

have if this research is cut off because of lack of funding.

We have heard the President say that education is one of his top priorities. That is why it is so frustrating to me that he is threatening to veto this bill. I am committed to ensuring Federal funds are there to help build and improve our Nation's schools. Strong schools make strong communities. We want everyone in this country to have a promising future and a promising job—and education is how you get there.

The Senate bill supports increased funding for Pell grants that help kids afford college when they might not otherwise have had a chance to get a college degree. It increases funding for school improvement by \$500 million. It sends \$1 billion in badly needed money to help schools in low-income communities raise children's achievement levels and provide more opportunities for learning. And it reverses the President's proposed \$100 million cut to Head Start.

As a mom, a former preschool teacher, and school board president, I saw firsthand that giving kids a boost early on can pay off in the future. Reaching kids early makes them more likely to graduate and succeed. This isn't frivolous spending. The money we spend on education today will help children grow into better educated, better prepared workers.

Providing Americans with the skills they need to excel in the global economy while keeping them safe on the job are very basic needs that every working family has the right to expect from their Government. That is why I continue to be baffled by the administration's lack of commitment to workers in our Nation. With strong bipartisan support for this bill, the Senate is proud to stand with working families and support the priorities that shape their daily lives.

When I travel around my home State of Washington, employers tell me they are desperate to find workers with the skills they need to grow their businesses. And we have thousands of people on waiting lists hoping to get trained for these family-wage jobs. Yet for the last 7 years, the President has proposed hundreds of millions of dollars in cuts for job-training programs, shutting the door to millions of dislocated workers, youth and disadvantaged adults who deserve to share in the American dream.

Under his watch, worker safety on the job has also been put at risk. With OSHA's lack of enforcement, workers are unprotected. And today's miners continue to work under an administration that values voluntary compliance above safety and enforcement. This is the wrong direction for working families and the wrong priority for America.

How do we begin to solve it? Well, one thing is clear—it isn't by cutting \$1 billion dollars in job training funds at a critical time in our economic

growth, as the President has proposed, nor is it by proposing hundreds of millions of dollars in cuts to job training programs, as he has one over the last 7 years. This bill rejects the President's misguided cuts and goes to great lengths to maintain a viable workforce and training system. If we want our local businesses and our Nation to be competitive in the global economy, we must make skills training for every worker a national priority. This bill does that.

For some here in the Senate, this might be an abstract debate about Federal funding. But this debate is about real people. It is about 30 kids in a classroom and a teacher struggling to make sure they succeed. It is about hardworking parents searching for a way to get health care for their families when it isn't provided by their employers. And it is about workers who need training that will help them get a job that pays enough to support a family.

When I travel around Washington State, people tell me they want hope and change. Whether it is the war in Iraq or gas prices or access to health insurance—people feel a real weight on their shoulders. They are looking for a light at the end of the tunnel, and by vetoing these important bills—and failing to invest in the health, safety, and economic future of all Americans—the President keeps putting out that light.

Mr. President, in this bill, we are investing more than \$7 billion over last year in the future of our country. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation on behalf of the millions of American children and families who would benefit.

And I hope the President is listening.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate resumes consideration of H.R. 3043 tomorrow, Senator ENZI be recognized to call up amendment No. 3437 and there be 30 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the amendment be temporarily set aside, and Senator DEMINT be recognized to call up amendment No. 3387, and there be 20 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the amendment be temporarily set aside, and the Senate then resume the Roberts amendment No. 3365, and there be 10 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate resume consideration of the Coburn amendment No. 3358, and there be 20 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled prior to a vote; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate return to the Enzi amendment and vote in relation to the amendment; that upon disposition of that amendment, the Senate resume the DeMint amendment and vote in relation to the amendment; that upon disposition of the DeMint amendment, the Senate

proceed to vote in relation to the Roberts amendment; that upon disposition of that amendment, the Senate proceed to vote in relation to the Coburn amendment No. 3358; that there be 2 minutes of debate prior to each vote, equally divided and controlled, with no amendments in order to any of the amendments covered in this agreement prior to the vote; and that after the first vote, the vote time be limited to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. So, Mr. President, this ends our business for this evening, so that when the Senate comes in tomorrow morning, we will have four amendments that will take about an hour, and then there will be four votes that will start. They will be stacked votes, and they will then take place 1 hour after we come in.

Again, I say that if we come in at 10 in the morning and this takes an hour and then we vote on four amendments, that will take us just about to the noon hour, and we are supposed to finish by 12:30. So I say again, if Senators have amendments, it looks as if they may be getting crowded out, unless they get over here in a hurry.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. KLOBUCHAR). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak therein for a period of up to 10 minutes each.

