our colloquy.

Would the Senator like to be able to speak for a moment in our colloquy?

Mrs. BOXER. Yes, I was going to ask unanimous consent that following my friend from Louisiana I be given 2 minutes.

Mr. LANKFORD. Could we just swap and go straight to the Senator now? Would that be appropriate?

Mrs. BOXER. Whatever the Senator wants.

Mr. LANKFORD. Let's do that then.

I have a unanimous consent for an ongoing colloquy, and I would be pleased to have the Senator join this conversation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank my friend from Oklahoma for his generosity here. I tell him that I would really rather work with him on transportation.

I gave birth to two premature kids, and I just don't like lectures from men about what is life—and thank God they made it.

I am pro-choice. I just have to say that using pregnancy as a political football doesn't sit well with the people I represent and the people of this country.

We have to respect one another. We have to respect each other's view entirely. I am asking you to respect mine. Keep Uncle Sam out of my private life, and that of my children, my grandkids, and yours.

Families will make these decisions with their God and their doctor. Ninety-seven percent of the work Planned Parenthood was doing has nothing to do with abortion. It is primary health care.

I have to say that in 2011 Republicans threatened to shut down the government if Planned Parenthood wasn't defunded. I heard my friend from Washington, Patty Murray, say they were serious. They were going to shut down the government, the health care to 2.7 million women and men every year—for some of them, basic health care.

I will show you a particular person, Doris from California, who said: I went to Planned Parenthood and I talked to the clinician. . . . She gave me a referral to a breast care center where I had a mammogram and a biopsy and was diagnosed with breast cancer. I was scheduled for a lumpectomy in about two weeks.

That woman could have died, and you say: Go to community health care centers. First, I find it ironic because they were set up in the Affordable Care Act and all of you voted no on ObamaCare. We expanded community health centers.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a letter from the community health care center association in California.

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

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ANDR MARTINEZ PATTERSON, MPP, Director of Government Affairs

They say they cannot take any more patients. They cannot take those 800,000 patients. So they say to the women: Go to the community health care centers. They voted against ObamaCare, and expanded the community health care centers, and the health care centers are saying no, they are sorry, they cannot do it. Planned Parenthood does a great job.

So this is a continuation of the Republican war on women. I hope we will defeat this ill-considered bill that is about to come our way.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I wish to be able to continue this conversation because it is extremely important that we continue this as a nation.

As I wish to make a couple of comments to you as well. I am a dad with two daughters. I had something to do with the birth as well.

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and was also there. I was there during the sonograms. My wife and I are extremely close. As a dad of two daughters, I am very passionate—not only about my own wife but about my mom, who is a cancer survivor. She is a multiple-time cancer survivor. I am passionate about daughter being strong every single opportunity. So this is important to us as well. This is not just a women’s issue. This is a men’s issue as well because this is a family issue, and families are extremely important to all of us.

But I would say that community health centers don’t serve 3.2 million people, like Planned Parenthood. Community health centers serve 23 million people around the country. There are around 600 Planned Parenthood locations around the country. There are 9,000 community health centers around the country. The Planned Parenthood facilities refer people to go get breast cancer screenings. The community health centers actually do that testing. There. They actually do the mammograms there and not just say that you should get one.

So this is about women’s health. It is also about the efficiency of what we are going to be about. I would also say one other thing on this issue about ObamaCare and the community health centers. The community health centers were funded under ObamaCare, but they long preexisted before ObamaCare. Community health centers are not an invention of ObamaCare. There was a section of ObamaCare that funded some of them an additional amount, but they have been around for decades and decades. They are an extremely efficient form of health care, especially to those on Medicaid.

I yield to my friend and fellow Senator from Louisiana.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I am a physician, a doctor. For the last 25 years, I have worked in hospitals for the uninsured. So when my friend from California mentions the need to ensure access for those who might not otherwise afford it, that is what I have been attempting to do in my medical practice for the last 25 years.

As a practicing physician, one of the first things you are taught in medical school is “first, do no harm.” Tragically, these videos demonstrate that some do not share that perspective. When patients see their doctors, they want an honest, objective opinion. But what the video suggests is that Planned Parenthood puts profits and specialty visits before the women who call on them for their advice.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator should be advised that the time for the vote, scheduled for 5:30, has arrived. We can ask unanimous consent for additional time if he so wishes.

Mr. CASSIDY. Oh, is it 5:30 now? I am sorry. I ask unanimous consent for another 2 minutes?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CASSIDY. Now, again, for 30 years, I have been working to get health care for folks, and I think it is important to ensure access for women to health care.

Currently, Planned Parenthood gets $500 million in Federal funding per year. If we redirect this funding to the community health centers, which I have worked with for 25 years, their health can be better served.

There are two Planned Parenthood facilities in Louisiana, and there are 160 community health centers. The two Planned Parenthood offices, one in New Orleans and one in Baton Rouge, are in the southeastern portion of the State. The community health centers are scattered all over the State, and, again, there are 160 of those.

For every American who is troubled by these videos, we should be equally troubled by the fact that the Planned Parenthood provision of health care is geographically centered in some areas but not as broadly as the community health centers.

I will also point out, as a physician, that the Planned Parenthood model of care is outdated. We now talk about clinics which are medical homes, not which are siloed into only the provision of birth control pills and, in the case of Planned Parenthood, abortion. The community health centers can provide the whole range of services including those for diabetes, hypertension, etc.

It is time for Congress to act. I ask my colleagues to support this redistribution of money, sending it closer to where those patients live, to better ensure a woman’s access to health care, and to address the troubling issues raised by these videos.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 1 additional minute.

Mrs. BOXER. Reserving the right to object, I will not object if Senator BLUMENTHAL can respond with 1 minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state. The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby make a motion to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to S. 1881, a bill to prohibit Federal funding of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.


The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby make a motion to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to S. 1881, a bill to prohibit Federal funding of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.
Federation of America, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Graham).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Graham) would have voted "yea."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 262 Leg.]

**YEAS—53**

Alexander 
Aron 
Barrasso 
Blunt 
Boozman 
Burr 
Capito 
Casidy 
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Cooper 
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**NAYS—46**

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Durbin 
Gillibrand 
Graham

**NOT VOTING—1**

Graham

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 46.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

**CYBERSECURITY INFORMATION SHARING ACT OF 2015—MOTION TO PROCEED**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to S. 754.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 28, S. 754, a bill to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

**CLEPTOMOTION**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 28, S. 754, an original bill to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes.


Mr. MCCONNELL. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I will be brief.

I understand why our colleagues want to respond in some way to the horrendous hack at the Office of Personnel Management. I wish to say to my colleagues that it needs to be a response that is going to work. My concern is that this bill, in its present form, will create more problems than it solves, and it would be a mistake to bring it up without agreeing to an inclusive process for considering relevant amendments.

I appreciate that the sponsors of the bill have been working on a managers' amendment to address some of the very serious concerns that have been raised. My own view is that the bill needs a lot more work. For example, the managers' amendment does not fix the provision of this bill that will allow private companies to hand over large volumes of their customers' personal information to the Government with only a cursory review, even if that information is not necessary for cybersecurity.

Cyber security experts and privacy advocates have been raising concerns about these issues for many months. They state that they have sent something like 6 million communications to the Hill in the last few days.

For me, the bottom line is that the legislation, as it stands today, doesn't do a whole lot to protect U.S. networks against sophisticated hacks, and it will do a lot to undermine the privacy rights of the American people.

I see the distinguished senior Senator from California here, and I know she has a different view. My colleague from North Carolina is here. I look forward to working with both of them and the Senate and hope that we will have an inclusive debate that will ensure that all sides get a chance to raise their concerns.

Cyber security is a very real problem in America. My constituents have been hacked. In fact, the Chinese were indicted for hacking my constituents. Information sharing can play a valuable role. Yet information sharing without vigorous and robust privacy safeguards will be seen by the American people as a surveillance bill. That is a fact.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). The Senator from Ohio.

**DRINKING WATER PROTECTION ACT**

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I have come back to the floor again this afternoon to plead with my colleagues to pass legislation that deals with the toxic algal blooms that affect many of our States, including my State of Ohio.

It turns out this is the 1-year anniversary of the water crisis that occurred in Toledo, OH. I see my colleague from Ohio is now on the floor also. He will remember this well. But it was a year ago when we found that there were toxic algal blooms around the intake valve in Toledo, OH, making the water unusable. There was an advisory sent out to 500,000 people that said: Do not drink the water.

You can imagine the chaos that occurred. You can imagine how difficult this was for the people who live in the Toledo area, who by the way, there are about 3 million Ohioans who rely on Lake Erie water and more than twice that many around the country and in other States, such as Michigan.

This is a critical issue. Last week it turned out that there were algal blooms that were moving within a few miles of this same intake valve—the same kind of blue-green toxic algal blooms. I was on the lake the weekend before last to see some of this. Within a couple of days, the city of Toledo changed the city's water quality status from "clear" to "watch." We are on a "watch" status right now because of the amounts of toxins that have drifted closer to the intake valve.

We have a problem right now. We know that the toxic algal blooms prediction for this year in Lake Erie is projected to be worse than it was last year, almost as bad as it was during another crisis period in 2011, when a lot of the beaches were closed down and people weren't able to take their pets to the water and when fishing was pretty much shut down because of the algal blooms. This is a huge issue. It is an economic development issue. It is a health and safety issue. It is an issue that goes to the heart of the economy in this part of Ohio where we have relatively high unemployment and where Lake Erie is the single biggest driver of economic activity. In fact, it is the biggest destination in the State of Ohio. It is our biggest resource for tourism.

It is not just Lake Erie. We now have this in Grand Lake St. Marys. There is an advisory out on water in Grand Lake St. Marys, which is a reservoir that is inland that is a freshwater reservoir south of Lake Erie. It is the same thing—toxic algal blooms. We had a lot of rain earlier this spring and
summer, as those of us in the Midwest will remember, and that washed a lot of effluent into the lakes, a lot of nitrogen, a lot of phosphorus—the things that cause algal blooms to grow. Then we had some hot weather. That is a bad combination.

