

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST DAVID S. ROBINSON

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I honor SPC David S. Robinson, 25, of Fort Smith, AR, who died November 20, 2010, in Zabul Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. According to initial reports, Specialist Robinson died of injuries sustained when his military vehicle overturned.

My heart goes out to the family of Specialist Robinson, who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our Nation. Along with all Arkansans, I am grateful for his service and 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. These men and women have shown tremendous courage and perseverance through the most difficult of times. As neighbors, as Arkansans, and as Americans, it is incumbent upon us to do everything we can to honor their service and to provide for them and their families, not only when they are in harm's way but also when they return home. It is the least we can do for those whom we owe so much.

Specialist Robinson was assigned to A Troop, 2nd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, V Corps, Vilseck, Germany. His mother resides in Fort Smith, AR, and his father in Canton, PA. His wife and children reside in Clarksville, TN.

STAFF SERGEANT KEVIN MATTHEW PAPE

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of SSG Kevin Matthew Pape of the U.S. Army and Fort Wayne, IN.

Staff Sergeant Pape was assigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, in the 75th Ranger Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield in Georgia. He was 30 years old when he lost his life on November 16, 2010, while bravely serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Kunar Province, Afghanistan. He was on his third tour of duty in Afghanistan, after three tours in Iraq.

A native of Fort Wayne, Staff Sergeant Pape graduated from Concordia High School in 1998. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2005 and graduated from the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program in 2006, where he served as a machine gunner, team leader and squad leader.

COL Michael Kurilla, Commander of the 75th Ranger Regiment, recalled that Staff Sergeant Pape, "had two priorities in his life—his family and the Rangers he led. By the manner in which he lived his life, Staff Sergeant Pape defined sacrifice, dedicated, and selfless service."

Staff Sergeant Pape's numerous awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, the Expert Infantry Badge, the Combat Infantry Badge and the Parachutist Badge. He was post-

humously awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Today, I join Staff Sergeant Pape's family and friends in mourning his death. He is survived by his wife Amelia Rose Pape and his daughter Anneka Sue, both of Savannah, GA, and his father Marc Dennis Pape of Fort Wayne, IN.

We take pride in the example of this dedicated soldier and American hero, even as we struggle to express our grief over this loss. We cherish the legacy of his service and his life.

As I search for words to honor this fallen soldier, I recall President Lincoln's words to the families of the fallen at Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here."

It is my sad duty to enter the name of SSG Kevin Matthew Pape in the RECORD of the U.S. Senate for his service to our country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today, without congressional action, hundreds of thousands of Americans will lose their unemployment benefits. Earlier this week, along with 19 of my colleagues, I introduced the Unemployment Insurance Stabilization Act of 2010—the USA bill. Our bill would reauthorize the Federal unemployment benefits program.

Unemployment benefits are the only lifeline that many workers in Montana and across the nation have left in this tough economy. These benefits help millions of Americans to put food on the table and roofs over their heads. These benefits pump money into our economy and help to create jobs.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office says that unemployment benefits have one of the largest effects on economic output and employment per dollar spent of any policy.

This Congress has spent a lot of time reauthorizing unemployment benefits for a few months at a time. This bill would reauthorize the program for a full year.

A longer reauthorization of the unemployment benefits program would provide certainty. It would provide certainty for our economy. And it would provide the certainty that Americans looking for work need.

This bill would fund unemployment insurance for people who have lost their jobs in the latter portion of the recession.

This bill would not provide anyone with more than 99 weeks of benefits. This bill would ensure that out-of-work Americans who lost their jobs recently

would get benefits similar to those received by their neighbors who lost their jobs earlier in the recession.

The Department of Labor reports that for every dollar spent on unemployment insurance, two dollars are re-invested in the economy.

This bill is crucial to our economy. This bill is about jobs.

This bill is about jobs because unemployment insurance goes to people who will spend it immediately. That increases economic demand. And that helps to support our fragile economic recovery.

