

Second, mail often contains highly sensitive pieces, such as medical records, bills, personal correspondence. Continuation of the mailbox monopoly is necessary to preserve the safety, the security, and the privacy of mail.

The third argument is that if you repeal the mailbox monopoly, you will leave rural America behind. There will be plenty of competition in large cities, but who will be left to serve rural America? Only the Postal Service. And that will further drive up its costs because it will be losing customers.

I strongly urge opposition to this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. KYL. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 35, nays 64, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 76 Leg.]

YEAS—35

Alexander	Enzi	Moran
Ayotte	Graham	Paul
Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hatch	Roberts
Boozman	Heller	Rubio
Chambliss	Isakson	Sessions
Coburn	Johanns	Shelby
Cochran	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Corker	Kyl	Toomey
Cornyn	Lee	Vitter
Crapo	McCain	Wicker
DeMint	McConnell	

NAYS—64

Akaka	Hagan	Murray
Baucus	Harkin	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Hoeven	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Hutchison	Portman
Bingaman	Inhofe	Pryor
Blumenthal	Inouye	Reed
Boxer	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Brown (MA)	Kerry	Rockefeller
Brown (OH)	Klobuchar	Sanders
Burr	Kohl	Schumer
Cantwell	Landrieu	Shaheen
Cardin	Lautenberg	Snowe
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Levin	Tester
Coats	Lieberman	Udall (CO)
Collins	Lugar	Udall (NM)
Conrad	Manchin	Warner
Coons	McCaskill	Webb
Durbin	Menendez	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Merkley	Wyden
Franken	Mikulski	
Gillibrand	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—1

Kirk

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is rejected.

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators allowed to speak for 10 minutes each.

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

REMEMBERING JUDGE JAMES G. WEDDLE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute and bid farewell to a Kentuckian I knew well and considered a good friend. The Honorable Judge James G. Weddle of Casey County, KY, passed away recently, shortly after announcing he would be stepping down from the bench. He was 71.

Judge Weddle had a remarkable legal career that spanned over 45 years; much of it in public service. A graduate of the University of Kentucky School of Law, Judge Weddle served as Casey County Attorney for 16 years, and served as a circuit judge on the 29th Judicial Circuit of Kentucky from 1998 until his untimely passing; he planned to retire in May.

What strikes me the most about Judge Weddle, after having the benefit of his friendship, is how much he valued public service to the people of Casey County and Kentucky. Right up until the end of his career, he was always striving to be better. He felt he had not yet reached his peak. Being the best—and doing the best, for the benefit of all who came into his courtroom was important to him.

A scholarly man, Judge Weddle was sure to read all the latest law books and articles, and often knew more about recent legal events than lawyers in his courtroom who were half his age. He was well known for his ability to cite case after case without having to reference a computer or his law books. Simply put, he loved the law. And he loved the people of his community. You couldn't ask for a finer combination of passions in a Kentucky circuit court judge. The people of the Commonwealth were blessed to have him.

Elaine and I extend our deepest sympathies to the judge's family, especially his wife, Zona; his son, James; his daughters, Lucinda, Suzanne, Andrea, and Sarah; his grandchildren, Jack, Jeb, and Beau; his brother, R.C.; his sister, Delores; and many other friends and family members. The judge was preceded in death by his sister, Norma Jean.

At this time, Mr. President, I would like to ask my Senate colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of the Honorable Judge James G. Weddle. The people of Kentucky are the better for his many years of service.

A newspaper in my home State, the Casey County News, published an excellent article highlighting the Judge's life and career, as well as his obituary. I ask unanimous consent that said materials be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the materials were ordered to appear as follows:

[From the Casey County News, Apr. 18, 2012]
JUDGE WEDDLE REMEMBERED—CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE DIES DAYS AFTER ANNOUNCING RETIREMENT

(By Larry Rowell)

A Casey County native who devoted his life to his family, the law, and to the people of Casey County has died after an extended illness.

Casey Circuit Court Judge James G. Weddle died in the early morning hours of April 11 at home surrounded by family members. He was 71.

Just a few days before, Weddle had announced that he was retiring May 1 from the 29th Judicial Circuit, which included Casey and Adair counties.

Weddle was serving his second eight-year term, having first been elected in 1998.

