

will lift their families out of poverty, and they will strengthen our country. The American people get this.

Like so many Americans, I am proud of my immigrant roots. My mother came here from Austria as an infant. She never finished high school because she had to work to support her family. My dad was from an immigrant family too, the only one of nine children to be born in America and the only one to graduate from college. Then, when I was a little girl, he graduated from law school.

When my mother passed away, I remember going through her memorabilia and I discovered a certificate that was wrapped in plastic. She stored it with other valuables in her jewelry box. It was the only document she protected in that fashion because it meant so much to my mother. It was her certificate of citizenship. That is what the dream of citizenship means to the millions of Californians and to the millions of Americans who are now forced to live in the shadows.

For immigration reform to be truly comprehensive it must include a path to citizenship for all 11 million undocumented immigrants in our country today, and it must include the DREAM Act. We can't have two classes of citizens in America: one with full citizenship and one with half citizenship. That is not the promise of our Nation. The bill we will debate next week addresses this problem, and it provides a tough but fair path to citizenship.

It is also crucial we pass reforms that protect workers and their families from exploitation and abuse. Too many immigrants, especially women, face sexual harassment in the workplace, violence and discrimination. The Judiciary Committee bill includes critical protections for women, including U visas, to keep women safe from domestic violence.

A strong reform bill must also include a fair and effective guest worker program which provides workers with livable wages and strong labor protections, and this bill meets many of these tests. Would I have made it even stronger? Yes. Would my friend in the Chair have made it even stronger in many ways? Absolutely. But the bill is a real step forward.

When we pass comprehensive immigration reform, we don't just help immigrant families, we help all Americans. I would like to see family reunification be made stronger in this bill.

I commend those who worked on this bill. I know they had to hammer out these compromises. Having brought a successful highway bill to passage, a successful WRDA bill to passage on the Senate floor, I know I didn't get everything I wanted, so I am sympathetic to the fact this is not a perfect bill. But I know the Presiding Officer and I will support making this bill better, making this bill stronger, and maybe we will persuade colleagues to go along with us. We have to remember this bill isn't the be-all and end-all. We can

make it stronger over the coming months and years.

According to a 2010 USC study—University of Southern California—when we create a path to citizenship, it will result in 25,000 new jobs and \$3 billion in direct and indirect spending in California alone every single year. Nationwide, our immigration bill will increase our GDP, our gross domestic product, by \$1.5 trillion over 10 years. It will increase wages for workers.

That is what happens when workers come out of the shadows. It will lead to between 750,000 and 900,000 new jobs, according to the Center for American Progress. When workers come out of the shadows their wages rise, they open bank accounts, they buy homes, they spend money in their communities, and they are known to find new businesses.

Businesses will benefit by having access to talented workers in fields ranging from manufacturing to health care to agriculture to high tech. And taxpayers are going to benefit. We will hear horror stories about how expensive this is, but the fact is studies show—that is, studies that don't have a bias—that taxpayers will benefit from an estimated \$5 billion in new revenues in the first 3 years alone, including \$310 million a year in State income taxes, which will help support education and other important services just in my home State of California.

So will we see workers benefiting? Yes, from higher wages, but also better working conditions. And they will get respect and they will get dignity. What that means is they will be proud members of our communities. Families and children will benefit when we lift the fear of being deported and separated from their loved ones. I know the DREAM Act that Senator DURBIN has worked on for so many years does impact the families of the DREAMers, and it will help them, because we don't want to separate families.

I am going to be working on many amendments and offering some to improve this bill—amendments to provide a fair and reasonable path to citizenship, amendments to ensure we treat immigrants with dignity and respect, amendments that are friendly to family reunification, amendments that are friendly to workers. Workers are the backbone of this country.

I want to close with a quote from President John F. Kennedy. Back in 1958, he wrote a book entitled, "A Nation of Immigrants." In that book he eloquently described how immigrants have strengthened our Nation. I already talked about my own immigrant roots. This is what John Kennedy wrote:

This was the secret of America: a Nation of people with the fresh memory of old traditions who dared to explore new frontiers, people eager to build lives for themselves in a spacious society that did not restrict their freedom of choice and their action.

He added:

Every ethnic minority, in seeking its own freedom, helped to strengthen the fabric of liberty in American life.

Those words were true back in 1958 and they are just as true today. Americans are ready and they are waiting for comprehensive immigration reform.

