

line—or ring of vaccination is what doctors will sometimes call that—around the virus would stop an epidemic. Mass vaccinations were highly expensive, and reaching into every village and doing what needed to be done was hard. It was hard to transport vaccines, keeping them active, if you will, and just the scale of the whole world—at least the whole developing world—meant they needed to do something different. That is the reason for the ring of vaccines or the fire line.

Nonetheless, it still required significant investments from governments around the globe. Senators and Congressmen in those days hadn't taken pledges that they would never raise taxes or never close a tax loophole. We came up with the money because we knew public health counted for more than almost anything else. We needed funding for surveillance, for global partnerships, and for developing newer and more effective techniques.

It took a huge amount of manpower and health care workers, local workers in India and Africa going from village to village identifying and stamping out outbreaks. The investment paid off. The last smallpox case appeared in the United States—keep in mind, 300 million people at least died between 1900 and the late 1970s—300 million people. The last case in the United States appeared in 1949. A little more than 30 years later, after a 10-year campaign with Dr. Foege and Dr. Henderson and thousands and thousands of unnamed workers around the world, the last known case was found in Somalia in 1977.

Smallpox is the only infectious disease for humans—the only infectious disease—to be declared eradicated by the World Health Assembly. We still have polio, we still have diphtheria, and we still have cholera. We have made huge progress in polio, thanks in part to the Rotary Club, thanks in part to international efforts by governments, by communities, by doctors, by researchers, by nurses, by health workers, and by so many other people. But smallpox is the only one that has totally been eradicated.

That is how we should do partnerships. We know in health care that up-front public investment is the most effective way to take on the biggest, most important projects. Private charity works, surely. Look what Rotary did on polio. But you have to have the public dollars, the public investment. People in this body think government doesn't do anything right or government can't be trusted to do anything, to accomplish anything or there is no role of government. Well, think about the 300 million people dying from smallpox and now that is eradicated in every place in the world because governments worked together with local communities, with local researchers, with local doctors, and with all of that.

These investments aren't just about helping individual people who are sick or at risk. Whether in our back yard or

a world away, when you save one life, you help so many others. Dr. Henderson understood that, and so did many thousands of others whose names we don't celebrate but who risked their lives to end the scourge of smallpox.

Today's world is more connected than ever. Think of the challenge we face with the spread of the Zika virus. Think how pathetic this Congress's response is to the Zika virus. We can't even fund the Zika virus out of this body because people want to make it about Planned Parenthood or about taking money from the Ebola virus effort instead of straightforward funding for the Zika virus. We did it with smallpox, where 300 million people died, and yet we can't stand up to get funding for the Zika virus.

We are going to have to work together and commit to public investment to make this a better country and a better world for our children, just like Dr. Henderson and Dr. Foege. And Dr. Henderson, whom we honor today—an Ohio native and Oberlin College graduate—ran the campaign that ended the scourge of smallpox, which was a huge victory for humankind.

I yield to Senator McCAIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate in a colloquy with my colleague from Arizona.

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

OBAMACARE AND MILITARY FUNDING

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I am proud to join my colleague from Arizona on several issues that are very important to our constituents. And I believe by working together we have been able to make some significant progress in a number of areas, but we also are facing an enormous challenge.

Our State of Arizona has the unique category of having a county without a single health care provider—not one. Our largest county, Maricopa County, is now down to one from six. So if there is ever an object lesson in the failure of ObamaCare, it is right there in our home State of Arizona, where we have a very large aging population, we have a very large young population, and we are asking young people to pay for the health care of seniors when the fact is, it was a flawed idea from the beginning.

The fact is, I stood on this floor until Christmas Eve morning fighting against ObamaCare, when it was rammed through on a strictly partisan basis: 60 votes they had, 60 votes they used. For the first time in history, we had a major entitlement reform that was done on a totally partisan basis, and we said at the time it would fail. It is unravelling as we speak.

I would ask my colleague from Arizona, what is entertaining is now our friends from the other sides of the aisle

and in the administration are saying: Well, we would like to sit down with the Republicans and fix it, and we could make some much needed changes. The same people who didn't even allow us a single amendment on one of the most massive entitlement reforms in history, and now our citizenry—our citizenry—are paying the price, as are citizens all over the country.

