

gambling game that was ever conducted in America. That is what they were doing up there: betting our money—our money. If they win, they keep our money. If they lose, they want more of our money. We are trying to stop that. That is what this legislation is all about. This is a good bill.

Obviously, from the shenanigans the Republicans have performed on this legislation, they don't want us to do anything about Wall Street reform; otherwise, they wouldn't have done all of these efforts to stop us from moving to the bill. We want to hold Wall Street accountable. We want to end taxpayer bailouts. We want to guarantee the taxpayers will never again be forced to bail out reckless Wall Street. We want to end too big to fail, restrict new capital and leverage requirements to prevent firms from becoming too big to fail.

As I said before, and I say again: We want to bring sunlight and transparency to these shadowy markets where Wall Street executives make gambles that threaten our entire economy, the same laws that are in effect basically today that were in effect when Wall Street crashed and caused us all this harm. We are trying to change that so it can't happen again. We want to rein in these big shots who have unlimited control of money and get these huge bonuses—not bonuses of \$50,000, which is huge in most people's lives, but they get bonuses in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

We want to protect consumers. We want to put a new cop on the beat, a consumer protection entity that will look at all of these different financial shenanigans that are going on. We want to make sure people who get something in the mail from—however they get it. They take them out and they look at it, they can't understand it. We want it in plain, simple English so the American people can understand what they are being asked to sign. We want to protect consumers from these hidden fees, abusive terms, and deceptive practices that are running rampant in America.

So despite the party of no saying no again and again, we are going to be patient and do our best to work through this. Chairman DODD is working with, it seems, this never-ending amendment the ranking member wants. It has been weeks and weeks. Remember, there have been negotiations going on in this matter for months—not weeks, not days—months. I guess the Republicans are saying, until that amendment comes, there is not going to be anything else happening on this bill. That is the decision they have made. They won't even let us set amendments aside and move to amendments that are agreed upon.

There is only so much I can do—we can do—in the face of determined obstructionism that is so clearly the brand the Republicans have now.

I yield the floor, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. 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.

RECOGNIZING DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the memories of St. Vincent DePaul and St. Louise de Marillac and to note their legacy on DePaul University in Chicago. This year DePaul is marking the 350th anniversary of the deaths of St. Vincent and St. Louise.

Providing access to social services such as health care and education, St. Vincent and St. Louise attended to the needs of those afflicted by poverty, illness, and injustice in the 17th century. St. Vincent DePaul and St. Louise de Marillac dedicated their lives to serving the underprivileged. It was by their example that the Vincentians founded DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois in 1898.

DePaul University was established with a fundamental mission centered on service and civic engagement, ensuring academic excellence, providing access to affordable education, and promoting respect for the dignity of all persons. The spirit of St. Vincent and St. Louise lives admirably in the University's traditions. Since its founding, DePaul has been a home for students struggling to attain their dreams for higher education. Historically, DePaul has educated many students who would have otherwise seen the door to college closed for them. DePaul was one of the first universities to admit female students in a coed setting. The university also has a long and distinguished history of providing an education to first-generation college students and children of immigrants.

Today, DePaul is one of the largest and most diverse private institutions in the Nation. The student body of over 25,000 represents a wide variety of religious, geographical, ethnic, and economic backgrounds that honor the memory of St. Vincent and St. Louise. And DePaul passes the noble tradition of serving others on to its students. Students at DePaul live the legacy of St. Vincent and St. Louise when they participate in community service through a variety of university-wide programs, including the annual Vincentian Service Day.

The year 2010 marks the 350th anniversary of the deaths of St. Vincent and St. Louise. Today, a commitment to service and a celebration of diversity is more important than ever before in our Nation. DePaul embodies these goals. The University continues to promote socially responsible leadership in its students and upholds its Vincentian mission to make education accessible

for all students regardless of family background or financial means.

