

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

HEALTHCARE LEGISLATION

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, often upon returning from a week in my State when the Senate is out of session, I like to talk about some of the things I saw in Ohio. Much of that week I spent at roundtables at Akron Children's Hospital, in Cleveland, Dayton, Cincinnati, Columbus, Toledo, and Youngstown—over the last couple of weeks but especially last week—talking about what Medicaid cuts would mean to my State. I throw in with Governor Kasich, the Republican Governor, who has admonished his colleagues—first in the House and now in the Senate—to not repeal the Affordable Care Act, to not throw, literally, 900,000 people who have insurance in Ohio today off insurance, as the House bill would do. At the same time, one thing we also know is that the average 60-year-old in Ohio will see her premiums go up \$1,600 a year.

We all know the terrible problem opioid addiction has inflicted on hundreds of thousands of people in our country. Unfortunately, my State has had more opioid deaths pretty much every month—certainly, over the last year—than any State in the United States of America. Today 200,000 Ohioans are getting opioid treatment who are able to get that treatment because they have insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

Think about the 26-year-old who is on her mother's health insurance plan who gets opioid treatment. Think about the family with the 5-year-old with a preexisting condition who will no longer be able to get insurance and who gets insurance because of the Affordable Care Act, because we fixed the preexisting condition exclusion. If the House version were to pass, or something similar to it, that family would lose its insurance. There was example after example. That is one of the reasons the House of Representatives had so much trouble repealing the Affordable Care Act and one of the reasons that the 12 or 13 Senators are meeting—maybe tonight, for all I know; they never tell us—just down the hall, down there in Senator McCONNELL's office, to try to figure out how to repeal the Affordable Care Act and find a way to hold 52 Republican Senators together.

Think about that. They are meeting in secret. First, it was the House of Representatives, when they repealed the Affordable Care Act, when they voted on what is called the American

Health Care Act. I think that is what they called it, the AHCA. When they voted on it, they came up with a bill at 8 o'clock at night. They sprung it on the floor the next day. Almost nobody had a chance to read it. There were no hearings, no discussions—not even reading the bill. They jammed it through by twisting arms—the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, who used to be a Member of the House, the Speaker of the House, all of them—to get this bill through. They hadn't even taken the time to hear from the Congressional Budget Office to tell how much this bill would cost and how many people would lose their insurance. It turns out they estimated that more than 20 million people would lose their insurance. That came after the vote in the House.

They are doing the same thing in the Senate. They are doing this meeting behind closed doors. It is a bunch of Republican leaders together. No Democrats are invited. No Democrats are asked their opinions. It is all about doing something to live up to this campaign promise that they are going to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

Listen to Governor Kasich. They have no idea what they are going to do with these 20 million people, with 900,000 people in my State—900,000 people who have health insurance, most of whom are working. These are people who have jobs. They just aren't lucky enough to have jobs like we have, where their health insurance is paid for.

Think about the morality of this—200-plus Republican Members of Congress, all of whom get health insurance paid by taxpayers, by all of you in the Gallery and anybody watching this. We get insurance here paid for by taxpayers, and they are going to just snatch it away from those 200,000 families in my State who are getting opioid addiction treatment because of the Affordable Care Act. What is the morality of that?

Then, worse than that is that they do it without reading the bill. They do it, pretty much, in the middle of the night, and they are doing the same thing here. Clearly, the American public is on to this. The public overwhelmingly thinks this is a bad idea.

But they move forward because there is a huge tax break involved for the drug industry, a huge tax break for the medical device industry, and huge help for the insurance industry. That is why they do it, because in the end so much of what happens in this body is so that the wealthiest 1 or 2 or 5 percent get their tax cuts, get their tax breaks, and the middle class gets stuck with the bill and the middle class loses the benefits it gets. That is the moral outrage that so many Americans feel about this process.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

COUNTERING IRAN'S DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES ACT OF 2017—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 110, S. 722.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 110, S. 722, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 110, S. 722, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

Todd Young, Joni Ernst, Bill Cassidy, Ron Johnson, Tom Cotton, Orrin G. Hatch, Roger F. Wicker, Pat Roberts, Mitch McConnell, Richard Burr, Luther Strange, James M. Inhofe, Mike Crapo, Shelley Moore Capito, John Corry, Bob Corker, John Barrasso.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

REMEMBERING WILLIAM BARCLAY BATES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to William Barclay Bates, a father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and veteran of the Second World War. Bill, as he liked to be called, passed away last December in Jackson, WY, at the age of 91. Next week, his family will gather at Wyoming Veterans Cemetery in Casper, WY, to commemorate his life and honor his contributions to our country. I wish to add a few words to what they will say about this brave and stalwart man.

Bill's life story typifies many of his generation. He was born on December 14, 1924, in Los Angeles, CA, to Jeffrey Otto and Clara Virginia Bates. His father, Jeff, served in the American Expeditionary Force in Russia during

World War I. His mother, Clara, was a telephone operator. When Bill was 5, he moved with his family to McAlester, OK. This was during the middle of the Great Depression, and times were tough. Bill's father owned a radio repair shop and later ran a roller rink to provide for the family. As Bill said some years later, "We never had much money, but neither did anyone else. We never missed any meals, but we ate a lot of beans, and a soup bone on Sunday was a real treat."

