

fact, the Small Business Administration has been going from State to State to State and providing people who will do free Web sites for people who attend a seminar on how to do online sales. I commend the Small Business Administration for doing that. I think it has helped a number of businesses that haven't been able to expand beyond the few thousand dollars they are selling in their own stores to increase their sales. We hope everybody gets to exceed \$1 million.

There is another part of that \$1 million that is kind of interesting. If you are a nursery—and we heard an example of a nursery last night—and you are doing big sales, the chances are pretty good some of those big sales are to other nurseries. If a product is sold to somebody else to be resold, there isn't a sales tax. So that wouldn't count in the \$1 million.

We did hear an example during the press conference of a contractor in a State and the other contractor got all his stuff online and from out of State and on a \$150,000 contract was able to undercut him by 10 percent. It was just a \$150,000 project—a category that small businessmen specialize in—but he was beat out by an out-of-State person who didn't pay sales tax on the products they were bringing into the State and using in construction.

So we do have a small seller exemption. There is also simplification in the bill, and I would be happy to go through that. We haven't had any suggestions for more simplification, at least from those who understand what the simplification is. One of the reasons that is fairly simple now is because computers have come a long way. I don't know how many people here have purchased something online, but when you do, you put in your address where you want something shipped, and when you go over to see what the bill is going to be, not only will there be the price of the product, but there will be a sales tax. In a number of States, people have volunteered to collect it, and for the number of people who have volunteered to collect it, we really appreciate that.

I cannot believe that Senator COLLINS' request to bring up an amendment that would allow a phase-in, that would give everybody extra time, would be objected to, but, as I said, when we checked we found out that everything is going to be objected to, which will bring us to a cloture vote.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I know the Senator from Louisiana is coming. When he comes, I will be through.

I say to the Senator from Wyoming who just said that apparently there is an intention to object to any amendment, just to review, we started Monday.

We could have started amendments Monday if there were no objection, but

there were objections, bipartisan objection.

On Tuesday we said that instead of going the full 30 hours of debate, let's give the time back and let's start the amendments. Bipartisan objection.

On Wednesday we brought up the bipartisan proposal of Senator BLUNT and Senator PRYOR to extend the moratorium on the Internet tax. There is already a moratorium on taxing the Internet. You cannot have it. That is the law. We were going to extend it for 10 years. Objection.

Then today Senator COLLINS and Senator KING say: Instead of implementing this in 6 months, let's do it in a year. Objection.

If it continues this way—and I say to the Senator from Wyoming, this is the way I figure the procedure—if there is no consent, always objection to any amendment from both a few Republicans and a few Democrats, then we will have a vote on cloture tomorrow. That would be tomorrow afternoon, I guess—tomorrow morning. Probably for the fourth time, 74 or 75 of us will vote for the Marketplace Fairness Act. Then we will stay here until Saturday afternoon for the full 30 hours, and we will have a vote on the two amendments and final passage. That will be Saturday afternoon. And probably another 74 or 75 votes for that, I hope. That is what will happen if a few Democrats and a few Republicans continue to say: No amendments.

I want to make sure no one on our side of the aisle stands up and says they, the Democrats, are blocking amendments, because they are not. Most Democrats and most Republicans want to offer and vote on amendments. A few Democrats and a few Republicans say no. I believe that is where we are procedurally, if that persists.

I completely respect the point of view of other Senators. I never question a Senator's vote. That is his or her prerogative, and it is their prerogative to keep us here until Saturday afternoon if that is what they wish to do. But that is not really a very good way for the Senate to work when we have three-fourths of us, a majority on both sides of the aisle, who are for something and we are ready to move through it with amendments and improvements and debates. This is not a good procedure, but it is procedure.

