

suffer from invisible wounds, like PTSD and traumatic brain injuries, also called TBIs, are not incorrectly administratively discharged, putting their hard-earned benefits at risk. This bill is just a small step that Congress can take toward ensuring that the stigma facing PTSD is lifted and hopefully allowing more veterans to seek out treatment for PTSD.

In the last few years, I am pleased to see that our country has taken steps to ensure that our troops and veterans get the mental health services they need upon their return home. More than ever, troops and veterans are seeking treatment. They are receiving timely diagnosis, they are getting needed care.

We have a long way to go. Too many veterans are taking their own lives and, unfortunately, Montana consistently ranks at the top for suicides in our country. One story from Montana particularly resonated with me. In fact, it occurred in my hometown of Bozeman. I went from kindergarten through college in Bozeman. On May 29, 2013, U.S. Army PFC Wade Christiansen took his own life. He was 23 years old. Private First Class Christiansen served his country as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division and was deployed to Afghanistan with his unit in 2009. During an ambush, he sustained severe injuries to his face and to his arms.

After his return to Montana, Wade struggled with both the physical and the mental healing process. Wade's brother Matt talked about how Wade's mood would change when he wouldn't be able to take his medication when the VA failed to get him his medications on time.

I wish I could stand here and tell you that Wade Christiansen's story is unique. Unfortunately, he is just one of the many veterans who committed suicide in my State that year. In fact, between 2004 and 2013, there were 566 suicides by Montana veterans. In Montana and across the Nation, too many of our veterans struggle with PTSD, they struggle with depression. Veteran depression not only affects the individual but also the loved ones closest to the veteran as well. The emotional toll on the family is immense. To have a loved one serve overseas, only to come back as a shell of what they once were is difficult.

PTSD Awareness Day invites us to face the larger issues of veterans who are suffering from post-traumatic stress. We do everything in our power to protect our servicemembers while they are overseas. We must do the same to address their needs once they return home. That includes reducing the stigma attached to PTSD and doing more to help our brave veterans find good-paying jobs and transition back into civilian life.

Now is the time to act to work toward real solutions that protect our veterans here at home. They are an embodiment of the ideals this Nation holds dear, and I believe it is our job to

do everything in our power to protect them.

Before I end my remarks, I want to encourage everyone, if they or a loved one is struggling with mental illness or PTSD, there is help available.

You can visit www.ptsd.va.gov—www.ptsd.va.gov—where they will find resources that are available for our veterans.

Mental illness is not something anyone should have to go through alone. Seeking help is not a sign of weakness, but instead it is a testament to individual character.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I wish to begin by talking about two subjects. The first of those is the nuclear agreement that our Nation and five other nations are seeking to negotiate with Iran, and the second is I wish to do something we don't do often enough and thank some people, people who serve all of us, some folks in the Coast Guard.

But I wish to start with the agreement that we and part of the five permanent members of the Security Council, plus one—Germany—are attempting to negotiate with the country of Iran. We are closing in, I hope, on a historic nuclear agreement with Iran.

Today, the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia, China, France, and Germany are hard at work trying to hammer out a final nuclear deal with Iran that will hopefully put an end to that country's pursuit of nuclear weapons. We have a key role to play in the fate of this potential nuclear deal.

If the P5+1 and Iran can forge a final deal, then Congress will have its chance to support or reject it by voting on a resolution that would prohibit lifting the sanctions against Iran. So it is my great hope that when Congress comes back from our Fourth of July recess—holiday recess—we will be returning to the news that the negotiators have succeeded in striking what they believe to be a fair deal.

We will then begin our job of considering whether that deal represents the best path forward for our Nation's security and the security of other nations, including our allies.

Should this agreement come together, I will assess the final nuclear deal on how it implements three key requirements that were articulated in last April's nuclear framework. Let me just take a moment and explain these three requirements.

First, any final agreement must block all of Iran's pathways to developing a nuclear weapon. The Iranians will have to agree to measures that prohibit them from acquiring weapons-grade plutonium, enriching enough uranium to build a bomb and developing a covert nuclear program.

Fortunately, as part of April's nuclear framework, the P5+1 agreed in

principle to close off Iran's four pathways to a nuclear weapon, and here is how.

Iran would no longer have a source of weapons-grade plutonium, as the framework requires Iran's heavy water reactor to be redesigned so that it no longer generates a plutonium byproduct needed for a bomb.