Prior to serving as a circuit judge, Weddle became an attorney in 1966 after graduating from the University of Kentucky School of Law. He served as Casey County Attorney for 16 years and also in private practice.

Fellow judges and attorneys had nothing but high praise for Weddle and a legal career that spanned more than 45 years.

"I have known Judge Weddle for many years and he was distinguished by his dedication to his work. No other judge I know anywhere worked harder with a completeness and constancy of his work," said Chief Justice John Minton of the Kentucky Supreme Court.

Casey and Adair County Commonwealth's Attorney Brian Wright prosecuted many cases before Weddle.

"I had a lot of respect for Judge Weddle, especially for his legal mind. He devoted his life to the legal profession," Wright said.

Also, Weddle was known for his vast knowledge of legal cases and his ability to cite cases without ever pulling a law book off the shelf.

"He read books, books, and books, and articles on the Internet. He didn't golf or hunt or fish. His life was the law," Wright said.

Still, Weddle was known for being a fair judge who had an open mind.

"It was never his way or the highway when it came to the law," said Janelle "Tootsie" Roberts, who served as Weddle's secretary for 22 years.

Wright said that in one particular case he was trying before Weddle, he was able to show the judge a prior case that changed the way he thought about it.

"He was always open to something new," Wright said.

Roberts said that in addition to loving the law, Weddle also was a history buff who had a knack for remembering dates and events.

"Judge Weddle loved history and sometimes in court he would ask, Today is December 7, can anyone tell me what happened on that date?" Roberts said.

And there was another belief that Minton, Wright, and Roberts shared about Weddle his love for the people of Casey County.

"In the last conversation that I had with Judge Weddle where he told me he was going

to resign, he told me how important his work was to him and how reluctant he was to give it up. He kept thinking he was going to get better," Minton said.

"I hate to lose dedicated people like Judge Weddle. It's a loss to the state and to the counties he served. And, he loved Casey County," Minton said.

A memorial service for Weddle was held on Monday. A complete obituary can be found on page 4.

THE HONORABLE JAMES G. WEDDLE

Judge James G. Weddle passed away on Wednesday, April 11, 2012, at his residence. He was born on March 21, 1941, in Liberty, Kentucky, and was 71. James was the son of the late Rupert Christopher Weddle and Laura Jane Price Weddle and a Circuit Judge of the 29th Judicial Circuit of Kentucky. He was preceded in death by one sister; Norma Jean Weddle Murphy.

Survivors include his spouse, Zona Ellis Weddle; one son, James Bryan Weddle of Lexington, Kentucky; four daughters, Lucinda Jane Weddle (and Rick Grodesky) of Seattle, Washington, Suzanne Weddle (and Richard Webster) of Kansas City, Missouri, Andrea Weddle of Oakland, California, and Sarah Jean Weddle South (and Alex South) of Spring Lake, North Carolina; three grandchildren, Jack, Jeb, and Beau South; one brother, R.C. (and Alma Vida) Weddle of Liberty, Kentucky; and one sister, Delores (and Gerald) Sasser of Louisville, Kentucky.

Visitation will be from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Sunday evening April 15, 2012, at the Bartle Funeral Home Chapel. Memorial Services officiated by the Reverend Jimmy Brown will begin at 2:00 p.m. Monday afternoon, April 16, 2012, at the Bartle Funeral Home Chapel.

The family requests in lieu of flowers please send memorials to the Duke Children's Hospital and Health Care, P.O. Box 2975 c/o Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina 27710, or make a gift to your favorite charity.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.Bartlefuneralhomes.com. Bartle Funeral Home is in charge of all arrangements.

OBSERVING ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, this is a week to bear witness. Today, April 24, we mark Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day—the day on which we remind one another of the organized campaign of deportation, expropriation, starvation—and atrocity perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire against its Armenian population, beginning with the detention and eventual execution of hundreds of Armenian community members on April 24, 1915, just as, a few days ago, we marked Holocaust Remembrance Day, bearing witness to the attempt by Nazi Germany to destroy Europe's Jewish population.