This is the season for parades in Tennessee. On weekends and Fridays, I go home. I have a rule of thumb: Walk in parades. I put on my red-and-black plaid shirt that I walked across Tennessee in. I walked in the Saint Patrick's Day parade in Erin. I walked in the Mule Day parade in Columbia—100,000 people there, lots of mules there. I always try to walk at the front of the Mule Day parade for obvious reasons. And tomorrow I was looking forward to walking in the parade at the Paris Fish Fry. But if we continue to object to every amendment to this bill, I will not get to walk in the Paris Fish Fry tomorrow, but we will pass the bill

on Saturday, and I suspect we will pass it with 74 to 75 votes.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. FISCHER. 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.

NATIONAL PEDIATRIC BRAIN CANCER AWARENESS DAY

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise today in support of a resolution designating September 26, 2013, as "National Pediatric Brain Cancer Awareness Day."

Childhood is a time for growing—growing bodies, growing minds, and growing hearts. It is a time for bike rides that end in skinned knees and sleepovers in backyard forts. It is a time for wondrous stories of Neverland and family board games. It is a time to learn the difference between right and wrong and the difficult discipline of homework. It is a time—a very brief time—given to us by God to live without fear or physical pain or without burdens and responsibilities.

For too many children, though, childhood is very different. Too many children in this country are forced to grow up far too quickly. The stark realities of hunger and poverty mature them and some have no choice but to learn the hard lessons of courage from the cruel, unyielding teacher of sickness.

Despite this hasty transition from storybooks to the harsh realities of life, these children remain beacons of hope. They inspire us. They challenge us to overcome our own trials which seem trivial in comparison to the heavy burdens they shoulder. They prompt us all to believe in the power of miracles because they have no other choice.

One such child is a friend of mine. He is a personal hero. His name is Jack Hoffman. Jack Hoffman is a 7-year-old boy. He was born and raised in Atkinson, NE.

Jack's early years passed like those of many children his age who live in Nebraska communities. He learned to fish and hunt. He went for long bike rides. He played sports. He started school. He made friends with many of his classmates. I am willing to bet little Jack has also had a fight or two with his siblings.

But childhood for Jack took a quick and unexpected turn on April 22, 2011—almost exactly 2 years ago—when Jack suffered a life-threatening seizure. Upon examining him, doctors had shocking news: Jack had brain cancer.

Jack immediately underwent surgery to remove this cancerous mass on his brain, but the surgery did not bring

about the results they hoped for. As doctors desperately sought an answer, Jack's young body continued to be riddled with seizures. Within 5 months, he endured a second brain surgery which removed 95 percent of the remaining tumor. But despite this success, in April 2012 the MRI showed that Jack's cancer had returned and doctors determined it was inoperable. So Jack quickly began 60 weeks of chemotherapy, employing an outdated regimen used by doctors for over 25 years.

Unfortunately, diminished research funding for pediatric brain cancer has stunted medical advancements, so treatment options remain limited. But Jack and his parents didn't despair. They remain hopeful and determined to discover God's will in their hardships.

In a recent Omaha World-Herald story, Jack's father Andy is quoted as saying:

I don't know why God chose Jack to have this. But I do know that we can make something good out of it, and that's promote the improvement of treatments of this disease.

So the Hoffmans set out, they set out on a mission to raise awareness for pediatric brain cancer.

This is a rare but devastating disease that poses unique health and developmental problems for the 3,000 child patients who are diagnosed each year. Jack and other children suffering from brain cancer endure seizures, difficulty speaking, and trouble with their balance. The list, unfortunately, goes on. They spend long periods of time away from their families, friends, and classmates. They miss school, they miss football games, and they miss out on childhood.

The Hoffmans' fundraising efforts through the Team Jack campaign have yielded over \$300,000, and it is all for pediatric brain cancer research.

Although there are countless worthy charities across our country, my husband Bruce and I feel a special connection with Team Jack, and we have worked very closely with the Hoffman family to increase awareness of pediatric brain cancer.

