

purchases. For example, we were able to reduce what we paid for lightbulbs in Virginia from 38 cents to 23 cents each. That didn't close a \$6 billion shortfall by itself, but we buy a lot of lightbulbs in Virginia, and I know they do in West Virginia as well.

Mr. Smith has taken a similar approach at the Federal level, and his accomplishment was no small feat. After analyzing the purchasing data at DHS, he identified several critical security problems and services that could be consolidated for purposes of purchasing, such as ammunition, uniforms, and communications equipment.

He brought together the program and acquisition staff of 22 DHS components, including the Transportation Security Administration and Customs and Border Protection, to agree to work together. Mr. Smith's supervisors said that he listened to the different needs of the DHS components and was able to lead them to common solutions to meet all their individual requirements under a new contract.

According to Nick Nayak, the DHS chief procurement officer, "Mr. Smith led a new way of doing business where agencies provided a letter detailing their financial and policy commitment to initiative to obtain the business pricing for the government." Mr. Smith's collaborative approach has been so successful that the White House has asked him to introduce his methodology to other larger agencies.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. Smith for his excellent work. I am also proud to recognize him as a Virginian, a Marine Corps veteran, and someone who has dedicated the past 28 years to public service.

REMEMBERING 9/11

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, before I relinquish the floor, I do want to take a couple of minutes on two other items. No. 1, as the Presiding Officer this morning, I heard a number of Senators come forward and recognize, as others have over the last few days, that we are approaching the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

I am sure all of us here remember where we were that Tuesday morning. I personally recall I was in a campaign for Governor at that point. I had just gotten a haircut and a big debate was 3 days away when I first got the news. Suddenly the big debate didn't seem that terribly important. Within an hour I had been at my campaign headquarters, saw the plane crash into the Pentagon with smoke billowing out.

In the last 10 years I think this country has made remarkable strides in making sure Americans are safer than they were 10 years ago. We have seen a whole new series of collaborations between our intelligence service agencies. We have seen greater collaboration here at home amongst our law enforcement.

As we all come together on Sunday and reflect back on the last 10 years

and the horrors that were brought to this country, I hope we will all say a little prayer for those members of our military and those members of the intelligence community for the magnificent work they have done making our country much safer.

I think, as well, as we see reports even today of possible threats, we recognize we can never be 100 percent safe. I remember during my tenure as Governor, within the first year, we in Virginia and the District and Maryland were caught in almost 3 weeks of remarkable terror with what later became known as the sniper incidents. For a lot of that time we didn't know whether this was a possible terrorist incident or was it what it turned out to be, two deranged lone-wolf assassins wreaking havoc across most of the mid-Atlantic.

We need to bear in mind that while we and our government will do everything possible to keep us safe, we also have to rely upon individuals in collaboration with law enforcement as they spot incidents that seem unusual.

But even with that collaboration, there may be times that someone, whether home-grown or foreign, someone, a lone-wolf type assassin or terrorist, could slip through, and I think it is important that, 10 years after that enormous tragedy, we as a people be more resilient. We cannot allow a single act of terror to change the way we live, our freedoms, our civil liberties, because, candidly, there is no way any terrorist can inflict so much individual harm that it can do permanent damage to our country. But if they do spread fear or make us as a people change the way we interact, change the kind respect we have for each other, the respect we have for our freedoms, then they will be more successful than with any single incident of harm.

I know the Presiding Officer and many of the folks who work here and many of the young pages, as we go into this weekend of reflection—and I hope many of the folks who are listening today—will take a moment and not only reflect back on that 10th anniversary but also do an act of service. I think this is a great time for us as Americans to show service back to our communities.

I know I will be in the Pentagon Sunday morning, where we were hit in Virginia. The Pentagon is a national institution, but we in Virginia are proud it resides in the Commonwealth. I will be in the Pentagon Sunday morning to be with some who lost loved ones on that day. But I will also be doing acts of community service throughout this weekend as well, to make sure we show that great spirit of America.

INVESTING IN AMERICA

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I also wish to take one final moment, and I will be very brief. I want to echo something my colleague from Tennessee said. It is something the Presiding Offi-

cer has been very active with over the last few months. We all heard the President last night. Some of us may agree or disagree with all the actions the President laid out. I think there are things we can do as a government targeted to help spur economic growth and job creation that needs to be our top priority.

