

with subparagraph 102(b)(1)(B). There has been some confusion over how this provision will work. It is my understanding that this provision ensures that an inventor who has made a public disclosure—that is, a disclosure made available to the public by any means—is fully protected during the grace period. The inventor is protected not only from the inventor's own disclosure being prior art against the inventor's claimed invention, but also against the disclosures of any of the same subject matter in disclosures made by others being prior art against the inventor's claimed invention under section 102(a) or section 103—so long as the prior art disclosures from others came after the public disclosure by the inventor. Is that the Senators' understanding of this provision?

Mr. LEAHY. That is correct. Subparagraph 102(b)(1)(B) is designed to work in tandem with subparagraph 102(b)(1)(A) to make a very strong grace period for inventors that have made a public disclosure before seeking a patent. Inventors who have made such disclosures are protected during the grace period, not only from their own disclosure, but also from disclosures by others that are made after their disclosure. This is an important protection we offer in our bill that will benefit independent and university inventors in particular.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST JOSHUA R. CAMPBELL

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and heroic service of SPC Joshua R. Campbell. Specialist Campbell, assigned to the 546th Transportation Company, based in Fort Bragg, NC, died on January 29, 2011, of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. Specialist Campbell was serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He was 22 years old.

A native of Bennett, CO, Specialist Campbell enlisted in the Army in 2008. He served a tour of duty in Afghanistan, during which his commanders recognized his extraordinary bravery and talent. Specialist Campbell's decorations include the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the NATO Medal.

During his 2 years of service, Specialist Campbell distinguished himself through his courage, dedication to duty, and absolute commitment to his fellow soldiers. Fellow soldiers remember him as a consummate professional with an unending commitment to excellence. They remember his generous character and positive disposition.

Specialist Campbell's family remembers him as a dedicated son, husband, and father. They also remember him as someone always willing to reach out and help others.

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." Specialist Campbell'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, Specialist Campbell will forever be remembered as one of our country's bravest.

To Specialist Campbell's entire 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 Joshua's service and by your knowledge that his country will never forget him. We are humbled by his service and his sacrifice.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2011

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to express my support for International Women's Day.

Since the beginning of last century, determined and courageous women have fought hard and made important strides towards ensuring that women are guaranteed equality and basic human rights. Too often in the past, women were seen as victims that needed to be protected or saved. But today, on the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, women should be viewed as they really are: farmers, entrepreneurs, businesswomen, teachers, policewomen, caretakers, doctors, lawyers, politicians, mothers, wives, astronauts and presidents.

While we should reflect on incredible progress that women have made in pushing for greater rights and equal opportunities, we must be vigilant about the facts on the status of women around the world. We know women are still being discriminated against; still being abused; and still being treated unjustly. We know about the trafficking of young women and girls; the lack of maternal health care; the lack of access to an education or basic economic opportunities. These are the facts.

What we also know is that empowering women around the world to participate in the political, social and economic life of their communities and their families is one of the most important tools that we have to alleviate poverty. Decades of research and experience prove that when women are able to be fully engaged in society and hold decision making power, they are more likely to invest their income in food, clean water, education, and health care for their children. This creates a positive cycle of change that lifts entire families, communities and nations out of poverty. Simply put, when women succeed, we all do.

Right now, over a billion people worldwide live on a dollar a day or less let's be conscious of the fact that women are most likely to be among them. This is a problem that affects all of humanity—when women are poor, entire communities suffer because they are not free to earn an income, feed their families, or protect themselves and their children from violence. And their efforts are critical to rebuilding fragile countries like Afghanistan and Haiti. Until women around the world have improved access to economic, political and social opportunities, the great challenges we face today will go unresolved.

Many people do not realize is that violence against women and girls is a major source of poverty. Violence and poverty go hand and hand. Violence prevents women and girls from getting an education, going to work, and earning the income they need to lift their families out of poverty. We know that one in three women will be the victim of physical or sexual abuse in her lifetime. But we also know that women have the potential to lift families and communities out of poverty.

And this undeniable connection means that we cannot ignore or sacrifice women's rights for political expediency. If meaningful reforms for women are rolled back or not implemented at all, particularly in places like Afghanistan, real and sustainable development will fail. Although conditions for women in Afghanistan have improved since the fall of the Taliban in 2001, they still face serious challenges in many aspects of life. And we cannot accept the status quo that women face in many of these countries as the "cost of doing business." The U.S. government must continue to press the fundamental values of the rights of women—to vote, to attend school, to own land, to live their lives without violence, to make their own choices—if we expect to see a sustainable peace in Afghanistan.

Even in countries not in a state of conflict, women's equality and access can make the difference between life and death for her family. Janet Wamalwa owns a 1-acre farm plot in rural Kenya that used to lay bare and was difficult to cultivate. Like many areas of sub-Saharan Africa, her land was plagued by soil erosion and low productivity. And for a subsistence farmer like 32-year-old Janet, when her crops don't grow, her family doesn't eat. And when the mother of five could not make ends meet, the first cost-savings remedy was to pull the children from their studies. To save money, Janet said that they lived on one meal a day during the dry season.

But no more. Today, Janet's crops are thriving and her family is eating better because of several sustainable farming techniques she implemented with the help of an international NGO and Kenya's Ministry of Agriculture. Janet's approach is just one example of how small-scale farmers in Africa—

most of whom are women—can use a diversity of simple practices to stave off hunger, earn an income and, ultimately, improve their lives, and the lives of those around them. And for Janet, the benefits have been life-changing. Now, she said her children's overall nutrition is better. Meanwhile, the extra income Janet earns from selling products in local markets means she can pay her children's school fees.

