

With a great deal of honor and respect, I extend a hearty Montana welcome to each and every one of them. Together they will visit the World War II Memorial and share stories about their service. This journey will no doubt bring about a lot of memories, and I hope it will give them a deep sense of pride as well.

What they achieved together seven decades ago was remarkable. The memorial is a testament to the fact a grateful nation will never forget what they did or what they sacrificed. To us, they are the "greatest generation." They left the comforts of their family and their communities to confront evil from Iwo Jima to Bastogne.

Together they won the war in the Pacific by defeating an empire and liberating the continent by destroying Hitler and the Nazis. To them, they were simply doing their jobs. They enlisted in unprecedented numbers to defend our freedoms and our values. They represented the very best of us and made us proud. From a young age, I remember playing the bugle at the memorial services of veterans of the first two World Wars. It instilled in me a profound sense of respect which will be with me forever.

Honoring the service of every generation of American veterans is a Montana value. I deeply appreciate the work of the Big Sky Honor Flight, the nonprofit organization which made this trip possible.

To the World War II veterans making the trip, I salute you and welcome you to our Nation's Capital. We will always be grateful, and we will never forget your service or your sacrifice.

I yield the floor, and 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. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TESTER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask to speak as in morning business for up to 6 minutes.

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

FAIR MINIMUM WAGE ACT

Mr. BROWN. Seventy-five years ago, President Roosevelt signed the Fair Labor Standards Act. This legislation, proposed by Senator Hugo Black in 1932, ultimately ensured American workers would receive a minimum wage, reasonable work hours, and an end to child labor.

President Roosevelt led our country out of the worst economic climate we have ever faced. He led us to decades of prosperity by ensuring hard work in our Nation is met with two fundamental American rights—fair wages and decent working conditions.

In the 20th century, the minimum wage lifted millions of Americans from

poverty and allowed them to begin the step toward joining the middle class. In the 21st century a fair livable minimum wage can continue moving our country forward.

Even as corporate executives and Wall Street banks are earning record profits, too many families are struggling. Americans who work hard and play by the rules should be able to take care of their families. Too many people in my home State, in places such as Youngstown, Lorain, Portsmouth, and Norwood are working harder than ever and barely getting by.

Nearly 1.3 million Ohioans in places such as Chillicothe and Mansfield work in a minimum wage job. Working full time in a minimum wage job in Ohio pays about \$16,000 per year because our minimum wage is a bit higher. The Federal minimum wage today pays only \$15,000 per year, \$3,000 below the poverty level for a family of three.

It is not much to live on for families trying to put food on the table, fill a gas tank, send their children to school or provide a safe place for them to live. The minimum wage in this country should be a livable wage.

This is why I am fighting to pass the Fair Minimum Wage Act. It would raise the minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour in three 95-cent increments, then provide for automatic annual increases linked to changes in the cost of living.

The bill would also gradually raise the minimum wage for tipped workers for the first time in 20 years. The tip minimum wage now stands at \$2.13 an hour. This bill would increase it to 70 percent of the regular minimum wage.

More than 1.2 million people in Ohio would receive a raise because of our bill. Millions of people around the country in places such as Helena, Butte, and Billings would have an increase in their standard of living.

The vast majority of minimum wage earners, despite what some in this body say—some 88 percent—are adult workers. They are not 16- and 17-year-old high school students. They are 18 and above, with many of them supporting families. More than half are women.

Eighteen million children, nearly one-quarter of all American children, have parents who would receive a raise. Over the past 2 weeks, I have met with people in my home State who earn low wages, and I listened to their stories.

Ms. Walter, a server from Youngstown in northeast Ohio, struggled to raise three boys as a single mother.

Ms. Day, a cake decorator from Bowling Green, works two jobs because the salary of one isn't enough to provide for her two children. She says she doesn't need a lot but just a little more.

This bill matters. It matters for the grandmother who works an evening shift at a restaurant to enable her to care for her grandchildren during the day. It matters for the elder care worker who takes two buses to work, and it matters for all of the working-class families who work hard and play by the

rules. It is not only about the families who will be directly affected.

