

as possible, no matter what the product, no matter what the industry. That has been the American way. We put seatbelts in cars and require drivers to learn what they are doing in obtaining a license. We put childproof caps on medicine bottles and dangerous household products, even if they have domestic uses. If we have taken concrete steps to ensure that children can't open a bottle of aspirin, I am baffled that we can't do more to prevent these violent deaths. Why aren't we doing everything we can to make sure that children can't kill themselves or others or injure themselves or others with firearms?

There is no lack of ideas for how to remedy this situation. President Obama recently announced that as part of the White House's anti-gun violence initiative, he will move forward to promote the development of smart gun technology which is designed to ensure that no one except the owner can fire it. Even if the gun makes it into the hands of someone who should not have it, whether a child or a criminal, the gun will not be accessible. Like other steps the President has outlined in the absence of congressional action which remains sorely needed, this smart gun initiative utilizes existing laws and resources to challenge research, innovation, and enforcement toward more effectively cutting down on gun violence. Surely, we have a consensus among the American people, among gun owners, and among anybody belonging to groups that seemingly oppose these commonsense measures that we need to do more and do it better to prevent these child deaths.

On smart guns in particular, the White House will provide guidance for enhancing safety technology and help to manufacture and test smart firearms and to facilitate their purchase by State and local governments. Working in partnership with private sector innovators and local jurisdictions, this initiative holds tremendous promise.

Even while smart guns that depend on advanced technology are being developed, existing mechanisms provide remedies as well—low-tech remedies. Trigger locks and indicators of whether a gun is loaded are in widespread use today. Studies have suggested that a third of accidental deaths could be prevented by the use of childproof safety locks and loading indicators. Our laws should encourage and even require their adoption. States around the country have also developed a variety of safe storage bills that prohibit storing firearms in places that are accessible to children. Tragic experience has shown us that, as important as it is for families to discuss guns with their children, simply admonishing them to avoid going near guns won't work, particularly when the children are too young to understand what guns are and what they can do, and, most especially, when they are playing with other children in other families' homes, where those guns may be accessible and loaded.

The answer is to insist that adults take responsibility. They need to be

held responsible for keeping firearms off limits, which is really the only realistic option to cut down these tragic deaths of children.

Laws requiring that kind of responsibility and accountability are supported by two-thirds of Americans. Unfortunately, the gun lobby has continually, constantly, insistently, and consistently opposed progress in these areas. Their steadfast opposition has also prevented the Consumer Product Safety Commission—which has a praiseworthy track record of success keeping children safe from hazards and ranging from lead in toys to dangerous cribs—from regulating firearms or even issuing guidance about how they could be designed more safely for children.

I have been coming to the floor of the Senate for a number of years to speak about the need for legislation to address the gun violence epidemic in this country, clearly a public health crisis. If there were a flu epidemic or another kind of contagious disease causing 30,000 deaths a year, we would have urgent, drastic action. We need to do the right thing. There are stories reported such as those last week of the unspeakable horror of a child too young to understand what is happening who encounters a gun and uses it, such as Sha'Quille, Kiyan, and Holston Cole, a 3-year-old boy with crackling energy, who would wake right before dawn. His pastor said: He loved singing "Jesus Loves Me." He put a gun to his head and, unknowingly, pulled the trigger. We can avoid that type of tragedy. We can do better, and we must act.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

REMEMBERING CONRAD BURNS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, last week the world and the Burns family lost Senator Conrad Burns. There are thousands of reasons to celebrate the life of Senator Conrad Burns, but I will only mention a few, while I hope others write down their memories to help fill the void.

He made friends instantly and could quickly find a way to relate to anyone. He had a story for every situation. That is the most effective way to make a point. I particularly enjoyed his marital advice, which he learned in Hudson, WY. His stories always had a location and a person. He said Hudson is where he spent a week one day—but it is where he bet a friend \$100 that his wife Phyllis could beat his friend's wife in a foot race. He wasn't able to talk Phyllis into racing, but fortunately, the friend must not have had any luck with his wife, either, as he didn't show up.