Iran would lose one path to acquiring enough enriched uranium to build a bomb by being forced to reduce its current centrifuge inventory of almost 20,000 down to 5,000 units. Moreover, the remaining 5,000 centrifuges would be Iran's oldest and least capable variants, making it almost impossible for Iran to restart weapons-grade enrichment activities.

Under the framework, Iran would lose its other path to acquiring enough enriched uranium for a nuclear weapon. Iran will be required to dramatically reduce its stockpile of enriched uranium from 10 tons to just 300 kilograms and will not be able to enrich above 3.7 percent.

Lastly, the framework eliminates the ability of Iran to covertly develop a nuclear weapon by monitoring not just the declared facilities but also subjecting the country's entire nuclear supply chain to inspections and continuous surveillance.

If a final agreement makes good on these promises in a verifiable way—in a verifiable way—then it will earn my support.

Some have argued that a final agreement must require Iran to dismantle its entire nuclear infrastructure so that it cannot enrich uranium even for peaceful nuclear energy. This is an unnecessary requirement on Iran in my view. If that country agrees to these four roadblocks to a nuclear weapon, then Iran should be able to maintain an enrichment program that is verifiably limited to producing only peaceful nuclear energy.

That brings me to my second requirement. In any final agreement, Iran must submit to uncomfortable and intrusive inspections.

If weapons inspectors for the International Atomic Energy Agency identify a facility they suspect of housing illicit nuclear activity, then these inspectors should be granted access to these undeclared sites. If Iran fails to grant access to the inspectors, then Iran should be in violation of the agreement, and that should trigger expedited and appropriate consequences for Iran.

In the weeks since the announcement of the April framework agreement, we have heard some contradictory claims coming from Iran's Supreme Leader, the Ayatollah Khamenei. He has said that Iran will not allow inspections of military sites.

Well, perhaps the Supreme Leader is only playing to a hard-line domestic audience in Iran. Perhaps he is attempting to return and to rhetorically

walk back on the concessions his negotiating team promised to the P5+1 nations or perhaps he is just not being honest.

Whatever the case may be, I certainly do not trust the Iranian Supreme Leader nor do I want my acceptance of a deal to be based solely on his rhetoric. To borrow a phrase from President Reagan—a phrase we have heard in this Chamber hundreds of times since I came here 14 years ago—final deals should not be predicated on the mantra “trust but verify.” Rather they should embody the principle of “distrust and verify.”

To that end, the final deal must have a system of consequences and incentives in place to ensure that Iran complies with its promises to submit to inspections.

Third, any lifting of sanctions against Iran must be conditional on the Iranians meeting and implementing core requirements of the nuclear deal. Iran must prove to us they are serious about following through on their commitments. If they live up to their promises, only then should they be rewarded with phased sanctions relief.

Fortunately, the administration has made this a sticking point in the negotiations. As the President said upon the announcement of the nuclear framework on April 2, “[Sanctions] relief will be phased in as Iran takes steps to adhere to the deal. If Iran violates the deal, sanctions can be snapped back into place.”

Additionally, after announcing the nuclear framework, Secretary Kerry made clear that the Iranians will not get sanctions relief until they have implemented their obligation to the satisfaction of the international inspectors and the United States. These are the words of Secretary Kerry:

Iran has a responsibility to get the break-out time to the one year . . . When that is done and certified by the IAEA that [Iran] has lived up to that nuclear responsibility, and we make that judgment with them, at that point we would begin the phasing of sanctions relief.

Now, Secretary Kerry and President Obama are right to insist on this point. They are right to insist on this point. I imagine this is one of the details still being worked out in talks. But if Iran is serious about abandoning its nuclear weapons ambitions—I hope they are—they must agree to take action before being rewarded with sanctions relief.

For 2½ years—2½ years—our negotiating team has been working tirelessly to strike a deal with Iran that strengthens our Nation’s security, our allies’ security, and the security of the broader Middle East. Whatever the outcome next week, we owe these negotiators a debt of gratitude for their service and their dedication.

At the end of the day, however, I feel confident that we will reach a deal that blocks Iran’s pathways to a bomb, subjects Iran to intrusive inspections, and only provides sanctions relief after Iran takes action.

