

the birth of our youngest daughter, who just had this baby. And to the birth of my grandson, Trey, and then his sister Lilly—both born to son Brad and his wife, Danielle—followed closely by Mike and Emily's Megan, who just became "the big sister" of Allison.

The call to let me know I was a grampa again came from 3-year-old Megan Riley McGrady, who enthusiastically said, "I'm a big sister." Grandma wanted the phone to give me some details, but big sister said, "No, I'm talking to grampa."

About 6 weeks ago Megan started pointing to her mom's tummy and saying, "That's my sister Allison." They are not sure where Megan came up with the name, but she stuck with the same name all the time—and the new baby looked like an Allison, so Mike and Emily named her Allison and gave her a good Irish middle name of Quinn.

Shortly after our first grandchild was born I found a message on my answerphone from our youngest daughter who simply said, "Remember me? I used to be the baby of the family!" So, now, Diana's and my youngest child, the "baby of the family" has had another baby! Emily and her husband, Mike McGrady met at the University of Wyoming. Mike fortunately broke his family's Florida University Gator tradition to come to the University of Wyoming, but it was part of God's plan. Emily and Mike fell in love and got married. Emily worked for the university while Mike went to law school. He clerked for Federal Circuit Judge Terry O'Brien and now works in a private practice. Three years ago they called to ask what we were planning for Memorial Day and suggested we might want to be near them for the birth of a grandchild. The Senate was on recess and we were nearby. We were in Wyoming when each of the other two grandchildren were born. This time I wasn't so lucky. I was a nation away, but got back to hold Allison that first day too.

I ask to be called Grampa! That is not Grandfather—that would be too stilted for me. The name is also not Grandpa. That's a great title, but still too elevated. Grampa is spelled with an M and no D—Grampa. My grampa was a most memorable person to me. My Grampa Bradley took me on some wonderful adventures. He taught me a lot—fishing, hunting, and work. He believed in work. When I was 4, he "let" me help him plant and water trees. He showed me how to chop sagebrush and make flagstone walks. He covered up holes he encouraged me to dig—he covered them so people wouldn't drive a car into them. That was when I was 7. Later he taught me how to spade a garden and mow and trim a lawn "properly." When I was a teenager, he even showed me the point in life when you are supposed to start carrying "the heavy end of the log." He liked to be called Grampa—and I am now delighted to have the opportunity to earn that name. In my opinion, Grampa is the

greatest title anyone can have! And I wish I could adequately share with you the joy in my heart!

Allison, I want to pass on to you your Great Gramma's admonition: "Do what is right. Do your best. Treat others as they want to be treated." I use that guideline every day and expect everyone on my staff to measure legislation and case work requests by it too. Now, because of you and Trey and Lilly and Megan, I have an additional measure for myself. I don't ever want my grandkids to say, "My Grampa could have fixed that, but he didn't."

Allison, I hope I am around to see a lot more of you, to listen to you, to watch as you discover, learn, play, and grow—to get to know you—and especially to visit with you, to hear your dreams, your ideas, your puzzlements, to comfort you through difficulties, and to encourage you in whatever you try. But in case I am not around I have a few things to pass on to you that I hope you will remember and, hopefully, pass on to your children.

Be proud of your reputation. That is really all you have that is really yours—although you borrow part of it from those who went before—and you have a debt to those who follow.

Learn from the mistakes you make, but, more importantly, learn from the mistakes of others. You don't have time to make them all yourself, and it will save you a lot of grief. When you see something wrong say, "I hope I never do that!" and file away a plan to avoid it. And don't do anything you wouldn't want to read about on the front page of the newspaper.

Learn everything you can. Read everything you can. See everything you can. Listen for new ideas. Watch for things you can change. Everything can be improved ideas and thoughts as well as things. So while you are at it, invent something that will improve the world or that will help those around you.

The most important decision you will make in your life is marriage. My hope is that you will find someone who can be your best friend—someone you miss when away and enjoy waking up with every morning, someone different enough to cover your weaknesses and strong enough to rely on you for your strengths, someone who shares your faith and someone mutually faithful.

