

In northeast Ohio, nothing is given. Everything is earned. You work for what you have.

And the Cavs certainly earned it. They worked hard for it, and they deserve it.

It was fitting that the win was sealed by LeBron James, a proud son of Akron, OH, a graduate of St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, and the unanimously chosen NBA Finals MVP who, by the way, led all players on both teams in the series in every single major statistical category. So in points scored, in rebounds and assists, steals and blocks, he led everyone. We are told this is the first time anyone has ever done that, by the way, in any series. Extraordinary. LeBron scored or assisted on half of the Cavs' points in the finals. He became the third player in NBA history to achieve a triple-double in game 7 of the finals. He almost averaged a triple-double. Over the course of the series, he scored, on average, 29 points, 11 rebounds, and 8.9 assists per game.

His mission to bring this championship to Cleveland is now complete. He came home to Ohio for the same reason so many Ohioans come back or stay in Ohio: That is where he wanted to raise his family, and I commend him for that and also the fact that he really wanted to bring this championship back home.

When he announced his return to Cleveland, he said, "Before anyone ever cared where I would play basketball, I was just a kid from Northeast Ohio."

Of course, I want to congratulate Golden State on a historic season, and I want to offer my condolences to my friends and colleagues, Senators Feinstein and Boxer. Senator FEINSTEIN and I made a friendly wager on this. Tomorrow, since the Cavs have won, she will be giving me a case of California wine, and I am pleased I get to keep the case of Great Lakes beer that I had bought for her.

Congratulations to general manager David Griffin, who made a lot of difficult decisions and took the risks necessary in putting together a championship team.

Congratulations to the owner, Dan Gilbert. This is a guy whose strong and consistent support of Cleveland, both on the court and off the court, is paying off for Cleveland, and we appreciate him—and, of course, for his helping to be sure LeBron James came back.

Congratulations, above all, to Believeland—to Cleveland—and to an incredible championship run here.

Mr. President, I am all in for the Cavs.

I yield back.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, we commemorate World Refugee Day. It is a day we make clear that we stand with those who have survived the horrors of war, torture, and persecution. It is a day when we remember our common humanity and the moral imperative to love and care for one another. I can think of no better time than now to pause and remember those fundamental principles. The rhetoric of hate and intolerance has reached a frightening pitch in this country, much of it directed against innocent victims of persecution. We must forcefully reject this un-American rhetoric. With more than 65 million people forcibly displaced around the globe, we must not lower our torch—we must raise it higher. Our national values demand it, and our national interest requires it. As we reflect upon the fate of refugees across the world, we must reclaim our history as a refuge for the persecuted. Today—and every day—I stand with refugees.

Over the past 5 years, the world has witnessed millions of Syrians desperately fleeing the terror inflicted by ISIS and Bashar Al-Assad's regime. Hundreds of thousands have died, and more than half of Syria's 23 million people have been forced from their homes. The vast majority of these are women and children. As a humanitarian leader among nations, the United States must play a significant role in efforts to resettle those displaced by this devastating conflict.

While we must do more for Syria and the surrounding countries, we must not turn a blind eye to the humanitarian crisis growing even closer to home. In the Northern Triangle of Central America, ruthless armed criminal organizations in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala brutalize women and children with impunity. El Salvador and Guatemala have the highest child murder rates in the world—higher even than the child murder rates in the once-active war zones of Iraq and Afghanistan. These three Central American countries also account for some of the highest rates of female homicides worldwide. This pandemic of gang violence in the Northern Triangle has forced thousands of mothers and children to flee and seek refuge wherever they can find it. I remain deeply troubled by the administration's continuing immigration raids directed at these vulnerable women and children. We must do everything we can to ensure that these individuals receive meaningful due process before they are sent back to the chaos and violence from which they fled.

In the face of such staggering suffering, we must live up to our long tradition of being a safe and welcoming haven for those fleeing persecution. Since the passage of the landmark Refugee Act of 1980, the people and communities of the United States have opened their arms to more than 2.5 million refugees. America is the great country that it is because of the con-

tributions of refugees, including the likes of Albert Einstein and Madeleine Albright.

