

endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. . . .

Based on these fundamental principles, the Constitution laid out a form of government designed to protect individual rights by resisting the concentration of power. This can be frustrating to those who would like a more activist government. Still, these features of our Constitution perform a very important role in preventing one faction of Americans from dominating another faction of Americans.

I am sure President Obama is convinced his agenda is what is best for the country and that the ends justify the means in pursuing that agenda. But that is not the Machiavellian ideas that any of our Constitution writers had.

Naturally, he doesn't see any danger in concentrating power in the Presidency because he believes he will use that power very wisely. Moreover, he has gone out of his way to identify himself with the school of thought that the constitutional separation of powers is an outdated barrier to change.

Last month, President Obama gave a speech in Kansas in which he sought to link his agenda to Teddy Roosevelt's famous "New Nationalism" speech at the same place in 1910. The original speech marked the beginning of Roosevelt's break with many of his past policies and with the incumbent Republican President, William Howard Taft.

Roosevelt then went on to challenge Taft in the 1912 election, heading up the Progressive Party ticket. You know that both Roosevelt and Taft lost.

In that 1910 speech to which President Obama paid tribute, Roosevelt described his new nationalism as "impatient of the impotence which springs from overdivision of governmental power."

This philosophy seeks to fundamentally transform the United States from a nation founded on the principle that protecting the unalienable natural rights of each citizen is the paramount goal of government to one that empowers an enlightened elite to take whatever actions they deem necessary to correct perceived wrongs in society. In other words, throw the Constitution out the door. This may start out with very good intentions, but there is no guarantee that once our constitutional protections are gone, future leaders will always act in the most enlightened way. In fact, the single-minded pursuit of a better society at the expense of individual rights has led to some of history's worst tyrannies.

Moreover, not only is the concentration of power in the executive branch contrary to the founding principles of our Nation, it is foreign to the realities of American civic life. With a country as large and as diverse as ours, no indi-

vidual can claim to speak on behalf of all Americans. Our constitutional system, based on federalism, separation of powers, and checks and balances helps ensure that each American has the opportunity to live their life as they see fit.

I return to the words of James Madison:

It is of great importance in a republic not only to guard the society against the oppression of its rulers, but to guard one part of society against the injustice of the other part.

The voices of all Americans deserve to be heard through the elected representatives of the people. That is what is at stake. Those of us who were elected to represent the people of our States should do just that or we deserve not to be here.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio is recognized.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I want to take 60 or 90 seconds to discuss the subject that the Senator from Iowa discussed; that is, the appointment of Richard Cordray to the Consumer Protection Bureau. I checked with the Senator's story earlier during this move through the Banking Committee on which the Presiding Officer sits. Never in history has anybody in one party blocked even a vote of a Presidential nominee who is admittedly qualified only because they don't like the agency.

That would be a little like, as Senator REED from Rhode Island said, refusing to confirm an appointee to run the FDA until the Congress weakens food safety laws. It runs counter to everything we believe. I wasn't insisting that my Senate colleagues all support Richard Cordray, former attorney general from Ohio, who is eminently qualified for this job. We were saying to just let it come to an up-or-down vote.

Instead, the minority party filibustered, stopped that, and the President had no choice but to act because the agency simply could not do its job. Only 2 years ago, this agency was created, this consumer bureau, to have a consumer cop on the beat to keep Wall Street banks and payday lenders and everybody in between honest. It took 60 votes in the Senate, including the Presiding Officer and me, and 58 others, to say this agency should be created and the consumer bureau should be in effect. That is the history of that.

RECOGNIZING BRANDON MOORE

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam President, I rise today to honor Detective Brandon Moore, of the Morrow County, OH, Sheriff's Department and Ohio's first recipient of the Congressional Badge of Bravery.

Established in 2008, the Congressional Badge of Bravery is an annual award from the U.S. Attorney General to public safety officers who display bravery in the line of duty.

Earlier this month, Congressman JIM JORDAN and I had the honor of pre-

senting the award to Detective Moore, along with Morrow County Sheriff Steven Brenneman and sheriffs and law enforcement officers from across central Ohio.