I thank our colleagues who worked so hard on this bill, including my own colleague, Senator FEINSTEIN, who worked so hard on the ag jobs title. We have to protect that title. There are those who would weaken it, and we can't weaken it. It is put together in such a way that we have the growers and workers supporting it. That is pretty good when we can get those two sides together.

The President has said the time is now. I agree. The time is past now. We need to get this done. I think Senator LEAHY has handled this bill beautifully. I believe 150 amendments were adopted in the committee, and also many others were offered. The system has been fair. Senator REID has given us plenty of time to offer amendments, to debate these issues.

I am excited about it. My State is waiting with bated breath for this. It is so overdue. Let's get to work. Let's make comprehensive immigration reform a reality. I am pleased to say to the President, I leave this floor with great hopes that we can get it done.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam 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

Mrs. BOXER. Madam 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.

TRIBUTE TO BOB CONLON

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I would like to take a moment to recognize Bob Conlon, a coowner of Leunig's Bistro, a fixture on Burlington's historic Church Street for decades. Bob was recently honored by the Burlington Business Association, BBA, for his contributions not only to the local economy through the success of Leunig's but also because of his commitment to community service.

Originally from Waterbury, CT, Bob has been a resident of Chittenden County for over 45 years, first arriving in the area to attend my own alma mater, St. Michael's College. Bob first came to Leunig's as a bartender, rose to the post of manager, and today is a coowner of one of Church Street's most successful restaurants. Marcelle and I enjoy seeing and talking with Bob when we are in Burlington.

Bob's contributions to the greater Burlington community are not limited

to providing great cuisine at Leunig's; he has been engaged in the community for decades, hosting regular fundraisers that support a wide range of services, from monthly dinners with proceeds that benefit various local support programs to hosting an annual fashion show to benefit the Breast Care Center at Fletcher Allen Hospital. Bob has been an exemplary model of what good business really is: economically successfully, and community-minded.

Bob's dedication to the Burlington community is well documented, and the honor bestowed upon him by the BBA is wholly merited. In recognition of his work, I ask that an article published in the Burlington Free Press on April 4, 2013, "Leunig's co-owner honored," be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From The Burlington Free Press, Apr. 4, 2013]

LEUNIG'S CO-OWNER HONORED

Bob Conlon has spent half his life at Leunig's Bistro—from substitute bartender to co-owner. A certain sensibility, and a couple of tasks, follow him through every position.

"We're all in the service industry," Conlon, 63, said. "We feed people, we cheer them up. Plunge the toilets and mop the floors."

Conlon will be honored tonight by the Burlington Business Association. The BBA's 35th dinner and annual meeting will be held at the Hilton Burlington.

The honoree, a fixture on Church Street for more than 30 years, will be attending his first BBA dinner, Conlon said Monday morning over coffee in the bistro's dining room.

"I always thought of that dinner as for the important people," he said. "My social life is working."

Conlon's work at Leunig's includes a variety of community service efforts, including an annual fashion show/fundraiser for the Breast Care Center at Fletcher Allen Health Care, and monthly dinners with a portion of proceeds to benefit local social service groups.

"They have long tradition of doing good for a broad range of community groups," said Rita Markley, executive director of COTS.

Tim Halvorson is a past recipient of the award Conlon will receive; indeed, the award is named for Halvorson. He is a board member of the Burlington Business Association who will introduce Conlon at the dinner. Conlon follows in a line of honorees who are committed to helping and enriching the greater community, Halvorson said.

"We thought that Bob represents, through the way they handle things at Leunig's, a great example of a small business that gives back," Halvorson said. "Between breast cancer and City Arts and COTS, they give tens of thousands of dollars back to the community. It's a business that uses its popularity and location as a vehicle for good."

Conlon arrived in Chittenden County 45 years ago from Waterbury, Conn., the son of a restaurant waiter who worked as a busboy as a kid. He was a theater major at St. Michael's College. These days, his acting takes place at the Leunig's bar—his costume is well-dressed restaurateur—and on the Church Street Marketplace.

Last summer, Conlon's costume came to include hard hats, worn by him and his staff

(and sometimes customers) as a nod to marketplace construction.

"You have a role to play," Conlon said, a part in which his social life plays out at work. "You have brief conversations with people—cheerful and fun."

He tries always to be in a good mood, Conlon said. If he's feeling bad he steers away from the question, What do I want? and asks instead, What does my wife want? What does my daughter want? What do my staff and customers want? Conlon said.

"If you can make other people happy, you end up being happy," he said.