Again, I see my colleague Senator Brown is on the floor too. We drafted legislation to get the EPA more engaged in this issue, to help Ohio more, and to help all of the States represented by us.

We have had this legislation on the floor of the Senate for over 40 days—45 days, I think. We have had it cleared on both sides of the aisle. In other words, there is no substantive concern about it. It took a while to do that.

We had to work with some people on my side of the aisle who thought maybe EPA didn’t have a role here. But EPA does have a role. It is a really important role. It can bring best practices, and it certainly can bring the best research done in the country. It happens to be done in Cincinnati, among other places, at EPA. We have required EPA under this legislation to come up with a plan to deal with this issue immediately for Lake Erie, working with agencies, such as USGS, NOAA, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and USDA, and to come up with a plan that helps us to deal with this issue right now.

If you live in the Toledo area this evening, you are worried. There is a watch on. Once again, you are worried that you are not going to have water supply that is safe for you and your kids. If you live somewhere else along the lake—say, in Cleveland or Sandusky—you are worried too because these same toxic algal blooms know no barriers, know no boundaries, and they move around the lake.

All we are asking tonight is that we be able to pass legislation that is straightforward, that is nonpartisan. It is not just bipartisan. I would say it is nonpartisan. It is very sensible, and it highlights the need for us to take immediate action because it talks about some of the issues that are involved.

There are 42 water systems in Ohio that are now susceptible to harmful algal blooms, for instance. It talks about the fact that we have to be sure that we are not just protecting Lake Erie but other bodies of freshwater, and it forces the EPA to come up with a plan that helps us deal with this issue right now.

This legislation passed the House already. It didn’t just pass the House; it passed the House with a vote of 375 to 37. Not many pieces of legislation pass the House with those kinds of numbers. Again, Senator Brown and I have been trying for more than 4 months to get that House-passed bill passed here in the Senate. We have worked through the Senate-passed bills. I tried to get this on Thursday evening, and I was told I had to stop and I was going to get blocked from doing it because the other side had other legislation they wanted to consider that had not been passed in the House—much less passed in the House 375 to 37.

If we pass this legislation tonight and if we are able to get it through the Senate, the President will sign it. In other words, it will become law. That is what the people I represent are looking for.

Again, I notice my colleague Senator Brown is on the floor. If he is interested, I would certainly yield to him. Any comments he has, I would appreciate hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. I will be brief and turn it back to Senator Portman.

We worked on this issue for a long time. We remember what happened with algal blooms 4 years ago. We remember just last year—1 year ago—in August, 500,000 people in southwest Ohio didn’t have drinking water. Imagine what that does to a community for 2½, 3 days.

We know that the Western Basin of Lake Erie is the shallowest part of any of the Great Lakes, only 30 feet deep in the Western Basin. Contrast that with Lake Superior, where 600 feet deep is the average. You can see the vulnerability of Lake Erie and what it means. Whether it is from runoff, whether it is from agriculture and homeowners and commercial establishments, the Maumee River Basin is the largest river feeding any of the Great Lakes. Whether it is coming together on climate change and heating of the water and all the issues that affect the short term and long term, our legislation will help us this year and help us the next couple of years. We obviously need long-term solutions. This is critical.

I called the mayor of Toledo today, and I know Senator Portman is working with the city, the county, the State EPA, and the U.S. EPA on this. This is very crucial for people in our State and ultimately throughout the Great Lakes as these problems proliferate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from Ohio for his good work on this bill. He helped to improve this bill, at least most of the time, and it is an effective bill. It is about having the EPA play a bigger role on not only how we monitor but also how we treat the water and how we establish when there is a problem. This is needed, it is needed now, and it is immediate.

This is a photograph that was taken about 8 days ago—not this past week but the weekend before—on the lake. The jar in the photograph was collected by the charter boat captain. He is actually one of the charter boat captains who goes out every day and collects samples that are then used by the experts to determine not just where the algal blooms are but the level of toxicity. This is what we found. As you can see, that doesn’t look very appetizing. It is thick and green. It is filled with the kinds of toxins that can affect people in very negative ways if they get in the drinking water. We know that people are going right now from some other freshwater reservoirs in our area, from being in contact with the water.

If we don’t deal with this issue, we know we are going to have more of this. We know it is going to affect our communities a lot to mitigate it. In Grand Lake St. Marys, as I mentioned earlier, they have already shut down some of the beaches because of this. The city of Celina spends $450,000 annually to deal with this. So this is also a taxpayer issue. Columbus was recently forced to spend $700,000 to mitigate an outbreak in their reservoir. This is happening right now as we speak. We have to get this done tonight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask that we get this legislation done now by asking unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to H.R. 212, which is at the desk, and that the Senate vote on passage of the bill with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, we have been through this before, so I think the Senator from Ohio knows what I am going to say. The bill he proposes to go forward on these terms has been paired by our side with the National Estuary Program, which, like his bill, is bipartisan and, like his bill, is not controversial. It has been passed over and over again by the Senate. Indeed, I think it was originally the work of Republican Senator John Chafee of Rhode Island. It has been passed by the House over and over again. This is a reauthorization. If we clear it through the House, it will go to the President for signing.

Our bill came through the Environment and Public Works Committee in regular order, whereas this came over from the House, was held at the desk, was never reviewed by the committee of jurisdiction, and is now being hotlined, which is fine except that I understand it to be a tradition around here that we compare noncontroversial bills.

I don’t understand. Our bill, the estuary bill, is noncontroversial also. Our bill is also bipartisan. It is the work of Senator Voinovich, Senator Rockefeller, and Senator Enzi. It is the chairman of the committee. Why is there this effort week after week to separate the two rather than just pass them both?
So I ask that the Senator amend his unanimous consent request to read as follows: I ask unanimous consent that the EPW Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 212, which is the Drinking Water Protection Act, a bill to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of algal toxins in drinking water, and S. 1523, a bill to reauthorize the National Aquatic Program; further, that the Senate proceed to their immediate consideration en bloc, the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bills, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

If the Senator will agree to that so that the pairing is maintained, then I will have no objection. If he will not agree to it, then I must object because I don’t know why these bills are being repeated apart.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator from Ohio modify his request?

Mr. PORTMAN. No, I can’t modify my request because his bill has not cleared, and he knows that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the original request?

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. There is.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Look, this is ridiculous. We have a health and safety issue on the floor of the Senate that is ready to go. You just heard from me and Senator Brown. It is bipartisan, bicameral, and is ready to go to the President. I must say to my friend the Senator from Rhode Island, who talked about his legislation, that I have no problem with his legislation, but he hasn’t had it cleared. The Senator said this has been going on for weeks and weeks, and that is not true. This came onto our radar a Friday night last week when, after over 40 days on the floor with our bill, we got it all cleared, and then we found out just prior to my going and asking to have a voice vote on it that now they want to pair it with another piece of legislation that has nothing to do with health and safety. It is a reauthorization of a program that has not been passed by the House. The Senator from Rhode Island said it has not been passed by the House. It has not been passed by the House. It may have been passed by the House in a previous Congress, but that doesn’t count. What counts is that our bill passed the House with a vote of 375 to 37, and it is now on the floor.

The people I represent deserve to have our government work for them right now to help deal with this algal bloom problem, and they are blocking my bill with legislation they say is nonpartisan and noncontroversial?

I am happy to support their bill. In fact, last week when I found out about it on Thursday was I started clearing it for them because they hadn’t done it. I put it in the clearance process. As of today, there are some concerns on my side of the aisle. Nobody has seen it yet. They are seeing it for the first time. We went out of session right after I started clearing it, and we are back in session now and people are looking at it. I am happy to support the Senator’s bill, but the Senator from Rhode Island shouldn’t block our bill because they are looking for me to support their bill. I am happy to support their bill but not if it is going to keep us from moving forward tonight. I can’t agree to pair it because there will be an objection because people haven’t had a chance to look at it. I know the committee sometimes likes to pair legislation. They don’t always pair legislation, by the way.

I think it is ridiculous that we can’t move forward on a very simple piece of legislation that we worked on for over 40 days. And everybody is fine with it. There are no substantive problems. It is a health-and-safety issue. Let’s go ahead with this instance, let’s put partisanship aside.

I support the Senator’s bill. I will support his bill. I will vote for his bill. I will continue to try to clear it even though they didn’t clear it. I am the one who had to do this. I don’t know if they have even cleared it on their side. I don’t know if they even put it in the process yet. But obviously you have to do that in order for this to happen.

I am amazed that we are going to actually stop legislation that is needed right now for legislation that has not passed the House, is not going to the President for his signature, and is not due to an imminent health-and-safety issue.

The Federal Government is not going to be there for the people in northern Ohio and throughout our State who are worried about the algal blooms right now, because of some disagreement on the floor of this Chamber where at the very last minute Democrats stepped forward and said: No, we are not going to let this bipartisan bill go forward because we want to insist that it be paired with one that has not gone through the clearance process. I commit to my friend that I will support his bill. I have had a chance to look at it over the weekend. I am OK with it. But it has not been cleared, and it is not going to go to the President for signature.

The House representatives is not in session this week, so even if by some miracle they could get their bill cleared here, they can’t get it cleared by the House because the House is out of session. They are coming back in September. We are in session. We can get this done. We can send it to the President. We can let people know they can sleep a little more comfortably at night, with a little more peace of mind, knowing that we have actually taken action here to get this expert agency that is very engaged that really cares about this and involved to help the local folks, the State folks, and experts back home to be able to do the right thing so they can avoid another water crisis and all of the issues Senator Brown and I saw when we were up there.

I went up with bottles of water, threw them in the back of my pickup, and they were gone like that. Why? Because we were desperate to be sure they had water for their kids. Mothers were desperate to make sure they had water to be able to ensure that their families weren’t going to be left without access to what is perhaps the most important thing anyone can imagine, which is clear water one can drink and use for cooking.