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

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

STAFF SERGEANT ERIC THOMAS DUCKWORTH

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam President, I want to take a moment to reflect on the life and service of SSG Eric Thomas Duckworth of the 759th Military Police Battalion, 89th Military Police Brigade, stationed at Fort Carson, CO. Sergeant Duckworth was killed when a bomb detonated near his vehicle as he was leading a convoy through Baghdad. He was 26 years old—a father, a son, a husband, and a proud soldier.

Sergeant Duckworth grew up in Plano, TX, an active young man with dreams of serving his country. He played baseball and football in high school and, in the time not devoted to studies and athletics, devoted himself to the ROTC. It was clear from an

early age that Eric was a leader among his peers; in ROTC he was quickly selected to a leadership role and to represent his high school at a national ROTC council.

True to his dreams, Eric joined the Army just a few days after his 1999 graduation from high school. After serving in the military, Eric aimed to find a career in law enforcement. From what his family says of him and from what I know from having worked with peace officers as Colorado's attorney general, he would have been a great fit in any police department. He was selfless, hard working, and friendly. He did his job with a smile and a laugh.

He was also an experienced and steady military police officer who was deeply committed to helping bring peace and security to a war-torn country. He was the type of American soldier who GEN Douglas MacArthur regaled in a 1962 address to West Point soldiers for their selfless sacrifices and for their unflinching devotion to the protection of our Nation. "Duty, honor, country," MacArthur told the young soldiers, "Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be."

These three words have been the creed of generation after generation of American soldiers. They help us understand the courage and fortitude that allow men like Eric Duckworth to serve two tours of duty thousands of miles from his family, to live in constant peril, and to shoulder the responsibility for keeping his soldiers safe while securing a brighter future for Iraqi citizens.

Duty, honor, country. "The code which those words perpetuate," said General MacArthur, "embraces the highest moral law and will stand the test of any ethics or philosophies ever promulgated for the things that are right and its restraints are from the things that are wrong. The soldier, above all other men, is required to practice the greatest act of religious training—sacrifice . . . However hard the incidents of war may be, the soldier who is called upon to offer and to give his life for his country is the noblest development of mankind."

SSG Eric Thomas Duckworth thoroughly embodied this creed: he donned the soldier's uniform at his first opportunity, he led his men on the battlefield, and he both offered and gave his life in service to his country. His is a debt we cannot repay.

To Sergeant Duckworth's wife Sonya, to his children Michael, Madison, and Kaylynn, to his brother Andrew, and to his parents Michael and Ila, I cannot imagine the pain that you must feel. I can only hope that in time your grief will be salved by the pride you must feel for his devotion to his country and his love for his family. Eric was a man of courage, dignity, and selflessness. As he lies in rest at Arlington National Cemetery, amid the thousands of crosses of America's fallen heroes, may you know that his sac-

rifice will never be forgotten, his legacy always honored.

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ROCKY H. HERRERA

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I rise today to commemorate one of Utah's fallen sons, SFC Rocky H. Herrera of Salt Lake City, UT. Sergeant Herrera was a member of the 585th Pipeline Company, 864th Engineer Combat Battalion. On August 28, 2007, he lost his life through injuries received from the detonation of an improvised explosive device.

Sergeant Herrera's last act was a measure full of the love and devotion he had for his fellow soldiers. Sergeant Herrera's battalion was building a bridge when a suicide bomber drove a vehicle carrying an explosive device headed toward them. I have been reliably informed that just prior to the explosion Sergeant Herrera placed his body between the vehicle and his men to protect the lives of his beloved soldiers.

In addition to this act of bravery, Sergeant Herrera has always dedicated his life to the preservation of freedom. In 1986, Sergeant Herrera joined the Army Reserve and served as a crane operator. A decade later he proudly joined the full time force.

In addition to the two tours he served in Iraq, he was also deployed to Bosnia, South Korea, and Honduras. In each assignment he excelled and was accordingly promoted to such vital assignments as a squad leader and a drill instructor.

Recently, Sergeant Herrera's life was blessed by the birth of his granddaughter Kylie. The sergeant has left behind his wife Traci, as well as two daughters and two sons. One of Sergeant Herrera's sons, Matt, remembers his dad always spent as much time with the family as he could.

I will pray for Sergeant Herrera's family and remember their sacrifice of their husband, father, and grandfather.

