

groceries, perhaps, to pick up on the way home or some other domestic chore. After carefully writing down her instructions, he would turn to his visitor and resume the meeting.

John Pastore was the Chairman of the Communications Subcommittee of the Senate Commerce Committee. He was instrumental in the formation of legislation that created the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Public Broadcasting Service. John Pastore was opposed to violence on television and, especially, in children's programming. The deterioration of TV programming to what it is today must have been upsetting to him.

John Pastore's commitment to God, to competence, and to compassion, set a high standard. He used these commitments, I believe, to promote justice and peace. He was so very proud that his son John, Jr., who served as secretary of the Boston-based International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985.

So on Wednesday, I took the opportunity along with my illustrious colleagues whom I have named, to extend, on behalf of the Senate, my sympathy and prayers to John's wife, Elena, his son, John, Jr., the physician, which John himself had wanted to be.

What a great outpouring that was on Wednesday—a huge church auditorium, and a great crowd. What a wonderful family.

I was so very impressed with Mrs. Pastore, by her grace and poise, and with the two daughters and with that son, John Jr., the physician, which John himself had wanted to be.

I close with words by John Donne:

DEATH BE NOT PROUD

Death, be not proud, though some have called thee
Mighty and dreadful, for thou art not so;
For those whom thou think'st thou dost overthrow,
Die not, poor Death; nor yet canst thou kill me,
From Rest and Sleep, which but they picture be,
Much pleasure, then from thee much more must flow;
And soonest our best men with thee do go—
Rest of their bones and souls' delivery!
Thou'rt slave to fate, chance, kings, and desperate men,
And dost with poison, war, and sickness dwell;
And poppy or charms can make us sleep as well
And better than thy stroke. Why swell'st thou then?
One short sleep past, we wake eternally,
And Death shall be no more: Death, thou shalt die!

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for about 10 minutes.

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I thank the Chair.

SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wanted to thank the distinguished senior Senator from West Virginia for those very inspirational remarks.

He always amazes me, not only with his knowledge of history, but his knowledge of verse, his knowledge of literature, and, of course, his knowledge for the rules of the Senate.

I want to personally thank him for those very stirring words.

BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM OFFER OF FREE NEVIRAPINE

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, in May I stood on this floor and castigated the pharmaceutical industry for going behind the scenes and killing an amendment that Senator FEINGOLD and I had introduced, and which was part of the African trade bill. They killed this amendment in conference.

This amendment essentially would have allowed countries in the midst of a national HIV/AIDS emergency to use the cheapest possible drugs to fight that national health emergency by allowing the country to distribute the drugs through "parallel importing" and "compulsory licensing."

Fortunately, the President put forward an Executive order to carry out the intent of our amendment.

Since that time, some substantial things have happened.

Because I was so critical of the industry I feel it is only fitting that I always come to the floor and acknowledge those that have responded to the crisis.

When Senator FEINGOLD and I began this fight last fall, 6 months after the World Health Organization declared HIV/AIDS the most deadly infectious disease in the world, very few people were aware at the time of the scope of the devastation as a result of HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa.

Today, things have changed. Virtually not a day goes by without the media running a story about the HIV/AIDS crisis in sub-Saharan Africa. I will not recapitulate today all of the horrifying numbers behind this AIDS crisis. It suffices to say that more than 22 million people are infected with HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa, including over 30 percent of the adult population in many of the countries in the region. AIDS kills more than 2 million people a year in sub-Saharan Africa.

The media, the public, and governments from around the world are now increasingly aware of the catastrophe that is unfolding on this continent. Of course, the pharmaceutical community is also aware.

Today, I will discuss some of the positive steps the pharmaceutical industry is now taking to address this issue. I am very pleased and very grateful to see that the industry now recognizes its moral obligation and appears to be stepping up to the plate and taking the initiative to fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic in sub-Saharan Africa

and other flashpoints throughout the developing world.