I again ask unanimous consent that my colleague yield and that we allow this bill to go forward. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to H.R. 212, which is at the desk, that the bill be read a third time, and that the Senate vote on passage of the bill with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. PORTMAN. I am sorry to hear that. I will be back again tomorrow and the next day. I will be back again and again because we want to get this done. This is simple. There is no real mystery here. This is an opportunity to get something done that helps people not just in my State but around the country deal with a very real problem they are facing this summer, now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, may I suggest to my friend the Senator from Ohio that if he is going to keep coming back every day, it might be productive if during the course of the day he were to get his side to clear the paired piece of legislation, which, as I have said, is bipartisan. His colleague Senator Vitter, for instance, is the co-author of it. It has cleared the EPW Committee, which is chaired by a Democrat, run by the Republicans now. If their side isn’t aware of this bill, it came through regular order through the committee that they run. If their side isn’t aware of this bill—it has been sitting over here ever since it cleared the committee. All they have to do is clear it, and we will be done.

So perhaps if the Senator will put his effort into clearing a noncontroversial, bipartisan bill that for decades has been passed and reauthorized by this body then we can move forward. It should be a fairly easy task. I would be very happy to support him in any way I can.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. So this is all about leverage—to leverage me to be able to help you on your bill, which I told you I support, in order for us to get something done, which has been on the floor for over 40 days.

Look, I am happy to talk to my colleagues. I am the one who started
clearing this on our side of the aisle. You guys didn’t. I am happy to talk to colleagues who have concerns. But they get a chance to look at it, just as you had a chance to look at our bill over the last 45 days.

So if this is all about leverage, you got me. You have leveraged me. You have already done it. You have succeeded. I already started clearing it. I support it. I am happy to help, and I am sure Senator Brown is happy to help also, but let’s not block this in the meantime, let’s not block this legislation. This is ridiculous. This is not the way this Senate ought to operate.

We have a smart bill on the floor that has been looked at over 40 days. It is ready to go. It has been cleared by both parties. It got a thrust, it got a pull. There are no concerns. And it is time that we deliver for the people we represent.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I respect the Senator from Ohio greatly. I know this lake is important to him. We are a State that is wrapped around the estuary, Narragansett Bay, and that, too, is important to us. If my friend is sure, as he just said, that this bill will clear on his side, then I urge him to please go ahead and clear it, and let’s clear this unnecessary blockage and move both good bills forward.

I yield to the Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, just a short time ago, the Senate rejected legislation that would prohibit and protect the lives of unborn children. The legislation introduced by Senator Joni Ernst would deny the Nation’s largest abortion provider taxpayer funding and shift that funding to local health organizations to provide necessary health care and medical treatment for women.

This issue arises once more after the release of several undercover videos that successively have become more gruesome than the last. The videos of Planned Parenthood that have been released so far fail to reveal the truth of institutionalized disregard for human life at its earliest stages.

At the basic level of decency, we are repulsed by these videos because science and reason inform our conscience and lead us to the inescapable conclusion that lives are being ended through this exploitation. If individual organs and tissues can be harvested from aborted babies, it is impossible to make the case that this is not a human life that is being destroyed. We do place more value on the parts and the pieces of a human life than the life as a whole?

In one of those videos, Planned Parenthood’s senior director of medical services noted: “We’ve been very good at getting heart, lung, liver, and brain, because we know that, so I’m not gonna crush that part. I’m going to basically crush below, I’m gonna crush above, and I’m gonna see if I can get it all intact.”

Another Planned Parenthood official in another video—one from California—said this:

“It’s been years since I talked about compensation and what others are getting. If this is in the ballpark, it’s fine. If it’s still low, then we can bump it up. I still want my Lamborghini.”

These words by two different officials in two different settings reflect a view that unborn children are nothing more than a commodity to be exploited and abused and they seemingly would do that for material gain. Is this where we want our scarce tax dollars to go? In fact, if we have an abundance, is this a place we would want those dollars to go?

Critics contend that the videos are heavily edited. Yet the videos have been released in their entirety and the transcripts and conversations have been provided. It is telling that despite full access to what was discussed, these critics have not been able to justify their grotesque practices being described, nor the inappropriate tone adopted with regard to selling tissue samples.

This isn’t news. We have long known of the hundreds of thousands of abortions Planned Parenthood performs each year. If we can only avert our eyes and look the other way, as critics would have us do, we can avoid what is obscene and hugely uncomfortable. That can no longer happen. Light needs to be shed on an organization that destroys human lives while hiding behind the veil of women’s health services.

It is alarming that Politico reports that Planned Parenthood’s public relations firm is requesting that members of the media refrain from airing the videos that expose the truth of Planned Parenthood practices. We cannot allow atrocities such as this to be swept under the rug because of the power this organization wields.

Kansans have long made it clear they don’t want their tax dollars contributing to abortion providers, and I have worked with Senator Ernst and Senator Burr in Washington. Taxpayers should not fear that their money is going to fund actions they find sincerely and seriously morally wrong. This legislation would prevent taxpayer dollars from funding Planned Parenthood, allowing our taxpayers peace of mind and a sense of morality that their hard-earned money is not facilitating something they abhor.

Instead, S. 1881 would reallocate the funding Planned Parenthood receives through grants back into their communities. The money would go to local health care providers that offer important women’s health services, allowing them to care for more women in their communities. By distributing the funds Planned Parenthood currently receives through a grant process to community health centers, we can increase the number of women’s health care providers instead of funding a contentious organization that, in fact, in our State, there are two offices of Planned Parenthood, but there are 50 community health centers. It would actually be more available. Women would have more access to health care services and that money would be provided through community health centers. We are a rural State and only through that process would many women be able to access this service. Hard-working Americans—our constituents—deserve to have their taxpayer dollars going toward local community centers and county health departments, places that value life instead of destroying it.

Women deserve affordable health care, and it is being provided by a number of organizations that have nothing to do with abortion. We can and should support these health providers and we can and should protect the unborn. We can do both. S. 1881 would be a significant step, an important step, in accomplishing both of those goals, and I believe it should have passed with broad support.

Though I am deeply disappointed by the result of tonight’s vote, I remain hopeful for a solution that will advance the life and health of both mother and child. And I hope that as our understanding of the unborn and the practices of abortion providers are further exposed, I think a solution will be inevitable.

Unfortunately, that time apparently has not yet come, but I and others will remain focused on this goal. I encourage my colleagues in the Senate to act appropriately to do the same.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, I rise to speak again about the 196 North Dakotans who died during the Vietnam War. In a moment I will speak about some of the things I have learned about who they are.

I also wish to thank Vietnam veterans and their families for having served our country, and one of those Vietnam veterans is Robert “Bob” Wefald of Bismarck.

The year Bob graduated from the University of North Dakota, he enlisted in the Navy. He served 3 years on Active Duty during the conflict in Vietnam. In Bob’s 2010 autobiography titled “Moments,” he wrote: “Going to WESTPAC and Vietnam was the biggest and most intense experience of my 27 years in the Navy.” After his Active Duty service, Bob continued to serve his country in the Naval Reserve.

In 1970, Bob began law school at the University of Michigan and saw his
classmates being drafted to serve in Vietnam. As a part of the university's student board of governors, Bob led the movement for the dean to promise to allow drafted students to return to law school after completing their service.

While in Michigan, Bob met and married the love of his life, Susan. They moved to Bismarck, ND, and spent their careers and even now their retirement in public service.

Bob's first job after law school was clerk for the North Dakota Supreme Court. He later worked in private practice as an attorney. In 1961, he was elected North Dakota's Attorney General. I have him to thank for appointing me as assistant attorney general in the tax department and for fighting for me to earn a decent wage while I was in that position. Bob made me say that.

In 1958, Bob was elected as a district court judge and served there until his retirement in 2010. While working, Bob and Susan had three children. Throughout their careers, and even now, Bob and Susan have both volunteered to serve on many boards and organizations throughout our State, including the Boys and Girls Scouts, the American Legion, and Boys State.

Bob was the spark that lit the fire in making two significant military projects a reality for North Dakota. One was establishing a State veterans cemetery and the other was having a Navy ship named after North Dakota—the USS North Dakota. Both ideas became a reality. For over 20 years, the vets cemetery outside my community of Mandan has been a beautiful resting place for those who gave so much to our country. In 2013, I had the honor of attending the 2013 christening of the USS North Dakota, and I could see Bob's involvement in every thoughtful detail.

Bob is an example of a true public servant. Thank you, Bob, for your continued drive and your dedication to service. North Dakota loves and appreciates you.

Bob also wanted to make a point to publicly recognize other people's service and sacrifice. One of Bob's University of North Dakota Sigma Chi fraternity brothers, Bill Potter served in the Air Force and died serving in the Vietnam war. Bob regularly writes about Bill to encourage others to remember and honor Bill.

Now I am going to conclude my series of speeches on the floor of the U.S. Senate by remembering Bill Potter, as well as other North Dakotans who died during the Vietnam war. Today is the last of my weekly trips to the Senate floor to talk about the men from our State who died during the war. I have taken to the floor 15 times to honor these fallen soldiers, these fallen heroes, who have been humbling and special privilege. I have made it a point to reach out to the families of each of the 198 North Dakotans who lost their lives in Vietnam. I wanted to speak about each man so his family, friends, and people who served with him would know how much we appreciate who he was and what he did for us. Learning from family members about each man has truly been a great honor. Everyone who has shared with us, I imagine it was difficult to speak about your loved one, and I can honestly say that doing so made a difference to my staff, made a difference to so many people, made a difference to many of the veterans who have listened to these speeches, and I hope it has made a great difference to the young pages who have been so patient as I have talked about these fallen heroes.

WILLIAM "BILL" POTTER

Today I begin with William "Bill" Potter. Bill was from Grand Forks. He was born December 28, 1942. He served as a pilot in the Air Force's 432nd Tactical Recon Wing. Bill was 25 years old on February 5, 1968, when his plane was shot down and burned. The Air Force awarded Bill the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross in recognition for his heroism in aerial flight. For 7 years after Bill's plane crashed, the Air Force listed Bill as missing in action.