SPECIALIST JASON N. MARCHAND

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I also rise today to pay tribute to one of Utah's fallen soldiers. SPC Jason N. Marchand was a member of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment and at the time of his death was deployed as part of a 2-week field tour north of Baghdad.

Specialist Marchand's told his family that he joined the Army to protect his family and friends. Before his deployment to Iraq, Specialist Marchand spent the previous year and a half in Germany, which his mother said he loved.

Specialist Marchand was born on April 8, 1981, in Salt Lake City, UT, to his parents Debbie Parsons and William Marchand, M.D. Specialist Marchand had a special relationship with his family. His mother stated they were open enough to share anything with one another.

Specialist Marchand leaves behind a wife and a 6-year-old daughter, Savannah. At the funeral of Specialist Marchand, Savannah said that she wanted to release some balloons for her

father. She wanted them to fly up to heaven to be with him there.

Specialist Marchand is a fine example of an honorable U.S. soldier. I am grateful for brave individuals like Specialist Marchand who give their life to create a brighter future for their family, friends, and Nation.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

SERGEANT JASON LANTIERI

• Mr. DODD. Madam President, I rise to fulfill again my most painful obligation as Senator: to mark the life of another young Connecticut man who died in our country's service. SGT Jason Lantieri was killed this month in Iraq.

Sergeant Lantieri's life was, up to the last moment, a story of moving success. At the age of 11, he was a troubled child from a broken home, lost in the foster care system. But two caring foster parents helped to transform him: Jon and Kathy Miller, of Killingworth, who took Jason into their home and became a new mother and father to him. "We just decided to go and ask if he could become part of our family," Kathy Miller recalled. It wasn't long before Jason was succeeding in school, serving on the student council, and competing in three sports. In his obituary, the Hartford Courant called it "a life redeemed."

Sergeant Lantieri went on to earn a business degree, but, like so many energetic young men before him, signed up with the Army for a chance at travel and adventure. By all accounts, he had his wish, from Alaska to Europe to Iraq with a transportation unit in the 25th Infantry Division. Still, with all those who choose to serve in this time of war, Sergeant Lantieri knew that wearing his country's uniform meant risking his life. A video posted on his Web page shows how he confronted danger with a sardonic sense of humor: Below footage of an explosion in the desert, his caption reads, "Just another day at the office."

In a war zone, death can come in any daily routine. Its constant presence means that in war there is no routine and that is just another sacrifice soldiers make for our sake. Last week, a transportation accident crushed Jason between two vehicles. He was 25.

The two strangers he came to call Mom and Dad have a last record of his voice—a call from Iraq on their answering machine. The message is still there, and I imagine it always will be. They also have the military photos that show Jason in his uniform and beret, with a firm, unsmiling face. "I hardly recognize that person," said Kathy Miller. "That's just a little piece of Jason. It's not the whole picture of who he is."

She remembers his class-clowning, his toughness on the soccer field, and his mischievousness playing with her grandchildren—qualities that aren't in the picture.

The tragedy is that Sergeant Lantieri has lost his whole life; the

class clown and the grown foster son are dead along with the soldier. We can only answer that tragedy with grief and with gratitude, pledging to remember his rich life in its entirety.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RETIREMENT OF JAMES A. (JIM) SHERIDAN

● Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, an Idahoan with the distinction, among other things, of being the oldest fire lookout in the Nation at age 89 retired from that important post and from the Federal Government in September. James A. "Jim" Sheridan concluded a long and dedicated career that began, at age 53, what could be called a second career in 1971, when he joined the Bureau of Land Management as a seasonal surveyor. In 1976, Jim became a fire prevention patrolman, and, at age 67, became the Mount Harrison seasonal lookout in the Sawtooth National Forest Minidoka Ranger District. Over the past 22 years, Jim has provided a fire prevention message to no fewer than 35,000 national forest visitors.

As a lifelong rancher and 36-year veteran of Government service in the second half of his life, Jim has captured the secret to staying young—that of knowing you are never too old to start something new. Jim's life is a wonderful example of the fact that success comes as the result of hard work. Idahoans who visited the Sawtooths were both safer and better educated about our rugged and beautiful natural resources as a result of Jim's dedication and efforts. I wish Jim and his family well on his retirement, and I thank him for his service to our Nation and to Idaho.●

FORT UNION NATIONAL MONUMENT

● Mr. DOMENICI. Madam President, I would like to honor and give special attention to New Mexico's Fort Union National Monument in Mora County. Located in the Mora Valley between the Santa Fe and Sangre de Cristo mountains, Fort Union established in 1851, dates back to New Mexico's territorial days, protecting the area's inhabitants and trade routes.

