

trying times. Please don't let hate infect your heart. This city must and will get better.

Deputy Garafola served the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office for over 24 years. He was a beloved son, husband to his wife Tonja, and father to their four children: Garrett, Braley, Brad, and Samantha. He was remembered for always selflessly trying to help others. At the time of his death, he again acted selflessly, giving his life when he saw another officer down, running to that officer who was injured during the attack and by doing so exposing himself to fatal gunfire.

Officer Matthew Gerald joined the Baton Rouge Police Department just last year. Before this, he had bravely served our country in both the Army and Marine Corps. Between 2002 and 2009, Matt completed three tours of duty in Iraq as a crew chief on a helicopter crew and received numerous awards and medals. Prior to his service in the Army, he had enlisted in the Marine Corps in New Orleans and served 4 years from 1994 to 1998. Matt was a loving son, husband to his wife Dechia, and father to Dawelyn and Fynleigh. His wife recently announced she is pregnant with their third child.

Each of those men shared common core values that guided them: service, stewardship, and sacrifice. They put the needs and well-being of others before their own. Scripture says, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." In protecting their community, these men paid the ultimate sacrifice. I honor their lives and thank their families for their selfless service to the city of Baton Rouge, to the State of Louisiana, and to the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASIDY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

WRDA

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, as the Presiding Officer knows, we are working on a bill we call WRDA, W-R-D-A, which is the Water Resources Development Act. This is important to the entire country because what it focuses on is obviously clean drinking water but also the kinds of infrastructure that protect public safety and make commerce and transportation possible.

I commend the leadership of Chairman INHOFE, the Senator from Oklahoma, and Ranking Member BOXER, the Senator from California, for the work they have done getting us this far.

In particular, I wanted to mention the application of this legislation to

my home State of Texas. Texas understands that water is a precious resource and one that needs to be managed effectively. There is an old saying in Texas that whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting. It kind of makes you chuckle, but it demonstrates the point that water is essential to life. It is essential to our agricultural community to be able to grow our crops and water our livestock. It is indispensable, but it is easy to overlook all the work it takes to craft good legislation that looks out for the whole country's water supply and also protects our ports, our waterways, and helps guard against flooding. These are just a few of the projects included in this bill.

In April, this legislation overwhelmingly passed out of committee. I am pleased this bill serves as just another example of what we can accomplish when we put politics aside and work together in the best interests of the American people.

I wish to mention that I am also grateful this legislation includes part of a bill that I introduced last spring called the COAST Act. Texas has hundreds of miles of coastline, and the State's location in the Gulf of Mexico makes it particularly vulnerable to hurricanes, storms, and other weather impacts such as flooding, storm surges, and high winds. I don't need to tell the Presiding Officer about that, as Louisiana recently suffered terrible flooding.

In 2008, Texans saw firsthand when Hurricane Ike made landfall. It became the second most costly U.S. hurricane on record.

Of course, because the area is so densely populated and includes one of our Nation's busiest ports and energy hubs, major damage along the Texas coast would likely be felt well beyond our State in much of the rest of the country as well, particularly the economic impacts. Safeguarding the gulf coast from the next major hurricane should be a priority not just to Texas but a national priority, as I say, both to those who live there and those who would suffer the potential economic consequences. That is why this particular provision, the coastal Texas protection provision in the Water Resources Development Act legislation, is so important.

This is very straightforward. All it would do is require the Army Corps of Engineers to take advantage of pre-existing studies and not have to duplicate those studies as a prerequisite to addressing this issue. The Corps wouldn't have to duplicate efforts but could instead build on the good work of leaders in the State that had already been done, so the Texas coast can get the protection it needs sooner rather than later.

Fortunately, the Water Resources Development Act also includes projects that will benefit communities across my State, such as infrastructure improvements to help reduce flooding,

provisions that make our ship channels more efficient and strengthen our ports by making them safer and better equipped to handle growing amounts of trade. I know there is a lot of discussion about trade, particularly in the Presidential election season, but I will tell you that trade is viewed as an unmitigated good in my State. We are the No. 1 exporting State in the Nation, and that is just one reason why our economy is growing faster than the national economy.