As I mentioned, we now have one county in Arizona—Pinal County—which has the unique distinction of being the only county in America without a single provider. Maricopa County, where the majority of our constituents live—guess what—one provider, increases of 65 percent, 100 percent, 200 percent. It is amazing. It is amazing. By the way, Maricopa County—where there is one health insurance option in the ObamaCare exchanges—about 128,000 people.

And don't ever forget the immortal words of the President of the United States: If you like your health care policy, you can keep your policy, period. Wasn't that clever the way he said "period" at the end of that? Because he was sure that if you liked your health care policy, you could keep your health care policy. And he also said, by the way: If you like your physician, you can keep your physician. How has that turned out? How has that worked?

I thank my colleague from Arizona for his work on the NDAA. We have protected the A-10, we have protected our bases, we have protected the Goldwater ranges. There has been no stronger proponent for those wonderful Apache helicopters that are made in Mesa, AZ, and the Raytheon missiles that are down in Tucson, AZ.

I ask my colleague this: What do you think this impact is in our State—in our beautiful State—of 10,000 people being without a health care option and 180,000 who are going to now be presented with one? Is that what this administration called choice?

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. President, I thank my colleague for having this colloquy.

First, on the NDAA, I thank him for the work he has done this year and every year to make sure we get the NDAA passed. It is one of the single pieces of authorizing legislation we routinely pass and the President signs. It is important to our military to have that guidance—to know not just that we will appropriate the money, but we authorize the money and tell them how it needs to be spent. That provides a much better opportunity for oversight.

I thank my colleague for the reforms he got in this year with regard to procurement and to root out waste, as he always does, in the military. So I appreciate that. It is important to Arizona.

As he mentioned, we have five major Active-Duty military installations in the State: Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Luke Air Force Base, Army Fort Huachuca, Army Yuma Proving

Ground, and Marine Corps Air Station Yuma. There also are several National Guard and Air National Guard facilities around the State. So the NDAA is extremely important to them. Arizona is fortunate to have the chairman of the Armed Services Committee representing the State and understanding the importance of these installations and our national defense.

With regard to ObamaCare, Senator McCAIN and I both traveled around a lot of Arizona during this break. One thing I know he has heard and I have heard from constituents around the State but in particular in Pinal County—as he mentioned, Pinal County is just south of Maricopa County and just out of the metropolitan area, some of it within the metropolitan area. These individuals now have no option. There are 13 counties in Arizona—13 of 15—that have 1 option. Those in Maricopa County last year had eight options. Now it is down to one. So 128,000 individuals, as mentioned, have no competition. Premiums continue to go up. That insurer can do whatever they want to do, and we are hearing it wherever we go. After spending a day in Pinal County traveling around, hearing from the Chamber of Commerce, from Rotary Clubs, from Republican organizations, from townhalls—you name it—people are concerned. There is no option. Yet despite there being no option and no exchange, the penalties still exist.

Imagine, you have no exchange to purchase. If you buy on another exchange, there is no Federal subsidy attached to it. So it is completely unaffordable for many of our constituents. Yet, if they can't buy the insurance and don't buy the insurance, penalties still come. The penalties still come.

I am pleased my colleague is introducing legislation. I am glad to join him on this to make sure that in counties where there is no competition, those penalties simply shouldn't apply. That is the first thing we ought to do.

I have legislation as well that will say the hardship exemptions that currently exist ought to be expanded, particularly for those who have no option at all. It is not getting better. It is getting worse. So we have to sit down and say let's do some of these reforms now because people are hurting.

I thank my colleague.

Mr. McCAIN. Could I just say to my colleague, I think he put it very well. First of all, we are going to have people who have no option but under the present law are going to be paying a fine. How does that work? Then, of course, those with only one option are seeing projected premium increases that are as high, in one case, as 65 percent. Then, of course, we also have a situation where, if you only have one option and the premium increases, then obviously they have no choice. The deductibles are now, in some cases, in the thousands of dollars—deductibles.

So why do you want to buy an insurance policy that you are going to pay a couple thousand bucks before you are part of the plan that gives you the health care you need?

The fact is, and I would ask my colleague, ObamaCare is unravelling. It has now proven to be a colossal failure because it was based on the false premise that young people would willingly pay huge amounts of money to care for the health of older, sicker people. Of course, our great Congressional Budget Office had predicted there would be 21 million people who would have taken advantage of it, and I believe the actual number is 11 million. So this is a failure.