If the final deal includes these three key provisions, then it will certainly have my support. Moreover, I think if each Senator and Representative evaluates this deal on its merits, forgets about the rhetoric, forgets about the preconceived notions and considers the alternatives, then this deal will enjoy broad support in this Congress.

Mr. President, I want to set these remarks aside now. Before our current Presiding Officer took the Chair, I mentioned to our colleague before him that I had a two-part address. This is like a day-night doubleheader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). The Senator has used his 10 minutes.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent to proceed for an extra 6 minutes.

May I prevail on the Senator from Ohio?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PORTMAN. I have no objection.

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

Mr. CARPER. I thank the Senator from Ohio for his kindness.

TRIBUTE TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, over the past few months I have been coming to the floor to recognize the work of a few of the outstanding employees of the Department of Homeland Security.

There are over 200,000 men and women who work at the Department’s 22 components. They secure our borders and secure our skies. They respond to natural disasters. They protect us in cyber space. Few other Federal agencies touch the lives of Americans on a daily basis more than the Department of Homeland Security.

Although the jobs they do every day may be diverse, all DHS employees go to work with one critical mission, and that is to ensure our country is a safe, secure, and resilient place where the American way of life can thrive.

Today I recognize the outstanding service of several officers from the U.S. Coast Guard. As a law enforcement agency and one of our Nation’s five armed services, the Coast Guard has safeguarded our interests on the high seas for over two centuries.

The thousands of brave men and women who honorably serve our Nation at the Coast Guard dedicate their lives to its important missions. These missions range from maritime law enforcement and military operations to search and rescue and environmental protection.

MAX KACZMAREK, CHRIS LEON, AND MATTHEW WORDEN

Last month, Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson recognized three individuals from the Coast Guard for their valor: Petty Officer Max Kaczmarek, Petty Officer Chris Leon, and Petty Officer Matthew Worden. In pictures right here next to me are Petty Officer Matt Worden, Petty Officer

Max Kaczmarek, and Petty Officer Chris Leon.

These three brave individuals have each demonstrated outstanding courage in the face of perilous circumstances, acting selflessly and without hesitation to render lifesaving aid to their fellow Americans. Simply put, they were, in the words of the Coast Guard motto, “Semper Paratus”—“Always Ready.”

I want to extend my congratulations to these three officers, Petty Officers Kaczmarek, Leon, and Worden, and to all of the recipients of this year’s DHS Valor awards. These devoted public servants are an inspiration for me, and I think for all of us, and I encourage my colleagues to learn more about their heroic stories.

JOSCELYN GREENWELL

For the 42,000 Active-Duty Coast Guard men and women, their mission may take them to ports and waterways across our country and around the globe. For Petty Officer Joscelyn Greenwell, her service with the Coast Guard has taken her from California to Hawaii to my home State of Delaware.

Originally from Cape Canaveral, FL, Petty Officer Greenwell, pictured here to my left, has served our country for over 7 years at three different Coast Guard units and stations. She first spent 3 years on the high endurance cutter Hamilton and home ported in San Diego, CA.

While aboard the Coast Guard cutter Hamilton, Petty Officer Greenwell was one of our many brave servicemembers assigned to provide disaster relief following the catastrophic 2010 Haiti earthquake, which we all remember. In Haiti, Petty Officer Greenwell and her fellow crew members transported clean drinking water and other resources to the island to save lives. She received a Unit Commendation award for her outstanding efforts in that mission.

After her time in San Diego, Petty Officer Greenwell spent 2 years aboard the patrol boat Galveston Island, home ported in Honolulu, HI.

Today Petty Officer Greenwell calls Lewes, DE, her home and now serves at the U.S. Coast Guard Station Indian River Inlet in Rehoboth Beach, DE. With summer in full swing, Delawareans and people from across the country—actually, from around the world—are flocking to our Nation’s pristine five-star beaches. Thankfully, day and night, Petty Officer Greenwell and her crew stand diligent watch over parts of Delaware Bay, Rehoboth Bay, Indian River Bay, and the Atlantic Ocean. We Delawareans can rest assured that Petty Officer Greenwell and her unit stand ready to answer our call, if ever we need their assistance.

According to her superiors, Petty Officer Greenwell takes ownership of her responsibilities and is committed to the safety of the public. Her colleagues say that she always goes above and beyond what is expected of her.

For example, in addition to her usual responsibilities, Petty Officer