On July 7, Boehringer Ingelheim announced that Nevirapine will be offered free of charge for a period of 5 years for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV in developing countries. They actually said that any country that asks for the drug will obtain it for free. That is a huge step forward. Reducing mother-to-child transmission can literally save millions of lives and reduce the rate of increase of HIV/AIDS in the developing world. In South Africa alone, according to a study published in the *Lancet* on June 17, as many as 110,000 cases of HIV in infants could be prevented over the next 5 years if all pregnant women in South Africa take a short course of antiretroviral medication such as Nevirapine during labor.

Today, I believe there are literally millions of orphans in Africa, orphans whose mothers, fathers, and families have died of AIDS, orphans who are living without food, without water. It is a devastating situation. The initiative by Boehringer Ingelheim is part of the collaborative effort between the United Nations, the World Bank, and five pharmaceutical companies. I salute them today. Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Glaxo-Wellcome, Merck, and Hoffman-La Roche are now trying, together, to expand access to HIV/AIDS treatment in the developing world. They deserve to be saluted by this body.

If efforts by the international community to address the HIV/AIDS crisis in sub-Saharan Africa and other regions of the developing world are to be successful, they must be part of a coordinated effort, and that effort has to include education, prevention, and adequate health care infrastructure. They must also include access to affordable medication. This is where participation by the pharmaceutical industry is so essential.

I am pleased to see that at long last pharmaceutical companies have recognized they have a profound social responsibility and moral obligation to meet the HIV/AIDS crisis, and that the lifesaving drugs they can provide are essential. We all know that AIDS drugs are extraordinarily costly. Therefore, access to low cost or generic drugs becomes critical.

It is important, however, to sound a note of caution and place the initiatives of these pharmaceutical companies in perspective. According to Doctors' Without Borders, for example, past experience with the proposed Pfizer fluconazole donation shows that these programs sometimes come with conditions for national health ministries that make them unsustainable over the long term. Many of these conditions are worthy. For example, it is worthy that the drug companies actually try to prevent the distribution of these drugs on the black market, and I understand the requirement that these drugs only be dispensed by a physician.

If a country doesn't have an adequate physician corps, it makes the dispensation of these drugs extraordinarily difficult, if not impossible.

Because of these experiences, I believe it is critical that the United Nations and the national governments concerned work with the pharmaceutical companies to make sure that any future efforts, including Boehringer Ingelheim's offer on Nevirapine, do not include hidden conditions which may serve to undermine these important initiatives.

Nevirapine, given in tablet form, as I understand it, does not have a lot of side effects and can be given in a way that encourages pregnant women throughout the continent to use it, and thereby in 90 percent of the cases prevent the transmission of the HIV virus to the unborn child.

In addition, I believe alongside initiatives by the pharmaceutical industry, access to low cost and/or generic drugs embodied in the President's May 11 Executive Order is still very important. The few developing countries that have significant access to medicines for people with HIV/AIDS gained access by aggressively pursuing generic strategies. In Brazil, 80,000 people have been treated with generic drugs that have brought the cost of triple drug therapy down to approximately \$1,000 a year. While in Uganda, where the Government was working with brand name drugs through a U.N. AIDS initiative, fewer than 1,000 people have been treated, due to cost constraints.

Bringing the HIV/AIDS pandemic under control in sub-Saharan Africa and preventing HIV/AIDS from becoming a pandemic in other regions of the developing world is one of the great moral tests of our time. If governments, nonprofits, and the pharmaceutical industry work together, I believe we can control what will otherwise be the greatest preventable humanitarian catastrophe in history.

Government and nonprofits are now beginning to take this crisis seriously. So are the pharmaceutical companies that produce drugs to treat HIV/AIDS. The offer by Boehringer Ingelheim to provide free Nevirapine to developing countries for 5 years to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and the creation of a coalition of five major manufacturers of HIV/AIDS drugs to work with the United Nations to deliver drugs to victims of this crisis, are major steps in the effort to control the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

I just want to say I am very grateful. I believe this Senate should also salute this action. I would like to encourage other pharmaceutical companies to follow the example these five companies are setting.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FRIST). The Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

Mr. BINGAMAN. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. BINGAMAN pertaining to the introduction of S. 2905

are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, it has been a difficult week working in the Senate. All of us have had a heavy heart, missing Paul Coverdell. My office is in the immediate vicinity of his, and I keep thinking he will pop out the door on my way to a vote or back.

