

he would be subject to a suit for slander. Certainly truth would not be a defense. The Senator from Wyoming uttered a slanderous statement. He is protected by the speech and debate clause of the Constitution of the United States, and that is about the only place he could make slanderous statements like that with impunity.

The Senator from Wyoming says his "second opinion" is that Congress should repeal the new health care law—just repeal it. But by calling for repeal of health care reform, the Senator from Wyoming apparently seeks to repeal one of the biggest budget reduction measures in the decade. I say that because the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office tells us that health care reform will reduce the Federal deficit by one-half of 1 percent of GDP in its second decade. It will reduce the deficit.

I would think the Senator from Wyoming would like to reduce the Federal budget deficit. I am quite certain he wants to reduce the Federal budget deficit. But if he asks for repeal of health care reform, I guess he no longer cares about reducing our Federal budget deficit.

By calling for repeal of health care reform, the Senator from Wyoming seeks to repeal the law that reins in insurance companies. Boy, in the private market there is just so much abuse of individuals by insurance companies. By calling for the repeal of health care reform, apparently the Senator from Wyoming wants to bring back the ability of insurance companies to discriminate against people who have preexisting conditions, to discriminate against Americans who are denied insurance based upon some health care status or to go back and deal with the rating provisions of States where the States, unfortunately, allowed insurance companies to take advantage of certain groups of people.

By calling for repeal of health care reform, apparently he seeks to bring back the doughnut hole and preserve it in the future. He seeks to continue hardships for seniors who need help paying for their prescriptions.

Madam President, this health care reform bill closes the doughnut hole. What is the doughnut hole? That is the dollar amounts above which and under which people have to pay all their prescription drug benefits. When they get up to the doughnut hole, they get a certain break. When they get above the doughnut hole, I guess 90 percent of their drugs are paid for—something like that.

But within the doughnut hole, if you are a senior, you do not get any help. Apparently, the Senator from Wyoming says: Oh, that is fine. Those people don't deserve to get any breaks in their prescription drug benefits. He wants to repeal health care reform, so the effect of that would be: Seniors, you are not going to get any help. Sorry. No help in the doughnut hole.

By calling for repeal of health care reform, the Senator from Wyoming

seeks to eliminate the tax credits that the new law will give Americans to help them buy insurance. I guess he does not care about that, the Senator from Wyoming. He does not want to give people tax credits. He does not want to give people tax credits to help them buy insurance.

And by calling for repeal of health care reform, the Senator seeks nothing less than the continuation of a system where millions of Americans struggle, struggle by, struggle without health insurance, struggle without quality health care. They struggle because of greater pain and discomfort and greater risk of early death.

I could go on and on and on and on as to the reasons the Senator from Wyoming's so-called second opinion is defective, to say the least. I know some on the other side oppose health care reform. But this is, as I mentioned earlier, a democracy. In our country, the majority generally determines whether a law passes. Congress and the President enacted health care reform, and I wish my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would just stop fighting the last war—stop fighting the last war. Rather, let us try to find opportunities to work together to improve the law together. Let's leave behind the politics of destruction. Let's work together to build a better health care system for America because, after all, we are here to help the people who sent us here. The people who sent us here want a better health care system than they now have.

So let's work together to find that better solution. Let's not forget that health care is basically indiscriminate. Poor people, wealthy people get cancer. Women, men get cancer. Cancer strikes anybody. It does not make a difference whether you are a Republican or a Democrat. The same thing is true with any other health discomfort or condition.

So I am just beside myself in trying to figure out why it is that the other side of the aisle just keeps attacking health care reform. The only conclusion I can come up with is they just want to stir up things. They want to cast all kinds of doubt and confusion in the minds of Americans, with respect to perhaps these elections coming up this next November. That is a conclusion I do not like to reach but, logically, it is the only one I can possibly come up with.

