

people against the harm that could befall them if that happened to them while they were driving that automobile.

When someone marketed a crummy mortgage in an unregulated sector of our economy and took Dolores King to the cleaners and ruined her life—she lost her home, lost the earnings she had—where does she go? Nowhere. There is nowhere to go. Maybe some sympathetic banker might take pity on her. But why should Dolores King be subjected to financial ruin, when the producer of an automobile that is faulty is protected or a toaster or a television? For all these products, if they are faulty or deficient in some way, there are places we can go to get our situation addressed. Yet in the world in which we live today, of mortgages and credit cards and financial products, there is nothing that exists to give people a chance to get the protections they deserve.

Our bill isn't perfect. I will be the first to admit there may be better ideas on how to do this. But I am not going to sit around and listen to people issue false statements about what is in this bill and inflaming innocent people who want good legislation that this bill will do them harm. It does the opposite.

So next week we will begin the debate. I am sure there will be a ton of amendments that will try to undermine the consumer protection bureau we have established. But I would hope my colleagues—Democrats and Republicans—will join in an effort to write a good, strong consumer protection bill, along with the other pieces of this legislation, so we can provide at least a better sense of security.

I will end on this note. I wish to pick up on a point Senator DORGAN talked about in his remarks earlier this morning—something I have addressed occasionally over the last number of days, but I don't think I have emphasized it as much as I should. I have been reciting statistics—8½ million jobs lost, 7 million foreclosures, 20 percent decline in retirement, 30 percent decline in home values, \$11 trillion lost in household wealth. I hear the numbers and I have said them so many times I can recite them. But I don't have a number for—and this actually worries me far more than those statistics, as devastating as those numbers are—I don't have a number for what the cost is to our country because the American people have lost faith and confidence in our financial system. I don't know how to put a dollar sign on that one for you. I don't know if anyone could. I don't believe anyone can.

But I know this much. People don't trust and don't have faith that the system is going to work for them when they see, as we all have, these stories of these credit card fees and charges and every gimmick you can think of to reach into the pockets of hard-working families. You begin to understand why people have lost faith, when they see

and hear stories about Dolores King and others who have done everything right in their life and someone comes in and decides to take advantage of them or they read these e-mails, as we had last week, of these arrogant characters up there laughing about the widows and orphans they have taken advantage of at a major investment bank. What do you do about that? What is the number to put on that one?

I will tell you this much. We can write all the bills we want, we can pass all the regulations, but if we don't get back that confidence and faith, which has historically been very much a part of our system—I remember once I talked to a man who was not a citizen of our country, but he invested here. He took his money and invested it in the U.S. financial system. I said: Why do that? He said: One, you people are a strong economy and you do well. But more importantly is the second reason. He said: I have never lost a wink of sleep because I was investing in an economy or a structure that was unsafe. I may make a bad bet and lose because of that, but I have never worried about ever losing a nickel because someone in this country in your financial system would take advantage of me.

A wonderful reputation to have had, and that reputation has been shattered, not just for some foreign investor but I think for people here at home. I am not suggesting that by the passage of this bill we will miraculously change all that, but I think it moves us in the right direction.

I know my colleagues have a lot of good ideas. Some like what I have done, some don't think I have gone far enough, and some think I have gone too far with the bill. But what I have tried to do over the past few months is to put together the best ideas I could and to attract broad support from the 100 of us in the Senate. Ultimately, if I can't produce 60 votes or whatever we have to get these days, no matter how good the ideas are, they will not go anywhere. So I hope my colleagues will read this, and if they have constructive changes to make to the bill, I welcome those.

I apologize for taking so long on this, and now, if I can, I wish to conclude the business of the Senate.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DODD. 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.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MIKE REED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to pay a special tribute to Dr. Mike Reed, who has been a champion for the University of Nevada, Reno, and for the Nevada System of Higher Education

throughout his prestigious career. After numerous years of enhancing the education of his students, leading UNR's College of Business, and serving the State's education system, Dr. Reed is soon to embark on a well-earned retirement.

Dr. Reed began his journey as a faculty member of the College of Business Administration at UNR in 1972. In 1993, he became dean, a position which he served faithfully for 13 years. More recently in 2006, Dr. Reed was named vice chancellor of finance and administration for the Nevada System of Higher Education.

In addition to his outstanding career, Dr. Reed has received a plethora of awards and accolades in recognition of his hard work and dedication to his community. He was recognized as the 1997 Raymond I. Smith Civic Leader of the Year Award by the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce. In 2005, he was inducted into the Junior Achievement Business Leaders Hall of Fame. He has given back to northern Nevada in other ways, as well. He served as former host of KUNR's bluegrass music program and remains an active volunteer with the Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows. Dr. Reed's significant contribution to that wonderful organization for youngsters was very evident when he received their "Bigs in Schools" award in 2006.

It is an honor for me today to recognize Dr. Mike Reed and all of his accomplishments as an educator in the Silver State. He is a fine Nevadan, and we are tremendously proud to call him our own. He has left a lasting legacy on the University of Nevada, Reno Wolf Pack, and the Nevada System of Higher Education. I sincerely thank Dr. Reed and wish him all the best for a happy retirement.