In the short term, Senator FLAKE and I want to make sure no one would ever pay a fine when there is not any option available or only one option available.

Then, I say to my colleagues, we had better start in either the later session of this Congress or the beginning of next year and repeal and replace ObamaCare. It needs to be replaced. If we don't replace it, then we are going to see these horror stories like in Pinal County, AZ, all over America. That is unfair to average American citizens who right now have seen—thanks to the massive regulations issued by the Obama administration—very little improvement in their incomes and their lives. In fact, the actual number of the middle class has been shrinking.

So I thank my colleague for all his hard work on behalf of the men and women who are serving in the military and at our wonderful bases throughout Arizona and also for his leadership in this whole effort of trying to make sure all Americans have affordable and available health care.

By the way, the answer is not the European-type health care system.

Mr. FLAKE. I thank my colleague. I would just add by saying I wish that officials from the administration could travel around with Senator McCAIN and myself as we travel around Arizona and go to Pinal County where people have no option—not even one. No option. No marketplace. Yet they are still being told you are going to pay a fine if you don't purchase insurance. Subsidies don't apply to you because there is no exchange here, but you are still going to get fined.

Try to tell somebody that, and tell them in this system that the administration is making no effort to reform this. They are still defending it, saying it will get better somehow or maybe someone will come just before the deadline and enter the marketplace. I think it is pretty clear they are not. And in those counties that have one insurer, they are looking and saying: Well, hey, where will we be next year? Will we be Pinal County with no options at all?

I wish the administration would travel around with us to Arizona and see what people are suffering with, see what they are trying to get, and it is not just a problem of getting coverage.

It is one thing to have coverage, but when you get to the hospital and find out that you have to get care and your deductibles are through the roof, your copays are through the roof—putting aside the premiums you are paying. This competition that is supposedly there isn't in Arizona. Premiums have skyrocketed as have copays and deductibles.

I thank my colleague for what he is doing. I look forward to working with him on this legislation to give people who have no options or only one choice an option where they pay no penalties. At least let's start there.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. McCAIN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I begin by commending my colleagues from Arizona. I couldn't agree more with them and what they were just talking about with regard to ObamaCare.

Similar to Arizona, Alaska is going through the same thing. We are now down to one health insurance provider in the entire State. It started with five, and we are now down to one for the entire State of Alaska. Similar to Arizona, our premiums and deductibles are going through the roof. I certainly want to work with my colleagues from Arizona on ways to address States and counties in Arizona or places like Alaska, where we have seen essentially no competition. So we certainly want to focus on that as well.

I also commend the Senator from Arizona, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, on what he has done for our military and how he has been a leader, really, in the country on national security and foreign policy issues. His leadership, particularly as the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, is absolutely critical for the national security and foreign policy of the entire country.

We are coming back from our work session. Most of us were home for the last 6 weeks. I had an amazing trip back home in Alaska and heard the concerns, hopes, dreams of my constituents across the State. I also saw a lot of pride. One reason I saw a lot of pride is that we have pride in our military forces that serve in the great State of Alaska, thousands and thousands of Active-Duty and Reserve Forces, more veterans per capita than in any other State in the country. I had the opportunity to visit with a lot of our veterans, a lot of our military Active-Duty and Reserve Forces. I also had the opportunity to bring a number of our U.S. military and civilian leaders up to Alaska to show them our troops, show them the great training. This was the Commandant of the Marine Corps, the Commandant of the Coast Guard, the Secretary of the Army, the head of Missile Defense, the new combatant commander in charge of NORTHCOM. So we had a number of military officers visiting Alaska, and

they got to see a lot of our troops, not only Alaska but Iowa National Guard, Hawaii troops, all training in the great State of Alaska.

You know that our troops are doing amazing work, not just the training in different bases throughout the country but keeping us safe throughout the world and risking their lives in combat throughout the world. I certainly don't have to mention to this body the number of troops we have deployed all over the world keeping us safe—in combat and risking their lives.

I mentioned the pride that Americans have in their military because it is really important to understand what just happened on the Senate floor about 20 minutes ago. What just happened? Sometimes it is hard to figure out the process. What did we just vote on? Let me put it bluntly. The minority leader of the Senate once again encouraged the Members of the other side of the aisle, of his party, to filibuster the funding for our troops. That just happened. The press will not report on it, but it is pretty remarkable given what we have going on in the world and one of the most sacred responsibilities of what we should be doing in this body. We just saw another filibuster of spending for the men and women who serve in the U.S. military. What a disappointment it is and what a disconnect between what is going on in the rest of America and here in DC.