Increasing the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour will also help the economy. It will increase GDP by more than \$30 billion over the course of 3 years as workers spend their raises in local businesses and communities. Opponents to the increase in minimum wage say people will not hire; it will cost jobs.

It is actually the opposite. This economic activity created by more spending in communities as a result of more money in minimum wage earners' pockets would generate 140,000 new jobs over these 3 years. This is why business owners support raising the minimum wage.

The owners of Brothers Printing and Synergistic Systems in the Cleveland area both pay their workers more than the minimum wage. It means they have less turnover. It means their workers have a better standard of living, and it helps their community. They do this because it is the right thing to do. It helps them keep their best employees and strengthens their businesses and their commitment. Plain and simple, ensuring a fair wage is good for America's families. It is good for America's economy.

I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWN). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived with respect to the cloture motion on the motion to proceed to calendar No. 41, S. 743, and that the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed occur at 5:30 p.m., Monday, April 22, 2013.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

CONGRATULATING MAYOR BOB BUTLER

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, fifty years ago, when Bob Butler was sworn in as mayor of Marion, IL, the town was literally on fire.

Just outside city hall, one of the largest fires in the city's history was raging.

It may not have been, as Mayor Butler has described it, an "auspicious"

start I will go a little farther and call it what it was: a baptism by fire. But through his five decades of thoughtful leadership, he has always been devoted to the city he loves and has never stopped working to improve the lives of its residents.

During his time as mayor, the local population has increased, area businesses have grown, and the economy has expanded.

And along the way, some have reported, Bob Butler became the longest-serving currently active mayor in America.

After first being elected, a fire wasn't the only problem he had to deal with he also had to dig the city out of financial trouble.

Under Mayor Butler's guidance, Marion got itself back in the black and began building a platform to allow for future growth.

And then, a few years later, another disaster hit. A tornado tore through the city, killing 10 and injuring hundreds including the Mayor and leaving tens of millions of dollars of damage.

After crawling out of his car, which had been thrown 300 feet and turned upside down, Mayor Butler showed the sort of resilience we don't see much anymore and dove headfirst into recovery efforts.

His efforts, along with those of many others, helped lead to a boom in economic and residential development that we still see effects of today.

Without Mayor Butler's leadership, Marion would look very different than it does now. His touch can be seen on everything from the civic center to the city's businesses to the local minor league team, the Miners.

His leadership helped guide Marion through many trying experiences, and the city's voters kept their faith in Bob Butler. He has served them well each and every year.

Despite all of his hard work and his clear record of results, Mayor Butler has always remained humble.

He may be mayor, but he always gives credit to the people of Marion for their city's success.

This week, the people of Marion are gave some credit back to Mayor Butler.

They honored his five decades of good work with a life-size bronze statue at the site where that fire once raged so many years ago—in Tower Square, just across from city hall.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mayor Butler and his family for this impressive achievement and wish him the best when he enters retirement at the end of this term.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR JOSEPH R. JORDAN

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, in my hometown and in cities and towns across this country, houses of worship and the men and women who lead them care for the spiritual needs of our people. But they do more. They are pillars of neighborhoods. They minister to the

sick in body or spirit. They feed the hungry. They help resolve the lamentable but all-too-human divisions in our communities.

This has been the role of Corinthian Baptist Church in Hamtramck, MI, and its pastor, the Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Jordan, who will in a few days be honored for leadership and community spirit. Under Pastor Jordan's leadership, Corinthian Baptist has been a rock for its community. Pastor Jordan is a thoughtful and respected shepherd of his flock. He and the church are actively engaged in community service, helping to fight hunger and sickness in Hamtramck and Detroit. His service and leadership include serving on the board of trustees of Henry Ford Health System, one of the Nation's largest medical service providers.

Pastor Jordan has been a tireless seeker of justice. Nothing exemplifies this better than his long years of work and advocacy to help resolve a housing discrimination case that dates back to the 1960s, the resolution of which has taken decades. Pastor Jordan and others never gave up on their community or on the idea of justice, and thanks to the hard work of many, and despite significant challenges, the case has been resolved.

I should note that I am among the many who have benefitted from Pastor Jordan's wisdom and leadership. Over the years, I have valued his friendship and his counsel. And so I am pleased that the city of Hamtramck will, on April 28, rename a section of Caniff Street, including the block on which Corinthian Baptist sits. It will be known as Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Jordan Street. I join Pastor Jordan's many friends in congratulating him for this honor, and I personally thank him for his decades of service to his church and his community.

