

including one radical surgery, and you can see how it left him in this picture. It removed half his neck muscles and lymph nodes and half of his tongue. Like too many teenagers, Von Behrens first tried spit tobacco at age 13 to fit in. By age 17, he was diagnosed with cancer. How can we let this happen? Tobacco companies are targeting our children, and it is our job to protect them.

This legislation is vital to our children and to our Nation's health. It will prevent the tobacco companies from marketing to children. It will require disclosure of the contents of tobacco products, authorize the FDA to require the reduction or removal of harmful ingredients, and force tobacco companies to scientifically prove any claims about reduced risk of products.

The FDA is the proper place to have this authority. It is responsible for protecting consumers from products that cause them harm. The FDA even regulates pet food. Yet it doesn't have the authority to provide oversight for tobacco—one of the most dangerous consumer products sold in the United States.

Under this legislation, the FDA will oversee tobacco products with the same objective and the same oversight with which it directs all of its activities—to promote and protect public health. It has the necessary scientific expertise, regulatory experience, and public health mission to do the job. We can't wait any longer to make the necessary changes that will impact the lives of so many people we know and love.

Again, I thank Senator KENNEDY for his outstanding leadership on this issue and join many of my colleagues in supporting this important legislation that will save lives in New Hampshire and across the country.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWNBACK. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. SHAHEEN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

NORTH KOREA

Mr. BROWNBACK. Madam President, I rise to speak briefly about North Korea and what is taking place there. To put some of this in context, I think everybody knows—around the country and the world—what North Korea is doing today. Two Americans are on trial, in a crazy setting. They have a missile on a pad that can reach the United States. They have tested another nuclear device. They have tested previously a nuclear device. They are in the throes of some sort of possible change within the regime. It is a very unstable, very provocative situation in North Korea.

I raise all that because at the end of the Bush administration, they took North Korea off the terrorism list, and they did it as a way to try to negotiate, to try to get them into the six-party talks to do more things and to work with us and with the world community.

Since that period, the North Korean Government has taken the exact opposite tack. Instead of working with us, they have done everything they can to provoke us even further. President Bush, when he took North Korea off the terrorism list, said:

We will trust you only to the extent that you fulfill your promises . . . If North Korea makes the wrong choices, the United States . . . will act accordingly.

That was President Bush. He is, obviously, not President any longer. At that point in time, many of us objected to taking North Korea off the terrorism list, but he went ahead and did it anyway. Then Candidate Obama said, at roughly that same period:

Sanctions are a critical part of our leverage to pressure [North Korea] to act. They should only be lifted based on North Korean performance. If the North Koreans do not meet their obligations, we should move quickly to reimpose sanctions that have been waived, and consider new restrictions going forward.

Since President Bush said that, since Candidate Obama said that, here is what the North Korean regime has done. I mentioned some of these, but I will go into detail. They have: launched a multistage ballistic missile over Japan; kidnapped and imprisoned two American journalists; pulled out of the six-party talks, vowing never to return; kicked out international nuclear inspectors and American monitors; restarted their nuclear facilities; renounced the 50-year armistice with South Korea; detonated a second illegal nuclear bomb; launched additional short-range missiles; are about to launch a long-range missile capable of reaching the United States; and, at this very moment, are calling the detained American journalists, Laura Ling and Euna Lee, before a North Korean court, if you could even call it that possibly, to answer for supposed crimes of illegal entry into North Korea and unexplained hostile acts. The two could face years in a North Korean labor camp. That is what has taken place since those statements.

We want to put forward an amendment on this bill or on some future bill—but I would like to do it and we should do it on this bill—to label North Korea a terrorist state again, like President Bush said we should, if they don't act right; like Candidate Obama said we should, if they don't fulfill their obligations. We think the administration should do this now, should relist them as a terrorist state. We think it would be an important vote and statement by this body if we would say the North Korean Government is a terrorist government because it is. It is one of the lead armers to provide armament to rogue regimes and individuals

around the world. Some of my colleagues may have seen the story this week about a North Korean general who was one of the lead counterfeiters in the world of United States one hundred dollar bills. They were very good quality, done on state machinery I have no doubt. He is one of the lead counterfeiters around the world.

