

Eight years ago, former U.S. Senator Max Baucus led the charge to ensure that three essential functions were established to help the people of Libby. These functions included screening for asbestos related diseases, healthcare for conditions caused by asbestos exposure, and a program to assist patients with unique services due to asbestos exposure. These vital programs, specifically designed to help those most in need, are essential and must be preserved. With these tools available, over 4,000 individuals have been screened and over 2,000 individuals have been diagnosed with asbestos related diseases. On March 6, I sent a letter to Speaker of the House PAUL RYAN and Senate Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL to preserve these tools for the people of Libby. The latency period for diseases related to asbestos exposure can be decades into the future. Long after the environmental and economic impacts have been overcome, the human impact in Libby will continue. As the debate over healthcare ebbs and flows, the essential protections for the people of Libby must remain intact.

The Center for Asbestos Related Disease, known locally as the CARD clinic, is a vital nonprofit resource located in Libby that helps with identification, treatment, and research for those with asbestos exposure. The tools championed by Senator Baucus are vital to the success of a community resource like the CARD clinic. As the Senator who now serves the people of Montana from Senator Baucus's old seat, it is my duty to continue to fight for the people of Libby.

To understand the impact these programs have on the daily lives of people in the area, it makes sense to listen to their personal experiences. Lynn Sather-Diller said the CARD clinic has helped "me to stay as healthy as possible even though I have an asbestos related disease. I wouldn't be able to do it without their help."

The basic activity of breathing, something many of us simply take for granted, is a daily concern and immediate priority for those with asbestos related diseases.

Angie Hill added, "Asbestos related disease is life changing. Hard to say in only a few words, our exposure started in our childhood & is so scary when you struggle to breath. We are thankful for the exceptional medical care & educational information the CARD center, Dr. Brad Black & his staff provide to it's patients." Echoing those sentiments was Judy Lundstrom: "You helped with exams and I am on night oxygen and feel much better so can continue my job. I am able to stay in my own home because Dr. Black and Tanis helped."

These examples show the strength of the people of Libby. This region will continue to find ways to reach its potential. Like the rest of Montana, Libby is blessed with awe-inspiring beauty and immense natural resources. The Cabinet Mountain Range south of

Libby has the majesty of a divine painting, and this masterpiece will always draw travelers to the region. The soon to open Montanore Mine will be a major producer of copper and silver. The Kootenai National Forest contains significant timber resources. The Libby Dam to the east of town produces reliable energy, helping to empower the United States through energy dominance. The Kootenai River flows through that dam and is an engine of recreational activity, inviting outdoor enthusiasts from across the globe to explore the natural splendor of Lincoln County and gaze in wonder at the Kootenai Falls. As the people of Libby overcome the past and chart a course for the years ahead, I admire their resilient attitude and steadfast determination. While the hardy character and independent spirit of this small community in far Northwest Montana, we must not abandon our commitment to giving them a hand up and the tools necessary to succeed.●

RECOGNIZING FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Flathead Valley Community College in Kalispell, MT, and to honor the many contributions that FVCC has made in northwest Montana.

In 1967, Dr. Larry Blake was hired as the first president of FVCC, and months later, he opened the doors to 611 students who made up the very first class.

Fifty years later, over 3,500 students are enrolled in FVCC and studying more than 100 degree and certificate programs.

The campus today is unrecognizable to those who studied at its original downtown location, and in recent years, I have seen the new campus boom with the construction of additional education facilities, laboratories, and campus housing.

In 2001, Jane Karas was hired as the 11th president of FVCC, and she has been instrumental in the growth of the region's largest higher education institution.

Under Jane Karas's leadership, FVCC has expanded the nursing school and developed a renowned culinary school that has helped meet the growing demand for jobs in the communities that lay in the shadow of Glacier National Park.

In addition to serving thousands of students in Kalispell, FVCC operates a satellite campus an hour away in Libby, MT.

Over the past 50 years, FVCC has made a profound impact in Montana, and I join all of the Montanans who can't wait to see what they have in store for the next 50 years.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to

the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13536 ON APRIL 12, 2010 WITH RESPECT TO SOMALIA—PM 6

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13536 of April 12, 2010, with respect to Somalia is to continue in effect beyond April 12, 2017.

The United States is strongly committed to Somalia's stabilization, and it is important to maintain sanctions against persons undermining its stability. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to Somalia and to maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, April 6, 2017.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 544. An act to amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the termination date for the Veterans Choice Program, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1304. An act to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from the definition of health insurance coverage certain medical stop-loss insurance obtained by certain plan sponsors of group health plans.

H.R. 1667. An act to amend title 11 of the United States Code in order to facilitate the resolution of an insolvent financial institution in bankruptcy.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Mr. LIEU of California.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 353. An act to improve the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's weather research through a focused program of investment on affordable and attainable advances in observational, computing, and modeling capabilities to support substantial improvement in weather forecasting and prediction of high impact weather events, to expand commercial opportunities for the provision of weather data, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

At 12:50 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolutions, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 30. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Steve Case as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S.J. Res. 35. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Michael Govan as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S.J. Res. 36. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Roger W. Ferguson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1219. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to expand the investor limitation for qualifying venture capital funds under an exemption from the definition of an investment company.

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 48. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1219. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to expand the investor limitation for qualifying venture capital funds under an exemption from the definition of an investment company; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1304. An act to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from the definition of health insurance coverage certain medical stop-loss insurance obtained by certain plan sponsors of group health plans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 1667. An act to amend title 11 of the United States Code in order to facilitate the resolution of an insolvent financial institution in bankruptcy; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 91. A bill to amend the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes to integrate the employment, training, and related services from diverse Federal sources, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-26).

S. 302. A bill to enhance tribal road safety, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-27).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 862. A bill to establish and strengthen projects that defray the cost of related instruction associated with pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 863. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the taxation of income of controlled foreign corporations attributable to imported property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 864. A bill to promote development goals and the strengthening of the private sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. REED, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 865. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to repeal a certain exemption for hydraulic fracturing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S. 866. A bill to amend the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 to eliminate the use of valid court orders to secure lockup of status offenders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DONNELLY (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. COONS):

S. 867. A bill to provide support for law enforcement agency efforts to protect the mental health and wellbeing of law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 868. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a lifetime income disclosure; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 869. A bill to repeal the violation of sovereign nations' laws and privacy matters; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CARPER, Ms. STABENOW, and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 870. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to implement Medicare payment policies designed to improve management of chronic disease, streamline care coordination, and improve quality outcomes without adding to the deficit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HELLER:

S. 871. A bill to appropriate such funds as may be necessary to ensure that members of the Armed Forces, including reserve components thereof, and supporting civilian and contractor personnel continue to receive pay and allowances for active service performed when a funding gap caused by the failure to enact interim or full-year appropriations for the Armed Forces occurs, which results in the furlough of non-emergency personnel and the curtailment of Government activities and services; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 872. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make permanent the extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. CARPER):

S. 873. A bill to amend section 8433 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from the Thrift Savings Fund; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 874. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to protect the enrollment of incarcerated youth for medical assistance under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

S. 875. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study and submit a report on filing requirements under the Universal Service Fund programs; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. HELLER, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. UDALL):

S. 876. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to recognize Indian tribal governments for purposes of determining under the adoption credit whether a child has special needs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. HATCH):