

quickly as humanly possible, which should have been done years ago, so that its people never again will face the calamity of last week. If Holland can do it, the little nation of Holland, then so, too, can we.

But to accomplish all of this and so much more that remains to be done, it will take leadership, leadership unlike that which has controlled Washington for these last several years. The times demand leaders who understand that the true test of leadership is not how we accentuate the differences among us but instead how we reconcile them, how we forge principled consensus, how we find common ground. We need leaders who appeal to us to think about something other than narrow self-interest but instead focus upon the greater, the better good.

The answer to our challenges can be found all around us on this floor. It is written in the motto of the Great Seal of the U.S. Senate. *E Pluribus Unum*: Out of Many, One.

It is written on the motto of the great seal of the United States Senate, "*E Pluribus Unum*," Out of Many, One.

United, there are no challenges we cannot meet; divided, we will be surrounded by dangers, our potential as a nation unfulfilled.

So this Sunday, September 11, let us say a prayer for the victims in New York and for those on the Gulf Coast and, most of all, let us say a prayer and ask for a blessing on this great country that we might have the unity and the wisdom and the selflessness to fulfill the full meaning of our creed: "One nation under God, with liberty and justice for all."

Thank you, Madam President. I yield the floor.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

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

HONORING CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAM REHNQUIST

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I would like to take the next 10 minutes to talk about a couple of different items.

Not far from where we are today, the body of our late Chief Justice has lain in repose, and a number of us were privileged to go there earlier today just to say goodbye and to thank him for his service to our country—33 years. That is a long time, more than three decades that he has served us. His love for our country, his love for the law and the integrity of our Nation's judiciary system was only surpassed by his love for his family and for those with whom he worked.

During his time on the Court, he fostered, among other things, real conge-

niality among the Justices—something that is not easy to do in that forum or, frankly, in this one. In return, he was held in high esteem by his colleagues who had called him, among other things, "brilliant," "principled," "generous," with "a good sense of humor," something we can never have too much of.

He demonstrated great personal strength and courage in leading the Court and this country through difficult and contentious times, continuing his work in the face of ever-daunting health problems that would have set most of us on our backs and far out of the courtroom.

There are many judicial hallmarks of his time on the Court. Throughout his tenure on the Court, he staunchly supported the independence of the Federal judiciary and our overall governmental system of checks and balances. We will miss him, but we are grateful that he was here to serve us for as long as he has.

HURRICANE RELIEF

Mr. CARPER. I would also like to talk about the good efforts that are going on in a number of places around our country to support the relief effort to those who have been stricken by Hurricane Katrina. We heard a fair amount of questioning about whether the response was adequate, was timely, what we could have done better, what we needed to do better, and those are all legitimate questions and they need to be answered in time—some of them now, some of them in the course of the next couple of weeks and months.

I said to some of my colleagues with whom I was discussing Katrina and our response—we were talking about the role of government in a situation such as this—Lincoln had it right about 150 years ago when he said words to the effect that the role of government is to do for people what they cannot do for themselves. That is our role in this instance as well.

Not long ago I was in our church, and the focal point of the sermon was the parable from the New Testament about the Good Samaritan and the question that is asked at the beginning of the parable of the Good Samaritan, Who is my neighbor? We go on to be reminded that our neighbor is not just the people who live across the street from us in Wilmington, DE, or in South Carolina. Our neighbor could just as well be a person who lives in New Orleans, Biloxi, Mobile, or any of the other places affected.

I am inspired by outpouring, not just from government and for us to do our jobs—we are paid literally to help people in instances such as this, and that is the expectation of us, but for a lot of people this is not their expectation. People are literally showing their faith by their deeds. In some cases, people are opening up their homes, opening up their military installations, opening up all types of facilities to receive those

who have been dislocated, welcoming youngsters to schools far from the schools those kids would normally be attending to make sure their education is not disrupted.

I think of the folks from my own State, the doctors and nurses, folks in our medical operation out of our Delaware Air National Guard. They were literally on the scene today providing services and assistance to those who need it. People are collecting food, people are giving blood, people are giving boatloads of money and, frankly, boatloads more are needed. But it is an inspiring outpouring after a difficult and disappointing beginning.

Among the questions I hope we will focus on as we try to decide what went well and what did not go well, what was right, what went right, and what we did poorly, is the issue of the levees that surround the city of New Orleans that keep Lake Pontchartrain from pouring into the city of New Orleans. If you look in the dictionary for a definition of "city at risk" if there ever was a Category 3, 4, or 5 hurricane, you would see New Orleans. That is the poster child for this kind of risk. We knew the threat was there. We knew it was a grave threat. We have been talking about it for years. The people have talked about it for years. The Army Corps of Engineers sought to reinforce the levees.

We knew this storm was coming. It is not one that popped up at the last minute. Yet, in spite of that, the work that should have been done on the levees to strengthen them to sustain this kind of onslaught by Mother Nature, someone has dropped the ball. I am not interested in finger-pointing or witch hunts. We have to find out where we went wrong, why we went wrong, and fix that. If New Orleans is ever to rise again—not from the ashes but from the waters that engulf it today—this is an issue that has to be not only resolved, we have to come up with a solution to make sure we have learned from this very expensive lesson.

I fear a storm which could have cost tens of billions may cost more than \$100 billion to repair the damage, a lot of it from New Orleans. A storm that could have cost us hundreds of lives will probably cost us thousands of lives. It did not have to be.

The last thing I wish to say is I was encouraged in the presentation we had by some of our Cabinet Secretaries who talked about what the Department of Health and Human Services is doing, making sure the folks who need medical assistance and Medicaid eligibility, identification, people who need help getting their food stamp allocations, people need to receive their unemployment checks—all kinds of things were discussed, what the Federal Government can do to help people. It was encouraging.