Conlon started working at Leunig's when he was 32, after a short stint as co-owner of a failed restaurant. The business, Carbur's Rib-it Room, was in the space now occupied by Marilyn's, a clothing store.

"If everything were perfect, it would've taken us 20 years to get up to zero," Conlon said of the failed business.

He got out after two years and joined Leunig's as a substitute bartender. "I always liked waiting on customers," he said. "I got to hang out with a lot of good people—artists, business people, college professors, students, cops."

He tended bar until about 10 years ago, when he became manager. The move to manager from bartender came about, in part, because managers came and went with frequency, Conlon said.

"Every time you get a new boss it's very insecure," Conlon said. "Your employment is dependent on the sanity of your supervisor. So be the supervisor."

He started as well to purchase ownership shares in the business from Leunig's owner, Robert Fuller, intending with his business partner, chef Donnell Collins, to become a 50-50 owner of the restaurant. Conlon expects the deal will be finalized May 1, he said.

"Isn't that America?" Conlon said. "Isn't that what everybody should do? Get a job, do your best at it, and don't pass up opportunities. It's an honorable profession. If you're good at it, you can live a good life."

RICHMOND ROUND CHURCH 200TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, Vermont boasts a number of historical treasures, and among them is the Round Church in Richmond, which this year celebrates its 200th anniversary.

The Old Round Church earned a national historic landmark distinction from the National Park Service in 1996. Because of the church's history and its long-held status as meeting place and community center, it has come to be recognized as a symbol of the rich history woven through so many Vermont towns.

This year the Richmond Round Church, known to many as the Old Round Church, will celebrate its bicentennial with a series of concerts and community events. The sense of community boasted by the Old Round Church is rooted partially in the history of the church's establishment. Initially conceived by settlers seeking a local meeting place, their plan to erect the Round Church faltered with reluctance from the town of Richmond to supply the land need to construct the building. Two local men, however, volunteered the land, and in 1813 construction of the church was completed. It has since grown to become a renowned

symbol for its historical significance but also for its representation of the community values that are so cherished across Vermont.

Over the past two centuries, it has served as a meeting place, a venue for local activities, and even a popular location for weddings. Generations of Vermonters have visited the Old Round Church, and as a young boy growing up in Montpelier, I remember visiting the church with my parents, and brother and sister. Today, volunteers routinely help preserve the church's history by volunteering to help clean, maintain, and repair its structure. It remains as central to the community as it ever has in its 200 year history.

In honor of the 200th anniversary of the Richmond Round Church, I ask that an article published in the Burlington Free Press on May 26, 2013, "Richmond Round Church Turns 200, Celebrations Aboard," be printed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From The Burlington Free Press, May 26, 2013]

RICHMOND ROUND CHURCH TURNS 200, CELEBRATIONS ABOARD

RICHMOND—It started with an argument. In 1796 settlers of this small town in the foothills of the Green Mountains wanted to build a local meeting house, or at least some of them did. Then as now, democracy did not always come easily. The committees tasked with finding a location found it difficult to agree and fickle townspeople voted down the whole idea in 1811.

Absent the good will of two local men who offered to donate land to the cause, free and clear, the foundation for Richmond's iconic Round Church might never have been laid.

But donate they did, and this year the white clapboard building that sits serenely in the heart of Richmond turns 200. The birthday is being celebrated all summer with concerts and special events culminating the weekend of Aug. 9, 10 and 11.

Fans of the church say it symbolizes the spirit of the town.

"Well, I think this represents what's best about Richmond," said Fran Thomas, president of the Richmond Historical Society. "It was built as a community church and meeting house. To me it's what's best about Richmond, that community aspect."

The shape of the 16-sided church and meeting house is believed to be unique in the United States. It has survived floods, blizzards and other onslaughts—attacks by powder post beetles, dry rot and restless youths who carved their initials into the wooden box pews as early as 1912.

BUILT TO LAST

According to "The Richmond Round Church, 1813-2013," a history written by Harriet W. Riggs and Martha Turner and published by the Richmond Historical Society, the box pews were designed to help retain heat. Families brought heated soap stones or small metal boxes of burning coals to help stay warm inside. A stone and box are on display at the back of the church, along with other artifacts.

Miraculously, the church never burned down despite considerable threat from wood stoves that were added to the building at some point and according to local lore stuffed full starting several days before gatherings and then left unattended as the structure heated up. Pipes from the stoves snaked