

agreement we created the cliff to encourage. This will not be the bipartisan, long-term debt reduction agreement this country needs.

So much is beginning to turn right in our economy. Housing prices are doing better, unemployment is down. We see manufacturing picking up again. The big problem the American economy has is right here in Washington, our inability to get together across party lines to bring our country back into fiscal balance and to show the country and the world we have a political system that is capable of fixing our problems.

Earlier this year, Bob Carr, the Foreign Minister of Australia, one of our greatest allies in the world, said: "The United States is one budget deal away from restoring its global preeminence."

"The United States is one budget deal away from restoring its global preeminence." Perhaps because I am so proud of this country, I would say we are one budget deal away from restoring our global dominance for a considerable number of years.

Unfortunately, after—I hope and I pray we adopt the result of negotiations going on now and avoid the fiscal cliff—we will still be one grand bargain budget deal away from restoring our global preeminence. That work has to be done, but at least we will have avoided the cliff.

By a twist of fate, the occupant of the chair is my colleague and friend, the Senator from Connecticut. You have probably seen these numbers, but just to bring it home for one State, what will be the impact if we allow the country to go over the fiscal cliff in Connecticut: 1.4 million middle-class families will see their Federal income taxes increase, almost 1.5 million families.

If the middle-class tax cuts are allowed to expire on January 1, a median-income Connecticut family—now I know the median in Connecticut is higher than it is in most other States, but this number is true for any family making this amount of money. It makes an important point.

A family of four earning \$86,000 a year happens to be the median family income in Connecticut. But that family, which I think would be considered median just about everywhere, middle income just about everywhere, would see its Federal income taxes rise by \$2,200. That is a lot of money for a family of four paying a mortgage, paying for food, probably paying something for education for their children, maybe college—too much.

Another Connecticut number is 680,000 additional Connecticut taxpayers will be hit by the alternative minimum tax. It is amazing when we think about that. Those are going to be middle-class families who will be hit by that. Also, 120,000 Connecticut taxpayers will no longer get a tuition tax credit to help pay for college because that too will expire if we don't do something about it. There are 340,000

Connecticut families raising children who will see an average tax increase of \$1,000 as they lose access to the child tax credit.

The earned-income tax credit, which was something adopted during the 1990s—which I was proud to be part of—is also set to expire on January 1. That is for—when I say lower working families, some might call them lower middle income, gives them a break that they need.

In the most recent year for which we have numbers, almost 43,000 Connecticut working families received important benefits from the earned-income tax credit, and they would lose it.

The national numbers are 2.1 million people long-term unemployed who will see their unemployment checks end. We are setting them adrift. In Connecticut, that means 33,600 Connecticut individuals will lose unemployment benefits under the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Program.

I met with a group of these folks recently, and I know a lot of these people are white-collar people. Some of them are in their middle years of life, and they lost their jobs in companies that were hit by the recession. They are having an impossible time finding new employment, and, believe me, they are working so hard to try to get it—33,600 of them would be set adrift without unemployment benefits if we go over the fiscal cliff.

One estimate by the National Economic Council is that there would be \$2.5 billion less in consumer spending in Connecticut, and that is basically because tax hikes will take a bite out of middle-class budgets and, frankly, some people will lose their jobs. I am afraid they will lose their jobs in many industries, including the defense industry, which remains a foundation, as the acting chair knows, of our State's economy. The NEC also estimates that we would have 1.1 percent slower growth in the Connecticut economy with the attendant harmful results of that.

I could go on and on. Title I would be forced to serve about 9,300 fewer Connecticut children. We would get \$5.6 million less in funding low-income home energy assistance payments to people in our State who heat with oil, and on and on and on.

This is all my way of coming back to the point I made at the beginning and why I am encouraged by the statements President Obama and Senator McConnell made this afternoon that we are close to an agreement, close to a deal.

I don't agree, I say again, that no deal is better than a bad deal. In this case of the fiscal cliff, no deal is the worst deal possible for the American people.

We passed the time when we are going to, before tonight, negotiate the comprehensive bipartisan debt reduction agreement our country desperately needs. The least we can do is protect the constituents who were good

enough to send us here from the worst possible result, which is that we let the country go over the cliff. We have proved that to everybody, including people around the world who depend on American strength and watch us, that our political system has become absolutely dysfunctional.