This year Fort Union has initiated a new effort called "The New Mexico Volunteers Living History Program." Volunteers in this program will depict the Hispanic soldiers of the 1st New Mexico Volunteers, who were enlisted and stationed at Fort Union during the Civil War. One of the current volunteers is a direct descendent of the 1st New Mexico Volunteers. With some training and drilling, Fort Union hopes to begin presenting living history programs depicting the 1st New Mexico Volunteers in early spring next year at Fort Union as well as other local venues. Fort Union has also reinstated

nighttime candlelight tours, and also hopes to provide a public venue for night sky viewing while partnering with local colleges and universities to interpret the skies, and be used as a classroom venue complementing science curriculums.

I am proud of the work being done at Fort Union to reach out to the community and provide a glimpse of our historic past. The upcoming activities at Fort Union remind us of our rich history in New Mexico, and I commend the staff at the Fort for their efforts and their hard work to further integrate the unique history of the Fort into the surrounding area and expand their role as a resource for local students and residents. I look forward to the advancement of this program in the months to come.●

HONORING EDWARD KOREN

● Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, today I acknowledge a Vermont artist who is widely recognized and widely loved, Edward Koren.

This year the Vermont Council on the Arts is bestowing its Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts on this renowned graphic artist.

Mr. Koren carries on the long tradition of artists who publish their work in the mass media, using the techniques of drawing to comment on the lives that men and women lead. His distinguished 19th century antecedents include Honoré Daumier in France and Thomas Nast in the United States. Edward Koren is a cartoonist of the first order, having published more than 900 of his works in *The New Yorker*. His cartoons have appeared in other publications as well, ranging from *The Nation*, to the *New York Times*.

His work is remarkably distinctive, often focusing on shaggy figures engaged in everyday affairs. Their shaggy, hairy features are a personal signature; they embody the way he uses lines, the way his pen moves on paper. To see one of his cartoons on a page is to recognize it, instantly, as a "Koren," even before one knows its subject or reads the accompanying words or his name at the bottom of the cartoon.

Koren examines people in the midst of everyday life, revealing that he understands that reality consists not of something invented by movies or policy analysts but rather what we encounter every day. He is a satirist of pretension, and deftly explores the neuroses of our times. Koren is a great chronicler of what the poet Wallace Stevens called "the malady of the quotidian."

David Remnick, editor of *The New Yorker*, recently told the *Burlington Free Press* that "Ed Koren is one of the great original voices of cartooning. . . . I love his work, always have."

Edward Koren's work has been widely recognized by museums as well as the media which so often publish his cartoons. His work is in the Swann Collec-

tion at the Library of Congress, and also in the permanent collections of the Fogg Museum at Harvard, the Princeton University Museum, and the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge University.

Mr. Koren and his wife Curtis live in central Vermont. He long ago moved to our State for reasons he articulated recently:

I was captivated intensely by Vermont. There was a deep sense of community. I kept thinking, this is unusual in this society, this country. I had never come across this kind of closely compacted community. I was fleeing huge, giant-scaled cities without a real cohesive sense of place and connection. It turned out I was a country guy.

Not surprisingly, Mr. Koren is a captain of the Brookfield, VT, Volunteer Fire Department.

He is well deserving of the honor of receiving the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts.●

REMEMBERING HARRY LEE

● Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I wish to acknowledge the passing this month of Sheriff Harry Lee of Jefferson Parish, LA. Sheriff Harry Lee died of leukemia on October 1, and I would like to make a few remarks on his success and his contributions to the area.

Sheriff Harry Lee was elected in 1979, beating longtime incumbent Alwynn Cronvich and serving more than six terms until his death. He was one of the most popular, well-known politicians in the greater New Orleans area. Throughout his career, Sheriff Harry Lee devoted his life to fighting crime.

It is perhaps Sheriff Harry Lee's colorful attitude that made him so beloved. While we often disagreed on many issues, I have a great respect and admiration for what Sheriff Harry Lee accomplished in his long tenure. Harry was a wonderful, gutsy, larger-than-life figure who always did what he thought was right. Whether I was agreeing with him on crime-fighting issues or disagreeing with him over Edwin Edwards, I always knew he was leading with his passions and loyalties.

Thus, today, I rise to honor Sheriff Harry Lee that people may honor and remember him for his devotion to the State of Louisiana.●

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY RELATIVE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, AS RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON OCTOBER 19, 2007—PM 29

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.