If we ignore the reality and the influence of empowering women, the results will undoubtedly be negative. When development programs fail to consider gender differences, women are the ones that are left behind. The World Bank states that, at the macroeconomic level, there is evidence that removing gender disparities spurs growth. According to one estimate, growth rates in Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East would have been 30–45 percent higher had these regions closed the gender gaps as East Asia did during the school years of 1960 and 1992. In Kenya, if women farmers were given the same level of agricultural inputs and education as men, they could increase their yields by more than 20 percent.

Therefore, if we open women's access to the means of agricultural production such as: farming land, fertilizers, farm labor, credit and technical skills—the end results are crucial to guaranteeing food security and enhancing the nutritional status of children. When we invest in women and they have the opportunity to augment their own incomes, their families and communities thrive.

As we in Congress and in the administration move forward with the vital process of revamping and modernizing our foreign assistance, we have an opportunity to make women's empowerment a central focus of U.S. foreign policy. We must all remember the lesson that an investment in the empowerment of women is an investment in the future. As chairman of the International Development and Foreign Assistance Subcommittee at Foreign Relations, I vow to make that the case. Investing in women is the best way to secure stronger communities and economies around the world.

Today, let us reaffirm the commitment to end gender-based discrimination in all forms, to end violence against women and girls worldwide, as we encourage the people of the United States to observe March 8 as International Women's Day.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO TRACY VALENTINE

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to an outstanding Arkansas educator, Tracy Valentine.

A teacher at Bragg Elementary School in West Memphis, Tracy is a recipient of the 2010 Milken Educator Award.

This prestigious award is the Nation's preeminent teacher recognition

program that has honored 2,500 teachers, principals and specialists with \$25,000 awards. The criteria for selection of this award is exceptional educational talent as evidenced by outstanding instructional practices in the classroom, school and professional and policy leadership, and an engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community. Tracy surpassed these criteria. Her outstanding contributions and commitment to education have been noticed by her students, their parents as well as her colleagues.

Tracy's passion for educating not only helps students, but also inspires those who work with her to do their best to encourage further development in the classroom. This truly is a major accomplishment in her career and something of which to be very proud.

I would like to offer my appreciation for Tracy Valentine's determination and devotion to provide a quality educational experience for students as we continue to shape the eager, young minds of West Memphis and work to keep America globally competitive.●

TRIBUTE TO NANCY WILSON COOK

• Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I recognize the Honorable Nancy Wilson Cook of Kenton, DE. A legislator, stateswoman, sister, mother, grandmother and friend, I have known Nancy for many years and on many levels. I am very proud to be honoring her today.

Born in Philadelphia, Nancy grew up in New Castle County and attended public school in the Colonial School District, graduating from William Penn High School. Nancy also attended the University of Delaware before marrying her beloved husband, the Honorable Allen J. Cook, and starting their family.

Always curious about the political process, Nancy got her first taste of the political world when she worked as an attaché to the late State Senator Calvin McCullough. For the next 20 years Nancy worked in Legislative Hall, in the Capital City of Dover, taking in the democratic process. Following the passing of her husband, Nancy was elected to the 15th District Senate seat held by Allen, during a special election.

A role model of integrity and service, Nancy served not only as a State senator, but as a leader within the Democratic caucus. Nancy served as chairwoman and vice-chairwoman of the prestigious Joint Finance Committee, and is the longest-serving Joint Finance Committee cochair in Delaware history. As the first Democratic woman to be elected to the Delaware State Senate, Nancy held other leadership roles during her tenure including serving as senate majority whip, chairwoman of the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee, and chairwoman of the Joint Capital Bond Bill Committee. She also served as a mem-

ber of the Senate Committees on Agriculture; Adult & Juvenile Corrections; Children, Youth & Families; Insurance & Elections; and, Revenue & Taxation.

An icon in the Delaware General Assembly, Nancy's legislative accomplishments are vast. During my terms as both Delaware's treasurer and Governor, Nancy and I worked closely together on many financial issues facing the State of Delaware. Known for her immense knowledge of and experience with Delaware financial matters, I valued her input on many major decisions.

Throughout my 8 years as Delaware's Governor, Nancy's leadership helped my administration pursue a common-sense agenda that led to eight balanced budgets, tax cuts in 7 of those 8 years, and major increases in employment allowing Delaware to achieve a AAA bond rating for the first time in its history. Nancy has been a strong ally for me on many occasions including creating Delaware's 21st Century Fund, the unprecedented State long-term infrastructure investment fund. In 1996, she was a very strong supporter of the purchase of the Port of Wilmington, which began the port's rejuvenation into one of the world's top ports.

Another of her many noteworthy accomplishments was in the late 1970s and early 1980s with the enacting of the constitutional amendments and related legislation to establish Delaware's balanced budget amendment—creating the State's "Rainy Day Fund" and a formula for reducing bond indebtedness. Nancy was also very active with the Legislative Council leading the way for the conversion and renovation of both Legislative Hall and the Tatnall Building allowing for better public access to the General Assembly and the Governor. She has also been a strong supporter of the Wilmington Riverfront, serving on the board of directors of the Riverfront Development Corporation, as well as information technology, historical and cultural affairs and the Delaware Heritage Commission's Delaware Oral History Project.

Nancy leaves a legacy of commitment to public service for her family and the rest of us to follow. I join her friends and family, son Tommy, his wife Beth and their daughter Morgan; stepson Allen, his wife Judy and their children Allen III, Dale, and Shawn and their wives and children in congratulating Nancy for her dedication and service.

On behalf of all Delawareans, I applaud Nancy W. Cook for her outstanding commitment to the State of Delaware and extend to her my very best wishes for every success in the future.●

2010 ALFRED P. SLOAN AWARD WINNERS

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I congratulate the 2010 winners of the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility. This award recognizes employers that have