While Conrad was a consummate, effective Senator, his love for his faith, his family, and friends made him special. He was a man who lived by example. He was willing to share about his life to help with our lives. He mentored me and many others with his plain speaking, and timely, sort of abrupt

suggestions. He didn't waste time or words, but he always had time to help.

He also probably never realized the difference he made. I know he never realized the difference he made daily while he worked on legislation, much of which he never got credit for but was effective at getting finished.

He had a special talent for speaking and presenting that always got people's attention. For example, he was able to take difficult issues involving telecommunications and make them understandable to his colleagues and hold their interest. That is an unmatched talent. He had a unique ability to sell ideas that came from his vast, real-life experience in agriculture, radio, and especially in auctioneering. He could get you to buy into his idea, and you didn't even realize that you had bid. His experience in small business gave him the ability to make people understand the kinds of decisions small businesses have to make—how many decisions, how far in advance they had to be made, and how critical that was to how well the United States does. His staff would occasionally suggest other words or phrases he might use after the fact. He recognized and made a case for the importance of small business as the engine of our economy.

Golf gave him an outlet for his frustration and provided relaxation and an opportunity for less stressful conversations. I am not a golfer, but Conrad always made the experience enjoyable and memorable.

His ability to sell is best noted when he auctioned a special Kenai handmade quilt and got \$15,000 when the best ever previous price was \$3,000. Incidentally, he made the \$3,000 quilt sale too.

By now, Conrad has had a chance to have a heart-to-heart talk—that is the only kind of talk you could have with Conrad, and especially in Heaven—with his daughter Kate, who passed away several years ago. I picture him playing golf in Heaven, where he is learning firsthand that some of those stories about clergy playing golf are true. I bet he even has a use for a saddle again and is still keeping up on the ag futures.

Conrad, you have been missed and will be missed as your memory reminds and inspires us. Your family is in our prayers as we grieve and celebrate your life along with them.

REMEMBERING BOB BENNETT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, unfortunately, last week we also lost another former colleague, Senator Bob Bennett of Utah. There are 1,000 reasons to celebrate the life of Senator Bob Bennett, but I will only mention a few.

While he was the consummate effective Senator, his love for his faith, his family, and his friends really made him special. He was a man who lived by example. He was quiet but effective. He mentored me and many others by giving gentle, timely suggestions.

His presentations at the Prayer Breakfasts helped us to know him and his faith better. He demonstrated what he learned at church and, particularly, on his mission, and he was willing to share that with us to help our lives. But his life was a living example of his faith.

He also probably never realized the difference he made in people's lives with his involvement with the Franklin Planner alone. I know he never realized the difference he made daily as he worked with people on legislation, much of which he never got credit for, but he was effective in making sure it got done in a reasonable way.

He had a special talent for speaking and presenting. He could take numbers from the Joint Economic Committee, which he chaired, and make them understandable to his colleagues. That is an unmatched talent. People go to sleep with numbers. His experience in small business gave him the ability to make people understand how small businesses operate, how they get their employees, the difficulties of buying things in advance that they don't know they are going to sell, and how critical that is to the U.S. economy. He recognized and made a case like no other person for how important small business was as the engine of our economy.

Yes, Bob, you have been missed, and you are missed. Your family is in our prayers, and we grieve with them.

I yield the floor.

RESPONSE ACT OF 2015

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 155, S. 546.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 546) to establish the Railroad Emergency Services Preparedness, Operational Needs, and Safety Evaluation (RESPONSE) Subcommittee under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Advisory Council to provide recommendations on emergency responder training and resources relating to hazardous materials incidents involving railroads, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the Heitkamp substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The amendment (No. 3889) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The bill (S. 546), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third read-

ing, was read the third time, and passed.

AMENDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ORGANIZATION ACT AND THE LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT ACT OF 1976

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4238, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4238) to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act and the Local Public Works Capital Development and Investment Act of 1976 to modernize terms relating to minorities.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (H.R. 4238) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORLD MALARIA DAY

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 451, S. Res. 436.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 436) supporting the goals and ideals of World Malaria Day.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with an amendment to the preamble, as follows:

(Strike the preamble and insert the part printed in italic.)

S. RES. 436

Whereas April 25 of each year is recognized internationally as World Malaria Day;

Whereas malaria is a leading cause of death and disease in many developing countries, despite being preventable and treatable;

Whereas fighting malaria is in the national interest of the United States, as reducing the risk of malaria protects members of the Armed Forces and other people of the United States serving overseas in malaria-endemic regions, and reducing malaria deaths helps to lower risks of instability in less developed countries;

Whereas the elimination of malaria remains a bipartisan priority of the United States Government;

Whereas, on December 14, 2006, President George W. Bush stated at the White House Malaria Summit, "So we are acting, and we're leading. And with partners across the world, we

are helping the people of Africa turn the tide against malaria. The goal of defeating malaria is a challenging goal, yet it can be done. It's not going to require a miracle, it just requires a smart, sustained, focused effort."

Whereas, on September 27, 2015, President Barack Obama stated at the United Nations General Assembly, "Billions of our fellow human beings are at risk of dying from diseases that we know how to prevent. Many children are just one mosquito bite away from death. And that is a moral outrage. It is a profound injustice. It is literally a matter of life and death, and now the world must act."

Whereas support for efforts to fight malaria is in the diplomatic and moral interest of the United States, as that support generates goodwill toward the United States and highlights the values of the people of the United States through the work of governmental, nongovernmental, and faith-based organizations of the United States;

Whereas efforts to fight malaria are in the long-term economic interest of the United States because those efforts help developing countries—

- (1) identify at-risk populations;*
- (2) provide a framework for critical emergency disease treatment;*
- (3) provide better health services;*
- (4) increase local governance needed to address substandard and counterfeit medicines that exacerbate malaria resistance;*
- (5) produce healthier and more productive workforces;*
- (6) advance economic development; and*
- (7) promote stronger trading partners;*

Whereas, in 2015, malaria transmission occurred in 95 countries and territories;

Whereas an estimated 3,200,000,000 people are at risk for malaria, with 214,000,000 active cases, the vast majority of whom are in sub-Saharan Africa, which accounts for 90 percent of malaria deaths in the world;

Whereas young children and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to and disproportionately affected by malaria;

Whereas malaria greatly affects the health of children, as children under the age of 5 account for an estimated 70 percent of malaria deaths each year;

Whereas malaria poses great risks to maternal and neonatal health, causing complications during delivery, anemia, and low birth weights;

Whereas heightened national, regional, and international efforts to prevent and treat malaria during recent years have made significant progress and helped save hundreds of thousands of lives;

Whereas the World Malaria Report 2015 by the World Health Organization states that, in 2014, approximately 55 percent of people in sub-Saharan Africa slept under an insecticide-treated mosquito net, and household surveys indicated that 90 percent of people used an insecticide-treated mosquito net if such a net was available in the household;

Whereas, in 2014, approximately 116,000,000 people were protected by indoor residual spraying;

Whereas the World Malaria Report 2015 further states that, between 2000 and 2015—

- (1) malaria mortality rates decreased by 60 percent around the world;*
- (2) in the African Region of the World Health Organization, malaria mortality rates decreased by 66 percent; and*
- (3) an estimated 6,200,000 malaria deaths were averted globally, primarily as a result of increased interventions;*

Whereas the World Malaria Report 2015 further states that, out of 95 countries and territories with ongoing transmission of malaria in 2015—

- (1) 10 countries are classified as being in the pre-elimination phase;*
- (2) 10 countries are classified as being in the elimination phase; and*