Why do we mark these days? Because in recognizing and condemning the horror of these acts, we affirm our own humanity, we ensure that the victims of these atrocities will not be forgotten, and we warn those who believe they can perpetrate similar crimes with impunity that they will not escape the world's notice. We remind ourselves that we must never again allow such mass assaults against human decency without acting to stop them. And we

mark these atrocities because only by acknowledging the violence and inhumanity can we begin the process of reconciling populations who even today are haunted by the damage done decades ago.

The Ottoman campaign against the Armenians resulted in the deaths of over 1.5 million people. Large numbers of Armenians fled their homeland to seek safety elsewhere, including in Michigan and other communities in the United States. Some have sought to deny that these events constituted genocide, but the historical record is clear and undeniable. I ask any who deny the historical reality of the Armenian genocide to read "Giants of the Earth," the moving memoir of native Detroiters Mitch Kehetian and his search for the fate of beloved family members during the tragedy.

It is important for us to remember that these atrocities were not committed by the Republic of Turkey. I hope that the governments of Turkey and Armenia, encouraged by the good will of the community of nations, can heal the divisions that remain from long-ago events that nonetheless remain painful. We should also remember that Turkey played a valuable role in supporting the international community's efforts to free Libya from dictatorship and value the role Turkey is playing today in helping to resolve the tragedy unfolding in neighboring Syria.

It is doubly tragic that the Armenian genocide is now seen as the beginning of a decades-long series of mass atrocities. The inability or unwillingness of the international community to come to the aid of the Armenians emboldened others—including Adolph Hitler, who told his commanders on the eve of the invasion of Poland, "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?" And so, he launched the Holocaust, ending the lives of six million Jews simply because they were Jewish.

All people would like to believe that they live in a more enlightened age, one in which we have overcome the inhumanity of the past. And yet our own time is not immune from mass atrocity. Recent events in Libya and Syria, to name just two, remind us that violence, oppression, and disregard for human rights remain with us.

Just as mass atrocity is still with us, so are human courage and the determination to stand against atrocity. When the international community came together to support the people of Libya against the oppressive Libyan regime, we helped accomplish something important and powerful for Libyans, but beyond that, we sent a message to other dictators that they might not escape a response from the international community.

I say "might not" because we still have a long way to go as a world community in confronting murderous dictators. The current regime in Syria is engaged in a campaign of attack and

intimidation against its own people. The examples of history make clear the international community's obligation to speak out and to take action. It is unfortunate that nations in a position to do so, such as China and Russia, have blocked the United Nations from taking stronger steps. The United States and its allies must now seek to implement additional steps to protect innocent civilians and hold the Assad regime in Syria accountable, including the possibility of establishing safe havens along the border with Turkey.

While we mark these historic crimes, it is also important to recognize signs of progress. It is significant that the United States is now taking what promises to be not just a stronger approach to mass atrocities, but a more effective one. A presidential directive signed by President Obama last August states clearly: "Preventing mass atrocities and genocide is a core national security interest and a core moral responsibility of the United States of America." And yesterday, the President announced that he will implement the recommendations resulting from a comprehensive review of U.S. policy with regard to mass atrocity.

The creation of an Atrocity Prevention Board will ensure that prevention of these human tragedies is a focus of U.S. policy, a national security interest we will pursue, bringing all appropriate elements of American policy and power to bear. Importantly, U.S. policy recognizes that military action is not our only means to prevent mass atrocity, and that every aspect of our international involvement—intelligence, diplomacy, economic and development policy, as well as, when called for, military power—can be called upon.

We cannot prevent the madness that, even in our era, too often leads to unspeakable crimes. But we can remember. We can speak out. And we can act, with the range of instruments at our disposal, to prevent those in the forefront of such madness from acting on their inhuman schemes. May Americans never forget the genocide visited upon the Armenians we remember today. And may our collective memories always remind us of our responsibility to prevent atrocity in our own time.

TIBET

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I want to draw the Senate's attention to the ongoing, intensifying and intolerable oppression occurring in Tibet.

Over the past year, at least 32 Tibetans, most of them young men and women, have set themselves on fire to protest Chinese policies that are infringing on Tibetan self-governance, cultural traditions and religious beliefs and practices. Of them, it is believed that at least 23 have died. Eleven have self-immolated in the past 2 months alone. These incidents do not represent a temporary deviation from a peaceful norm but are instead the latest response to a tragic, and unfortunately