

or alone into that marketplace, a small business owner, who might have 4 or 5 or 7 or 8 or 10 or 20 employees.

Tax credits would help small businesses who need it the most to help them pay for insurance. Dr. Gruber unveiled a new analysis in his testimony showing that health insurance reform will save small businesses 25 percent over the next decade. One thinks: Well, 25 percent, what does that mean? By his estimate, this 25 percent savings to small business as a result of health care reform, in his judgment, would be a \$65 billion-per-year savings for small business. That is Dr. Gruber at MIT, not my words, not the words or the analysis of some Senator or House Member on one side of the debate or the other.

So the consequences of those savings would be enormous to small businesses in America. I know we need this kind of reform in Pennsylvania.

Workers in small businesses would see an increase in their take-home pay, according to Dr. Gruber, of almost \$30 billion a year. That affects all of our lives in a very positive way. If a small business in our community can hire more people, can make an investment in the development of that small business because of health care savings as a result of a health care reform bill, our communities will be stronger. We will have more people working. We will have a much stronger economy right at the community level, not just in a macro or larger scale way.

Finally, on this analysis of what health care reform could mean to small businesses in terms of savings, that reform could save almost 80,000 jobs, according to Dr. Gruber—80,000 jobs in the small business sector by 2019. Dr. Gruber also dispelled the myth that health insurance reform will raise costs for small businesses. He said:

Objective CBO analysis shows that these claims are clearly wrong. Reform will lower, not increase, nongroup insurance costs.

So says MIT economist Dr. Gruber, who has lots of experience in this area and is lending the benefit of his experience and his insight into these analyses on health insurance reform, but in particular as it relates to small businesses.

So what we want to try to do with health care reform when it comes to a State such as Pennsylvania is take this blue line of an exponential increase in health care costs for small businesses in one State—and I think this is true of the country as well, in my judgment—we want to make sure this line and this exponential increase is turned the other way or at least begin to flatten out so that the \$7 billion that small businesses are paying in Pennsylvania for health insurance reform by the year 2018 might be only something a little less or a little more than \$7 billion.

We cannot say with a straight face or with any degree of integrity, in my judgment, that we want to lower costs for small businesses, that we want small businesses to hire more people,

and then in the next breath say: But I don't think we should pass any health care reform. It is too complicated or it is too something to get it done this year. We cannot do that.

We cannot continue to say: Oh, isn't it too bad that health care costs are so high? Isn't it too bad we couldn't do something about the health care costs of small businesses? This, in the end, is not simply about the small business owner, it is not simply about what we are going to do for small businesses to help them get through this recession. This, in the end, is about our economy. We are either going to change course, get control of costs, reform health care and be able to move our economy forward or we won't meet that challenge.

We are going to make the changes and institute reforms that will lead to lower costs, better health care outcomes, and a better bottom line for small businesses and, therefore, control long-term health care costs and long-term national debt. All of that comes from a good health care bill in the end.

We cannot fail. We cannot at long last say we didn't get the job done. We have to for our families, for children, for older citizens, as well as for small business owners. I think we can. I think we have the strategy that the American people understand fundamentally, and I think we can do it this year.

Mr. President, with that I yield the floor and note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

COLD WAR PATRIOTS NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, October 30, 2009, has been designated a national day of remembrance for hundreds of thousands of Americans who served their nation with distinction. Cold War Patriots National Day of Remembrance recognizes and commemorates former nuclear workers who built and operated our Nation's nuclear infrastructure during World War II and the Cold War.

It is an honor to recognize the thousands of Ohioans—from towns and cities across the State—whose work helped protect our Nation during five decades of ideological battles against totalitarianism. With a job to be done

and a war to win, every day for more than 50 years laborers, millers, and haulers exemplified Ohio's Midwestern values of hard work and patriotism. Factory workers, metallurgists, and scientists risked exposure to hazards that are unique to the production of nuclear weapons in order to preserve our Nation's freedom and ideals to create a better world for all of us.

From the Mound laboratory in Miamisburg to the Fernald foundry near Cincinnati to the enrichment plant in Piketon to the more than 20 other sites across the State, the people of Ohio served their Nation with distinction, confronting threats that today we still don't completely understand and that their children and grandchildren continue to face. Many of the hardworking men and women of that generation sacrificed their health some lost their lives while protecting our country and our freedom.

The Cold War Patriots National Day of Remembrance recognizes these men and women for their contribution, service, and sacrifice towards the defense of our great Nation.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK 2009

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I am honored to serve as the congressional cochairman of National Bible Week 2009. National Bible Week, which will be held from November 22 to 29, was created to underscore the importance of regular Bible study and scripture reading. The Bible is the word of God. I know that many of us could not face the challenges, stress, and heavy burden of serving during this critical time for our country, if it were not for the daily guidance God provides us through scripture—and for those of us in the Catholic faith, reception of the Blessed Sacrament. I believe that my colleagues and I need to pay special attention to the lessons the Bible teaches us, as we work together to make a difference for our country.

The enormity of what confronts us makes it is easy to become frustrated, discouraged and tired. Thankfully, the Bible provides us with inspiration, strength, and wisdom to motivate us. Prominently displayed in my office is a picture showing an eagle soaring high in the sky. One of my favorite Bible verses, Isaiah 40:31 adorns the frame, it reads:

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

As I read those words so often, I am reminded that the Holy Spirit is always present and willing to inspire and help us. Isaiah reminds us that we can certainly try to tackle the big issues on our own, but that without the Holy Spirit by our side, the road will be long and arduous.

My colleagues have often heard me express my desire to address the ballooning Federal deficit, to create an economic climate that is conducive to

higher job-growth, and to improve the standard of living and quality of life of our children and grandchildren—undertakings that take much time and effort. Isaiah's message makes the importance and urgency of these undertakings no less daunting, but does reassure us that if we trust in the Holy Spirit, he will allow us to persevere.

