

who think it's only a good idea if you have a strong weapons program, I think this budget ought to take care of that. Coupled with the out-year projections, it takes care of the concerns about the complex and it does very good things about the stockpile and it should keep the labs healthy.

I don't quote Henry Kissinger very often, but Henry Kissinger says it pretty well when he says:

It should be noted I come from the hawkish side of this debate, so I'm not here advocating these measures in the abstract. I try to build them into my perception of the national interest. I recommend ratification of this treaty.

Henry Kissinger says he recommends ratification of this treaty. And, finally, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mullen:

I, the Vice Chairman, and the Joint Chiefs, as well as our combatant commanders around the world, stand solidly behind this new treaty, having had the opportunity to provide our counsel, to make our recommendations, and to help shape the final agreements.

It is not just us, but it is our children and their children that have a lot at stake with respect to reducing the number of nuclear weapons, reducing the delivery vehicles. It is the case that the amount of plutonium that will fit in a soda can, the amount of highly enriched uranium the size of a couple of grapefruits will produce a nuclear weapon that will have devastating consequences. So one of our obligations is to try to make sure nuclear material—the material with which those who wish to make nuclear weapons can make those weapons—stays out of the hands of terrorists. That is one of our jobs. We are working very hard on that. We have programs that work on that constantly.

Second is to stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons. I described the countries that we know have nuclear weapons. Now we have to stop the proliferation and stop other countries from getting nuclear weapons. That is our responsibility. We have to be a world leader to do that.

As I said, if, God forbid, somehow in the future—5 years, 10 years, or 20 years from now—a nuclear weapon is exploded in a major city, and hundreds of thousands are killed, life on this planet is not going to be the same. That is why it seems to me that a very important start—and this is just a start, not a finish—is to take this treaty that has been negotiated, bring it to the floor of the Senate, and have this discussion. I would expect there will be Republicans and Democrats who will come down on the same side of this issue—that it is a better world, a safer world when we meet our responsibility to lead on the issues of nonproliferation, when we meet our responsibilities to lead on the matter of reducing nuclear weapons and reducing delivery vehicles.

That is what this New START treaty does. It does it in a very responsible way. So my hope will be that in the coming 2 months or so that we will

have a robust discussion of the START treaty and have the celebration of having had the debate and had the vote and then exclaiming to the world that this was a success—that this treaty was a success. Yes, a first step but a success.

Beyond this treaty, there will be other negotiations that will take us to other areas in reductions. I think, as a result, if we do what we should be expected to do, this can be a safer world.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I 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. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BURRIS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING THE DAILY SPARKS TRIBUNE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to extend my warmest congratulation to the Daily Sparks Tribune of Sparks, NV, on their historic milestone.

The Daily Sparks Tribune is celebrated throughout Nevada for its first-class journalism, which continues this week for the 100th consecutive year.

The Tribune has been in circulation since 1910, representing news of both Sparks, NV, and the greater State. In 1901, Senator Thomas A. Kearns bought the newspaper, along with three other regional papers. The newspaper now circulates to over 5,000 businesses and homes in Nevada.

The Nevada Press Association has honored the work of the Daily Sparks Tribune on many occasions for their outstanding investigatory, editorial, journalistic, photographic, and philanthropic accomplishments. In 2009 alone, the newspaper received 17 awards in the annual Nevada Press Association awards.

Not only has the Daily Sparks Tribune provided Nevadans with a spectacular news source, but it has also become a central part of our community.

I join with Nevadans throughout the Silver State to honor the Daily Sparks Tribune for its 100 years of circulation. It is one of Nevada's oldest community newspapers, and we wish it many more decades of success and readership.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

MAJOR RONALD W. CULVER, JR.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I honor MAJ Ronald W. Culver, Jr., 44, of El Dorado. Major Culver was killed May 24 in Numaniyah, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. According to initial reports, Major Culver died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. Major Culver was assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 108th Cavalry, Army National Guard, Shreveport, LA.

My heart goes out to the family of Major Culver, who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our Nation. Major Culver's wife and children reside in El Dorado. His mother and father live in Shreveport, LA.

As a member of the Louisiana National Guard, Major Culver served three tours of duty in Iraq. During his military career, he was awarded numerous service medals and was posthumously awarded two Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart, as well as a Combat Action Badge from the State of Louisiana.

Culver was an active member of the El Dorado community, serving in various capacities with Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, Union County 4-H Foundation board, Saddle Club, Main Street El Dorado, and the John C. Carroll VFW Post 2413, where he was the post commander at the time of his death.