It was an honor to meet Detective Moore—to hear his story of heroism and to see his humility firsthand.

In October 2010, Detective Moore was shot multiple times and nearly killed in the line of duty during an ambush and firefight.

When you hear about what happened, you can imagine the scene.

Then-Deputy Sheriff Moore received a report of neighbors engaged in a property dispute.

He traveled to the scene. But in the course of the investigation, he suspected criminal drug activity in one of the homes.

The story quickly turned to the unimaginable.

One of the neighbors came out of his house with an assault rifle and started firing.

Detective Moore was shot in the groin, leg, foot, and abdomen.

As Detective Moore has described it, the normal reaction of fear, shock, doubt, and panic was overwhelmed by a calmness that only highly-skilled police training could provide.

Severely wounded and laying on the ground—Detective Moore first used his belt to create a tourniquet on his leg. He then shot and disabled his assailant from more than 50 yards away.

In doing so, he saved himself, three civilians, and other officers.

Yet his injuries were so life-threatening that he made the unimaginable call to his wife—Diandra, his high school sweetheart—explaining what happened, wanting her to know how much he loved her and their children, Alec and Andrew.

Fortunately, help quickly arrived to the scene.

Detective Moore was airlifted to the hospital for multiple surgeries and where he stayed for a month.

Law enforcement from across central Ohio visited the hospital to show their support—speaking volumes of the solidarity of a sacred brotherhood and sisterhood.

Today, Detective Moore is on the road to recovery—well ahead of schedule.

He was told it could take two or three years before he could return to duty. Detective Moore thinks he'll do it in 18 months.

He recently hit one of his goals of running a quarter of a mile without stopping. Before April, his goal is to run half a mile.

And as difficult as the recovery has been for him—he remains grounded by humility and faith, and the love of his family.

Diandra has been with him on every step of the highs and lows of rehabilitation.

To their children, Alec and Andrew, when you're older, you'll understand more than most people, the meaning of duty, love, and faith.

I had the honor of meeting Detective Moore's parents, who raised him and his siblings near my hometown of Mansfield, OH.

His parents—mother Tommie and father Jim—still live there.

Jim is also a police officer—the sense of duty and faith runs deep in the family.

And it's not just for a father seeing a son follow his footsteps—it's also for a mother seeing both her husband and son put on a uniform to protect the public.

Like much of our great State, Mansfield is a place where you grow up with the values of hard work and fair play—service, community, and faith.

Detective Moore's story illustrates those values as clearly as any.

We ask a great deal from our law enforcement officials—to risk their lives each day and each night.

And while we may never guarantee their safety, in honoring their service we give meaning to their sacrifice.

That's what the Congressional Badge of Bravery reflects—the very character of our Nation that honors those who serve us.

We ask. And as he says himself, guided by faith in God, family, and his fellow officers, Detective Moore gave. And we're all humbled by that service.

Thank you, Detective Brandon Moore. A proud State and grateful Nation continue to offer our prayers and well wishes for you and your family.

I yield the floor.

TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER MICHAEL COPPS

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Madam President, I rise to honor Dr. Michael Copps. At the end of last year, Dr. Copps retired from public service—though not from public life.

For those of you who do not know him, I want to take this opportunity to tell you about him, the life he has led, what he has done for this country—and what he has done for all of us.

After earning a doctorate in U.S. history from the University of North Carolina, Dr. Copps headed south to the Big Easy. He taught history at Loyola University in New Orleans. It was there that he met his wife Beth.

Academe had its pull. But so did Washington. So in 1970, he convinced his wife to pack up their life and move north to the capital. He heard the call of policy and politics and told her that after he got it out of his system, he would head back to university life.

He never did head back to the halls of the academy. But his keen mind, calm demeanor, and dedication to the public interest have taught all of us about what it is to lead an honorable life in public service.

He started in Washington in the office of Senator Fritz Hollings. He eventually served for over a dozen years as Senator Hollings' chief of staff. He is well known and well loved by so many who served in the office of the South

Carolina Senator. I know that Fritz Hollings too is proud to call him a colleague and friend.