So I hope the negotiations going on now end with an agreement, and I hope we will pass it with a bipartisan majority, a strong bipartisan majority in the Senate and the House. I certainly will support it from all I hear about it myself.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Indiana.

TRIBUTES TO RETIRING SENATORS

JOE LIEBERMAN

Mr. COATS. Mr. President I wish to thank my friend, my long-time friend whom I hate to see leave this body, Senator LIEBERMAN from Connecticut, for his remarks.

I didn't have the opportunity to speak after he gave his farewell remarks. I do wish to say, before I get into the reason I came down here—I am happy to see him here so I can say this—it has been a joy to serve with him over the years.

I am in my second life in the Senate, and during my first life we served together on the Armed Services Committee. We did a number of initiatives together on which I was proud to be associated with him, that I believe strengthened our national economy and our security team around the world. We worked on school vouchers for DC and a number of other initiatives affecting the future of our military and other issues that were of importance to us.

Most important, from my standpoint, we worked together to bring values that each of us cherish based on our faith. JOE is of the Jewish faith, and I am of the Christian faith. We discovered on a trip to Iraq, just after Desert Storm, that we, in talking to each other, shared our respective faiths and how it affected our lives, how it affected our families, and how it helped us form decisions we make. Of course, coming from two different parties, we didn't find agreement on everything, but we found agreement on a number of things, particularly those things where we shared common values, where our faith shared common values and where individually we shared those values.

Under the direction of a rabbi from Chicago we cochaired the Center for Jewish and Christian Values, bringing

together Jews and Christians to talk about what they had in common and what values we could work together on for the betterment of our country and for the betterment of our society. Too often we bring groups together of different persuasions to discuss, argue, and debate the differences. This was different because we brought these groups together, distinguished leaders from both sides, prominent leaders from both sides, to set aside those differences and work to find those values we had in common. It was a joy to participate in that with Senator LIEBERMAN and to cochair that.

We have remained friends. His contributions to our country, not just representing a State but representing America around the world, will long be remembered and will have great impact and effect. We are losing a real talent, and we are losing a real gentleman. We are losing someone who is an example of how he conducts himself and is an example for all of us as to how we ought to conduct ourselves, and we don't always do that.

But JOE LIEBERMAN has left a lasting impression on me—and I know a number of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle—and he will be sorely missed.

One thing I am happy about is that we will continue a lifelong friendship, and I am looking forward to many more opportunities for Senator LIEBERMAN to work on matters of interest but will enjoy a continued sharing of the commonalities of our Judeo-Christian faiths.

KENT CONRAD

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize my colleague KENT CONRAD for his many years of distinguished service and leadership on behalf of our country and the people of North Dakota. It has been such an honor for me to serve with KENT as my neighboring Senator these last 6 years.

I like to kid with KENT that it seems like North Dakota is always in the middle of some kind of drought or flood or other natural disaster. There's actually a joke I once told him about how you can spot a tourist from North Dakota in the middle of a beach in Florida. It's easy—they are the ones putting all the sand in sandbags.

But jokes aside, KENT has been truly tireless in his work to improve our current flood prevention measures and to ensure North Dakota has the tools it needs to prepare for and recover from natural disasters.

As anyone who has worked with him on the Agriculture Committee knows, he has also been an outstanding advocate for our Nation's farmers, ranchers, and rural communities. KENT has consistently led efforts to strengthen the sugar program, which is critical to sugar beet growers in States like North Dakota and Minnesota. He played a key role in crafting both the 2002 and 2008 Farm Bills, and he was a driving force in getting the 2012 Farm Bill drafted and passed out of the Senate on a strong bipartisan vote in June.

So there is no question that KENT's expertise on farm policy will be sorely missed. As Congressman COLLIN PETERSON likes to say, "There are only 11 people who truly understand how the complex farm payment programs work. And ten of them are in North Dakota." Well, with KENT retiring I guess there will only be nine.

Whether it's standing up for farmers or fighting floods or saving the Minot military base, KENT has touched and improved the lives of people in every corner of North Dakota. At the national level, he has been an outspoken leader on the issue of debt reduction and has consistently advocated for policies that benefit the middle class.