Mr. President, I commend DePaul's celebration of the 350th anniversary of St. Vincent and St. Louise and praise their continuing pursuit of excellence in higher education.

MEDICARE DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT TRAINING ACT

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about the Medicare Diabetes Self-Management Training Act, a bill I have recently introduced along with Senators STABENOW, HAGAN, FRANKEN and LANDRIEU. This bill will improve the lives of Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes by improving their access to high quality information and care from certified diabetes educators.

Diabetes affects many individuals and families in New Hampshire and across the country. My own family was touched by the disease in 2007 when my eldest granddaughter Elle was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. We have experienced firsthand the challenges that diabetics and their families confront in having to continuously monitor and manage blood sugar levels, administer daily injections, and face a lifetime of worrying about the possibility of serious complications arising from the disease. Diabetes can be managed effectively but it requires a sustained coordinated team effort among patients and their health care providers. Certified diabetes educators, as defined by the American Association of Diabetes Educators, "are licensed healthcare professionals who specialize in educating people with diabetes about their condition. The training, counseling and support that diabetes educators provide to patients is known as diabetes education or diabetes self-management training." This education teaches patients how to stay healthy, and the diabetes educator is an important part of the health care team.

Take for example a case from Raymond, NH. The patient, Rachel, is 45 years old and has type 2 diabetes. For years she struggled, trying to understand how her eating habits and lack of physical activity negatively impacted her diabetes and general health. Her medical provider followed all the appropriate American Diabetes Association guidelines, tried several oral medications and insulin, but in spite of this, Rachel's diabetes remained poorly controlled. In fact, not only were her blood sugar levels elevated, but she was already starting to suffer from complications related to diabetes.

However, once Rachel began working with a certified diabetes educator, CDE, things started turning around. The CDE was able to assess and accommodate Rachel's individual learning style and barriers to change. Through ongoing support and positive reinforcement, Rachel began to recognize her ability to control her diabetes with a few lifestyle changes. Successful, long-

term behavior change is difficult to achieve in the best of circumstances. One only has to look at the current obesity epidemic in the U.S. to appreciate the difficulty in learning how to eat healthily. Rachel's success in eating less and healthier and walking daily was due in large part to the relationship that developed between her and her diabetes educator. Rachel now understood the lifestyle changes necessary to achieve success and was able to bring her blood sugar into a safe range. She reported having more energy and was able to cut her insulin dose in half.

Over the years Congress has made strong efforts to improve the care of individuals with diabetes. This includes authorizing the diabetes self-management training, DSMT, as a Medicare benefit in 1997, with the goal of providing a more comprehensive level of support to educate beneficiaries about diabetes and self-management techniques, reduce the known risks and complications of diabetes, and improve overall health outcomes.

However, there is a significant gap in the 1997 DSMT benefit that holds it back from achieving its full potential. Under the DSMT, Medicare covers the critical types of health care services necessary for diabetes control, but does not recognize the health care professionals who deliver those services. Certified diabetes educators are the primary group of health care professionals who work most closely with the patient to provide essential training and education in diabetes self-management. My legislation is designed to address this gap by ensuring that certified diabetes educators are designated providers under Medicare for these vitally important services.

Under the Medicare Diabetes Self-Management Training Act, a certified diabetes educator would be a covered provider of Medicare DSMT services. This health care professional, who is State licensed or registered, is most typically a nurse, dietitian, or pharmacist, who specializes in teaching people with diabetes how to stay healthy and who maintains rigorous certification and continuing education credentials. This bill also increases education and outreach to primary care physicians about the importance of DSMT for their patients with diabetes. I am proud to have introduced this bill along with my colleagues Senators STABENOW, FRANKEN, HAGAN and LANDRIEU.