I urge all Americans to celebrate National Bible Week to discover the lessons, inspiration and guidance that God's scripture provides for each of us.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING SIXTEENTH STREET COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

• Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I would like to take this time to recognize and congratulate the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center on its 40th anniversary.

Located in the heart of Milwaukee's diverse south side, the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center provides high quality health care services to low income and non-English speaking residents in its surrounding neighborhoods. Providing more than just basic health care, the center offers a full range of social services, health education, and important mental health services.

The Sixteenth Street Community Health Center began in 1969 when a small group of residents opened the Health Contact Center with the goal of providing care to central city residents who may not otherwise have access to medical services. Residents throughout the neighborhood came together to ensure that the health center had the resources and support it needed to thrive.

Just 10 years after it opened, the health center doubled in size. Throughout its history, it has partnered with the city of Milwaukee, local hospitals and clinics, and charitable organizations to continue its growth and expand the services it provides to patients. Today, the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center offers prenatal care, social services, environmental health education, HIV treatment and prevention education, physical therapy, nutrition and wellness education, and much more. In 2006, it opened its second clinic and last year it served more than 27,000 patients.

I have a long and proud history of working with the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center. The center, widely recognized as an exemplary health organization, is a treasured vital community asset. For 40 years, the staff of the center has worked diligently to fulfill its mission of providing care to as many people as possible regardless of income or insurance status. In Milwaukee, the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center is synonymous with quality health care, community service, and passion for all.

On behalf of our State and Nation, I applaud the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center on 40 years of out-

standing service and wish them continued success and a strong future.●

REMEMBERING RICHARD NEAL FOSTER

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the life of one of Alaska's most dedicated public servants. Representative Richard Neal Foster served as a member of the Alaska House of Representatives for nearly 21 years. Since his election in 1988 he represented the residents of Nome and 28 villages with great love and dedication. Alaska will remember him this Friday at a memorial service in Anchorage.

A lifelong Alaskan, Representative Foster was born and raised in Nome. He received a business administration degree from the University of Alaska. He managed Foster Aviation, a family-run air service started by his father in 1946. He was a civic leader in the community of Nome serving on the boards of the Bering Straits Native Corporation, the Sitnasuak Native Corporation, Nome Eskimo Community, and the Northwest Campus of the University of Alaska.

Representative Foster will be remembered for a lifetime of public service. After serving two tours in Vietnam as a captain in military intelligence he was awarded the Bronze Star. He received a commission as a second lieutenant in the Army through the University of Alaska, Army ROTC program. As a man with passion for Alaska, he later served with the Alaska Army National Guard in Nome.

During his tenure in the Alaska State legislature, he served as majority whip from 1993 to 2007. Showing his commitment to address the challenges of rural Alaska, he was a member of the Bush Caucus as well as the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Task Force Committee. And, in 2009, he was honored as a University of Alaska Distinguished Alumni because of his dedication to public service.

As one of the longest serving members in the Alaska legislature, it saddens me to acknowledge that Alaska has lost one of our truly great leaders. I had the honor of serving in the legislature with Representative Foster. He was a man with an infectious laugh and he had a great love for the Seward Peninsula and the State of Alaska. Never letting divisive politics come between friendships, he was known for his humility and friendliness to both Republicans and Democrats. His "Friday at Fosters" events, where he hosted legislators, staff, administration officials, friends, and visitors for a Friday evening jam sessions for over 17 years, will be sorely missed.

Foster loved the outdoors of the Seward Peninsula, a region with a rich mining history. He spent his summers at Hannum Creek, working on his family's mining claims. One time, he and his sister Iris and son Neal walked 80 miles of the historic mining trail from Quartz Creek to Hannum Creek to ex-

perience the journey of "Old Timers." In addition, Foster was known for his love of military history including the Civil War and World War II and was a collector of military weapons.

He is survived by his wife Cathryn of Eatonville, WA; seven sons, Neal Foster of Nome, AK; James Foster of Anchorage, AK; Nathan Foster of Ellendale, ND; 1st Lt. Jason Weber, LCpl Richard Foster, Ramsey Foster, and Chandler Foster, all of Eatonville, WA; and two daughters, Maria Stevens of Tacoma, WA, Tiffany Sanchez of Miami, OK; and sister Margaret "Iris" Magnell of Laguna Hills, CA.

Foster's public service to the State of Alaska will continue to positively impact the lives of Alaskans for decades to come.●

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK MEN UNITED

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the National Association of Black Men United, NABMU, and congratulate them for 10 years of dedication to advancing education.

The National Association of Black Men United has been instrumental in increasing college students' graduation rates in my home State of Arkansas. Their focus on graduating students at the University of Central Arkansas has sparked expansion to Howard University in the District of Columbia.

Furthermore, the National Association of Black Men United was founded on the principle that everyone who attends college should reach the goal of graduation, regardless of race. The purpose is to assist black men in obtaining a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. The organization provides men with the tools needed to increase graduation rates and improve economic advancements within the African-American community. These tools include educational forums, workshops, mentorship programs, and financial plans to guide students to graduation. NABMU's vision is to expand across the country, helping individuals in all corners of the United States.

NABMU teaches a set of 10 primary responsibilities that encourage students to earn their degree. These responsibilities range from sitting in the front of the classroom, being diligent with their finances, and being responsible for their own actions. Another vital function of the organization is to assist young men in finding careers in the field of their choice.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the National Association of Black Men United and especially their chapter at the University of Central Arkansas for their outstanding work.●

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES EARLE CRAFTS

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Charles Earle Crafts of