We have learned a very simple lesson; that is, when you grow things—when you make things—and you have more people and more markets to sell to around the world, it is good for jobs, and it is good for the economy. I hope that some of our leaders and those who aspire to become the next President of the United States learn from some of the lessons that we have learned from in Texas—that trade is good.

That is not to say that with globalization there aren't some people disadvantaged, and we can address some of those concerns with funds dedicated to retraining efforts. But the fact of the matter is that more technology and more globalization are changing our economy and our labor markets in ways that we will never be able to reverse. So we shouldn't throw the baby out with the bath water and just turn our backs on the benefits of trade, which means we need to have efficient ports that are equipped to handle growing amounts of trade globally.

In conclusion, on the Water Resources Development Act, let me say again that I express my gratitude to Chairman INHOFE and Ranking Member BOXER for this solid, bipartisan legislation. I hope it passes the Senate soon. I trust it will be out of the Senate by the middle of next week.

JUSTICE AGAINST SPONSORS OF TERRORISM ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, this weekend is the 15th anniversary of the terrible attacks on our country on September 11, 2001. It is impossible to forget the horrible events of that day and the pain, grief, and mourning that our country felt. I think it is one of those seminal events in my life—and I am sure I am not alone—that I will always remember what I was doing and where I was when those planes hit the World Trade Center. It reminds me of when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated when I was much younger. I remember where I was and what I was doing.

I know communities across the country will spend time on this anniversary of 9/11 honoring the lives of the victims, their families, and the friends that they left behind, as well as the first responders and volunteers who put others before themselves in the wake of so much destruction.

One way that Congress can honor the victims of that day and lend support to their families is by sending the Justice

Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act to President Obama's desk for his signature. This bill would enable Americans and their family members to pursue justice against those who sponsor acts of terrorism on the U.S. homeland, such as that which occurred on September 11, 2001.

A few months ago this legislation passed unanimously in the Senate. Again, there is not much legislation that passes this body unanimously, but this did.

I believe unanimous passage of this bill sends an unmistakable message that we will combat terrorism with every tool we have. Just as importantly, we will make sure that simple justice is available to the victims of terrorist attacks on our soil by not erecting any unnecessary roadblocks to the pursuit of justice in the courts of law.

I understand that the House of Representatives will vote on this legislation, perhaps as soon as today or tomorrow, and I hope they send a similar message to the victims and their families on this 15th anniversary of 9/11.

Finally, I hope the President will rethink his previous statements expressing an intent to perhaps veto this legislation. It makes absolutely no sense to prevent the families who suffered losses as a result of terrorist attacks on our soils from having their day in court against whoever is responsible. This legislation does not purport to decide who is responsible but merely removes the impediments under the sovereign immunity act that prevent them from even presenting their case in court.

It is time we help victims of terrorism in our country to seek justice, and it is time that the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act becomes the law of the land.

With that, I yield the floor.

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

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

WASTEFUL SPENDING

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, today I return to the floor for talk No. 49—49 weeks of coming to the floor to talk about what we have described as “waste of the week.” We originally started this about 50 weeks ago in this cycle, with some skipping of weeks when we were not in session, trying to look at ways to make government more efficient and effective and to save taxpayer dollars. We set a goal of reaching \$100 billion.

Whether it was the Congressional Budget Office, whether it was the inspectors general overseeing expendi-

tures in the various agencies, we kept receiving these reports about taxpayer money that is wasted through waste, fraud, and abuse. We have talked about everything from the ridiculous to the really serious in terms of mismanagement, fraud, and waste that has occurred in this Federal Government.