WORLD WAR II VETERANS VISIT

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise to recognize a very important event that will be occurring this Sunday and Monday. About 90 World War II veterans from Montana will take part in the "Big Sky Honor Flight," and come to Washington, D.C. to visit their monument—the WWII Memorial.

Their trip is hosted by the Big Sky Honor Flight program. The mission is to recognize American Veterans for their sacrifices and achievements by flying them to Washington, D.C., to see their memorials at no cost. The program, which has already sent 184 Montana veterans to visit the memorials, is generously funded by businesses, student groups, and folks all across Montana.

These veterans come from all parts of our great State, and while they are in Washington, they will see the WWII Memorial and other monuments, enjoy a banquet honoring their service to the country, and fly home the next day.

This is a special two days for this group of heroes, but it is also a time to

give thanks for the courage and sacrifice of all our veterans and service-members. It is a time to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who fought on the front in Europe, on the battlefields of Korea, in the jungles of Vietnam, the deserts of Iraq, and those who are currently fighting in the mountains of Afghanistan. We must not forget their sacrifices.

I am so pleased I will be able to meet with these courageous Montanans. I ask the Senate to join me in welcoming these heroes to our Nation's capital this weekend. They are:

Robert E Anderson, George P Ardelean, William Bakker, Lorraine F Blank, Roy Boettger, Charles E Brickman, Richard A Caruso, Edward B Campen, Roy F Cattrell, Robert W Cook, Donald P Culliton, Louis J Day, Roy S Dimond, Raymond V Drake, Marvin Duncan, Theodore E Eklund, Joseph Fahn, Everitt D Foust, Leo C Fowler, Robert M Frankforter, Colin Glasgow, Maurice Graham, Joseph Hartman, John Hepler, Rudolph Hergenrider, Russell S Hodge, Vance Holbrook, William C Howard, Amy Johnson, Robert C Johnston, Bruce D Jones, Jack Jurgens, Gertrude Kalan, Lester L Kath, Joseph C King III, Robert Kinyon, Gordon Kirkwood, Donald B Koeppen, Henry J Kornegay, Howard Largent, Raymond Leone, Robert L Lubbers, Pierre Mangen, Donald J Marshall, William Clayton, George R McMurray, Paul Milam, Irvin J Miller, William Mills, Richard Miner, Ruben F Oberlander, John M Richards, Ivory L Robinson, Gerald C Schlichenmayer, Kenneth Schneider, Ernest D Sells, Donald C Siers, George E Sexton, John St Germain, Paul Stengel, Harry K Stine, Myron J Stratton, Myron R Stutterheim, Kent T Swift, Margaret J Talmage, Everett V Tande, Agatha F Twist, James A Vick, Robert L Wagnitz, Robert E Willems, Andrew R Winter, William D Worth, Kenneth Baeth, Raymond A Bergstrom, James Kenaley, James J Bertrand, George A Moore, William Bug, Edgar E St John, Gordon P Slovrap, Donald Shay, Edmund M Bouchard, George L Schuyler, Elizabeth Riley, Raymond J Rae, Ralph Stone.

DOOLITTLE TOKYO RAIDERS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize David J. Thatcher, a remarkable Montanan and American. On April 18, 1942, Thatcher was one of 80 Doolittle Raiders who carried out the first air raid on Japan during World War II. The unit was named for their commander, Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle, who planned and led the mission that dealt a devastating psychological blow to the Japanese Empire in the wake of the Pearl Harbor attacks.

I ask my colleagues in the Senate to join me in honoring Mr. Thatcher and his comrades for their heroic deeds, carried out 71 years ago today.

Staff Sergeant Thatcher was born on July 31, 1921 in Bridger, MT and entered the Army in December 1940. He volunteered for the secret mission that later became known as the Doolittle Raid and was assigned as an engineer/gunner to Crew 7 of the "Ruptured Duck."

On April 18, 1942, the Doolittle Raiders launched their B-25 bombers off the USS *Hornet* aircraft carrier, 250 miles