Finally and most importantly, find faith in God. There will be times that will try you. With faith you can pray for help through the suffering, and with faith, God will always answer that prayer. No matter what you may have done, or what may have happened to you or to someone you love, there is always a way through the crisis. Don't try to live life on your own strength. No one has ever been that strong.

I thank God for helping me through open heart surgery 15 years ago so I might have this chance to hold you in my hands. I think of the Prayer of Jabez in Chronicles where he says, "Lord, please continue to bless me, in-

deed," and to that I add my thanks for all the blessings, noticed and unnoticed, but especially for this new life.

Allison Quinn McGrady, Granddaughter, welcome to this world of promise and hope and faith and love! I am excited to have you in our lives!!

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Wyoming for a grounding moment in the Senate. We are enormously appreciative of his words.

I especially know what he was saying because my wife and I had the pleasure of welcoming a young grandchild about a month ago. As the Senator was standing there speaking, I couldn't help but think this is the son of Christopher Heinz, who was Jack Heinz's youngest, and the child is called Jack—Little Jack.

So I think you gave us a good reminder, and I thank you.

Mr. ENZI. I thank the Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Before my friend from Wyoming leaves the floor, let me just say I can identify with the things he has said, and to prove it, let me put this up here. These are my 20 kids and grandkids. While maybe he has his name they have given him, my name is PopI. The I is for Inhofe, so it is MomI and PopI. Is that OK? That is what all these kids call me.

As I was listening to the great words my colleague was sharing for his grandchildren and their lives, I would like to ask unanimous consent those same words go to each one of these little grandkids up here. As you mentioned one after another of your experiences, I remember this little girl here, she was one of them for me. She was only 4 pounds and you could hold her with one hand. The same thing was true with this one over here.

So when I look at this, I get very excited. It is what is important. We talk about a lot of things around here, but this is what is important. One of the criticisms I have had in considering this thing is hearing: I want to get back during this Christmas season—and I think most of the others do too—and want to be with them.

This little girl right here, she is my wife. Today is our 51st wedding anniversary. So I just want to say that some things are important, and I want to deliver my message to my wife who is back in Oklahoma—where she should be with all the rest of these kids—but, Kay, I love you as much today as I did 51 years ago.

CARROLL COLLEGE FIGHTING SAINTS

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of the Carroll College Fighting Saints—a tough-as-nails football team from Helena, MT, that won the NAIA championship last night.

It was one of those Saturday night games football fans live for. And before I say more about the Saints, I want to extend my congratulations to the University of Sioux Falls Cougars, which put up a heck of a fight, after a heck of a season.

But with last night's win, Carroll held a perfect season. They were undefeated every step of the way. And every step of the way, Montanans watched with pride as they showed us what it takes to work as a team. And to win.

Carroll's Fighting Saints are no stranger to making football history. This isn't the first year they have returned to Montana with a national trophy.

What does it take?

It takes hard work. Strong leadership—especially under Coach Mike Van Diest—and old-fashioned Montana grit.

Most importantly, it takes teamwork and trust. Place kicker Tom Yarekmo missed two field goals. But Coach Van Diest trusted Yarekmo to try again—and he made the winning field goal.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the team, the coaches and a whole lot of dedicated fans.

Their hard work and their victory is a warm reminder that hard work pays off.

We're already looking forward to next year.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

VOTE EXPLANATIONS

VOTE NO. 278

Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. President, had I been present on Saturday, December 18, I would have voted nay on the motion to invoke cloture on the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors DREAM Act:

"While sympathetic to those who passionately support it, I cannot support the DREAM Act; as is, at this time.

"I strongly believe the DREAM Act should require the completion of a degree. As currently written, the legislation does not. Requiring the completion of a degree is exactly what the DREAM Act should be about, as it will help ensure that the young people who qualify have a real chance to fulfill the American dream and become the productive citizens they aspire to be.

"In fact, I have had sincere discussions with my fellow Senators and committee staff as to whether it would be possible to change the legislation to address my concerns. At this time, it is not.

"All that being said, I do believe, as most Americans do, that our immigration system is broken and must be fixed. During the next session of Congress, I sincerely hope to work with my Republican and Democratic colleagues to achieve true comprehensive immigration reform."