I am especially proud that Vermont has welcomed nearly 8,000 refugees from more than a dozen war-torn countries. These refugees have enriched our communities and are making important contributions to our State. They have become college-educated citizens, small business owners, nurses, and soccer coaches. Recently, Mayor Christopher Louras and members of the Rutland community announced plans to resettle 100 Syrian refugees. I applaud their decision, which should serve as an example to other communities in Vermont and across the country. I am confident that Vermont will prove to be a welcoming home for all of these families.

And we must do more. Last year, the United States announced a very modest plan to resettle 10,000 refugees. To date, however, we have admitted only a fraction of that number. Despite recent attempts to foment our fears, we must not forget that refugees continue to be the most stringently vetted travelers to the United States. And we must remember that ISIS is our enemy; the suffering Syrian people fleeing ISIS are not.

Months ago, the heartbreaking image of 3-year-old Aylan Kurdi's lifeless body washed up on a beach stirred the conscience of the international community. The image was forever seared in my mind, laying bare the human cost of the Syrian crisis. In the United States, there were passionate calls for our country to live up to its humanitarian legacy. Amid today's hateful rhetoric against refugees, we must once again conjure up that image of Aylan. We must reaffirm our commitment to those risking their lives to flee persecution. Now, more than ever, the world needs the United States to lead.

Soon, I will reintroduce the Refugee Protection Act of 2016. Our bicameral bill would make important strides in bolstering and updating our Nation's laws to address the unprecedented refugee crisis we face today, honoring our rich history as a refuge for the persecuted. In this dark chapter of human history, there are dangerous voices urging us to lower our torch. Let the world see that the United States chose instead to hold its torch even higher.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for three rollcall votes for S. 524, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016, on June 16, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of the motions to instruct led by Senator SHAHEEN and Senator WHITEHOUSE, rollcall vote No. 101 and rollcall vote No. 102, respectively.

I would have also voted in favor of rollcall vote No. 100, cloture on the motion to disagree to the House amendments to the Senate bill, agree to the

request for conference, and the Presiding Officer appoint the following conferees: Senators GRASSLEY, ALEXANDER, HATCH, SESSIONS, LEAHY, MURRAY, and WYDEN.

WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have fought for years to protect our Nation's seniors from abuse and exploitation—initially, in my capacity as former chairman of the Senate Aging Committee and more recently as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Last Wednesday was World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, but because the Democrats were unfortunately blocking the business of the American people on the Senate floor, I was unable to give this statement, so I want to take this opportunity today to express my renewed commitment to ending the abuse and exploitation of older Americans.

We don't know the full extent and scope of the problem of elder abuse, mainly due to underreporting.

Many older Americans don't report instances of elder abuse due to embarrassment, a refusal to acknowledge that they were victimized, or reliance on the perpetrator as their caretaker.

But we do know that serious cases of abuse or exploitation of older Americans seem to be increasing and that it can take several forms: financial, physical, and emotional.

Financial exploitation is the most widespread form of elder abuse, costing seniors in the U.S. between an estimated \$2.9 and \$36 billion annually. In fact, it is been called "the crime of the 21st century."

In my home State of Iowa, for example, so-called grandparent scams are becoming more prevalent. Fraudsters initiating a grandparent scam will present themselves to a senior citizen as a grandchild in distress, in the hope of convincing the grandparent to immediately send cash or give out a credit card number.

Another common scam in Iowa is the sweetheart scam, in which criminals cultivate a romantic relationship with a lonely elder, typically online, and then convince the senior to part with their hard-earned money.

Across the United States, con artists reportedly are also using sweepstakes scams to steal money. A senior is called and told they have won some great prize or sum of money, but before they can claim the supposed prize, the victim is required to pay taxes or processing fees. Once the money is paid to cover the taxes and fees, however, no prize ever materializes.