Bill was survived by his wife Betsy. Betsy wrote the following poem regarding the need in her life to file for divorce from Bill while he was listed as missing. Eyewitnesses had described watching his plane crash and burn. This is her poem:

In my adult life as a serviceman's wife
I stayed home so "the man" could deploy.
Had dependent I.D. card— and first passport
got stamped
'66 was a year of some joy
'67 not bad—'68 very sad
Potter's body got lost in Nam's shuffle
MIA was the status, completely non-gratis
And the Air Force told me that I should muffle,
Crashed in Laos (the site)
and try as I might
D.O.D would not call it a death.
Civil court was my choice if I wanted a voice
when Roger died, Wesley hid his body
so the opposing forces would not be able to find his body, but after hiding Roger's body, Wesley was hurt and went into a coma. When he awoke, he told the Army officials that he had hidden Roger's body to protect him and Roger was found.

Roger Alberts was from Fort Totten. He was born on July 11, 1947. He served in the Army's 1st Infantry Division. Roger died on February 5, 1968. He was 20 years old.

Roger was the ninth of 10 children, and his older sister Winona helped her parents raise Roger. Winona remembers Roger as a quiet person who did many great things, including helping his family around their home. Winona said, "Everything was good about that young boy."

Roger had a desire so strong to serve his country that he enlisted in the Army before he graduated from high school. At the same time that Roger was serving in Vietnam, his brother Allen was serving in the Navy on a ship close to Vietnam. Allen remembers looking toward Vietnam and seeing flares and wondering where Roger was and if he was OK.

When he had less than a month to serve in Vietnam, Roger was shot. On February 2, his family received notice that Roger was missing. Finally, at the end of February, the Army confirmed that they found his body and that Roger had been killed. They later learned from another North Dakota soldier, Wesley Howling Wolf, that when Roger died, Wesley hid his body so the opposing forces would not be able to find his body, but after hiding Roger's body, Wesley was hurt and went into a coma. When he awoke, he told the Army officials that he had hidden Roger's body to protect him and Roger was found.

Roger's family appreciates the Army for sending an escort to pick up with Roger's body until he could reach them in North Dakota, and to Roger's girlfriend for giving them the letters he wrote while Roger was serving in Vietnam.

MITCHEL "MITCH" HANSEY

Mitchel "Mitch" Hansey was a native of Scranton and was born March 25, 1947. Mitchel died December 14, 1966. He was 21 years old.

He grew up on his family's farm and was the oldest of eight children, born to Dennis and Bertha Hansey. In his early years, he attended a country school, and later graduated from Scranton High School.

His youngest sister Gwyn laughs and remembers the time she felt Mitchel saved her life by kicking a grasshopper off her leg despite his arms being full of the war. Mitchel's family is dedicated to serving their country. His father Dennis served in the Army during World War
II. His brother Terry served in the Marines, and his brother Gall served in the Army.

Mitchell’s siblings remember him sending them letters from Vietnam with pictures of himself on a boat. They note that when he was on his way to mail them Christmas cards, Mitchell fell off a plank as he was walking between two ships and drowned.

MICHAEL “MIKE” WOLF, JR.

Michael “Mike” Wolf, Jr., was from Beulah, and he was born June 27, 1946. He served with Company H Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division. He was 21 years old when he died on September 10, 1967.

He was the fifth of 12 children. Mike’s sister Laurel said Mike was a quiet man who was involved in just about every sport offered in high school. His dream was to work as a high school coach someday. Mike enlisted at the same time as his cousin Rick Wolf and two of their friends from Beulah enlisted. They went on duty for a while, so ahead as a scout and was killed in an ambush. He had been expected to return home about 3 weeks later.

Mike’s 1955 Pontiac Chieftain sat in the yard for 30 years. Laurel’s husband spent every day driving Mike’s car and gave it to Laurel’s son Donovan, who is currently having it painted. As a tribute to Mike, they made a scrapbook which shows the process of restoring his car.

RANDOLPH “RANDY” MARTHE

Randolph “Randy” Marthe was from Esmond. He was born November 17, 1950. He served in the Army’s 52nd Artillery Group. Randy died March 31, 1971. He was 20 years old.

He was the youngest of his family of 10 children. His older siblings enjoyed spoiling him and treating him like the baby of the family. Randy’s sister Rita said he was a good, quiet boy who liked to have fun and never caused his parents any problems. Rita recalls that after she was married and living on a farm, Randy and two of his brothers, Pat and Dale, would go to Rita’s farm to help. Rita’s basement bathroom shower had a window in it, and Randy had a great time surprising his showering brothers with a blast of cold water from the garden hose.

Randy’s family appreciates the calls he made and letters he sent them from Vietnam. Rita remembers Randy calling her from Vietnam. He said he would be gone only for a day or two, as he would not hear from him again for a while. She never heard from him again.

The Army awarded Randy the Silver Star for gallantry due to his heroic actions the day he was killed in Vietnam. That day, Randy’s firebase was under heavy attack and he defended his position, despite being injured and ultimately sacrificing himself, which saved the lives of many of his fellow soldiers.

In 2010, Randy’s family was touched to read a Benson County Farmer’s Press column written by a young woman, Shell Eyi, who was born after Randy died but thought about Randy because she spent time as a child at the Randy Marthe Memorial Park in Esmond. Shell wrote about what giving up your life for country truly means. She described a lifetime of moments Randy would want to have, such as hot summer days by the lake and walking his daughters down the aisle. Shell concluded her column describing that Randy didn’t die so his name would be etched on a granite wall or for a park named after him. He died and gave up everything so you and I could have it all.

THOMAS “TOM” SENNE

Thomas “Tom” Senne was from Valley City, and he was born November 14, 1948. He served in the Army’s 1st Infantry Division. Tom died on October 26, 1968. He was 19 years old.

Tom worked at the Red Owl store in Valley City and was looking forward to a future in that business. He was a great athlete and top wrestler at his high school. “The Governor’s Band,” was, in fact, the best in the State. Everyone knew and loved him. Everyone knew that Tom was a good, quiet boy who liked to have fun and never caused his parents any problems.

Tom’s dream was to work as a high school music teacher to study music. With the Vietnam War, Tom decided to enlist in the Army. His sister Eva remembers Tom as the best in the State. Eva describes how Tom would just tell you that is hearsay.

Tom came from a family with a deep history of serving their country. His dad served in World War II, his uncles served in either World War II or Korea, and two of his brothers served with the National Guard.

CLOY LEVANG

Cleo Levang was from Forman. He was born February 6, 1946. He served in the Marine Corps, Company I, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. Cleo died on January 5, 1967. He was just 20 years old.

He was the third of four children born to Cliff and Leckny Levang and was just 20 years old. Mike’s sister Laurel said Cleo was a tall, good-looking guy with a great smile and went to La Salle High School. His sister Bev said Cleo was really a good athlete and top wrestler at his high school. Everyone knew and loved his uncle Cleo well.

Cleo was a tall, good-looking guy with a great smile and went to La Salle High School. His sister Bev said Cleo was really a good athlete and top wrestler at his high school. Everyone knew and loved his uncle Cleo well.

Cleo remembers his uncle’s infectious smile and said it was always a pleasure to see him. He was the family’s favorite uncle. He still clearly remembers when he was in the third grade and his mother received a call in the middle of the night from her parents in Korea explaining that Dave was missing and, a few hours later, an officer coming to his door to deliver his mother a telegram explaining her brother had died.

Cleo and Arlene’s mother Ruth lives in Colorado and is 104 years old. She is a woman who has buried both of her children during her lifetime.

DAVID JOHNSON

David Johnson was born August 20, 1950. He spent his high school years in West Fargo. He served in the Army’s 25th Infantry Division. David was only 19 years old when he died on May 17, 1970.

Right after high school, David chose to enlist in the Army. His sister Eva believes David’s trip to basic training in California was his first airplane ride. While David was serving in Vietnam, Eva’s first daughter, Stephanie, was born. David became Stephanie’s godfather by proxy. About 2 months later, David was wounded and died. When she had children of her own, Stephanie named her son Nelson David in honor of the uncle she never met.

In the 1980s, the Fargo area Armed Forces Reserve Center dedicated a building the David F. Johnson United States Armed Forces Reserve Center. Fargo residents chose David for his contributions, recognizing his Army medals, including the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, and the Combat Infantryman’s Badge.

Members of David’s 3rd Platoon, called the Bobcats, maintain contact with David’s family. In June, the Bobcats held their annual reunion in Fargo. They held a memorial service for David and all his “Bobcat” sisters and their families were thankful to the Bobcats for inviting them and helping David’s memory to live on.
Jon Robbins was from Dickinson, and he was born November 22, 1947. He served in the Army’s 56th Postal Unit as a clerk. Jon died February 23, 1969. He was 21 years old.

Lester Davies is a man who calls himself Jon’s Army buddy. I want to read a poem that Lester shared that he wrote about Jon the day Jon died. I think Lester’s poem is a tribute to all of the people who served in the Vietnam War who had little or no combat training. These people were nurses, clerks, and other staff. Lester’s poem is titled, “The February Awakening.”

From peaceful sleep and dreams of home
I'm thrown into the night.
At two A.M. the twenty-third
I know that I must fight.
For sirens blow, as rockets fall
And flares illumine the night.
I still recall with saddened heart
The night I went to war.
And how I lost, so thoroughly.
My innocence before.
I know that I will ne'er forget
The UGLINESS of war.
When Charlie hit from out 'the night
He couldn't not see us.
Just office clerks who'd never fought,
We met him on our will.
And so the price we paid was dear—Jon Rob-

A shocking hell to see him fall. But one of
many more.
And now I wonder why I made it
Through that night.
Yes I'm alive and free to do
What Jon will do no more—
And so I'll ne'er forget my friend
Who won against the war.
Who gave for us his precious life.
The most a man can give.
In freedom's name my buddy died
In his name must I live.

This is the 50th commemoration of the Vietnam War, and we all have an important part to play in recognizing those soldiers and families who gave so much and who were rewarded so little at the time.

This has been a project of great emotion for me and great love, and I encourage other people to pick up the mantle and remember those soldiers who gave their all.

Thank you, Mr. President.
I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I rise in support of S. 831, which would transfer Federal funds now granted to Planned Parenthood to other women’s health care and counseling centers. It is a modest, commonsense response to the blood-chilling scandal besetting America’s leading abortion provider.