CBO says that aid to the unemployed is among the policies best suited to creating jobs per dollar of budgetary cost.

With unemployment at 9.6 percent, now is not the time to stop investing in economic recovery. This bill would keep in place a major source of our recovery. This bill would support Americans who have worked, are looking for work, and will work again.

For millions of people, unemployment insurance is the bridge to the next job. This bill would provide a bridge over troubled waters.

I think of a woman from Helena, MT, who called my office. She told us that unemployment benefits are keeping her family afloat. She was laid off when she was 8 months pregnant. And she wants the Senate to know that she has worked since she was a teenager. She wants to work. And she will work again.

And I think of a Montana father with three small children who was laid off after 18 years of service. The company could no longer pay his wages. He has no income. But he continues to look for work. His home is going into foreclosure. Unemployment insurance has been his only income. It is what puts food on the table for his family.

This is America. When there is an emergency, we don't leave people behind.

We cannot take Federal unemployment insurance benefits away before our economy and out-of-work Americans have found their footing.

Let's not leave the unemployed behind.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation.

HEALTH CARE

Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Mr. President, I rise today to continue to urge my colleagues for quick passage of my legislation that would restore access to life-saving medicines for children's hospitals.

As my colleagues are aware, I introduced independent legislation in September that would protect the lives of the most vulnerable among us—our Nation's children—by immediately restoring access and ensuring children's hospitals across the country are able to purchase orphan drugs at a discount.

Children's hospitals lost access to these medicines when Congress passed

the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

That wasn't right.

And so my legislation sought to fix it and restore access to these life-saving medicines for children's hospitals. Without this fix, children's hospitals across the country will be faced with higher drug costs. I introduced this legislation with the support of several of my Republican colleagues. And I know that my Democratic colleagues support the intent of my legislation too.

Unfortunately, and despite passage in the House, the Senate has not passed legislation to correct this flaw in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

But I am hopeful that the Senate will take action soon. I continue to work with my colleagues on the Senate Finance Committee and with Senate leadership to ensure that the Senate acts swiftly to correct this error in the Federal health care reform bill.

As my colleagues are aware, access to orphan drugs are critically important to children, many of whom, if they are ill, suffer from rare diseases or conditions. Orphan drugs, by definition, are designed and developed to help and treat diseases or conditions that affect fewer than 200,000 people, many of whom are children. On a daily basis, the Children's Hospital of Boston uses most of the 347 medicines that are designated orphan drugs.

I will say again that my legislation has the support of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle. And I have this support because fixing this provision and restoring access to life-saving medicines is the right thing to do.

My legislation restores and protects the ability for children's hospitals to access those outpatient medicines through the 340B drug discount program authorized in the Public Health Services Act. Access to this program and the corresponding discount saves the Children's Hospital of Boston nearly \$3 million annually, but more importantly, Children's Hospital of Boston is able to save lives as a result. Hospitals and doctors at children's hospitals are able to access life-saving medicines, children live better lives, and families are given peace of mind.

Passing my bill quickly is the right thing to do and I encourage my colleagues in the Senate to act swiftly to enact my legislation to ensure that children's hospitals can once again receive discounted pricing on these life-saving medicines.

There is no cause for delay. The House has passed this restorative language twice already. The Senate needs to do the same. And we should do so before the end of this year.

I believe quick passage is possible—quick passage should be possible—because of the support and efforts that I have seen demonstrated by my fellow Senators.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COLORADO RAPIDS SOCCER TEAM

• Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, today I congratulate and honor the tenacious play of the Colorado Rapids soccer team, that recently fought their way to victory over F.C. Dallas in the MLS Cup. This was truly a come-from-behind victory. The Rapids struggled against F.C. Dallas in two games earlier this season, and in the championship game, Dallas scored first, early in the first half. But as they had done throughout the playoffs, the Rapids relied on their character, concentration, and grit and came back in the championship game to win 2 to 1 in overtime.