One of the presenters was the Secretary of the Department of Treasury. He talked, as the Presiding Officer may recall, about the work being done to

defer the payment of taxes. People who normally would have an estimated tax payment—personal business maybe—on September 15 will be given until the end of October to make that payment. They were looking for ways we, through the Federal Government, could exercise some charity, some consideration for those who were in harm's way and are now in desperate straits to pull their lives back together.

I come from a State where we have a lot of banks. We probably have more credit card banks per capita—probably issue half the credit cards issued in America. I am empowered to speak on this point. We have a lot of financial services companies around the world. They extend credit. Most do a great job of extending credit to people through America, the Northeast, Midwest, Southwest, and also the Gulf Coast States. Just as the Department of Treasury is trying to find ways to show kindness and a little consideration to those who are affected in the disaster areas on the tax side, my hope is our financial services companies which are going to be benefiting from the implementation of our new bankruptcy law this fall, this might be a good opportunity for some of them to say—and some of them already are doing this, I should point that out. Some financial services companies are saying: We want to help folks in the Southeast United States who have been affected, and here are the variety of ways we will do that. Some are not entirely forgiving indebtedness but are providing payment holidays, extending the dates on which payments are due, and taking away interest and finance charges. That is what we ought to applaud and the behavior we ought to encourage others to undertake.

Today, in addition to saying goodbye to our Chief Justice and to saying terrific work by folks from all walks of life to help people in dire straights, well done, we say to our financial services companies around the country that are trying to find their own ways to reach out and help people, God bless you. Good for you. Finally, to say to those who aren't, maybe you would like to join the parade and lend a helping hand as well.

(The remarks of Mr. CARPER pertaining to the introduction of S. 1627 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. CARPER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of South Carolina, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will stand in recess until 3:30 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:30 p.m., recessed until 3:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. MARTINEZ).

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is in a period of morning business with Senators recognized for up to 10 minutes.

The Senator from Idaho.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following my 10 minutes, the Senator from New Hampshire, Mr. GREGG, be recognized for 10 minutes, to be followed by the Senator from Kansas, Mr. BROWNBACK.

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

HONORING CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I come to the floor this afternoon to speak for three very important reasons. Of course, first is to recognize our Chief Justice who has just passed, William Rehnquist.

Today the Senate paid its respects to the late Justice Rehnquist, filing through the halls of the Supreme Court where he served this Nation with distinction for more than 33 years.

I could not help but remember a conversation I had with Chief Justice Rehnquist a couple of years ago. I was walking to work and happened to run into him on one of his legendary strolls around the Court. We talked a bit about what was happening in the judicial nomination process in the Senate. But the specifics of that conversation are probably less important than the style of the conversation. He was informal, approachable, genteel, but certainly direct. And regardless of his physical frailty, he had lost none of his interest or his ability to give a shrewd analysis of the events of the day. If you spent any time at all with this very important man, you would feel the force of his great personality.

Much has already been written about the legal legacy of Justice Rehnquist because he was one of the most influential jurists of our time. He anchored and presided over a shift to conservative principles, underscoring in particular the importance of federalism and limitations on Government. I know some in the conservative community were disappointed that the Supreme Court, on his watch, did not reverse more prior left-leaning precedents, but his strong hand was certainly obvious in a long series of history-making decisions. William Rehnquist's impact on jurisprudence was profound and will be felt for many years to come.

In his personal life, I know this engaging man had many friends, and to all of them, as well as his family, I extend my deepest condolences. The Court has lost a brilliant and fair leader. America has lost a great public servant. I consider myself fortunate to have had the chance to know and be inspired by William Rehnquist.

I thank the leader for this opportunity to add one more voice to the chorus of tributes from a grateful Nation.

TRIBUTE TO DAMON TOBIAS AND GEORGE O'CONNOR

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, if you serve long enough in the Congress—I had the opportunity to serve 10 years in the House, and now I am into my third term in the Senate—you have a lot of very capable and wonderful people who work for you. If you serve long enough, as I have mentioned, they not only work for you but sometimes they decide to retire. In my situation, in my office, I have two people retiring this month, and I am going to miss them greatly. I want to speak a few moments about them.

First, I talk about Damon Tobias. Damon has been on my staff and handling my budget and tax issues and appropriations issues for a good number of years. I first met Damon in the House of Representatives when he was on the staff of Congressman Charlie Stenholm of Texas. Damon and I and Congressman Stenholm became involved in the balanced budget amendment movement at a time when deficits were totally out of control, and many of us worked to bring them under control. That is when Damon and I became friends. Through the 1980s we worked together on this most important issue.

I left the House to come to the Senate, and Damon left the Stenholm office to go to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Later on, 2 years after I came to the Senate, Damon joined my staff in March of 1992. Damon has continued to work for me over that time, dealing with the balanced budget amendment, dealing with taxes and budget and labor issues, immigration issues. Probably Damon has spent more time, along with me, trying to solve the immigration question for American agriculture and for workers in the American agricultural economy than nearly any other issue. Of course, that paramount bill he worked so much on now has majority support in this Senate and a vast coalition of Americans behind it, known as AgJOBS, and it is a legacy of which Damon can be truly proud. He worked on appropriations and small business and Hispanic issues.

He and his bride are going to return to his home State of New Mexico where Damon, I am sure, will proceed to do other things along with taking care of his aging mother. I and my staff are going to miss Damon Tobias, and I am convinced the Senate will also miss him.