To date, only 4 of the promised 12 undercover videos of Planned Parenthood officers and facilities have been released. To be sure, in coming months there will be more revelations about Planned Parenthood’s profiteering, violence, and corruption. There will be congressional investigations to cut through the obstructions and obfuscations of Planned Parenthood’s army of lawyers, spokespeople, and friends in the media. There will be criminal investigations into whether physicians altered procedures in violation of the law and in violation of medical ethics to maximize the prices they could charge for the remainder of their victims. There will be investigations into Planned Parenthood’s army of clerks, lawyers, and bookkeepers who turned barbarism into commerce. There might well be civil litigation brought against Planned Parenthood by former patients who did not realize their personal or deals were being exploited for profit by people they thought they could trust.

It may be some time before all the facts come out about the full scope of Planned Parenthood’s moral and economic corruption, but the revelations exposed in just the first four videos all by themselves are more than enough to disqualify Planned Parenthood from continued taxpayer support. After all, nobody is entitled to taxpayer money. Nobody in Nobody can just assume that it is theirs. Recipients have to continually demonstrate their worthiness for public support.

I think we can all agree it is not too much to ask that our women’s health care grants finance a criminal conspiracy against American women and children. So, of course, we should pass Senator Ernst’s bill. Now, it does not cut any funding. We have to remember that, it does not cut anything; it just transfers Planned Parenthood’s grants to other women’s and community health centers.

This is a no-brainer. This is something every Member of this body should be able to vote for and do so enthusiastically. Yet this bill did not pass today. It did not get past the cloture vote. Planned Parenthood’s defenders don’t even want to debate it. They are not willing even to bring it to the floor to allow it to be debated, dismissed, and disposed on the merits at the end of the day.

Now, in a sense, I cannot say I blame them, but the fear of open dialogue on the other side of the aisle is itself part and parcel of the unfolding scandal.

Now, let’s be honest. Let’s be honest about the fact that the multibillion-dollar abortion industry includes grisly revenue streams, legal corner-cutting, and the bullying dehumanization of the human family’s most vulnerable members. This should not surprise anyone who gives the matter 5 minutes of concentrated thought. For all of the political spin, at the end of the day, Planned Parenthood makes its money doing things any child could tell you are simply indefensible. That is why those things are almost never actually defended, including on this floor today. Defenders of Planned Parenthood offer, instead, gauzy rhetoric about “care” and “access” and “choice,” which are totally irrelevant to Senator Ernst’s thoughtful, focused compromise proposal.

On the other hand are the shocking words at the heart of this scandal. Shocking words like “abortion,” “organ,” “price,” “crunch” are carefully, almost religiously avoided. That is what you do when you are forced to defend the indefensible. You distract, you confuse, you talk about anything but the facts, the law. This is the debate. Planned Parenthood’s defenders’ true adversary is not the Center for Medical Progress or the pro-life movement or the millions of even pro-choice Americans outraged by the facts. Like all defenders of institutional violence, their real adversary is the truth.

The pro-life movement today may love different sinners and hate different sins than previous social reform movements, but they fight for the same truth: that not only are all men created equal but that all human beings are, in fact, human beings. Abortion on demand survives today as other peculiar institutions once did, violating a universal moral principle by disguising a biological fact.

Such is the nature of violence. As the Russian writer Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn put it in his Nobel lecture in 1974: (Let us not forget that violence is not alive alone and is not capable of living alone: it is necessarily interwoven with falsehood. Between them lies the most intimate, the deepest of national sins. Violence is the only refuge in falsehood, falsehood its only support in violence. Any man who has once acclaimed violence as his method must inexorably choose falsehood. At its birth violence acts openly and even with pride. But no sooner does it become strong, firmly established, than it senses the rapprochement of the air and begins to carry on without descending into a fog of lies, clothing them in sweet talk. It does not always, necessarily, openly throttle the throat, more often it demands from its subjects only an oath of allegiance to falsehood, only complicity in falsehood. Complicity in falsehood, Mr. President, that some of us created in the image and likeness of a loving God are now forced to defend some of us endowed with inalienable human rights weren’t; that because of the color of our skin, the arrangement of our genes, the content of our prayers or the tiny size of a little girl’s hand, some of us become them—all to absolve ourselves from doing to them, to the weak, the vulnerable, the voiceless, terrible, unspeakable things that we know are terrible. That is what violence demands.

Because the inhumane but all too common logic goes: If we all do it, and we all agree only to speak of it in comforting words, then, maybe, just maybe, we can tell ourselves it isn’t wrong. “Clump of cells,” “products of conception”—but even when we grope through this fog of lies, we all know the truth. We know that one day, that truth is going to burn through the euphemisms like the sun through the clouds. When that day comes, we are going to have to choose whether to stay complicit in the falsehoods that clothe us in our comforting fog or stand up and face the searing truth of what is being done to these little hands and hearts, our
fellow passengers to the grave, still so fresh from God.

The day will come when, in an act not of reckoning but of love, America finally sets these things right in ful. That day is not yet here. For now, even though Planned Parenthood apparently breaks itsCaps, its lucrative business remains protected by others.

So even when we do pass the Ernst bill, and we will one day soon, Planned Parenthood will nonetheless continue at least for a while in its grisly work, but not with the money. Planned Parenthood has betrayed our trust and the trust of the women who came to them for help. Within the community of women's health and services, even among those who support its mission, Planned Parenthood now stands apart.

Planned Parenthood has chosen a path we cannot follow, crossed a line we cannot ignore, and profited from an unspeakable business we cannot support. We demand that the Ernst bill we will, support health care, especially for vulnerable women and children who are always targets for exploitation. That is why we must pass the Ernst bill, and why I urge my colleagues to support it, to protect America's women and children from Planned Parenthood's ongoing abuse and to protect American taxpayers from financing it. We no longer have to be complicit in the lie of Planned Parenthood or the violence that it perpetuates. The Ernst legislation S. 1881 finally accepts the facts, embraces the truth, and would help move our Nation a small step forward toward the culture of life America's every mother and child deserve.

I yield the floor.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate the University of Southern Indiana, USI, on its 50th Anniversary. I also want to recognize the outstanding faculty and staff for the extraordinary impact they have had on the education and lives of hundreds of thousands of students.

USI was founded September 15, 1965, in Evansville to respond to the need for a public higher education institution in southwestern Indiana. It began first as a regional campus of Indiana State University and not with the 1,400 acres. USI is home to four academic colleges: the Romain College of Business, the College of Liberal Arts, the College of Education, and the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education. USI is a Carnegie Foundation Community Engaged University and offers continuing education and special programs to more than 15,000 participants annually through outreach and engagement. USI also houses the Indiana University School of Medicine-Evansville.

More than 9,300 students are currently enrolled at USI, and the university serves full-time, part-time, commuting and continuing education students. USI takes great care to keep class sizes small to maintain a high quality of individualized instruction; 40 percent of classes have fewer than 20 students and 7 percent have more than 50. These numbers reinforce an institution committed to its vision of "Shaping the future through learning and innovation." The USI curriculum offers a wide variety of classes in 70 undergraduate majors in the areas of liberal arts, preprofessional, professional, technical, and occupational programs at both the associate and baccalaureate levels, in addition to its 10 master's programs and a nursing doctorate. With more than 140 student groups on campus, USI's student body is living up to the university's mission to be an "engaged learning community," one that always strives to achieve its goal of "advancing education and knowledge, enhancing civic and cultural awareness, and fostering partnerships through comprehensive outreach programs."

USI has exceeded outside of the classroom as well. The Screaming Eagles compete as a member of the NCAA Division II athletic conference in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. USI boasts 17 varsity teams and has claimed three national championships—men's basketball in 1995 and men's baseball in 2010 and 2014. The Screaming Eagles have finished as national finalists three times—men's basketball in 1994 and 2004 and women's basketball in 1997. In addition, the USI men's and women's cross country/track teams have combined to capture seven individual national championships since 1987. These teams have accomplished much over the past 50 years, all while maintaining high academic standards in the classroom.

USI has, for the last five decades, provided its students from southwestern Indiana, across our State, and around the country with the opportunity to achieve their dreams through higher education. USI remains representative of the hard work, dedication, and innovation that are such integral parts of the university's charter. I congratulate President Linda L. M. Bennett, the entire faculty and staff, and students both past and present, on this important anniversary. I am confident USI will continue to be a fixture in southwestern Indiana and know the faculty and staff will continue to provide an outstanding education to our students in the years to come. On behalf of the citizens of this great state, I congratulate each and every member of the USI community on this 50th anniversary. I wish the University of Southern Indiana continued success and growth for many more years to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BOB FRAUMANN

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I am proud to pay tribute to Bob Fraumann on the occasion of his retirement after 60 years of ministry through music. Bob will be honored on Sunday, August 9, at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Marietta, GA, where he has been music director for the last 33 years. Bob Fraumann graduated from Asbury University with a degree in music education and a minor in organ and conducting. Bob was married to the love of his life, Jan, and they raised two sons, Rick and Greg, who are both Christian musicians.

Many have enjoyed Bob's music but none more than those at the National Prayer Breakfast on February 4, 2010, where Bob played his great CD "To God Be the Glory." Over 3,000 dignitaries including the President and many Members of Congress joined Christians and leaders of all faiths to enjoy Bob's testimony through music.

Bob's friendship and music have been a blessing to me, and I am proud to honor him in the Senate Chamber. Join me in wishing Bob Fraumann all the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the National Association of Community Health Centers, NACHC, for their hard work and dedication to providing Americans with the health care they need and deserve. The association is celebrating 50 years of providing support through health centers across the Nation. A series of events will be held during National Health Center Week, scheduled for August 9 through August 15, to recognize the importance of health care and to celebrate 50 years of support.

The NACHC was organized in 1965 and held demonstration programs under the Federal Office of Economic Opportunity to help Americans receive medical support regardless of their income. Also during this time, the first four health care centers opened in Massachusetts, Mississippi, Connecticut, and New York. Over the years, the NACHC has worked to address our Nation's widespread lack of access to basic health care services.
Devoted to the mission of, “promoting the provision of high quality, comprehensive and affordable health care that is coordinated, culturally and linguistically competent, and community directed for all medically underserved” the NACHC has sought to educate Americans on the importance of health care. The NACHC also provides health centers with a unified voice and a common source for research, information, training, and advocacy.