In the Bible, there is a famous story about a man named Paul. God had a special mission for him. Though Paul was not aware of it, God made His presence known when He needed him and called him into service. That Paul had no choice. He answered the call and did as he was asked. God calls us all like that, though some of us never hear it. God called Paul Coverdell like that, too. When Paul heard the call, he listened and he answered.

First, He called him to work in the Peace Corps, as there was a need and someone had to fill it. During his service there, he made a difference in a lot of lives. God must have been very pleased with him because then He decided to put him in charge of greater things.

Those greater things led him to serve in the Senate. Again, there was a need and, again, Paul was there to answer the call. He was a remarkable force here, an incredible powerhouse of principles and ideas, and they were all in motion whenever he would speak. He had an infectious enthusiasm that seemed to emanate from every fiber of his being as he made his points. His gestures and his facial expressions always drew the listener in and caught their attention as he spoke with passion about his philosophy and his politics.

He was a great strategist because he could put himself in someone else's shoes and understand how someone else thought and felt about the issues that came up for debate and discussion. He could see many perspectives, and all at once he had an innate sense of how they would all interplay, how they would connect and collide. That was why he always seemed to have the answers. He knew what his opponents were thinking before they were even thinking it.

But the biggest reason for his successes in the Senate was his great devotion to the principles of common sense. He knew that the best answer was the one that made the most sense. All of his hard work and determined effort was aimed at one target: finding common ground, working with his colleagues, and creating a consensus that led to a solution to the problem.

When I arrived in the Senate, I found myself on the last rung of the seniority ladder, No. 100. I did not know how lucky I was. After the room selections

were made, I got the office that was left, and it turned out to be a great office in disguise. My staff and I moved in, added a few touches to make it more like home, and then greeted our neighbors. Paul Coverdell was the neighbor, along with his staff. He was right next door, so we got to see him often. He and his staff were always walking by or on their way out, and I would see Paul as he left to go home. He was a regular and a welcome sight to all of us.

When the bells would ring for us to vote, we seemed to answer that call at the same time. We often came out of our doors at the same time and walked over together. We had a lot of interesting discussions about politics and legislative strategy. I lapped it all up. I was an eager and ready student, and he was a tremendous mentor.

Our staffs seemed to bond, too. We were all in this together, and the camaraderie that developed among us helped us take on some issues that needed to be addressed. It is a tradition I have adopted from him that I hope to continue through my years of service in the Senate.

Through the years, I remember the times we spent in difficult meetings with emotions running high and pressure coming down from all sides to get something done. That is when TRENT LOTT would say: "Let's let Mikey do it." I was always relieved to see that he was talking about Paul. I never knew Trent was making a reference to an old-time television commercial, but I knew he meant Paul and not me, which was a relief because Paul always got the job done.

Paul Coverdell had a lot of jobs to do in the Senate, and he took them all on eagerly and with enthusiasm because he loved legislating; he loved serving the people of Georgia, the people of this Nation, and his neighbors around the world because he cared so very deeply about each and every person.

I heard it said that there is no higher calling than public service. It must be true because it caught Paul Coverdell's attention. In all he did in his life, there is no question that he was a remarkable public servant by any standard.

Unfortunately, he will not get to a lot of the landmarks we cherish around here, like casting 10,000 votes, but every vote he did cast was with the greatest thought, consideration, and reflection, and that is the true mark of a legislator.

He lived every day with great enthusiasm, energy, focus, concern, and imagination. In fact, I think of him as an "imagineer." That is someone who can see a problem as a challenge and then use a great reservoir of talent, skill, and a little luck to solve it. That is the true mark of a great human being and great friend. Someday when we leave the Senate and return home to begin another adventure in each of our lives, I have no doubt we will take with us at least one or two special memories of Paul that we will cherish for a lifetime.