From the Halls of the Senate, he headed on to industry. He took on policy operations in Washington for a Fortune 500 manufacturing company. He also worked at a major trade association.

With the election of President Clinton, however, he again heard the call of government service. He first served as Deputy Assistant Secretary at the U.S. Department of Commerce. During his tenure, he fostered public sector and private sector cooperation to strengthen American industry. He led the U.S.-Russia Business Development Committee's oil and gas working group. In this role, he pushed successfully for the removal of an export tax for U.S. companies shipping oil out of Russia. He negotiated power, chemical, and automotive policies with China. He built partnerships involving forest products, agriculture products, and electrical power in Russia, Ukraine, and Turkey. He assisted generously with global automotive negotiations and trade promotion initiatives.

Five years later, he was nominated and confirmed by this body, for Assistant Secretary for Trade Development at the U.S. Department of Commerce. Again, he served nobly. He worked with the private sector to expand commercial opportunities for U.S. businesses in the global economy. He oversaw a reorganization of trade development within the Department, creating a new office focused on information technologies industries. He also advocated internationally for the creation of independent telecommunications regulatory regimes, transparent legal authority for telecommunications, and investor-friendly climates for information technology.

He did all of these things at the Department of Commerce with his characteristic force, impressive analytical skills, and customary grace.

But it was only sometime after his tenure at the Department of Commerce that I really came to know Dr. Copps. That was when, in 2001, he was first nominated, and later confirmed, for the role of Commissioner at the Federal Communications Commission. He brought to the role the same energy and enthusiasm that he displayed at the Department of Commerce. He brought the same sense of conviction, and he brought the same belief that through expanding the stakeholders in any dialogue, we can enrich our conversation, grow our economy, and enhance our public life.

His accomplishments over the course of his two terms at the agency are too numerous to mention. So I will dwell only on a few.

First, as the Acting Chairman of the agency he led the national transition to digital television. He was the man in charge of keeping the television on, as our Nation's broadcasters ceased sending signals in analog form. His calm,

clear focus, and ability to marshal public and private efforts to manage the transition kept millions and millions of households with access to television news, emergency information, and entertainment.

Second, he called early and often for policies to support broadband, understanding well before others that broadband is the great infrastructure challenge of our age. It was here that his eye for history served him especially well, as he analogized between broadband networks and the railroads that criss-crossed our country more than a century before; between opening ports to new markets and opening communities through new communications networks; and between the need for our interstate highway system and the need for new broadband byways. He called for a national broadband plan well before it was popular to do so. He reminded us that rural Americans must not be left on the wrong side of the digital divide. In fact, he tirelessly pressured to expand service to the historically underserved—from rural areas, to Indian Country, to those with disabilities, and more—believing that access to communications technologies strengthens our economy and our democracy.

Third, he was an early champion of the open and free Internet. As our lives migrated online, he saw the risks posed by the control of both connectivity and content. He gave early voice to basic concepts that grew to become network neutrality.

Fourth, and finally—he has emerged as an important voice on media policy. He has never shied from asking the hard questions about our media institutions. He has criticized media concentration for diluting the diversity, localism, and competition we need in our information sources. He has worried for all of us that with the shuttering of newspapers and thinning of journalism's ranks, we are doing great harm to the public's need to know. He was not blind to the great informational promise of the Internet, but instead a realist about its near-term journalistic limitations. Without an informed citizenry, he reminded us over and over again, we risk what is essential for democracy. His zeal for this issue was anything but academic. He took to the road and held countless hearings outside of Washington—giving thousands of people across the country the opportunity to speak about the changes in our media landscape, and the information they need in their communities.

As part of this, he also pressed for less indecency in the media, and less coarse content on our airwaves. His media policies had fans and also detractors. But both uniformly respected how he took on these issues and how deeply committed he was to his cause.

Simply put, they do not make men like Michael Copps anymore. He represents the best in public service. So as Dr. Copps turns in his badge and turns