

let's keep debating health insurance and let's keep relitigating this and let's keep rediscussing it and let's try to repeal it. Instead, we can fix some things, as the President said last night, make some minor changes in it. But let's go back to what we need to do: create jobs in this country and help manufacturing.

My State is the third largest manufacturing State in the country. We need to do a lot to make sure that as we innovate, as we do the best innovation in the world and do the best research and development, that those jobs stay in the United States and don't get outsourced. That is our mission, to make sure these jobs are created here.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from Oregon, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from Oregon, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:45 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 8:25 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. HAGAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following resolutions en bloc:

A Wyden-Grassley-McCaskill resolution relative to secret holds, which is at the desk; a Udall of Colorado resolution regarding waiving the reading of an amendment, which is at the desk; S. Res. 8, Senator HARKIN; S. Res. 10, Senator UDALL of New Mexico with a substitute amendment, which is at the desk; and S. Res. 21, Senator MERKLEY, with a substitute amendment, which is at the desk; that there be up to 8 hours of debate, equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, for the purpose of debating these resolutions concurrently; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the substitute amendment to S. Res. 10 be agreed to and the substitute amendment to S. Res. 21 be agreed to; the Senate then proceed to vote in relation to the resolutions in the order listed above with no intervening action or debate; that

the following resolutions be subject to a 60-vote threshold for adoption: Wyden-Grassley-McCaskill resolution and Udall of Colorado resolution; that the following remaining resolutions be subject to a threshold of two-thirds of those voting for adoption: S. Res. 8; S. Res. 10, as amended; and S. Res. 21, as amended; that there be no amendments, motions or points of order in order to any of these resolutions prior to the vote in relation to the resolution, except for the substitute amendments to S. Res. 10 and S. Res. 21 listed above; further, that if a resolution fails to achieve the listed threshold for adoption, it be returned to its previous status.

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, I have had a number of conversations this evening with my counterpart, the Republican leader. We on this side have a caucus scheduled for tomorrow at 12:30 and so do the Republicans. These votes are all going to occur after we finish our caucuses anyway, so there are going to be no votes in the morning. The debate will start in the morning. We are going to come in at 10 o'clock. There will be no morning business. It has been suggested we come in at 10:30 because of the inclement weather, and that is fine. There will be no morning business in the morning, and then we will vote immediately on these matters set forth in this agreement.

The weather reports are that the Sun is going to be shining. Tomorrow it will be cold, and we know the streets are bad. But as I have indicated, we are not going to have the votes until tomorrow afternoon, so we hope it will all work out. Senator MCCONNELL and I will visit this issue again if anything untoward happens. We know it would be better if we didn't have this bad weather, but we are not all fortunate enough to live in southern Nevada. Sometimes bad weather does come. That being the case, we have been out of session now for several weeks. We have this organizational stuff that we have to get out of the way so we can start having matters referred out of the committees. So as inconvenient as it is for everyone, we need to move forward.

BOMBING OF SAINTS CHURCH

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, shortly after midnight Mass during the early hours of New Year's Day, a heinous suicide bombing attack at the Saints Church in Alexandria, Egypt, killed 21 innocent worshippers and injured dozens of others.

My condolences go out to the families of the victims and to the Coptic community. This was a devastating loss for the Christian community in Egypt and Christian communities around the world, including in my home State of Illinois.

I urge the Egyptian government to work swiftly and within the rule of law

to bring those responsible for this heinous crime to justice.

The Obama administration already has offered U.S. law enforcement assistance, which I encourage Egypt to accept—particularly in light of findings that indicate al-Qaida or other international terrorism networks were involved.

Unfortunately, this bombing attack is not an isolated incident in Egypt. Just about one year ago, three men armed with automatic weapons killed six Christian churchgoers as they emerged from a Christmas Mass service in the Egyptian town of Naga Hammadi, along with one Muslim off-duty police officer.

While I commend the Egyptian government's quick arrest and ongoing prosecution of the four suspects in that case, the fact that these incidents of violence against their own Christian community have continued in Egypt is very worrying.