I do think we have to recognize there is not a single silver bullet, that the major tools the government uses during a period of economic turmoil we have actually already used. The central government can lower interest rates. The government can use federal stimulus. We have used both of those. There can be certain additional things we can do around the edges, but one of the most important things we can do to get this economy restarted is generate confidence, confidence amongst the American consumers and the American people that we in Washington are not going to mess things up any worse, confidence amongst our business community, particularly larger businesses that are sitting on \$2.5 trillion, and they are in a financially better position today than they were back in 2008 when we first experienced the beginnings of the financial crisis, to get that money off the sidelines and reinvest it in America.

One of the most important things we can do—and the President touched upon it last night, but there has been a group of bipartisan Senators that has been working on this for a long period of time—is to recognize that unless we get our long-term debt problems under control, then I don't think we will see the resurgence of confidence this economy and this country needs.

I look forward to working with the President and Members of both parties and targeting investments. I hope, as well, with the Presiding Officer, with my friend from Tennessee, with my friend, the Senator from Georgia, and others, that we can work with this so-called new supercommittee to urge them to be bold, and that if they will be bold and we put in place over a 10-year frame a long-term deficit reduction plan, I hope we reduce the deficit by at least \$4 trillion, encompassing what we have already done. That plan phased in over a decade will do as much to generate job creation in the short term as any other action. I look forward to that work ahead.

I look forward to reflecting back with all my fellow Americans upon both the sacrifice and tragedy, but also the amazing resilience of the American people in the last decade, and I compliment Mr. Smith and so many federal employees for the work they do.

FALLEN HEROES OF 9/11 ACT

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Banking Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1239, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1239) to provide for a medal of appropriate design to be awarded by the President to the memorials established at the 3 sites honoring the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1239) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1239

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Fallen Heroes of 9/11 Act”.

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the tragic deaths at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, and in rural Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001, have forever changed our Nation;

(2) the officers, emergency workers, and other employees of State and local government agencies, including the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and of the United States government and others, who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and perished as a result of the tragic events of September 11, 2001 (including those who are missing and

presumed dead), took heroic and noble action on that day;

(3) the officers, emergency rescue workers, and employees of local and United States government agencies, who responded to the attack on the Pentagon in Washington, DC, took heroic and noble action to evacuate the premises and prevent further casualties of Pentagon employees;

(4) the passengers and crew of United Airlines Flight 93, recognizing the imminent danger that the aircraft that they were aboard posed to large numbers of innocent men, women and children, American institutions, and the symbols of American democracy, took heroic and noble action to ensure that the aircraft could not be used as a weapon; and

(5) given the unprecedented nature of the attacks against the United States of America and the need to properly demonstrate the support of the country for those who lost their lives to terrorism, it is fitting that their sacrifice be recognized with the award of an appropriate medal.

SEC. 3. FALLEN HEROES OF 9/11 CONGRESSIONAL MEDALS.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is authorized, on behalf of Congress, to award a medal of appropriate design, such medal to be known as the “Fallen Heroes of 9/11 Congressional Medal”, to—

(1) the Flight 93 National Memorial in Pennsylvania;

(2) the National September 11 Memorial and Museum in New York; and

(3) the Pentagon Memorial at the Pentagon.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of the presentations referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall strike 3 designs of medals, with such suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to be representative of and in honor of, respectively—

(A) those who lost their lives in the attack at the World Trade Center, including civil-

ians, public safety officers, emergency workers, and the passengers and crew of American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175;

(B) the passengers and crew aboard United Airlines Flight 93 that was brought down in rural Pennsylvania near Shanksville, Somerset County; and

(C) those who lost their lives at the Pentagon, including the passengers and crew of American Airlines Flight 77.

(2) CONSULTATION.—Before making a final determination with respect to the design of the medals under this subsection, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Defense and such other parties as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate.

(3) CONTENT OF MEDALS.—The medals struck for purposes of subsection (a) shall be gold medals.

SEC. 4. SALES OF DUPLICATE MEDALS TO THE PUBLIC TO DEFRAY COSTS.

Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the medals struck under section 3, at a price that is at least sufficient to cover the costs thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses. Excess funds from the sales of the duplicate medals will be distributed equally between the 3 memorial sites referred to in section 3(a).

SEC. 5. NATIONAL MEDALS.

The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12, 2011, AT 2 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until Monday, September 12, 2011, at 2 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:30 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 12, 2011, at 2 p.m.