Michigan currently has 19 organizations that run 135 health center sites. The 19 federally-funded health center organizations in Michigan serve 181,546 patients, 17.8 percent of whom are uninsured, and create over 200 jobs. Mr. President, 89 percent of people relying on these centers live in extremely rural areas of the State. These Mainers would not be able to access adequate health care services if these sites did not exist. The work done in Maine continues to help the State become healthier and smarter.

The theme for this year’s National Health Center Week is “America’s Health Centers: Celebrating Our Legacy, Shaping Our Future.” This theme showcases the numerous ways in which America’s health centers are driving and empowering healthier communities and Americans. With more than 9,900 patients seen throughout the Nation, health centers employ hundreds of thousands of individuals nationally which, in turn, powers local economies.

During the National Health Center Week, health centers in all 50 States will be hosting a variety of public events to highlight their work in local communities and to honor the elected officials who have supported the work of the health centers. I would like to join the National Association of Community Health Centers in highlighting the success that has been demonstrated over the last 50 years by local health centers throughout the Nation.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID ALLEN WALKER

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I wish to recognize David Walker of Fenton, MI, as he nears the end of his term as the 110th chairman of the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America, also known as the Big “I.” Mr. Walker was installed as chairman of the Big “I” in September 2014, and has been a strong and thoughtful leader for independent insurance agents across the country throughout his term.

Mr. Walker is president of the Hartland Insurance Agency which is headquartered in Hartland, MI. Throughout his career he has been an active leader at both the State and national level. He previously served as president of the Michigan Association of Independent Agents, president of the Genesee County of Independent Agents, and as the Michigan director on the Big “I” national board.

Mr. Walker has also held numerous leadership positions within the Michigan Association of Insurance Agents, including chairman of the education committee and as a member of the Michigan Legislative Affairs Committee. In all his roles, David has sought to promote an environment where independent insurance agents in Michigan and across the country can thrive by providing excellent customer service.

As I recognize Mr. Walker, I would also like to acknowledge his active involvement in his community. He has served on the board of directors for the Hartland Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Walker has also worked as a trustee and president of the Fenton Area Public Schools. He currently serves as a Tyrone Township trustee and sits on the board of the Michigan Basic Property Association. He is also a founding member of the Hartland Rotary.

I am pleased to join Mr. Walker’s colleagues from across Michigan and the United States in congratulating him as he finishes his term as chairman of the Big “I.” I, along with his family and friends, appreciate all that he has accomplished.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY HATFIELD MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I am a firm believer in the power of higher education. It is the responsibility of the institutions that consistently provide America's youth with the skills necessary to make our country a better place. I am thrilled to recognize the achievements of Oregon State University’s Hatfield Marine Science Center, on its 50th anniversary as a center for marine studies.

Over the last half-century, thanks in large part to early collaboration with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the Hatfield Marine Science Center has developed into the top post-doctoral training facility in the nation. In addition to providing educational opportunities, the Hatfield Center works closely with the Environmental Protection Agency to research the most pressing environmental issues of our generation. As climate change and sustainability increasingly impact our Nation’s agriculture and energy policies, Oregonians can take comfort in knowing that OSU’s Marine Science Center has the technology and talent to develop the solutions necessary to solve imminent problems. I could not be prouder of what OSU’s Hatfield Marine Science Center means for our State, our Nation, and the world.

TRIBUTE TO REBECCA ACKERMAN

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Rebecca Ackerman, a 2015 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Rebecca is a student at the University of South Carolina, where she is majoring in international business, with a minor in international studies. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Rebecca for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL ALMEIDA

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Daniel Almeida, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Daniel is a student at the University of Florida, where he is majoring in philosophy and politics. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Daniel for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.
TRIBUTE TO LAUREN BALTIMORE

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Lauren Baltimore, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Lauren is currently a student at Pine Crest High School. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Lauren for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MAX BERGER

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Max Berger, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Max is currently a student at Western High School. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Max for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO KASSANDRA CABRERA

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Kassandra Cabrera, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Kassandra is a student at the University of Central Florida, where she is majoring in political science. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Kassandra for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO EMILY CLARK

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Emily Clark, a 2015 summer intern in my Tallahassee office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Emily is a student at the University of West Florida, where she is majoring in agriculture communications. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Emily for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL FALIC

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Samuel Falic, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Samuel is a student at the University of Miami, where he is majoring in accounting. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Samuel for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JOSHUA COCKREAM

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Joshua Cockream, a 2015 summer intern in my Tampa office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Joshua is a student at the University of Virginia, where he is majoring in political philosophy, policy, and law. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Joshua for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO ANTONELLA DAVALOS

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Antonella Davalos, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Antonella is a student at the University of Florida, where she is majoring in political science. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Antonella for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO ALLISON DIENER

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Allison Diener, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Allison is a student at the University of Michigan, where she is majoring in business. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Allison for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO TREVOR HANSEN

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Trevor Hansen, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Trevor is a student at Broward College, where he is majoring in international relations. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Trevor for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT GUTIERREZ

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Robert Gutierrez, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Robert is currently a student at Columbus High School. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Robert for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DESTINY GOEDE

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Destiny Goede, a 2015 summer intern in my Naples office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Destiny is a student at the University of Florida, where she is majoring in economics. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Destiny for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO TODD HIGGINBOTHAM

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Todd Higginbotham, a 2015 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Todd is a student at the University of Florida, where he is majoring in political science.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Todd for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.
done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Todd is a student at the University of North Florida, where he is majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Todd for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO NICHOLAS JOHNSON
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Nicholas Johnson, a 2015 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Nicholas is a student at Heidelberg University, where he is majoring in political science and communications. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Nicholas for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO CARLOS SAN JOSE
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Carlos San Jose, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Carlos is a student at Miami-Dade College, where he is majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Carlos for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO ISABELLA LLANO
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Isabella Llano, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Isabella is a student at the University of Florida, where she is majoring in political science. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Isabella for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MALLIS
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize David Mallis, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

David is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to David for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO NATALIE MARTINEZ
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Natalie Martinez, a 2015 summer intern in my Tampa office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Natalie is a student at the University of Florida, where she is majoring in political science. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Natalie for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO AMANDA MEADOR
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Amanda Meador, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Amanda is a student at Washington and Lee University, where she is majoring in business, accounting, and environmental studies. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Amanda for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO BRIANNA MORENO
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Brianna Moreno, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Brianna is a student at Vanderbilt University, where she is majoring in public policy. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Brianna for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS MORRISON
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Thomas Morrison, a 2015 summer intern in my Tallahassee office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Thomas is currently a student at Lincoln High School. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Thomas for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL RUSSELL
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Michael Russell, a 2015 summer intern in my Tampa office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Michael is a student at the University of Florida, where he is majoring in political science and criminology. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Michael for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTIAN SADLER
• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Christian Sadler, a 2015 summer intern in my Naples office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Christian is currently a student at the University of Florida. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.
I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Christian for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DANIELA SHIED
Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Daniela Shied, a 2015 summer intern in my Tallahassee office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Daniela is a student at Florida State University, where she is majoring in political science and international studies. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Daniela for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DRIENA SIXTO
Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Driena Sixto, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Driena is a student at Florida International University, where she is majoring in political science and international relations. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Driena for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JACKSON STORY
Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Jackson Story, a 2015 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Jackson is a student at the University of Florida, where he is majoring in political science and public relations. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jackson for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO SHANNON WEST
Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Shannon West, a 2015 summer intern in my Tampa office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Shannon is a student at Boston College, where she is majoring in political science and international studies. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Shannon for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO CONRAD WITTE
Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Conrad Witte, a 2015 summer intern in my Miami office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Conrad is a student at the University of Arkansas, where he is majoring in political science and international relations. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Conrad for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS
The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. Ayotte (for herself, Mr. Booker, and Mr. Coons):
S. 1195. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to purchase anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. THUNE:
S. 1196. A bill to include skilled nursing facilities as a type of health care provider under section 254(b) of the Communications Act of 1934; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. Collins (for herself, Mr. Kink, and Ms. Mikulski):
S. 1197. A bill to prohibit the provision of Federal funds to an entity that receives compensation for facilitating the donation of fetal tissue derived from an abortion; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. Menendez (for himself, Mr. Booker, Mr. Cardin, Ms. Mikulski, and Mr. Markey):
S. 1198. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to extend the import- and export-related provision of that Act to species proposed for listing as threatened or endangered under that Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS
The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. Markley (for himself, Ms. Kulkarni, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Peters, Mr. Cardin, and Mr. Bennett):
S. Res. 240. A resolution recognizing the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and its partners for the success of the historic flyby of Pluto by the New Horizons spacecraft; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. Reed (for himself, Ms. Murgowski, Mr. Whitehouse, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Capito, Mrs. Murkowski, Mr. Akerson, Mr. Blumenthal, Mr. Corker, Mr. Reid, Mr. Wicker, Mr. Tester, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Perdue, Mr. Tillis, Mr. Burr, Ms. Collins, Mr. McConnell, Mr. Paul, Mr. Rounds, and Mr. Casey):

...
ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 298

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 298, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide States with the option of providing services to children with medically complex conditions under the Medicaid program and Children’s Health Insurance Program through a care coordination program focused on improving health outcomes for children with medically complex conditions and lowering costs, and for other purposes.

S. 377

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 377, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase access to ambulance services under the Medicare program and to reform payments for such services under such program, and for other purposes.

S. 404

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CRAPAO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 404, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking money or other things of value in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.

S. 429

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 429, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a standard definition of therapeutic foster care services in Medicaid.

S. 471

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. VALENTINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 471, a bill to improve the provision of health care for women veterans by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 586

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 586, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to foster more effective implementation and coordination of clinical care for people with pre-diabetes, diabetes, and the chronic diseases and conditions that result from diabetes.