This is the first MLS Cup championship victory in Colorado Rapids history. And it is a testament to the resiliency of the team. From the creativity of our strikers to the concentration of our goalkeeper, our side showed that they have what it takes to win, again and again. The Rapids have proudly represented our State and the Colorado ideal that hard work and determination pay off. That is a lesson I am proud to share with my three daughters, all of whom play soccer. The Rapids have proven that we have world-class teams and world-class fans in Colorado. I am proud to support the Colorado Rapids and again congratulate them on this remarkable accomplishment.●

TRIBUTE TO DOMINIC CALABRO

• Mr. LEMIEUX. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the distinguished career of Mr. Dominic Calabro of Tallahassee, FL, who is in his 30th year of public service with Florida TaxWatch, a nonpartisan, nonprofit government watchdog and research institute that has served the taxpayers for decades in my home State of Florida. The group has been chaired for the past 2 years by the distinguished leadership of David A. Smith of Jacksonville, FL.

Florida TaxWatch first hired Mr. Calabro in 1980 as a senior research analyst. His hard work and dedication was quickly recognized, as he was promoted to executive director in 1982 and CEO in 1986. Mr. Calabro has guided the growth of TaxWatch into a dynamic, influential organization dedicated to improving government productivity and taxpayer value through research and civic engagement. Approximately 70 percent of TaxWatch's recommendations have been adopted by Florida's government, saving billions of dollars for Florida taxpayers.

Under Mr. Calabro's leadership, Florida TaxWatch has grown from an organization with a membership of approximately 30 and annual revenues of approximately \$64,000 to a statewide organization boasting a membership of nearly 1,000 individuals and organizations and revenues that have grown more than twentyfold to over \$1,500,000.

In addition to identifying and working to improve government spending in the public interest, Mr. Calabro and TaxWatch are the key players in the annual Prudential-Davis Productivity Awards, a nationally unique public-private partnership that recognizes and rewards exceptional Florida state employees whose innovative work measurably increases productivity and saves taxpayer money. Mr. Calabro has received numerous honors and awards, including being named by the National Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of Ten Outstanding Young Americans for 1994.

Mr. Calabro has been supported in all of his endeavors by his loving wife of 31 years, Debbie. They are devoted to their four children, Diana, Dominic, Christina, and Danny.

Mr. Calabro is also a driving force for improvements in public education. He is on the Board of Advisors for Florida State University's Graduate School of Social Work. Mr. Calabro also serves on the Florida Education Foundation and Communities in Schools of Florida.

Many Florida TaxWatch recommendations have served as the impetus for important changes to Florida budgetary and taxation policy, including the Taxpayers Bill of Rights of 1992, the Government Performance Accountability Act of 1994, the complete phase-out of the Intangibles Tax, and a recent Government Cost Savings Task Force that so far has saved the state nearly \$3 billion to weather the current economic climate.

I congratulate Mr. Calabro on his 30 years of service with Florida TaxWatch, and to wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors.●

REMEMBERING FATHER ALLEN NOVOTNY

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, on October 27th the Gonzaga College High School and Jesuit community lost a leader and dear friend. Father Allen Novotny served as the president of the oldest private high school in Washington, DC, and led the charge to modernize the school's aging facilities. When I moved my family to Washington, DC, I knew that under the leadership of Father Novotny, my two sons would receive the best education possible at Gonzaga. The school, which is known for its motto "Men for Others" encourages students to participate in service projects throughout DC, the country, and the world. During his 16 years at Gonzaga, Father Novotny increased the funding and variety of these essential service projects that gave thousands of young men the opportunity to grow in their faith and serve those in need.

Allen Paul Novotny was born in Baltimore in 1952 and received his education at the Sacred Heart of Jesus School in Baltimore and then Loyola High School in Towson. He entered the Society of Jesus at the Novitiate of St.