

will provide funding for important initiatives that take effect in January 2006, just a few days from now.

This morning the Senate passed, by the slimmest of margins, S. 1932, legislation to cut about \$40 billion from mandatory spending programs over the next 5 years. I did not support S. 1932 because I believe it contains bad policy on Medicaid, on welfare, and on child support enforcement, among other things.

For example, S. 1932 includes \$5 billion in cuts to the child support enforcement program, which will mean that an estimated \$19.6 million in child support funds will go uncollected in Montana over the next 10 years. That is money that should go to needy Montana kids.

As for Medicaid, S. 1932 contains almost \$2 billion in increased copays for Medicaid beneficiaries, as well as other Medicaid cuts. There are right ways to cut health care costs, through greater efficiencies that will save more money over time, and there is a wrong way to cut costs: on the backs of the Americans who can least afford to pay more for their health care. S. 1932 goes the wrong way and ignores the Senate's strong instruction to protect Medicaid beneficiaries from deep spending cuts. Last week 75 Senators supported a motion I offered in the Senate instructing budget conferees not to come back with a bill that included higher Medicaid copays and benefit cuts. Passage of S. 1932 is inconsistent with that vote.

S. 1932 is bad news for the welfare program as well. Despite a Senate vote of 64 to 27 in support of removing TANF from S. 1932, the bill that the Senate passed today does just that: it reauthorizes TANF through the budget reconciliation process, with a punitive and unnecessarily austere set of provisions. The TANF Program, originally passed in 1996, has successfully reduced welfare caseloads and focused on moving parents from welfare to work. Changes to the TANF Program should build on the success of 1996 reforms, not reverse that success, as S. 1932 will ultimately do.

Unfortunately, S. 1932 takes something that is not broken—and fixes it. For example, S. 1932 would raise work requirements without providing the funding needed to help States get people working. In fact, while S. 1932 includes \$1 billion in additional funding for childcare, that is \$7.4 billion short of what the Congressional Budget Office estimates to be the cost to States of meeting the TANF work requirements under this bill.

The Health and Welfare Relief Act would extend TANF for an additional year, maintaining current policy on this important program. The Health and Welfare Relief Act would also extend transitional medical assistance, TMA, for an additional year, a program that is critical for helping families make the transition from welfare to work.

The Health and Welfare Relief Act also contains a fix to the Medicare physician payment formula, which is set to cut Medicare physician payments by 4.4 percent on January 1. It prevents a cap on Medicare physical therapy from taking effect. And it extends an important provision for small rural hospitals' outpatient departments, helping them stay afloat. The bill also provides \$60 million for CMS administrative funding, which should be spent to help educate seniors about the new Medicare drug benefit. And it contains \$80 million for important legislation that I have sponsored related to high-risk pools, which are often the insurer of last resort.

Finally, the Health and Welfare Relief Act includes important legislation providing relief to individuals and States harmed by Hurricane Katrina. Like the Lincoln amendment voted on in the Senate November 3, this bill contains provisions to: provide temporary Medicaid relief to Katrina survivors; help States struggling to meet health care costs incurred as a result of Katrina; and assist providers dealing with Katrina-related uncompensated care costs.

I support the minority leader's efforts to pass these timely and critical provisions through the Health and Welfare Relief Act of 2005. While I do not support S. 1932, we should take the positive elements of that bill—as well as important provisions to aid Katrina victims—and pass them today.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ACT

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise to seek clarification from our esteemed majority leader, Senator FRIST, on the scheduling of S. 147, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, for consideration of the full Senate.

As you may recall, in December of last year, the majority and minority leaders joined us in reaching agreement on a schedule for the Senate's action on the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act bill with Senators DOMENICI and KYL. Specifically, in an exchange of correspondence that was made part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for the 108th session of the Congress, the leaders agreed that S. 147 would be brought before the Senate on or before August 7, 2005.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, we commend our majority leader for his diligent efforts to secure the agreement of other Senators so that the Senate could proceed to consideration of this measure that is so important to the citizens of Hawaii. I know that Senator INOUE joins me in expressing our deep appreciation for our leader's action in laying down a cloture petition prior to the August recess when unanimous consent could not be achieved.

However, when the Senate reconvened in September, the tragic devastation of Hurricane Katrina clearly demanded the Congress's immediate ac-

tion, and thus, Senator INOUE and I agreed to the proposal of the minority and the majority leader, that the cloture petition be vitiated.

As we now approach the end of the first session of the 109th Congress—with pressing matters requiring the Nation's attention once again moving the Senate's consideration of S. 147 to the sidelines—we seek the guidance of the majority leader as to when our Leader anticipates that this measure may be brought before the Senate.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I thank the Senators from Hawaii for their review of our actions and intent in securing the Senate's action on S. 147. In addition to our two Senators from Hawaii, the Governor of Hawaii has consistently sought our action on this bill, and I am fully committed to assuring that the measure is brought before the Senate early in the next session of the Congress.