Along with all Arkansans, I am grateful for the service and sacrifice of all of our military servicemembers and their families. More than 11,000 Arkansans on Active Duty and more than 10,000 Arkansas reservists have served in Iraq or Afghanistan since September 11, 2001.

It is the responsibility of our Nation to provide the tools necessary to care for our country's returning servicemembers and honor the commitment our Nation made when we sent them into harm's way. Our grateful Nation will not forget them when their military service is complete. It is the least we can do for those whom we owe so much.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to address comments made on the floor of the U.S. Senate on June 8, 2010. The senior Senator from Montana accused me of slandering an individual. That individual is President Obama's nominee to be the next Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS, Administrator, Dr. Donald Berwick.

The Senator from Montana is incorrect. I want the record to accurately reflect the foundation on which I made my comments on the floor. I told the Senate that the nominee to be the next CMS Administrator "loves the British health care system and says we are going to need to ration care. The new Director of Medicare is planning to ration care."

I based my comments solely on historic statements made and articles written by the nominee about the British health care system and rationing care. These statements include:

1. "The decision is not whether or not we will ration care—the decision is whether we will ration with our eyes open." You can find this statement in: "Rethinking Comparative Effectiveness Research," An Interview with Dr. Donald Berwick, Biotechnology Healthcare, June 2009.

2. "I fell in love with the NHS to an American observer, the NHS . . . is

such a seductress.” You can find this statement in: “Celebrating Quality 1998–2008” by Donald Berwick, M.D., speech at London Science Museum, September 30, 2008.

3. “The NHS is not just a national treasure; it is a global treasure. As unabashed fans, we urge a dialogue on possible forms of stabilization to better provide the NHS with the time, space, and constancy of purpose to realize its enormous promise.” You can find this statement in: “Steadying the NHS” by Donald Berwick, M.D. and Sheila Leatherman, *BMJ*, July 29, 2006, p. 255.

4. “Cynics beware: I am romantic about the National Health Service; I love it. All I need to do to rediscover the romance is to look at health care in my own country.” You can find this statement in: “A Transatlantic Review of the NHS at 60” by Donald Berwick, M.D., *BMJ*, July 26, 2008, p. 213.

5. “Here [in Britain], you choose the harder path. You plan the supply; you aim a bit low; you prefer slightly too little of a technology or a service to too much; then you search for care bottlenecks and try to relieve them.” You can find this statement in: “A Transatlantic Review of the NHS at 60” by Donald Berwick, M.D., *BMJ*, July 26, 2008, p. 213.

REQUEST FOR CONSULTATION

Mr. COBURN. I ask unanimous consent that my letter to Senator MCCONNELL dated June 9, 2010, be printed in the RECORD.

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

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, June 9, 2010.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Senate Minority Leader,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCONNELL: I am requesting that I be consulted before the Senate enters into any unanimous-consent agreements or time limitations regarding S. 3019/H.R. 3695, Billy’s Law.

I support the goals of this legislation and believe that information regarding missing persons and unidentified remains should be accurate and properly maintained. However, I believe that we can and must do so in a fiscally responsible manner. My concerns are included in, but not limited to, those outlined in this letter.

While this bill is well-intentioned, it costs the American people over \$64 million. This legislation has received no process in the Senate Judiciary Committee, as it was only recently introduced on February 23, 2010. As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I believe, prior to floor consideration, legislation under the committee’s jurisdiction should be processed in regular order. Appropriate hearings and debate in committee markup are essential to all legislation, especially legislation like Billy’s Law, which spends significant federal dollars, authorizes new programs and requires the sharing of personally identifiable information between government databases.

Although additional resources may be necessary, we should act responsibly by reviewing current operations, evaluating their effectiveness, and then determining the best strategy for addressing the areas with the

most need. That cannot be accomplished with constant use of the hotline process. The Congressional Research Service estimates that 94% of all measures passed by the Senate do not receive a roll call vote. The hotline process is even more detrimental to transparency and oversight when legislation, like Billy’s Law, is hotlined without going through regular committee order.

Moreover, it is irresponsible for Congress to jeopardize the future standard of living of our children by borrowing from future generations. The U.S. national debt is now \$13 trillion. That means over \$42,000 in debt for each man, woman and child in the United States. A year ago, the national debt was \$11.2 trillion. Despite pledges to control spending, Washington adds \$4.6 billion to the national debt every single day—that is \$3.2 million every single minute.