It would be impossible to do full justice to Kent's legacy in a single statement, so instead I will simply say this: North Dakota is better off because of KENT CONRAD's leadership, and so is our country. Senator, thank you for all of the friendship, wisdom and support you have shown me over the years. You will be missed, but I know that even in retirement you will continue to find ways to improve our great country and work for the people of North Dakota.

HERB KOHL

Mr. President, I wish to recognize my colleague HERB KOHL for his many years of distinguished service and leadership on behalf of our country and the people of Wisconsin.

It has been an incredible honor for me to serve with HERB as neighboring Senators these last 6 years. He is a statesman in the truest sense of the term, not to mention one of the most genuinely kind and steadfast public servants of our time. This is the reason he is so admired in the Senate, and it is how he came to be known as one of the most beloved and respected public figures in the State of Wisconsin.

Like HERB, my mom was born and raised in Milwaukee. I have many fond memories of visiting Wisconsin and can personally attest to how loved and respected HERB KOHL is throughout the State. People know him for the jobs he created as a businessman. They know him for the scholarship program created in his name. And of course, they know him for the way he "saved basketball" by keeping the Bucks in Milwaukee. But above all, people know HERB for his consistent record of putting Wisconsin first.

From strengthening Wisconsin's manufacturing sector and keeping jobs in the State to improving the MILC program and better supporting our dairy farmers, HERB has touched and improved the lives of people across Wisconsin and throughout the Midwest. At the national level, he has earned a reputation as a masterful policymaker with a quiet, commonsense approach to legislating that is the stuff of Senate legend. But don't be fooled by HERB's even keel.

When it comes to protecting consumers and standing up for the middle class, few people are as fiercely committed as HERB KOHL. As chair of the

Antitrust Subcommittee, he has been a truly tireless champion for consumer rights and competition policy. I've seen this firsthand, while working with him on legislation to crack down on captive shipping in the rail industry and to restrict the so-called pay-to-delay deals that keep affordable prescription drugs off the market.

Senator KOHL, it would be impossible to do full justice to your legacy in a single statement. So instead I will simply say this: Wisconsin is better off because of your leadership, and so is our country. Thank you for all of the friendship, wisdom and support you have shown me over the years. You will be missed, but I know that even in retirement you will continue to find ways to improve our great country and work for the people of Wisconsin.

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Mr. President, I wish to recognize my colleague KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON for her many years of distinguished service and leadership on behalf of our country and the great State of Texas.

Over the course of her 19 years in the Senate, KAY has earned a reputation for being one of Washington's hardest-working and most masterful policy makers. I've seen this firsthand, while working with her on a number of different issues over the years.

During the debate over Wall Street reform, KAY and I teamed up on legislation that helped keep the lights on at over 600 community banks in Minnesota and over 2,000 in the State of Texas. We also worked together to update and improve our Federal anti-stalking laws, making it easier for law enforcement to crack down on high-tech predators using devices like spyware and video surveillance. In both cases, I was impressed with KAY's ability to reach across the aisle and find commonsense solutions.

No matter what the issue, KAY has always stood up for the people of her State. She has been a strong and consistent voice for the people of Texas, but I also think it's important to recognize her role as a pioneer for women.

I will never forget a story KAY once told me, about how she was one of just seven women in her law school class and couldn't find a job at any of the all-male Houston law firms when she graduated. So instead, she took a job covering the Texas State Legislature for a local TV station.

KAY clearly caught the political bug, because it was just a few years later that she ran for a seat in the Texas House of Representatives. When she won, she became the first Republican woman ever elected to that body. She shattered another glass ceiling in 1993, when she became the first woman to represent Texas in the Senate. It was a milestone for women everywhere from the Lone Star State to the North Star State.

When I was running for the Senate in Minnesota in 2006, only two women had run before me and both of them had lost. This came up during my campaign

when reporters would ask me, "Can a woman win in Minnesota?" My response? Of course. A woman won in Texas.