I want to remind my colleagues of this. If you went back home, regardless of where you live, regardless of what party you are in, and you asked your constituents: Should we be funding our military right now, should we be funding the men and women who are overseas risking their lives, keeping this Nation safe, the answer, probably, of virtually every American in the United States of America would be yes.

I want to remind my colleagues that what just happened on the Senate floor—another filibuster of spending for our troops—wasn't the first time. Indeed, this is the bill that the minority leader of the Senate decided he wants to filibuster more than any other bill that we have brought up in the last year and a half.

This evening's vote was the sixth time that the minority leader of the Senate has led a filibuster against funding for our troops. He wasn't satisfied to do it one time or two times or three times or four times or five times—six times.

You and I and many other Members of the Senate were on the floor in July making the case that we shouldn't be doing this. We—I mean the Senate—should be focused on funding our troops. By the way, they read about this. For those who think the members of the military don't understand what is going on—that one party consistently denies them funding, that nobody understands that—that is not true. The troops know what is going on.

We were down here, like many other Members of the Senate, encouraging

our colleagues to support the troops, to stop the filibuster. This is what our troops want. This is what the American people want, and this is what the Senate of the United States of America should be doing—supporting our troops, not denying them funding.

I know my colleagues and I will continue to fight for this funding and fight these misguided attempts by the minority leader to undercut our troops, undercut our military, and undercut the funding that they desperately need and that should be a primary responsibility of this body.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:14 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

THE JUDICIARY

ABID RIAZ QURESHI, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VICE ROSEMARY M. COLLYER, RETIRED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. CHARLES L. PLUMMER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. SAMUEL A. GREAVES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. JAMES M. HOLMES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MARK D. KELLY

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. JOSEPH F. JARRARD

THE FOLLOWING OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. LAUREL J. HUMMEL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. GUSTAVE F. PERNA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE VICE CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU AND FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 10505 AND 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. DANIEL R. HOKANSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. ALFRED F. ABRAMSON III
COL. PETER B. ANDRYSIAK, JR.
COL. ROBERT W. BENNETT, JR.
COL. JONATHAN P. BRAGA
COL. JOHN W. BRENNAN, JR.
COL. DAVID E. BRIGHAM
COL. MIGUEL A. CORREA
COL. CLEMENT S. COWARD, JR.
COL. MARIO A. R. DIAZ
COL. PATRICK J. DONAHUE
COL. CHRISTOPHER T. DONAHUE
COL. ROBERT L. EDMONSON II
COL. SCOTT L. EFFLANDT
COL. MICHAEL R. FENZEL
COL. DAVID J. FRANCIS
COL. PAUL H. FREDENBURGH
COL. DAVID M. HAMILTON
COL. NEIL S. HERSEY
COL. LONNIE G. HIBBARD
COL. JOHNNIE L. JOHNSON, JR.
COL. OMAR J. JONES IV
COL. MARK H. LANDES
COL. DAVID A. LESPERANCE
COL. STEPHEN J. MARANIAN
COL. DOUGLAS M. MCBRIDE, JR.
COL. MATTHEW W. MCFARLANE
COL. STEPHEN L. MICHAEL
COL. CHRISTOPHER O. MOHAN
COL. LAURA A. POTTER
COL. ANTHONY W. POTTS
COL. ROBERT A. RASCH, JR.
COL. KENNETH T. ROYAR
COL. DOUGLAS A. SIMS II
COL. STEPHEN G. SMITH
COL. JOHN C. ULRICH
COL. ROBERT F. WHITTLE, JR.
COL. DAVID WILSON

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. WILLIAM K. LIESCHER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. JAMES G. FOGGO III

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. JOHN W. RAYMOND

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

REBECCA L. POWERS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

WILLIAM L. WHITE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

ANTHONY B. MULHARE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

ROBERT M. CLONTZ II
REBECCA K. KEMMETT

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

FREDDY L. ADAMS II
PAUL E. ALESSIO
RONNIE D. ANDERSON, JR.
JOEL D. BABBITT
DARIEN L. BAISLEY
JEFFREY E. BAKER
SEAN G. BARRETT
STEPHANIE A. BARTON