In addition to the above, there are several specific problems with this legislation. First, Billy’s Law seeks to authorize the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs), an online repository for information about missing persons and unidentified remains. However, this database has been in operation, without Congressional authorization, since 2007. Before we seek to condone an existing program by providing a Congressional authorization, we should perform rigorous oversight of NamUs to determine whether there is existing waste, fraud and abuse or ways to increase its efficiency. Without the opportunity to conduct hearings and committee markup, it is impossible to effectively examine and evaluate the current operation of NamUs.

Second, merely to maintain NamUs, Billy’s Law authorizes \$2.4 million per year for fiscal years 2011 through 2016, totaling \$14.4 million, without corresponding offsets. This authorization exceeds the yearly sum of \$1.3 million the Department of Justice indicates is necessary to maintain the database. Furthermore, according to the Congressional Research Service, Congress already provides funding for NamUs via the National Institute of Justice and the Community Oriented Policing Service. I am concerned that this bill will enable NamUs to double dip into multiple sources of funding for the same purposes.

Third, the bill requires the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database and NamUs to share information on missing persons and unidentified remains. While the bill requires the Attorney General and Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to establish rules on confidentiality of this information, I remain concerned about the protection of this personally identifiable information.

NamUs is accessible not only by law enforcement, but also the public. NamUs is comprised of two smaller databases—the Missing Persons Database and the Unidentified Remains Database. While the Unidentified Remains Database does not allow the public to enter information and restricts certain information from being accessed by the public, the Missing Persons Database allows both the public and law enforcement to submit information about missing persons. There is no way to guarantee the consistency and accuracy of publicly entered information. The ability of NamUs and NCIC to share information via this legislation magnifies these concerns.

Fourth, the bill also establishes an Incentive Grants Program to provide law enforcement, coroners, medical examiners and other authorized agencies with grants to facilitate reporting information to both NCIC and NamUs. These grants can be used for very broad purposes, including hiring, contracting and “other purposes consistent with the goals of this section.” I believe that state

and local law enforcement and other state or locally-run agencies should bear the burden of reporting state and local information. If these databases are, in fact, effective and further the investigations carried out by state and local law enforcement, they should be willing to prioritize funding in their own budgets to utilize the databases accordingly.

Furthermore, the task of investigating missing person and unidentified remains cases often falls primarily on state and local law enforcement. As a result, the federal government should not bear the entire cost for either the Incentive Grants Program or the operation of the NamUs database. For the Incentive Grants Program, the bill authorizes \$10 million per year for fiscal years 2011 through 2015, totaling \$50 million that is not offset by reductions in real spending elsewhere in the federal budget. In addition, there is no limit on the amount that the Attorney General may award for each grant. Rather, the Attorney General has the discretion to determine how much each grantee receives.

In addition to offsets for federal spending on these programs, I believe all funding in this legislation should be borne at least equally between the states and the federal government. It is clear that state and local law enforcement will be utilizing NamUs often. In fact, the Incentive Grants Program authorized in this bill is specifically to help state and local entities “facilitate the process of reporting information regarding missing persons and unidentified remains to the NCIC database and NamUs databases. . . .”

While there is no question that law enforcement should endeavor to quickly locate missing persons and return them to their families, the federal government is already making efforts to facilitate this process. Congress should, like many American individuals and companies do with their own resources, evaluate current programs, determine any needs that may exist and prioritize those needs for funding by cutting from the federal budget programs fraught with waste, fraud, abuse and duplication.

Sincerely,

TOM A. COBURN, M.D.,
United States Senator.

REMEMBERING DOROTHY KAMENSHEK

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Dorothy Kamenshek who passed away on May 17 at her home in Palm Desert, CA. She was 84 years old.

Dorothy Kamenshek was born in Norwood, OH, on December 21, 1925. Her gifts on the diamond were evident from the time she attended the tryouts for an all women’s baseball league in Cincinnati while she was a high school senior. Her performance at the tryouts earned her an invitation to participate in the final tryouts that were held at Wrigley Field in Chicago. From the Wrigley Field tryouts, Ms. Kamenshek would emerge as one of two women from Cincinnati who were selected to play in the fledgling All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.

The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League was the brainchild of Chicago Cubs owner, Phillip Wrigley, who sought to fill the void that had been created by the disbanding of many minor league teams as a result of young men who were drafted into the armed services during World War II.