In September 1941, at the age of 17, Bill enlisted in the Army. It was 3 months before Pearl Harbor. After basic training, Bill applied for and was accepted to airplane gunnery school. Following completion of his training, a request came in for a gunner for a group headed to Africa. As Bill later told the story, his captain "flipped a coin between two candidates, me and Bill Haygood. I lost and Bill Haygood went to North Africa and was killed within six weeks. A flip of a coin decided that I would live through the war."

Instead of going to Africa, Bill was sent to Europe with the Eighth Air Force, 446th Bomb Group. The 446th Bomb Group, which came to be known as the Bungay Buckaroos, led the Eighth Air Force on the first heavy bomber mission on D-Day, June 6, 1944, and later supported Allied ground forces as they moved east toward Berlin through France and Germany.

Bill served as a waist gunner and flew missions in B-17s and B-24s. In total, he flew 33 combat missions. This was very dangerous work. Of his original flight crew, only Bill and one other were still alive at the war's end. For his service, he received the Air Medal with three bronze oakleaf clusters and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

After receiving an honorable discharge as a staff sergeant in 1945, Bill returned to Oklahoma, studied business on the G.I. bill, and became a certified public accountant.

In 1951, he married Dorothy Lee Hartman in Fort Sill, OK. Like Bill, Dorothy grew up in Oklahoma during the Great Depression. She was working as a nurse in Tulsa when they met. A year after Bill and Dorothy married, their son Bruce was born. Seven years later, another son, Jeff, was born.

In 1962, Bill and his family moved from Tulsa to Casper, WY, so Bill and Dorothy could pursue their love of the outdoors. During this time, Bill continued his work as an accountant, serving in the Casper Chamber of Commerce and as president of the Wyoming chapter of certified public accountants. He grew his firm, Bates and Hocker, into the largest accounting firm in the State of Wyoming.

After Bill retired, he and Dorothy moved to California, Arizona, and then Utah, returning to Casper every summer to hunt, fish, and enjoy Wyoming's cool summers. Bill became an avid safari hunter, traveling to Africa 15 times to hunt game.

After Dorothy passed away in 2012, Bill returned to Wyoming, where he spent many happy days in Jackson near his son Jeff and daughter-in-law Vickie. He passed away on December 5 of last year, surrounded by family and loved ones. He is survived by his sons Bruce and Jeff, daughters-in-law Debbie and Vickie, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

I said at the outset that Bill's life story typifies many of his generation. He grew up during the Great Depression, when times were hard and money scarce. He served with valor in World War II, where he risked his life many times for his country and fellow servicemen. After the war, he went to college, got married, and started a family. He built a business and served in the community. He was a faithful husband and a steadfast provider for his children.

Men like Bill Bates are the reason America and her allies prevailed in World War II. Men like Bill Bates are the reason we enjoy such a prosperous and free country today. I am grateful for this opportunity to add a few words in Bill's memory and wish his family the very best.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote No. 138 on adoption of S. Res. 176. Had I been present, I would have voted yea.

As a cosponsor of S. Res. 176, I would have joined many of my colleagues in voting for its adoption. Noting this week marks the 50th anniversary of the Six-Day War and the reunification of the city of Jerusalem, this resolution recognizes that there has been a continuous Jewish presence in the city of Jerusalem for 3,000 years and that the holy city is home to people of Jewish, Muslim, and Christian faiths. This resolution reaffirms longstanding U.S. positions, including that the permanent status of Jerusalem must be negotiated between the parties through final status negotiations for a two-state solution. This resolution further reaffirms the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship and our shared value of promoting religious freedom.●

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant informa-

tion is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 16-77, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$750 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J. W. RIXEY,
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16-77

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$ 0 million.
Other \$750 million.
Total \$750 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:
Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE includes: Continuation of a blanket order training program inside and outside of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia that includes, but is not limited to, flight training, technical training, professional military education, specialized training, mobile training teams (MTTs), and English language training. These blanket order training cases will cover all relevant types of training offered by or contracted through the U.S. Air Force or Department of Defense Agencies (DOD), to include participation in CONUS DOD-sponsored education, as well as MTTs that will travel to Saudi Arabia. This training for the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF) and other Saudi forces will include such subjects as civilian casualty avoidance, the law of armed conflict, human rights command and control, and targeting via MTTs and/or broader Programs of Instruction (POIs). Program management, trainers, simulators, travel, billeting, and medical support may also be included.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: FMS Case NFS—\$44M, FMS Case NFT—\$48M, FMS Case NFU—\$82M, FMS Case TGP—\$53M, FMS Case THB—\$93M, FMS Case THD—\$73M, FMS Case THE—\$69M, FMS Case THF—\$39M, FMS Case THG—\$93M.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid. Offered. or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 2, 2017.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.