I will say something else. This health care reform is going to be relitigated again when we in the Finance Committee take up the nomination of Don Berwick to be the new CMS Director. I know, as sure as I am standing here, those who voted against health care reform—and they all happen to be Republicans—are going to be just relitigating health care reform. They are going to accuse this administration of about anything under the Sun, including Don Berwick. It is going to be very unfortunate. It is my job—it is going to have to be as chairman of the committee—to

try to keep the debate, if you will—it will not even be a debate; in part, it will be a diatribe in certain circumstances—to just keep the discussion, the debate on a constructive level so we can serve our country and serve our people. But I felt compelled to speak in the wake of the remarks by the Senator from Wyoming because they deserved a response.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, we have had an interesting start today on the jobs-tax bill, but it has been fruitful and productive. We have four amendments pending. That is progress. Tomorrow, I want to move ahead and clear out the underbrush, if you will, to get those amendments disposed of. I have spoken with the leader, and we have agreed that it makes good sense to get those four amendments processed tomorrow morning before we do much else and that we go to other amendments subsequent to that. I hope we can get those amendments processed so that we can proceed.

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

JOSH MILLER HEARTS ACT

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, half of heart-related deaths in the United States are caused by a hard-to-diagnose condition called sudden cardiac arrest, SCA. Different from a heart attack, SCAs are caused by an electrical problem in the heart that, once triggered, requires immediate treatment: survival rates plummet 7 to 10 percent with every minute that passes. Each year, only 8 percent of the 295,000 people who suffer an SCA outside of a hospital survive. A few years ago, June 1–June 7 was designated as CPR/AED Awareness Week to share these startling statistics and to begin to change them. By educating and encouraging communities to establish organized programs that could provide CPR and AED training to the public, lives have already been saved. Anyone can suffer a sudden cardiac arrest, no matter one's age or gender. In fact, many victims appear healthy, not having a known heart disease or any other risk factors. For example, student athletes with no previous heart ailments

have been stricken with SCA in the middle of practice or during games.

Josh Miller was one such student athlete. The act that bears his name—the Josh Miller HEARTS, Helping Everyone Access Responsible Treatment in Schools, Act—creates a grant program through the Department of Education for public and private schools to purchase automated external defibrillators, AEDs, and to train staff in the use of CPR and defibrillation within the context of a coordinated emergency response plan. Josh was a 15-year-old high school honor student from Barberton, OH, who suffered sudden cardiac arrest during a high school football game. Though Josh had never previously demonstrated symptoms of a heart problem, he passed away before paramedics arrived at the scene. There were no AEDs on site that might have been used to save Josh's life.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Josh Miller HEARTS Act on June 2, 2009, and Senator GEORGE VOINOVICH and I introduced the bill in the Senate on June 8, 2009. Currently, the legislation has seven cosponsors and is pending before the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

The combination of early, immediate CPR and defibrillation helps restore normal heart rhythm before emergency personnel arrive and increases a victim's chances of survival. Tragically, lives are lost every day because there are not enough AEDs and persons trained in using the devices and performing CPR to provide this life-saving treatment. On average, response times for emergency medical teams run approximately 6 to 12 minutes. Yet according to the American Heart Association, the chance of survival of sudden cardiac arrest decreases by 7 to 10 percent with every passing minute.

In order to have a strong emergency response system, communities need the resources to help save lives. I encourage my colleagues to follow the House's lead and take up and pass the Josh Miller HEART Act as soon as possible.

MEMORIAL DAY 2010

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, the English author Albert Pine wrote: "What we have done for ourselves alone, dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal." On Memorial Day we come together to recognize and honor those who have truly "done for others and the world" and to ensure their service and sacrifice remains immortal.

Each year since 1868 we have paused to pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and democracy. This freedom we cherish is not free and comes at a horrific price, a price borne by our veterans, both past and present. Our veterans never fought for empires or dominance but, rather, for a cause bigger than any one individual. That cause is freedom

and democracy, something many of them would sadly never live to see.

There is no greater service to one's country and no greater act of heroism than to stand between our Nation and those who would do us harm. So it is today, Memorial Day 2010, we again come together as a nation recognizing and honoring the valor and courage of the men and women who have given so much—warriors who paved the road of freedom with their service and sacrifices.