IDAHO'S 2010 WINTER OLYMPICS ATHLETES

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Idaho's Winter Olympics athletes. Just a few days ago, our country's Olympic champions were at the White House to meet with President Obama, who marked the great success of the American 2010 Winter Olympic team. The American team made an outstanding showing by winning a record 37 medals, more than any single country ever in the Winter Olympics. With six athletes, Idaho's team made an impressive contribution to this performance, even adding to the medal count. The Idaho team includes freestyle/aerial skier Jeret Peterson, of Boise; Alpine skier Hailey Duke, of Boise; Biathlon skier Sara Studebaker, of Boise; cross country skier Morgan Arritola, of Ketchum; Alpine skier Eric Fisher, of Middleton; and snowboarder Graham Watanabe, of Sun Valley. Jeret Peterson won the silver medal for freestyle skiing/aerials with the successful completion of his signature move, the "Hurricane," which includes an amazing three flips and five twists all in a single jump.

The U.S. Olympic team also includes several other athletes with ties to Idaho: freestyle skier Emily Cook, from Massachusetts, who trained at Bogus Basin in her youth and is friends with Jeret Peterson; Freestyle skier Patrick Deneen, from Washington, who skied at Silver Mountain near Kellogg in his youth; snowboarder Elena Hight, from California, who lived in Boise when young and learned to snowboard at Bogus Basin; bobsledder Nick Cunningham, from California, who was a track star at Boise State University; and snowboarder Nate Holland, from California, who grew up in Sandpoint, Idaho, where he learned to ski at Schweitzer Mountain.

I offer my sincere and well-deserved congratulations to Idaho's 2010 Winter Olympics athletes. Simply making the U.S. Olympic team is an amazing achievement in itself. It takes a lifetime of hard work, dedication and practice. It is truly a great accomplishment and they have made Idaho proud. I look forward to seeing each of them again at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, and hope to see even more Idahoans join them to represent our great State.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SARA O'MEARA AND YVONNE FEDDERSON

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today, during Child Abuse Prevention Month, I wish I wish to recognize Sara O'Meara and Yvonne Feddersen, founders of the nonprofit child abuse prevention group Childhelp, for all of their work on behalf of abused and neglected children. For half a century, these two heroes have spoken up for at-risk children and I am grateful for their ceaseless work to create better lives for children.

Sara and Yvonne first started this work 50 years ago as American actresses when they had a chance encounter with 11 homeless orphans in Japan, while entertaining U.S. troops. Sara and Yvonne tried to place those children in a Japanese orphanage only to discover they were unwelcome because of their mixed race heritage. Returning to California, these women founded International Orphans Incorporated, now Childhelp, and raised funds that eventually built four orphanages caring for abandoned Japanese-American children as well as Vietnamese children. Over the years they have worked to create the Childhelp Hotline, children's advocacy centers, high-quality foster care homes, and training around child abuse prevention.

In 2008, nearly 800,000 American children were victims of child abuse or neglect. Nearly 1,800 of them died as a result. It is our youngest children who suffer the brunt of the abuse. Four in ten of those fatalities were children younger than one year of age and three in four fatalities were younger than four. These statistics are over-

whelming. But for each individual case, each child who suffers, there is a lasting story of pain and loss. Child maltreatment affects the emotional and behavioral development of its victims, often for a lifetime.

Without Childhelp these statistics would be even worse. Childhelp's professionals and many volunteers focus their efforts on advocacy, prevention, treatment, and community outreach. I know my colleagues join with me in congratulating these two amazing women and their life's work in protecting our most valuable resource, our children.

Even one case of abuse or neglect is too many. But every child we save from maltreatment is a child who can go on to achieve great things. For half a century, Childhelp has done so much good for so many kids. With Sara and Yvonne's tireless devotion to children in need throughout the world, Childhelp is well prepared for another 50 years of protecting our children from abuse and neglect. •

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:26 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2499. An act to provide for a federally sanctioned self-determination process for the people of Puerto Rico.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 11:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 5146. An act to provide that Members of Congress shall not receive a cost of living adjustment in pay during fiscal year 2011.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. REID).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2499. An act to provide for a federally sanctioned self-determination process for the people of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5661. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Imidacloprid; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8818-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 22, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5662. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Difenoconazole Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8817-3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 22, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5663. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cyromazine; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8801-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 22, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5664. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Viruses, Serums, Toxins, and Analogous Products and Patent Term Restoration; Nonsubstantive Amendments" (Docket No. APHS-2009-0069) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5665. A communication from the Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Raisins Produced From Grapes Grown in California; Final Free and Reserve Percentages for 2009-10 Crop Natural (Sun-Dried) Seedless Raisins" (Docket Nos. AMS-FV-09-0075; FV10-989-1 IFR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 23, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5666. A communication from the Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cranberries Grown in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York; Changes to Reporting Dates" (Docket Nos. AMS-FV-09-0073; FV10-929-1 FR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 23, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5667. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum, Army National Guard of the United States, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5668. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a quarterly report entitled, "Acceptance of Contributions for Defense Programs, Projects, and Activities; Defense Cooperation Account"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5669. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Foreign Language Skill Proficiency Bonus program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5670. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Critical Skills Retention Bonus program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5671. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on