VOTE NO. 279

Mr. President, had I been present to vote on Saturday, December 18, I would

have voted nay on the repeal of the military's don't ask, don't tell policy:

"Over the past several days, I have spoken with many passionate West Virginians who hold different views on this policy. I greatly appreciate all of the feedback that my office has received.

"As I have said before, my primary concern with repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," DADT, stems from the Armed Services Committee testimony by two Service Chiefs, Army Chief of Staff General George Casey and Marine Corps Commandant General James Amos. Their issues are with the timing and the impact of the repeal's implementation on our front line combat troops during a time of war.

"While it may be little solace to those who disagreed with my earlier vote, over the last 9 days, I have had sincere discussions with my fellow Senators and other officials as to whether it would be possible to change the legislation to address my concerns over timing and implementation. With the legislative process nearing an end, it was simply not possible to alter the proposed DADT legislation.

"As such, while I believe the DADT policy will be repealed, and probably should be repealed in the near future, I cannot support a repeal of the policy at this time."

FEDERAL FUNDING

Mr. LEAHY, Mr. President, earlier this week, Republican Members who had pledged to support the fiscal year 2011 Omnibus appropriations bill changed their minds and chose instead to walk in lockstep with the House and Senate Republican leaders who believe that freezing spending at the fiscal year 2010 level is good politics.

On the face of it that approach has an appeal to it—no new spending. What a nice sound bite. It makes everything seem so simple.

But while one Senator of the minority party gleefully remarked on the Senate floor "we won," it is worth taking a minute to consider what a continuing resolution means—not for the Republican Party but for the American people.

That it is a short-sighted abdication of Congress's responsibility over Federal funding almost goes without saying. But in fact it is worse than that.

The Senators who profess to care about the security of this country but refuse to put their money where their mouth is, bear responsibility for the consequences.

Every American family—yours and mine—knows that in a year's time our budget priorities and the necessities of our families change from the year before. So do the budget priorities of a diverse country of more than 300 million people in a rapidly changing and dangerous world.

Those who celebrated after defeating the Omnibus—a bill that is supported by a majority of Senators—are implic-

itly promoting the myth that priorities and circumstances do not change from one year to the next.

They would substitute the mindlessness of a copy machine for the judgment that the American people pay their representatives to use in making these decisions.

A robo budget is a disservice to the American people, to our national security, and to this Nation's needs and interests here at home. Yet that is the option we are left with.

What is our job here? Is it to rubberstamp what we did last year, despite different circumstances and the passage of a year's time? I won't speak for the chairs of the other Appropriations subcommittees.

They know the consequences of a continuing resolution for the programs in their jurisdictions better than I.

But as chairman of the Department of State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee, I can say unequivocally that freezing spending for global security programs—as we are about to do—will shortchange the American people—this generation and future generations, compromise the security of this country, and cost the lives of countless people in the world's poorest countries.

Contrary to what some of our friends in the minority seem not to fully appreciate, the United States is a global power. We have vital interests around the world, from the Korean Peninsula to Mexico, that are important to the lives and livelihoods of every American.

We are involved in two wars, with over 150,000 troops deployed in harm's way—wars that will not be won by military force alone.

Our economy is tied to the economies of countries far and wide. Our security depends on what happens thousands of miles from our shores, as much as it does at our borders.

Americans are traveling, working, studying and living in every country on Earth. We have diplomats and military personnel stationed on every continent.

Our environment, the health of our citizens, the security of our borders, and relations with our allies as well as our adversaries, are not static. Time does not stand still. It marches on, either with us or without us.

What the other party is saying is that while China and our other competitors aggressively expand their influence, the United States will pull back. While other countries become global markets, we will freeze our export promotion programs.

While international terrorism, transnational crime and corruption threaten American businesses and fragile democracies, including in our own hemisphere, we will retrench.

That is the vision of the minority. It is myopic. It is self-defeating. It pretends to help solve the deficit, when in fact it will have virtually no impact on the deficit. But it will weaken our influence around the world.