Alaska has a proud tradition of military service. During World War II, long before Alaska's statehood, the Alaska Territorial Guard stepped up and played a key role in defending Alaska and protecting America's interests. Today Alaska is home to more than 28,000 Active-Duty men and women, many of whom have served multiple tours of duty in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Alaska Army and Air National Guard is also playing a key role in these conflicts by deploying hundreds of Alaskans to combat duty.

It is all of our Active-Duty men and women—and their families—whom we should also thank and honor today. To the veterans among us—thank you for your service. We also remember warriors still missing and unaccounted for and continue our commitment to provide the fullest possible accounting and to return them home.

THE RELEVANCE AND IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL SERVICE

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have the following statement by Patrick Corvington, chief executive officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service, printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Patrick Corvington, CEO, Corporation for National and Community Service In School and On Track

CITY YEAR NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT ON SERVICE AND EDUCATION

(Los Angeles, CA, May 18, 2010)

Thank you, Michael for that gracious introduction. And thank you for the opportunity to join with City Year as well as the Entertainment Industry Foundation as we shine a spotlight on the essential role of national service in solving America's drop-out crisis.

I want to begin by congratulating Michael and City Year for your visionary leadership in this work. We often hear many stories about young college roommates starting new companies from their dorm rooms and becoming billionaires. Michael and Alan had a different idea. In 1988, these two Harvard Law School roommates enriched us all by acting on their belief in the power of citizen service by creating City Year.

And now as a key member of the AmeriCorps network, City Year and its growing cadre of diverse and talented corps members has become a model for service in America. Thank you, Michael for this gift to the nation.

I also want to thank Lisa Paulsen, President and CEO of the Entertainment Industry

Foundation for co-sponsoring this summit and for adding the drop-out crisis to your growing portfolio of service campaigns. Lisa has been a good friend to me and to the Corporation. Last year, under her leadership, EIF launched iParticipate. As part of that effort, last October, more than 100 TV shows focused their programming and storylines on service. EIF has also been a supporter of City Year, ServiceNation and a number of other service organizations. Thank you, Lisa, for inviting Hollywood into our service family.

As many of you know, I was confirmed as CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service on February 18th, so today marks my third month on the job. I've been out on the road to see the impact that our programs, members and partners are having across the country.

A couple of weeks ago, I was in San Antonio delivering the commencement address at the University of Texas and had the pleasure of seeing the Diplomas Now collaborative in action during a visit to McAuliffe Middle School. One of the most illuminating aspects of that visit was when the school principal told me that City Year and Communities in Schools had been working in McAuliffe for some time. But it was when they chose to partner and focus single-mindedly on helping students that he began to see remarkable progress.

Los Angeles is also a place where Diplomas Now is making a real difference. Early results from two of LA's toughest middle schools—Leichth and Hollenbeck—show remarkable progress: a 40 percent decrease in students failing math and a 43 percent decrease in students failing English.

I remember coming to this country as an immigrant and hearing from my high school counselor, as he looked across the table with earnest concern, that I wasn't college material and that I should go to trade school—I ended up going to night school and working my way through college. After seeing Diplomas Now in action, I wonder how different my journey would have been had I been surrounded by young people in red jackets who were more interested in seeing me succeed than in telling me that I couldn't.

Your red jackets have become a symbol of hope for a whole generation of young people who might otherwise be shackled with the chains of low expectations.

It is fitting that this summit has brought us here to Los Angeles—a city of many community challenges but also of tremendous assets and wealth. A place where diversity and disparity live side by side.

City Year is changing lives here in LA, in Chicago, Philadelphia, New Orleans and throughout this nation. The results you are achieving show us we have the power to beat back the drop-out crisis, and that service has a central role to play in this effort. Education is the engine that drives our nation's progress. But more than that, it is the gateway to a life of purpose and meaning.

In this global economy, education will be the fault line between success and failure, not only for our young people, but for our country.

Ben Franklin said, "An investment in knowledge always pays the best dividends."

There is nothing more critical to the future of this nation than making sure that every school . . . in every community . . . is equipped to give every young person in America the knowledge and the skills . . . to build lives of meaning . . . and to compete and win in the global economy.

But make no mistake—this is an unforgiving competition—one in which there are no excuses for failure and few second chances.

Since our inception, education has been one of our top priorities at the Corporation.