So even before I knew KAY personally, I was inspired by her story and by everything she had accomplished. Senator, thank you for all of the friendship, wisdom and support you have shown me over the years. You will be missed, but I know that even in retirement you will continue to find ways to improve our great country and give back to the people of the State you love so much.

BEN NELSON

Mr. President, I wish to recognize my colleague BEN NELSON for his many years of distinguished service and leadership on behalf of our country and the people of Nebraska.

It has been an honor to serve with BEN over the past 6 years. He is a true statesman and a champion for the people of Nebraska. During his time in the Senate, BEN has earned a reputation as a pragmatist who values problem-solving over partisanship, and I have admired his sensible, commonsense approach to legislating.

BEN seemed to be destined for public service from an early age, winning his first election at the age of 17, and he is known for his consistent record of putting Nebraska first. No matter what the issue, BEN has always stood up for his State and he has improved the lives of people across Nebraska. At a national level he has been a strong voice for fiscal responsibility and shared sacrifice.

Having grown up in a small town in Nebraska, BEN has never forgotten his roots. While serving on the Senate Agriculture Committee with BEN I saw firsthand his deep appreciation and respect for the farmers, outdoorsmen, and rural communities that are vital not just to our economy but to our way of life in the Midwest.

He was instrumental in crafting both the 2008 and the 2012 Farm Bills and he has been a clear and consistent advocate for homegrown energy, leading the way on policies to help our country achieve energy independence.

He has also been a champion for our men and women in uniform, helping to ensure that members of the Armed Forces and our veterans receive the support they need and deserve.

Senator NELSON, it would be impossible to do full justice to your legacy in a single statement. So instead let me simply say this: The State of Nebraska is better because of your leadership, and so is our country. You will be missed in the Senate, but given everything you accomplished before you were elected—as Governor of Nebraska and as a successful businessman—I know in your retirement you will continue to find ways to improve our great country and work for the people of Nebraska.

OLYMPIA SNOWE

Mr. President, I wish to recognize my colleague OLYMPIA SNOWE for her many

years of distinguished service and leadership on behalf of our country and the great State of Maine.

OLYMPIA has long been a friend and mentor to me. In fact, she was assigned to be my official Republican mentor in the Senate, and she has been a great one.

That was almost 6 years ago. So much has happened in that time, but throughout it all I have continued to be impressed with OLYMPIA's grace, composure and unfailing ability to find commonsense solutions. Time and again, she has reached across the aisle to put politics aside and get things done for the good of her State and the country.

In addition to being a voice for bipartisanship, OLYMPIA has earned a reputation as one of the Senate's most masterful policy makers. I've seen this firsthand, while working with her on a number of different issues over the years. OLYMPIA cosponsored my very first major bill in the Senate "Carbon Counter" legislation to reduce carbon emissions and combat global climate change.

I also had the pleasure of working with her to create an Airline "Passengers Bill of Rights," which was included in the 2011 FAA reauthorization bill and has led to a significant decrease in tarmac delays. And we joined forces again this year, on legislation aimed at addressing sexual assault in our military by improving the process for tracking and reviewing claims.

Working with OLYMPIA these last 6 years has been an incredible privilege for me. I've respected her as a policymaker, particularly for her work on national security and small business issues. I've admired her for her outspoken leadership and commonsense approach to legislating. And maybe most importantly, I've genuinely enjoyed her as a friend and a colleague—for her kindness, for her wisdom, and for her unfailing good nature.

OLYMPIA has been a truly outstanding voice for the State of Maine and a great leader for the people of this country. To say that she will be missed would be a tremendous understatement, but I know she will continue to find ways to improve our great country and give back to the State she loves so much. Thank you, Senator SNOWE. I wish you the best.

JOE LIEBERMAN

Mr. President, I wish to recognize my colleague JOE LIEBERMAN for his many years of distinguished service and leadership on behalf of our country and the people of Connecticut.

JOE will always have a special place in my heart. As many of my colleagues know, he was actually one of my professors in college. He gave me one of my first introductions to the political process through a seminar he taught on the subject of the national political parties. Interestingly enough, Senator SHERROD BROWN also took that same class just a few years earlier. Even more interesting is the fact that every-

one remembers what grade I got, but no one seems to recall what grade SHERROD got.