Diabetes is an incredibly costly disease. It is among the chief contributing causes of adult blindness, lower extremity amputations, heart disease, periodontal disease, kidney disease, vascular disease and infections. There is no cure yet but with the proper tools it can be well managed and complications can be prevented. I believe this bill is an important step along that path. I urge my colleagues to support this important cause.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT MICHAEL K. INGRAM

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and heroic service of Sergeant Michael K. Ingram, Jr. Sergeant Ingram, a member of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, CO, died on April 17, 2010. Sergeant Ingram was serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Kandahar, Afghanistan. He was killed by injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated while he was on patrol. He was 23 years old.

A native of Monroe, MI, Sergeant Ingram moved to Fort Carson when he was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division. Sergeant Ingram joined the Army in February 2006, and he was deployed to Afghanistan in May 2009.

During over 4 years of service, Sergeant Ingram distinguished himself through his courage, dedication to duty, and willingness to take on any challenge—no matter how dangerous. Commanders recognized his extraordinary bravery and talent, bestowing on Sergeant Ingram numerous awards and medals, including the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Overseas Service Ribbon.

Sergeant Ingram worked on the front lines of battle, patrolling the most dangerous areas of Kandahar. He is remembered by those who knew him as a consummate professional with an unending commitment to excellence. Family and friends remember him for his smile and his commitment to service. After sustaining a mild injury, Sergeant Ingram was recently offered a chance to come home for surgery. He chose to stay with his unit and finish out his service. He planned on pursuing a career in law enforcement after his time in the Army.

Mark Twain once said, "The fear of death follows from the fear of life. A man who lives fully is prepared to die at any time." Sergeant Ingram's service was in keeping with this sentiment—by selflessly putting country first, he lived life to the fullest. He lived with a sense of the highest honorable purpose.

At substantial personal risk, he braved the chaos of combat zones throughout Afghanistan. And though his fate on the battlefield was uncertain, he pushed forward, protecting America's citizens, her safety, and the freedoms we hold dear. For his service and the lives he touched, Sergeant Ingram will forever be remembered as one of our country's bravest.

To Sergeant Ingram's mother Patricia, his father Michael, and all his friends and family I cannot imagine the sorrow you must be feeling. I hope that, in time, the pain of your loss will be eased by your pride in Michael's service and by your knowledge that his

country will never forget him. We are humbled by his service and his sacrifice.

NATIONAL TEACHERS DAY

Mr. BURRIS. Mr. President, as I am sure many of my colleagues are aware, today is National Teachers Day, and this week is Teacher Appreciation week—an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the enormous contributions made by America's educators at every level.

The work they do—and the impact they have—can hardly be overstated.

Teachers are charged with helping to shape young minds, and providing our students with the tools and inspiration that will lead them to success at every level of our global society.

This work could not be more important. Our educators truly impact eternity.

But, as I address this Chamber today, they face a climate that is increasingly inhospitable to their work, and their goals.

Studies show that today's teachers are more experienced and more educated than ever.

Almost half of all public school teachers hold at least a master's degree, and more than 75 percent regularly participate in professional development programs.

Yet every single year we ask these dedicated professionals to work longer hours for less pay.

And in some cases we even expect them to spend their own hard-earned money to provide school supplies for their students.

This is unacceptable. We can—and we must—do better.

At every stage in my career, I have raised my voice on behalf of America's students and educators.

Today, on National Teachers Day, I urge my colleagues to join me in this call to action.

We need to step up our investment in America's future, and provide our educators with the support they need.

We need to meet competence and dedication with gratitude, fair pay, and adequate classroom resources.

And we need to do so without delay.

Because, if we fail to keep these commitments, if we fail to provide the support our educators need, we will lose quality educators and the invaluable services they provide.

In my home State of Illinois, roughly 9,000 public school teachers have received layoff notices this year.

And as many as 300,000 will lose their jobs nationwide.

This will result in more crowded classrooms, less individual attention for students who need it, reduced access to extracurricular programs, and a school faculty and staff that is increasingly stretched thin.

I invite my colleagues to consider the impact these massive layoffs will have on our students.

I invite them to think of the consequences for America's future.