S. 799

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 799, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the amendments made by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act which disqualify expenses for over-the-counter drugs under health savings accounts and health flexible spending arrangements.

S. 898

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 898, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of optometrists in the National Health Service Corps scholarship and loan repayment programs, and for other purposes.

S. 993

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 993, a bill to increase public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, veterans treatment services, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems.

S. 1020

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPAO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1020, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure the continued access of Medicare beneficiaries to diagnostic imaging services, and for other purposes.

S. 1090

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1090, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide eligibility for broadcasting facilities to receive certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 1143

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senators from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1143, a bill to make the authority of States of Washington, Oregon, and California to manage Dungeness crab fishery permanent and for other purposes.

S. 1146

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1146, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes.

S. 1314

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1314, a bill to establish an interim rule for the operation of small unmanned aircraft for commercial purposes and their safe integration into the national airspace system.

S. 1352

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1512, a bill to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.

S. 1506

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1506, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to require group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans to provide for coverage of oral anticancer drugs on terms no less favorable than the coverage provided for anticancer medications administered by a health care provider.

S. 1713

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1719, a bill to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes.

S. 1722

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. CORRIGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1722, a bill to amend the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act to repeal certain additional disclosure requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 1742

At the request of Ms. HETTOKAMP, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1742, a bill to improve the provision of postal services to rural areas of the United States.

S. 1767

At the request of Mr. ISAACSON, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1767, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to combination products, and for other purposes.

S. 1774

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DUKASIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1774, a bill to amend title II of the United States Code to treat Puerto Rico as a State for purposes of chapter 9 of such title relating to the adjustment of debts of municipalities.

S. 1785

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1785, a bill to repeal the wage rate requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act.

S. 1798

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1798, a bill to reauthorize the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, and for other purposes.

S. 1863

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr.
Toomey was added as a cosponsor of S. 1883, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Timothy Nugent, in recognition of his pioneering work on behalf of people with disabilities, including disabled veterans.

At the request of Mr. Menendez, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Casey) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1875, a bill to support enhanced accountability for United States assistance to Afghanistan, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Blumenthal, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. Heitkamp) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1876, a bill to rename the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and to provide for an Assistant Secretary to head such Bureau, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Portman, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Ayotte) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1876, supra.

At the request of Mrs. Ernst, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. Flake) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1881, a bill to prohibit Federal funding of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

At the request of Mr. Cardin, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Markey) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1882, a bill to support the sustainable recovery and rebuilding of Nepal following the recent, devastating earthquakes near Kathmandu.

At the request of Mr. Reed, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Brown) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1883, a bill to maximize discovery, and accelerate development and availability, of promising childhood cancer treatments, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Alexander, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. Murkowski) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1883, a bill to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders.

At the request of Mr. Markey, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 176, a resolution designating September 2015 as “National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month.”

At the request of Ms. Ayotte, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. King) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 228, a resolution designating September 2015 as “National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.”

At the request of Mr. Boozman, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. Mikulski) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 232, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that August 30, 2015, be observed as “1890 Land-Grant Institutions Quasiquincentennial Recognition Day”.

**STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

By Ms. Collins (for herself, Mr. Kirk, and Ms. Murkowski):

S. 1917. A bill to authorize the provi- son of Federal funds to an entity that receives compensation for facilitating the donation of fetal tissue derived from an abortion; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen- sions.

Ms. Collins. Mr. President, this afternoon the Senate will be voting on a motion to proceed to a bill that would completely eliminate all Federal funding for Planned Parenthood. While I do not support this legislation, I have received assurances from the majority leader that should the motion to pro- ceed succeed, there will be ample oppor- tunity to offer amendments. There- fore, I would like to take this opportu- nity to put forward an alternative ap- proach which Senator Kirk and I will offer as a substitute for the bill.

Throughout my service in the Sen- ate, I have been a strong proponent of family planning and measures to pro- mote and protect women’s health. The fact is that the best way to reduce the number of abortions in this country is to ensure that women have access to family planning services they need to protect against unintended pregnan- cies. That is why I have long sup- ported title X family planning pro- grams.

My support for family planning aside, however, I was sickened when I viewed the recently released videos featuring Planned Parenthood physicians in both their edited and unedited versions. The callousness with which Planned Par- enthood employees discuss the sale of fetal tissue is appalling. It deserves our attention. The videos also raise valid questions about the ethics and legality of Planned Parenthood’s practices in some of its clinics, albeit a minority of its clinics. As a result, I believe a full investigation is warranted to deter- mine whether Planned Parenthood broke the law prohibiting the sale of fetal tissue.

Reviews by State medical boards are also warranted because it appears that some Planned Parenthood doctors may have been putting the procurement of fetal organs ahead of the well-being of their patients.

We do, however, need to keep in mind the fact that Planned Parenthood pro- vides important family planning, can- cer screening, and basic preventive health care services to many women across this country. For many women, Planned Parenthood clinics provide the only health care services they receive. The title X Federal family planning funding that goes to Planned Parent- hood already cannot be used for abor- tions, and the Federal Medicaid fund- ing it receives can only be used for abortions in the case of rape, incest, and where the life of the mother is at risk. In other words, the Roe amend- ment—which has been on the books for so many years—applies fully to this Federal funding.

Some contend that other health care providers such as community health centers could somehow fill the gap in family planning and other women’s health services if Federal funding were to be cut off to Planned Parenthood. In my State, the four Planned Parenthood clinics see almost 40 percent of the pa- tients seeking title X family planning services, and they treat virtually all of the patients seeking those services in southern Maine. By way of contrast, the 20 community health sites in Maine that receive title X funding see just 17 percent of the patients seeking those services. If we were to cut off Planned Parenthood, other family planning clinics in Maine, including community health centers, would see a 63-percent increase in their patient load. They would be forced to absorb 8,563 more patients if Federal funds to Planned Parenthood were eliminated. Moreover, these other family planning clinics are predominantly in central, western, and the northern parts of my State. None is in the area that is served by Planned Parenthood in southern Maine. I don’t see how we can ensure that all of the patients currently served by Planned Parenthood can be absorbed by alter- native health care providers.

The bill that has been proposed by several of my colleagues would require women to give up the health care pro- vider of their choice, when we don’t yet know all of the facts about Planned Parenthood’s actions.

Therefore, I am joining my colleague from Illinois Senator Kirk in intro- ducing legislation, which we intend to turn into an amendment if we proceed to this bill, that would require the De- partment of Justice to investigate whether Planned Parenthood or its af- filiates have engaged in any illegal ac- tivity pertaining to fetal tissue and support a report to Congress on its findings within 90 days.

Activities involving fetal tissue have no relationship to Planned Parent- hood’s primary mission of promoting and protecting women’s health. While Planned Parenthood claims that only a very small number of its affiliates en- gage in the sale of fetal organs and tis- sue, let’s determine the facts. Those or- ganizations that do engage in this rep- rehensible practice are the ones that have sparked this outrage and rightly so. I believe these are the organizations that should be the focus of our efforts. I know none of the Planned Parenthood clinics in my State engage in the prac- tice, and the procurement and sale of fetal tissue. I think we should keep in mind that we can come up with a more tailored and targeted approach that is...
aimed at those clinics that do engage in this practice.

Therefore, our legislation would

Our legislation would define any affiliate or subsidiary of Planned Parenthood Federation of America that received any compensation for engaging in these activities.

So, a targeted approach

So, a targeted approach proposed by Senator KIRK and me accomplishes three important goals: First, it would not cause women served by Planned Parenthood clinics that do not engage in these reprehensible fetal tissue sales to lose their health care provider for basic services like family planning and cancer screening. After all, many of us have been critical of

After all, many of us have been critical of those affiliates, subsidiaries, and clinics that do receive compensation for procuring fetal organs and tissues, thus putting an end to this reprehensible trafficking in fetal tissue. How is that fair? How is that a targeted approach?

Second, our legislation would allow Congress to get the facts to determine if those few Planned Parenthood affiliates that do engage in fetal tissue procurement have broken Federal law and violated medical ethics. We need to know the answer to those questions, and we need to know how widespread this practice actually is.

Third, our legislation would defund these affiliates, subsidiaries, and clinics that do receive compensation for procuring fetal organs and tissues, thus putting an end to this reprehensible trafficking in fetal tissue.

I believe the proposal that Senator KIRK and I offer to our colleagues is a more targeted approach, a fairer approach, an approach that will be based on the facts, and is the best way forward as we deal with this important issue. I encourage my colleagues to join in our support of our more targeted legislation.

This is the bill that should we proceed to the underlying legislation, would be offered as a substitute to the bill by Senator KIRK and me.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 240—RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AND ITS PARTNERS FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE HISTORIC FLYBY OF PLUTO BY THE NEW HORIZONS SPACECRAFT

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. MCKULSKI, Mr. NELSON, Mr. GARNDER, Mr. PETRIS, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. Res. 240

Whereas, in 1930, from the Lowell Observatoiy in Flagstaff, Arizona, Clyde Tombaugh discovered Pluto, the ninth largest known body orbiting the sun;

Whereas, on January 19, 2006, the New Horizons spacecraft launched on an Atlas V launch vehicle from Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida;

Whereas, on July 14, 2015, after a 9 1/2-year journey, the New Horizons probe successfully flew within approximately 7,800 miles (12,500 kilometers) of the surface of the dwarf planet Pluto;

Whereas, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (referred to in this resolution clause as ‘‘NASA’’), the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Maryland, the Southwest Research Institute in Colorado, and the academic and private sector partners of the New Horizons mission for their roles in the historic flyby of Pluto by the New Horizons spacecraft;

Whereas, the successful New Horizons mission to Pluto was achieved through years of planning, designing, testing, and mission operations conducted by the dedicated scientists, engineers, and staff at NASA and affiliated academic and private sector partners;

Whereas the New Horizons mission was the first mission to study Pluto, the moons of Pluto, and other planetary building blocks within the Kuiper Belt, the region of the solar system beyond Neptune which holds the largest concentration of icy objects that surrounds the solar system beyond the orbit of Neptune;

Whereas the findings of the New Horizons Interplanetary Mission have demonstrated the great scientific value of the continued exploration of Pluto and the outer region of the solar system;