But I digress. Not many political science professors can say they've taught two concurrently serving U.S. Senators. JOE can, however, and I think that's an enormous tribute to his character and genuine zest for public policy. As one of his former students, I made a point of following his career over the years and always admired his political courage. But it never occurred to me that I might someday be serving alongside him in the Senate.

Working with JOE these last 6 years has been an incredible privilege for me. I've respected him as a policymaker, particularly for his work on national security and climate change. I've admired him for his outspoken leadership and commonsense approach to legislating. And maybe most importantly, I've genuinely enjoyed him as a friend and a colleague—for his kindness, for his wisdom, and for his famous sense of humor.

JOE LIEBERMAN has been a truly outstanding voice for the State of Connecticut and a great leader for the people of this country. To say that he will be missed would be a tremendous understatement, but I know he will continue to find ways to improve our great country and give back to the State he loves so much, even in retirement. Thank you, Senator LIEBERMAN. I wish you the best.

JIM WEBB

Mr. President, I wish to recognize my colleague JIM WEBB for his distinguished service and leadership on behalf of our country and the people of Virginia.

I will always have a special place in my heart for JIM WEBB, and that is because he and I were members of the same incoming class of Senators back in 2007. We ran for the Senate at the same time in 2006, and to this day I will never forget how he wore his son's old combat boots on the campaign trail. Day in and day out, no matter where he went, no matter what the weather, JIM was walking tall in those boots.

Since his very first days in office, JIM has been a tireless champion for our men and women in uniform. On day one, he introduced a 21st Century GI Bill to deliver the most comprehensive educational benefits since World War II. It led to legislation that was eventually signed into law, and it has made it possible for tens of thousands of post-9/11 troops and veterans to afford a college education.

While JIM is best known for his leadership on defense and military issues, he has also earned a reputation for being a problem solver who takes a commonsense, bipartisan approach to legislating. Time and again, JIM has reached across the aisle to put politics aside and get things done for the good of the country. He has been a clear and consistent voice for energy independence and a stalwart advocate for policies that benefit the middle class. As a

former prosecutor, I have greatly admired his work to improve our criminal justice system from top to bottom—not just by strengthening law enforcement, but by addressing systemic challenges of reentry and recidivism.

JIM, it would be impossible to do full justice to your legacy in a single statement. So instead allow me to end by saying this: The Commonwealth of Virginia is better because of your leadership, and so is our country.

You will be missed in the Senate, but given everything you accomplished before you were elected—as Secretary of the Navy, as an Emmy award-winning journalist, as the author of nine books—I'm confident you will find some way to occupy your time in retirement. I know you will continue to find ways to improve our great country and give back to the State you love so much. Thank you, Senator WEBB. I wish you the best.

SCOTT BROWN

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to express my gratitude to SCOTT BROWN, with whom I have enjoyed the privilege of serving for the past 3 years. During that time, Senator BROWN and I served together on the Homeland Security and Government Services Committee, which I have chaired, as well as the Senate Armed Services Committee, where he and I have worked closely together as chairman and ranking member.

Senator BROWN's life story is a testament to our power to overcome any obstacle. His aptly titled memoir, "Against All Odds," describes how despite suffering through a childhood in which he had to steal in order to help feed his sister and in which he was the victim of abuse, he rose to attend college and law school, serve in the Army National Guard, and eventually be elected to the U.S. Senate. Senator BROWN should be a role model to every young American who looks at themselves in the mirror and wonders whether they can overcome the obstacles in their path, because he has.

Senator BROWN has been an invaluable Member of the Senate and the committees on which he has served, lending a voice of reason in an ever more partisan time. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator BROWN played a critical role in the debate on whether to repeal the military's don't ask, don't tell policy, grilling witnesses at the committee's hearings on the issue throughout the year. Senator BROWN was forthright in his view that the law should not be changed until Congress fully understood any possible risks associated with acting on the issue, but after he had studied the report issued by the Defense Department's working group tasked with reviewing the issue, he lent his strong voice in support of repeal. For that, I am grateful, as are the tens of thousands of gay and lesbian servicemembers who no longer serve under the threat of separation because of who they are.