Coptic Christians have been practicing their faith in Egypt since antiquity. Egypt is home to some of the oldest Christian schools in the world, where students have been taught theology and the text of the Bible. Coptic Christians are an important part of Egyptian society and make up approximately ten percent of Egypt's population. Protecting them and other religious minorities from acts of violence should be a top priority for the Egyptian government.

The New Year's bombing in Egypt is, unfortunately, also part of a disturbing pattern of violence against religious minorities in the Middle East.

For example, on October 31, 2010, Our Lady of Salvation Church in Iraq was the victim of a vicious attack by an al-Qaida affiliate, where over 50 innocent lives were taken.

Such despicable acts of aggression should not be tolerated. They force minority communities, who deserve greater protection, to live in fear of random acts of violence.

Such violence and discrimination cause members of minority communities to become refugees in their own country or to seek refuge in other countries. The ability of religious minorities to worship freely and safely should be a basic tenet of any modern society.

It is incumbent on Egypt, as a leader in the Middle East, to promote an atmosphere of tolerance where members of all religions are given an equal opportunity to thrive and participate in the life of the country.

Earlier, Senator WHITEHOUSE joined me in a letter to President Mubarak expressing our concern for the protection of minority communities in Egypt, including the lack of representation that Coptic Christians have in government as well as the government's failure to fully prosecute those responsible for acts of violence against Coptic Christians in the past.

We are concerned that the current situation may embolden extremists

and foster increasing religious intolerance and sectarian violence.

I have joined Senator ROBERT MENENDEZ on a resolution condemning the New Year's Day attack in Egypt and expressing condolences to all Egyptians who have suffered from terrorist attacks in the past.

Egypt has a reputation as a peaceful, moderate Arab state, where, as provided under its laws, all faiths are free to practice their religion without fear of retribution or violence. Egypt is a leader in the region and a close friend of the United States. But there is no place in Egyptian society for the kind of extremists who attacked and killed peaceful churchgoers on New Year's Day.

I again express my deepest condolences to the members of Saints Church and join all of America in prayers for the victims of this tragedy.

REMEMBERING SARGENT SHRIVER

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to a hero of mine, Robert Sargent Shriver. He was a man of real courage, extraordinary idealism, committed to serving this country, and a dear friend.

As a veteran of World War II, the founding director of the Peace Corps, and the driving force behind Lyndon Johnson's war on poverty, Sarge believed in the good things government can do for people. Among his many accomplishments, he gave us the Head Start program, the Job Corps and Legal Services for the Poor, and the Volunteers in Service to America. Later in life he became the U.S. Ambassador to France, and then president of the Special Olympics, an organization founded by his remarkable wife Eunice Kennedy Shriver.

Sargent Shriver's impact on American life was profound. Through the many programs he championed, Sarge had a direct and lasting effect on the lives of millions of Americans. He was wholly committed to helping people and to the ideals he believed our country ought to stand for, and he was tireless and unrelenting in his pursuit of those goals.

The Peace Corps, one of Sarge's most important and long-lasting accomplishments, enables young Americans to serve their country by building understanding between cultures and working to improve the lives of others in developing countries. Shriver's spirit lives on through the Peace Corps, and it is incumbent on all of us to ensure that the agency fulfills his vision, and the vision of President Kennedy.

My friend Bono, a committed advocate in the fight against global poverty, was himself inspired by President Kennedy's call to action and by Sargent Shriver's work to put it into effect. He recently wrote an op-ed which appeared in the New York Times entitled, "What I Learned From Sargent Shriver." In honor of Sarge, I ask

unanimous consent that a copy be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

[From the New York Times, Jan. 19, 2011]

WHAT I LEARNED FROM SARGENT SHRIVER

(By Bono)

The Irish are still mesmerized by the mythical place that is America, but in the '60s our fascination got out of hand. I was not old enough to remember the sacrifices of the great generation who saved Europe in the Second World War, or to quite comprehend what was going on in Vietnam. But what I do remember, and cannot forget, is watching a man walk on the moon in 1969 and thinking here is a nation that finds joy in the impossible.

The Irish saw the Kennedys as our own royal family out on loan to America. A million of them turned out on J.F.K.'s homecoming to see these patrician public servants who, despite their station, had no patience for the status quo. (They also loved that the Kennedys looked more WASP than any "Prod," our familiar term for Protestant.)