Mr. President, because a few of our colleagues are apparently not inclined to allow the bill to be considered under unanimous consent, it may be necessary to once again file a cloture petition to enable the measure to be given the Senate's full consideration. I want to assure my colleagues from Hawaii that the commitment I made in December of last year remains firm, and that I will work with them to take the appropriate steps to assure Senate action on S. 147 early in the second session of the 109th Congress.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader for his clarification and his commitment. We look forward to working with both leaders to bring S. 147 to the Senate floor at the earliest possible time in the second session of the 109th Congress.

ON THE PASSING OF EUGENE MCCARTHY

Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the memory of Senator Eugene McCarthy, who passed away earlier this month.

I did not have the pleasure of knowing him. But I know how powerful and stirring he was—a man who was not afraid to speak the truth. A man who, in 1968, had already resided in the corridors of power for nearly 20 years, but had not been corrupted by them.

Accomplished and beloved by his constituents, Senator McCarthy could have rested on his laurels and kept his views to himself; he could have toed the line in the name of unity and loyalty to the president.

But that was not in Senator McCarthy's character. There is something about Minnesota that produces people and politicians who care more about what is right than about being liked. In this tradition, he was a clarion voice of courage and conviction.

Senator McCarthy retired after 22 years of service in Congress, but he never abandoned his beliefs or moderated his tone. He was not interested in conforming to society's expectations

for an elder statesman. Nor was he afraid to turn his wit against his adversaries when discussing their policies with which he disagreed.

While he took more than his share of criticism, he stuck to his principles and gave as good as he got. The Senate is better because Eugene McCarthy served here, and the country is as well. He will be missed.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATING HAWAII'S NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate our national championship football team from Hawaii, the Lihue Patriots Pee Wee team, which won the Pop Warner Division II National Championship in Orlando, FL, on December 9, 2005. The Patriots are the first from Hawaii to win a Pop Warner national title.

The Patriots won the right to compete for the national championship by beating the undefeated East Tampa Bandits, 14 to 6, in a thrilling come from behind victory. In the championship game, the Patriots shut out the Hollister Vikings from San Jose, CA, 14 to 0, earning the Tomlin Championship trophy for the Pop Warner Division II Pee Wee bracket for 9- to 11-year-olds.

The Lihue Patriots Pee Wee team members are: Darren Acoba, Taran Tani, Bron Dela Cruz, Kekoa Agustin, Kevin Reyes, Kalen Kimura, Henry Rodrigues, Jonathan Butac, Travis Koga, Austin Furumoto, Isaac Ramboyon, John Das, Rolland Fukushima-Peahu, Austin Oshiro, Erin Doi, Dustin Ferreira-Kashima, Shane Iwata, Shawn Taguas, Trey Smith, Wailea Kerr, Micah Hanano, and Isaiah Prunty. The team is coached by Mario Longboy, Bradley Hiranaka, Eugenio Nacnac, Craig Koga, Ralph Suniga, and Layton Tani. The Patriots are also supported by managers Tyler Manibog, Christie Kashima, and Johnny Pongasi and team moms Lori Koga and Jolly Iwata.

I congratulate the Lihue Patriots on their history making victory, and I wish all of them the best in their future endeavors, in life and on the playing field. And I extend the same congratulations to all players and coaches who participated in this year's Pop Warner National Football Championships on a job well done.●

IN MEMORY OF PRESTON ROBERT TISCH

• Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to pay my respects to someone I knew very well, Preston Robert Tisch, who passed away last month of brain cancer. He was a distinguished American who, along with his brother, Laurence, built a giant financial enterprise. Bob was eminently successful at everything he did, particularly in his role as a husband, father and grandfather.

I, like all who had contact with Bob Tisch, treasure my times with him. I send my deepest condolences to his wife and family.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a statement released by the New York Giants organization that so perfectly describes the life and accomplishments of Bob Tisch.

He will be long remembered by all who knew him.

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

(November 15, 2005)

PRESTON ROBERT TISCH (1926-2005)

Preston Robert "Bob" Tisch, the Giants' Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer, one of the nation's most respected and successful businessmen, a former United States Postmaster General, and an extremely generous philanthropist, died Tuesday night.

Tisch passed away from inoperable brain cancer, which was first diagnosed in the summer of 2004. He was 79. His death comes just three weeks after the passing of his fellow owner, Wellington Mara, who died of cancer on Oct. 25 at the age of 89.

Tisch realized a longtime dream in 1991 when he completed negotiations with Wellington Mara's nephew, Tim Mara, and his family and paid \$75 million for a 50 percent interest in the Giants.