In the 112th Congress, Armed Services Committee's Subcommittee on Airland, he and I were responsible for overseeing the tactical aviation and land power programs of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. It was a great pleasure working with SCOTT on these important matters, and I always benefitted from his experience as a guardsman when reviewing these programs.

As a member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Senator BROWN fought for and achieved passage of the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act, STOCK Act, a bill that forbids Members of Congress and their staffs from profiting in any way from the information they obtain as part of the job that is not public. It is a testament to his service in the Senate that one of SCOTT BROWN's most notable accomplishments was a bill to uphold the standards of the ethical behavior of Congress. It was an honor to work with Senator BROWN on this important effort.

As ranking member on the Federal Financial Management Subcommittee, SCOTT BROWN joined his chairman, TOM CARPER, along with full committee ranking member SUSAN COLLINS and me to introduce the bipartisan 21st Century Postal Service Act, which the full Senate endorsed on April 25, 2012. This bill reflected many hours of tough negotiations in which SCOTT played a key role, and set out a balanced plan to get the Postal Service's finances back in order.

Senator SCOTT BROWN has enriched the work of the Senate and the lives of his colleagues over the past 3 years. He brought to the Senate not only his considerable talents but a great sense of humor, which was particularly helpful in the 3 tough years he was here. I wish him and his family all the best as he opens a new chapter of his own life and know that he will continue to serve our country in ways that really matter.

THE FISCAL CLIFF

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I came to the floor before I heard the announcement that apparently we are closing in, thankfully, on something which I don't have all the details of as yet. So I can't simply say hooray, this is exactly what we ought to do. I think neither side is going to be able to say this is what we wanted to do.

But in recognition of the fact that we are careening now—hours are ticking—hours away from a devastating impact on Americans all across the country, every taxpayer—Senator LIEBERMAN announced the statistics relative to the impact on the average family in his State, and the same is true for Indiana and for all 50 States, to impose the massive tax increases which will occur on every taxpayer at midnight tonight, without addressing that, it is just simply unacceptable.

It is hard for a lot of us to swallow how little we did in addressing the

larger fiscal issue in this country in order to get past this imposed deadline on something I did not vote for and did not support because I could see it coming to this end, and it was absolutely the wrong way to legislate and the wrong way to govern—pushing us toward this fiscal cliff, laying that dark cloud of uncertainty over every business in America, every household in America.

Everyone who had any interest in investing or was trying to plan for the future kept saying: I can't make a decision. I can't make plans. I don't know what you are going to do. Are we going over the cliff? Are my taxes going to rise? Are regulations going to increase? What is the future? And if the future remains uncertain, I can't plan ahead. If it is bad certainty, I can work around it. I might not like it, but I can make the adjustments necessary.

So, as a result, we have a stagnant economy as a result of all this.

I am hoping that when we learn the details of what we have finally arrived at, which we will be learning very shortly, I am hoping it is something we can swallow hard and accept, knowing—knowing—this fiscal cliff is nothing compared to the real fiscal cliff. The real fiscal cliff is the continued excessive borrowing and spending of over \$1 trillion a year that is driving this country into a serious fiscal situation for the future. And it is not just something our children and grandchildren are going to have to pay for years down the line. It is something we are all paying for now. It is something that is keeping people from getting back to work, keeping companies from expanding.

We have an obligation to our generation and all future generations to address what I believe every American who is paying any attention whatsoever understands—and certainly everyone in this body and in our corresponding House down the hall understands, whether they are a Republican, a Democrat, liberal, or conservative—is just simple math. It is not even algebra or calculus. It is third grade math. You cannot raise \$2.2 trillion a year and spend \$3.5 trillion or \$3.4 trillion. Literally, we have now added approaching \$6 trillion in just the last 4 years, and it is unsustainable. That is going to hurt everybody, and it is hurting our economy right now. That is the real cliff. That is the cliff we have to continue to address. That is the cliff we were hoping to address in the leverage of this situation, but we are coming up very, very short.

Mr. President, I didn't realize we were under a time limitation. Are we under a time limitation?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MANCHIN). The Senator has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. COATS. All right. I thank the Chair. I saw some angst on the face of the Chair, and I thought my time was up.

Let me just say this to my colleagues. Many of us who watched the