I remember Bobby's rolled-up sleeves, Jack's juttied jaw and the message—a call to action—that the world didn't have to be the way it was. Science and faith had found a perfect rhyme.

In the background, but hardly in the shadows, was Robert Sargent Shriver. A diamond intelligence, too bright to keep in the darkness. He was not Robert or Bob, he was Sarge, and for all the love in him, he knew that love was a tough word. Easy to say, tough to see it through. Love, yes, and peace, too, in no small measure; this was the '60s but you wouldn't know it just by looking at him. No long hair in the Shriver house, or rock 'n' roll. He and his beautiful bride, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, would go to Mass every day—as much an act of rebellion against brutal modernity as it was an act of worship. Love, yes, but love as a brave act, a bold act, requiring toughness and sacrifice.

His faith demanded action, from him, from all of us. For the Word to become flesh, we had to become the eyes, the ears, the hands of a just God. Injustice could, in the words of the old spiritual, "Be Overcome." Robert Sargent sang, "Make me a channel of your peace," and became the song.

Make me a channel of your peace:

Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.
Oh, Master grant that I may never seek,
So much to be consoled as to console.
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.
Make me a channel of your peace,
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness, only light,
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

The Peace Corps was Jack Kennedy's creation but embodied Sargent Shriver's spirit. Lyndon Johnson declared war on poverty but Sarge led the charge. These, and the Special Olympics, were as dramatic an incarnation of the ideas at the heart of America as the space program.

Robert Sargent Shriver changed the world more than a few times and, I am happy to say, changed my world forever. In the late '90s, when the Jubilee 2000 campaign—which aimed to cancel the debts that the poorest nations owed to the richest—asked me to help in the United States, I called on the Shriver clan for help and advice. What I got were those things in spades, and a call to arms like a thump in the back.

In the years since, Bobby Shriver—Sarge's oldest son and—I co-founded three fighting units in the war against global poverty: DATA, ONE and (RED). We may not yet know what it will take to finish the fight and silence suffering in our time, but we are flat out trying to live up to Sarge's drill.

I have beautiful memories of Bobby and me sitting with his father and mother at the Shriver's kitchen table—the same team that gazed over J.F.K.'s shoulder—looking over our paltry attempts at speechifying, prodding and pushing us toward comprehensibility and credibility, a challenge when your son starts hanging round with a bleeding-heart Irish rock star.

Toward the end, when I visited Sarge as a frail man, I was astonished by his good spirits and good humor. He had the room around him laughing out loud. I thought it a fitting final victory in a life that embodied service and transcended, so often, grave duty, that he had a certain weightlessness about him. Even then, his job nearly done, his light shone undiminished, and brightened us all.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING BRUCE RANDOLPH SCHOOL

• Mr. BENNET. Madam President, today I congratulate Bruce Randolph School in Denver, which President Obama recognized in the State of the Union Address for its remarkable turnaround.

Just 3 years ago, Bruce Randolph was one of the lowest performing schools in my home State of Colorado, but last May, 97 percent of the seniors graduated, including many who will be the first in their families to go to college.

I remember as superintendent working with the principal at the time, Kristin Waters, to get these turnaround efforts off the ground, and it is tremendous to see all the progress that has been made on behalf of the students at Bruce Randolph.

The Bruce Randolph community has seen firsthand that school turnarounds are possible, and with hard work and flexibility, we can improve our schools to better prepare our kids for success in college and the 21st century job market. We truly can improve the lives of our kids when teachers, parents, principals and communities come together.

And now we need to work together to bring similar turnaround efforts to other low-performing schools in Colorado and across the country. To build on successes like these, we need to put politics aside, listen to the ideas and aspirations of those closest to our kids, and work together to reform our public schools in a way that supports talented teaching, closes the achievement gap and equips our kids with the skills they are going to need to compete for the jobs of the 21st century.

On a more personal note, for me, for one moment, in a place that sometimes feels so removed from the work being done in classrooms across the country, having the children and teachers of Bruce Randolph invoked as an example of what is possible in public education was very powerful.