Why, then, the State Department would say earlier today that they don't think this "meets the test" is beyond me. I think this body should vote and send a very clear signal that we believe the North Korean regime should be listed as a terrorist state and a terrorist sponsor. It has taken an incredible list of provocative acts. The Obama administration has said: Let's get the U.N. to issue sanctions against them.

Let's get the United States to do our sanctions against them for what they are doing. All this amendment does that I want to vote on is have the administration place North Korea back on the terrorism list, where it rightly deserves to be and should have been all along. Of course, the amendment does allow the President to waive the requirement of relisting so long as he certifies that certain conditions have taken place, that they have met their obligations, which they clearly are not going to.

I think it is wrong for this body not to be clear on this toward North Korea. It is wrong for this country not to be clear toward North Korea of what we believe of their provocative actions, that we will not stand by and say: Yes, you can keep doing this; yes, you can keep launching missiles; yes, you can keep detonating nuclear devices, and we will not do anything. We should be clear we are going to act. These are wrong and provocative actions, and they deserve the minimum response this is. That is why I would like to get a vote on this amendment. I would hope I would get a unanimous vote by my colleagues to relist them as a terrorist state. I would hope we could get that up on this bill. We are in negotiations now with the majority leader about this. It is time to vote. It is time to send this at least minimal message to the North Korean Government that these actions cannot stand without some response from the United States. I hope we could get a vote up on this.

I urge the majority leader and those working on coming up with an agreement to go to the next bill to allow us to vote on this North Korean amendment to provide these sanctions.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill 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. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FAMILY SMOKING PREVENTION
AND TOBACCO CONTROL ACT

Mr. REID. Madam President, there are a number of amendments that have been filed that are at the desk. They haven't been offered as yet. Amendments on both sides in agreement should be considered. We were very close on working out an agreement to do just that. The vast majority of the amendments will be germane postcloture. I have indicated that for those that are arguably germane, I would be willing to work with the person who offered the amendment to have a vote on it. But one Senator has held this up. That is the way things can happen around here. It is unfortunate, but it does happen. We worked for a couple of days trying to arrive at the point we are. The sad part about it is the Senator who has held all this up has an amendment that isn't remotely germane to this bill, but he has lodged an objection to this agreement that is agreeable by all other Senators. I would hope that the Senator would reconsider this objection over the next few days.

In the meantime, I have had conversations with the managers of the bill. I have spent a lot of time with Senator DODD. It is an important piece of legislation. I watched the Presiding Officer offer her speech today. What a sad thing, the man she spoke about. A picture is worth a thousand words. The picture that she had when she was talking about this bill and how important it is was worth more than a thousand words.

I will have more to say about this on Monday, but everyone in my family smokes. Sadly, my parents are dead. My dad's miner's consumption was terribly exacerbated by his smoking. So when did he start smoking? He was a kid. He started smoking as a little boy. The same with my mother. The same with my brothers. One brother started when he was in the Air Force. He was I guess 20 years old or something like that. He wasn't very old. But the others, all of my other family members, started smoking as kids. One of my brothers chewed tobacco. I can remember I had a friend who learned that my brother chewed tobacco. He was a lobbyist for the tobacco industry and he said, Oh, I will send him a case of—what kind does he chew? I didn't think that was a good idea.

In Los Angeles last week I met the first lawyer who filed litigation, serious litigation against the tobacco industry—a wonderful man. He got terribly upset with the Joe Camel advertisements, when they placed that little comic strip character on lunch boxes for kids. He also was upset because at that time the tobacco industry went through another one of their ideas to get kids to start smoking in stores, like a 7-Eleven store. They would have bins of cigarettes out there. You are supposed to pay for them, but they were there. Kids could steal them so easily. So he filed this lawsuit. He had

the confidence to tell me he lost that lawsuit. But when all the lawyers got together to go after the tobacco companies big time, they pooled their money and went after the tobacco companies, and they used all of his pleadings. He said even the misspelled words they used. They didn't change anything. Ultimately, that led to the favorable ruling by the courts that tobacco companies were liable for the damages in the billions of dollars.