Other instances of elder financial exploitation are more personal in nature and have especially devastating effects. Some victims are pressured into signing over a deed, modifying a will, or giving a power of attorney. Americans have lost their farms, homes, and life savings to this form of fraud. In Iowa,

we have recently revised our laws to protect against these types of abuse, and I will be doing what I can to raise awareness to help stop this nationwide.

Physical abuse is another form of abuse that can have a devastating impact on older Americans. In fact, older Americans who experience physical abuse reportedly have a 300 percent greater chance of dying sooner.

Many older Americans may also face emotional abuse. According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, common examples of emotional abuse include treating an elder like an infant, isolating an elderly person from his or her loved ones or regular activities, and giving an older person the "silent treatment."

I have also recently become aware of instances of seniors in nursing homes who were unknowingly photographed in embarrassing and compromising situations. These photos or videos wind up on social media outlets, such as Snapchat, Facebook, and Instagram, simply so a depraved individual can get a few cheap laughs or attention.

I sent a letter to the Attorney General and the Health and Human Services inspector general on this very issue earlier this year because it remains unclear to me what specifically is being done on a Federal level to stop this form of abuse.

I have sent letters to Snapchat, Facebook, and Instagram to better understand what efforts they have taken to help prevent this form of abuse of nursing home residents. And I wrote to the American Health Care Association to inquire about the efforts, if any, that nursing homes have taken to prevent this activity.

I also recently called upon the Justice Department to detail the steps it is taking to protect seniors from financial exploitation. I have asked the Department what it is doing to combat government imposter scams that are bilking millions of dollars out of the pockets of older Americans.

Combating elder abuse and exploitation requires all of us to work together in a bipartisan way. To this end, I will convene a Judiciary Committee hearing later this month on the subject of elder financial exploitation.

This hearing will give us a chance to examine whether the Federal Government is doing all it can to prevent older Americans from being victimized and to ensure that perpetrators are held accountable. We also will hear from State officials on how to best educate older Americans about the ever-changing forms of elder abuse and financial exploitation.

Local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies are on the front lines in responding to crimes of elder abuse. For this reason, I would like to take a moment to highlight the efforts of the many adult protective service units, local prosecutors, and other practitioners across the country who have helped bring the perpetrators to justice.

I would also like to recognize family, friends, and caretakers who report instances of elder abuse and help their communities better understand the nature of this problem.

In closing, I invite my colleagues to use World Elder Abuse Awareness Day as an opportunity to highlight the problem of elder abuse and to rededicate efforts to protect our Nation's seniors. These men and women are our fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers, mentors and friends. They are the fabric of our country and communities, our greatest generation, and we owe it to them to protect their dignity in their golden years.

Thank you.

REMEMBERING GEORGE VOINOVICH

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, George Voinovich served in this body as the Senator from Ohio from 1999 until 2010. Senator Voinovich was a friend of mine, and I think our colleagues would agree with me that he was among the most respected members of this body. He was respected for his thoughtfulness, for his humility, for his self-effacing nature.

It is sometimes said that the Senate is composed of 100 prospective Presidents of the United States, each of whom is just waiting for the American people to recognize their unappreciated talents. That concept did not apply to George Voinovich. It is not that he was not well prepared to assume the highest office in the land; George Voinovich simply chose to make his contribution in a different way.

George Voinovich was one of the most prepared people ever to serve in the Senate. He was responsible for the turnaround of the city of Cleveland; elected as a Republican mayor in a Democratic town. He served as Lieutenant Governor and Governor the State of Ohio. He was elected by his peers first to the role of president of the National League of Cities and subsequently to chair the National Governors Association.

In the Senate, he contributed significantly to the work of the Foreign Relations Committee, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, the Environment and Public Works Committee, and the Appropriations Committee.

This was a "workhorse" not a "show horse." For a politician, he was deliberately the "unpolitician." An individual who built a reputation on his efforts and accomplishments and not on his press releases. Approachable and grassroots as they come, which is especially an admirable quality in one who represents a large State. It bears repeating: "a self-effacing and humble man."

George Voinovich was one of the most principled people ever to serve in this body. He was profoundly independent in his thinking. He was frugal in both his policy and in his personal