"I was very fortunate," Tisch said in a 2002 interview. "I got a call from (former Cleveland and Baltimore owner) Art Modell telling me that Tim Mara wanted to sell his half of the team and asking me if I would be interested in purchasing it. I met with Wellington Mara and John Mara and said I'd be very interested. There were no problems with them, and then I bought my share of the team from Tim Mara. It's been a great relationship and a great boon to me. I'm very happy to be the 50 percent owner of the New York Giants."

Tisch played an active role in the organization. As a member of the National Football League's Finance and Super Bowl Policy Committees, he attained a prominence in the sports arena equal to his position in the world of business.

Owning the Giants was one of many careers Tisch pursued simultaneously. Forbes magazine ranks him 56th on its list of the country's 400 wealthiest people and estimates his net worth to be about \$3.9 billion.

He was the Chairman and Director of the Loews Corporation, one of the country's most successful financial companies. The company, with a 2004 net income of \$1.2 billion and assets exceeding \$74 billion, owns and operates 91 percent of CNA Financial Corporation; 100 percent of Lorillard; 100 percent of Boardwalk Pipelines, which consists of Texas Gas Transmission and Gulf South Pipelines; 52 percent of Diamond Offshore Drilling; 100 percent of Loews Hotels and 100 percent of Bulova.

Tisch served as Postmaster General of the United States from Aug. 1986 until returning to New York in March 1988. Prior to his appointment as Postmaster, he served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Loews Corporation and its corporate predecessor, Loews Theaters, Inc., a position held from 1960 until his appointment as Co-Chairman and CoCEO.

Tisch also served as Chairman of the New York Convention & Visitors Bureau for 19 years and currently serves as the Bureau's (now called NYC & Co.) Chairman Emeritus. He was also founding Chairman of the New York City Convention and Exhibition Center Corporation and Chairman of the Citizens

Committee for the Democratic National Conventions held in New York City in 1976 and 1980.

In May 1990, Mayor David Dinkins appointed Tisch as New York City's Ambassador to Washington, D.C. Through 1993, he served as a liaison between the City of New York and his friends and colleagues in both the national government in Washington, D.C. and the business community in New York City.

From 1990-1993, Tisch served as Chairman of the New York City Partnership, Inc. and the New York Chamber of Commerce and Industry, where he was instrumental in developing a campaign to enhance New York's position as an international business center. After completing his stint as chairman, Tisch remained on the Board of Directors of both organizations, now merged.

Tisch was also a Trustee of New York University.

The Giants, however, were truly a labor of love for Tisch, a lifelong sports fan. He attended every Giants game, home and away, and spent as much time working in his stadium office as possible. His two sons are now important members of the organization: Steven as executive vice president and Jon as treasurer.

The process of going from fan to owner took at least three decades for Tisch.

"I came to New York in 1960, and a couple of propitious things happened," he said. "Our company owned a radio station at that time, WHN. During the 1950s they broadcast Giants games. The president of the radio station had ten 50-yard-line tickets at Yankee Stadium. When we sold the radio station he decided he wanted to stay with us, so he came over to Loews Theaters to become the controller. So for about seven or eight years, I had the use of these tickets.

"Also, when we came to New York we moved to Scarsdale, and I got to know Allie Sherman, who was then coach of the Giants. Actually, Allie's son Randy and my son Jon were born one day apart. So we got to know the Sherman family. Then in 1975 or '76, Pete Rozelle moved to Harrison. We lived in the city, but we have a house in Harrison, which was a mile away from where Pete Rozelle and his family resided. We became very friendly with Pete Rozelle. So I have a history in the last 40-some odd years of being involved. I went to most of the owners meetings and all the Super Bowls with Pete Rozelle. I was chairman of a group of his friends called Rozelle's Raiders—I was responsible for getting him to the right place at the right time. He finally gave me a whistle and a sign that said 'Rozelle's Raiders.' I've been very lucky. In my own mind, I've been involved in football since 1960."

It was about that time that Tisch first began to consider buying a professional team.

"I had tried several times before (purchasing his interest in the Giants)," he said. "Steve Ross, who ended up as CEO of Time-Warner, Inc. and I tried to buy the Jets in about 1967 or '68 and it didn't work out. I looked at other things. In 1988, when I came out of the Postal Service, I decided I would try to buy a sports team. I looked at many of them, both in football and basketball. I looked at the Dallas Cowboys and a couple of other teams. But I made up my mind I was never going to buy a team that was more than one hour from New York. I was interested in becoming owner of the new franchise that was in Baltimore. We were putting together a group when the opportunity came about to become the 50 percent owner of the New York Giants, which I jumped at and dropped everything else."

He completed the negotiations with Tim Mara just a few months after the Giants won Super Bowl XXV.