It is important that we move forward. I hope that cloture would be invoked on this Monday afternoon. It is one of the most popular pieces of legislation we could do. I am sorry we weren't able to work anything out on the amendments, but we simply were not able to do so. No one can complain this entire Congress that we haven't had the ability to offer amendments. We were concerned for a lot of reasons. One is we have the supplemental appropriations bill floating around here and we didn't want a lot of nongermane amendments on this, but there were no restrictions whatsoever on even nongermane amendments. We just wanted—every Republican wanted to look at ours; we wanted to look at theirs. We used to do that a lot. We can still do that. But no one can complain and use it as an excuse to not vote for this bill, that we haven't given them a chance to offer amendments.

So I hope Senators will take a look at this to move forward. Let us invoke cloture and complete this legislation. I have already indicated I would be happy to work out something that would be fair to dispose of the amendments that are germane to this bill that have been filed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. DODD. Madam President, I wanted to begin by thanking the majority leader for his efforts and those of others, and to agree with him. We are prepared to debate these germane amendments, or amendments that are arguably germane, and it is regrettable we couldn't do that. This bill has enjoyed overwhelming support in both Chambers in previous Congresses. Our colleague from Massachusetts has been the leading champion of this effort for more than a decade, if not longer. As I pointed out, every single day we fail to act on this legislation, the statistics are that 3,000 to 4,000 children will begin to smoke every day; 400,000 of our fellow citizens will die this year, not to mention thousands who will live very, very debilitated lives as a result of being contaminated by cigarette smoke and tobacco products. Here we are on the eve of a national health care debate where a major part of that will be about prevention, and what better way to begin that debate than the Congress taking a step in this area which could make such a difference.

So I thank the majority leader for his efforts. I am still hopeful we can get this done. I believe we can. People such as Senator BURR and Senator

HAGAN who have legitimate interests and concerns about the legislation before us deserve to have their amendments considered, debated, and discussed. In fairness to other Members, it is regrettable that one single Member of this body, on a totally nongermane proposal, can cause us to delay or avoid meeting the obligation of the issues and concerns about tobacco and the effects on our citizenry.

So I thank the majority leader for his efforts. We will be here next week to debate those amendments and hopefully our colleagues will invoke cloture so we can get to this matter.

Mr. REID. Madam President, let me say, while the distinguished Senator from Connecticut is on the floor, the chairman of the Banking Committee and the manager of this bill, Senator ENZI has been a real partner in what we have done here. He asked that we do a committee hearing on this bill. We could have brought it to the floor under rule XIV. This bill has had lots of hearings in the past, but because Senator ENZI is such a gentleman and he thought it would be the right thing to do, we went ahead, in spite of a very difficult schedule that we had and the schedule that especially Senator DODD had, of all of the things that we were doing under the jurisdiction of that Banking Committee, but with Senator KENNEDY's help, he was the one who was obligated to do this legislation. So we have done that. We have jumped through all the hoops. I repeat, I hope no one will use as an excuse to not vote for cloture that we have been unfair in moving forward on this bill, because it would be unfair for them to say that we have been unfair.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to terminate morning business and have the bill reported.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING
BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

FAMILY SMOKING PREVENTION
AND TOBACCO CONTROL ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 1256, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1256) to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees' Retirement System, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Dodd amendment No. 1247, in the nature of a substitute.

Burr/Hagan amendment No. 1246 to amendment No. 1247, in the nature of a substitute.

Schumer for Lieberman amendment No. 1256 to amendment No. 1247, to modify provisions relating to Federal employees retirement.