At a time when we cannot begin to balance our budget, when expenditures keep significantly exceeding revenues that are coming in no matter how much tax we collect, we find ourselves in a situation where we are continuing to borrow and borrow and borrow and borrow into the trillions and trillions and trillions of dollars—a truly unsustainable rate which will cause great harm to the American people at some point, if it hasn't already. Clearly, it is holding down our ability to grow. Clearly, it is putting us in a situation where expenditures on just paying interest on the money we have to borrow continues to increase, depriving us of the opportunity to address some essential needs, such as infrastructure and basic science. NIH research, the CDC, and others are being squeezed because we simply don't have the funds available without continuing to go into debt.

So this is No. 49. It is one of the more minor ones. Keep tuning in because next week we have a big one coming. We could come down here almost every day and talk about something, with the backlog of waste, fraud, and abuse documented by agencies that are non-partisan. They are not Republican. They are not Democratic. These are agencies that just deal with numbers, they just deal with facts, and they report to us, as Members of the Senate and the Congress, to make this available to the public and to demonstrate that we could run a much better shop here and save the taxpayers a lot of money.

Today I want to highlight abuse of a fund that exists within the Department of Health and Human Services. It is called the Nonrecurring Expenses Fund, otherwise known as NEF. “Non-recurring expense fund” is another fancy description the Federal Government has put out so that nobody can understand what it is, but we looked into this and found that the Non-recurring Expenses Fund is a fund that was created to place money which wasn't used. There was money appropriated by Congress for specific purposes, but they didn't use all of it. Instead of turning it back to the Treasury or the taxpayer, they said: Let's create this fund that we can put this excess money in that hasn't been used for the purpose it was designated. We will put it in a fund, and it will be there for use for some other purposes.

Well, you know how government works: Never return a penny of the money that has been allocated to you by the Congress because the next time it comes up on an annual basis for your allocation, Congress may say: Well, they didn't need all that money, so let's give them less money next year.

Oh, no, we don't want to be in that position, so let's make sure we find a way to spend it.

Anyway, the money is sitting here in this slush fund called the Nonrecurring Expenses Fund, and it is supposed to be used for one-time expenses that come up on construction or IT projects and they can go to the fund and take some money out and use it for specified purposes. Well, all that was fine, I guess. I think it should have gone back to the Treasury. They did put a 5-year limit on it, and if it is still there after 5 years, it is supposed to go back to the Treasury but instead goes to this fund.

Well, along came ObamaCare and all of its promises: Don't worry, it is not going to cost you a penny more than what is already being paid. If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. Your premiums won't go up.

All that was promised to us by the President. After every declarative thing he said, he added: Period. Not one penny increase, period. Keep your doctor, period. Done deal, folks. Trust us.

Well, of course none of that happened. ObamaCare seems to be collapsing under the weight of its own regulations and rules and operations. We read every day, almost every week of an exchange closing, of premiums skyrocketing. We are in for a very big surprise this fall. Some of this has been documented about the numbers coming in and the increases in premiums in the various States that are staggering. People are dropping out, people can't afford to get in, and on and on it goes.

In any event, under ObamaCare, as we all remember, when they set it up, the Web site didn't work and people couldn't make the phone calls, so the expenditures have been significantly higher than what we were told and what was projected, and we are talking about big money here. So the administration thought, well, let's sort of look around, dig around, and maybe we will find a fund somewhere where there is some excess money we can use to prop up ObamaCare rather than having to go back to the Congress.

Now, this is money appropriated for a specific purpose and not to be used or tapped into to pay for some other failing program over here, but, of course, that didn't stop the White House from doing that. It seems nothing does stop them, including laws passed by the Congress.

In any event, they determined that, wow, here is a slush fund. Over the course of 4 years, it had about \$1.3 billion in it. So why don't we just take it? It breaches the rules, maybe even the constitutionality of the fact that Congress appropriates money for specific purposes and puts it in specific places, and the administration doesn't have the right to simply go over there and say: Oh, there is a pot of money over there. It has been sitting there. Even though the law says it should expire after 5 years and it has to go back to the Treasury, we will ignore that and