While Jack and his family have been friends of mine for many years, he was first introduced to most Americans when he became an overnight football star—complete with his own trading card—and he did this at the Huskers spring football game on April 6, 2013. Jack suited up with football pads and a No. 22 jersey, and little Jack ran 69 yards. He scored a touchdown in front of 60,000 screaming fans in our Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, NE.

In a single dash across the gridiron, little Jack Hoffman touched the hearts of millions of Americans, and that includes 7.6 million YouTube viewers, and he increased awareness of pediatric brain cancer.

It didn't take a touchdown, though, to make Jack a hero. He smiles through the pain. His courage and his resilience represent the very best of the human spirit and the very best of our Nation.

I admire the Hoffmans for their unwavering commitment to transform this very personal trial into a force for good. I am deeply grateful for all they have done to find a cure.

Today the Senate commends the Hoffmans, Team Jack, and all those Americans who work tirelessly to battle and bring attention to pediatric brain cancer. The resolution Senator KLOBUCHAR and I are submitting recognizes the unique struggles of pediatric brain cancer for their patients and their families. It commends scientists, researchers, and health care providers working to modernize and improve the diagnosis and treatment options; and, importantly, it designates September 26, 2013, as "National Pediatric Brain Cancer Awareness Day" to encourage efforts toward the early diagnosis and treatment and ultimate cure for this disease.

So at this time I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 116, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 116) designating September 26, 2013, as "National Pediatric Brain Cancer Awareness Day".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 116) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mrs. FISCHER. Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

MARKETPLACE FAIRNESS ACT OF 2013—Continued

Mrs. FISCHER. 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. COBURN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. COBURN. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

SEQUESTER

Mr. COBURN. I wanted to spend a minute as we have had a lot of discussions over the pain that is being caused

by the American traveling public and businesses on the FAA. We heard the majority leader say we couldn't do the sequester because we still have the same amount of money, and there is no way we could cut the \$40 billion out of our budget over the next 6 months.

I thought I would just draw a little comparison for us so we could actually see the Federal budget, and then we could make a comparison to the average family budget. Here is the Federal budget. This is last year's Federal budget. We spent \$3.7 trillion, we took in \$2.46 trillion, and we had a deficit of \$1.32 trillion. We added to our total debt, so we have come to a total debt now of \$17.57 trillion. The sequester cuts are \$85 billion, and \$85 billion sounds like a lot of money.

Now let's compare it to the average family household in America. The median household income in America last year was \$53,000. By the way, in real dollars that is less than what it was in 1989—less than what it was in 1989.

If we spent money in households the way the Federal Government spends money, we would have spent \$81,000. We would have only earned \$53,000, but we would have spent \$81,000. We would have had an annual credit card debt that we would have chalked up of \$28,000 doing exactly what the Federal Government does, which would have made our total credit card debt \$375,000.

We are spending \$81,000, and if we cut the amount of spending in the sequester as a percentage of the total Federal budget as to the median family income in America, we would have cut \$182. That kind of puts it in perspective.

How many families would continue to be able to operate this way? They wouldn't. No credit card company would continue to give them \$28,000 worth of credit card debt. They certainly wouldn't let them run up \$375,000 and then say: Oh, by the way, what are you doing about getting your finances in order? Your response would be: I have cut \$182 out of my budget this next year.

What we are seeing is a farce when we talk about we can't cut \$44 billion or \$88 billion out of the Federal budget over a year's period. It is an absolute farce.

Then when you talk about the FAA, in fact, they have less controllers now than they did in 2010. If you look at the budget requested in 2013, there is about a \$300 million difference between the sequester level and, actually, it is the same as in 2010.

What the FAA and the administration are telling us is there is no way they can possibly do anything to associate less inconvenience and less delayed flights. Yesterday there were 6,800 flights delayed to make it hurt.

I want to enter something into the RECORD that came up on my whistleblower site. This is an employee of the FAA and what they were told in a meeting on Monday by management. Here is what they were told.