Whereas New Horizons is the first mission to collect high-resolution images and a variety of other data about the geological and atmospheric composition of Pluto as well as the space environment near Pluto and the moons of Pluto;

Whereas the initial images and data returned from the New Horizons spacecraft have already led to new discoveries about Pluto, the moons of Pluto, and the space environment near Pluto;

Whereas images of Pluto show ice mountains that have never been seen before and that are comparable in height to the Rocky Mountains;

Whereas images of Charon, the largest moon of Pluto, show deep canyons and a row of cliffs and troughs stretching 600 miles wide;

Whereas images of Pluto and Charon show a lack of impact craters, suggesting that their relatively young surfaces have been reshaped by internal geological processes;

Whereas the data collected by instruments on the New Horizons spacecraft confirm that the Pluto system contains a large amount of frozen water, which is considered an essential building block of life;

Whereas the data collected by the New Horizons spacecraft will continue to provide scientific insight, data to train the next generation of planetary scientists, and inspiration to humanity for years to come; and

Whereas the New Horizons spacecraft could continue traveling to the edges of our solar system and could be capable of exploring the Kuiper Belt and collecting data on our solar system that is not detectable from any other spacecraft or telescope due to its unique position, instrumentation, and long-lasting power supply: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

Whereas, on January 19, 2006, the New Horizons spacecraft launched on an Atlas V launch vehicle from Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida;

Whereas, on July 14, 2015, after a 9 1/2-year journey, the New Horizons probe successfully flew within approximately 7,800 miles (12,500 kilometers) of the surface of the dwarf planet Pluto;

Whereas, on January 19, 2006, the New Horizons spacecraft launched on an Atlas V launch vehicle from Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida;

Whereas, on July 14, 2015, after a 9 1/2-year journey, the New Horizons probe successfully flew within approximately 7,800 miles (12,500 kilometers) of the surface of the dwarf planet Pluto;

Whereas, on January 19, 2006, the New Horizons spacecraft launched on an Atlas V launch vehicle from Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida;
Ranger Regiment, special operations forces of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force, and other units of the Armed Forces, have demonstrated bravery and honor in combat, stability, and training operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Whereas the modern-day airborne forces also include other elite forces composed of airborne-trained and qualified special operations, including Army Special Forces, Marine Corps Reconnaissance units, Navy SEALs, and Air Force combat control and pararescue teams;

Whereas, of the members and former members of the United States airborne forces, thousands have achieved the distinction of making combat jumps, dozens have earned the Medal of Honor, and hundreds have earned the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, or other decorations and awards for displays of heroism, gallantry, intrepidity, and valor;

Whereas the members and former members of the United States airborne forces are all members of a proud and honorable tradition that, together with the special skills and achievements of those members, distinguishes the members as intrepid combat parachutists, special operations forces, and, in the past, glider troops;

Whereas individuals from every State of the United States have served gallantly in the airborne forces, and each State is a part of the contributions of its para trooper veterans during the many conflicts faced by the United States;

Whereas the history and achievements of the members and former members of the United States airborne forces warrant special expressions of the gratitude of the people of the United States; and

Whereas, since the airborne forces, past and present, celebrate August 16 as the anniversary of the first official jump by the Army Airborne Test Platoon, August 16 is an appropriate day to recognize as National Airborne Day; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates August 16, 2015, as “National Airborne Day”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Airborne Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2544. Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. HELLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 754, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2544. Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. HELLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 754, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 32, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

(6) LIMITATION ON RECEIPT OF CYBER THREAT INDICATORS.—A Federal entity may not receive a cyber threat indicator that another Federal entity shared through the process developed and implemented under paragraph (1) unless the Inspector General of the receiving Federal entity certifies that the receiving Federal entity meets the data security standard for receiving such a cyber threat indicator, as established by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

On page 32, strike line 14 and insert the following:

SEC. 10. REPORT ON REDUCTION OF CYBERSECURITY RISK IN AGENCY DATA CENTERS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the feasibility of Federal civilian agencies creating an environment for the reduction in cybersecurity risks in agency data centers, including by—

(1) increasing compartmentalization between systems; and

(2) providing a mix of security controls between such compartments.

SA 2545. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. KIRK, and Ms. MUKRICKIOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 754, to prohibit Federal funding of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. LIMITATION ON FUNDING.

(a) In general—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no Federal funds shall be made available to any affiliate, subsidiary, successor, or clinic of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc. if that affiliate, subsidiary, successor, or clinic receives compensation for facilitating the donation of fetal tissue products derived from an abortion.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to—

(1) affect any limitation contained in an appropriation Act relating to abortion; or

(2) reduce overall Federal funding available in support of women’s health.

(c) INVESTIGATION AND REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall conduct an investigation and submit to Congress a report on the findings of such investigation, concerning, among other things, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc. or any of its affiliates, subsidiaries, successors, or clinics has engaged in any illegal activity pertaining to fetal tissue products.

SA 2546. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MIKULSKI, Mr. COATS, Ms. AYOTTTE, and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 754, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE II—FEDERAL INFORMATION SECURITY MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT OF 2015

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Federal Information Security Management Reform Act of 2015.”

SEC. 102. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY OF HOME LAND SECURITY RELATED TO IN FORMATION SECURITY.

Section 355(b)(6) of title 44, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) and inserting the following:

(1) affecting any limitation contained in an appropriation Act relating to abortion; or

(2) reducing overall Federal funding available in support of women’s health.

(a) COMMUNICATIONS AND SYSTEM TRAFFIC.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to subparagraph (B), in carrying out the responsibilities under subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of the title, the Federal entity shall—

(1) develop a certification description in accordance with paragraph (2); and

(2) provide to the Federal entity and any contractors and to any other parties to whom information sharing agreements are in effect.

(b) EXCEPTION.—The authorities of the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence under subsection (e)(1) and (2) may be exercised for purposes of protecting national security.
apply to a communication or other system traffic that is transiting to or from or stored on a system described in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (e).

"(C) DISCLOSURE BY FEDERAL AGENCY HEADS.—The head of a Federal agency or department is authorized to disclose to the Secretary or a private entity providing assistance under subsection (a), information traveling to or from or stored on an agency information system, notwithstanding any other law that would otherwise restrict or prevent agency heads from disclosing such information to the Secretary.

"(2) CERTIFICATION.—A certification described in this paragraph is a certification by the Secretary that—

"(A) the acquisitions, interceptions, and other countermeasures are reasonably necessary for the purpose of protecting agency information systems from information security threats;

"(B) the content of communications will be retained only if the communication is associated with a known or reasonably suspected information security threat, and communications traffic will not be subject to the operation of a countermeasure unless associated with the threats;

"(C) information obtained under activities authorized under this subsection will only be retained, used, disclosed to protect agency information systems from information security threats, mitigate against such threats, or, with the consent of the Attorney General, for law enforcement purposes when the information is evidence of a crime which has been, is being, or is about to be committed;

"(D) notice has been provided to users of agency information systems concerning the potential for acquisition, interception, retention, use, and disclosure of communications and other system traffic; and

"(E) the activities are implemented pursuant to policies and procedures governing the acquisition, interception, retention, use, and disclosure of communications and other system traffic that have been reviewed and approved by the Attorney General.

"(3) PRIVATE ENTITIES.—The Secretary may enter into contracts or other agreements, or otherwise request and obtain the assistance of, private entities that provide electronic communication, information security services to acquire, intercept, retain, use, and disclose communications and other system traffic in accordance with this subsection.

"(4) NO CAUSE OF ACTION.—No cause of action shall exist against a private entity for assistance provided to the Secretary in accordance with paragraph (3).

"(1) DIRECTION TO AGENCIES.—

"(1) AUTHORITY.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 3534, and subject to subparagraph (B), in response to a known or reasonably suspected information security threat, vulnerability, or incident that represents a substantial threat to the information security of an agency, the Secretary may issue a directive to the head of an agency to take any lawful action with respect to the operation of the information system, including such systems owned or operated by another entity on behalf of an agency, that collects, processes, stores, transmits, disseminates, or otherwise configures to remove any information reasonably believes at the time of sharing to be personal information security threats, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 19, beginning on line 11, strike “knows” and insert “reasonably believes”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 241.

Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 754, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for the purpose of ensuring the security of the information or information system or other agency information systems. The amendment is printed in the Congressional Record, page S 3657, and if agreed to, would provide authority to the Secretary under this paragraph to—

"(A) protect agency information from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction; or

"(B) require assistance or protection against identified information security risks with respect to—

"(i) information collected or maintained by or on behalf of an agency or

"(ii) that portion of an information system used or operated by an agency or by a contractor of an agency on behalf of an agency.

SEC. 204. REPORT TO CONGRESS REGARDING OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ENHANCED DIRECTIVE ACTION.

Section 5353 of title 44, United States Code, as amended by section 203, is further amended by inserting at the end the following new subsection:

"(4) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

"(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than February 1 of every year, the Director shall report to the appropriate congressional committee concerning the specific actions the Director has taken pursuant to section (a)(5), including any actions taken pursuant to paragraph (5) of title 40 of section 11303(b). The report shall be submitted to the appropriate congressional committee. In this subsection, the term ‘appropriate congressional committee’ means—

"(A) the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

"(B) the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

SA 2547. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 754, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 19, beginning on line 11, strike “knows” and all that follows through “knows” on line 19, and insert “reasonably believes at the time of sharing to be personal information or information that identifies a specific person not directly related to a cybersecurity threat and remove such information; or

"(B) implement and utilize a technical capability configured to remove any information contained within such indicator that the entity reasonably believes

SA 2548. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 754, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 11, line 22, strike “knows” and insert “reasonably believes”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 241.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 241.

The SENATEAN OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate do stand on August 3, 2015, at 5 p.m., to conduct a classified briefing entitled “JCPOA: The Verification and Assessment Report.”
The preamble was agreed to. 
(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2015

Mr. McConnell. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, August 4; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that the majority control the first half and the Democrats control the final half; further, that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 754; and finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. McConnell. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order. There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:10 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at 10 a.m.