

It is another question fundamentally, as pretty much every debate here is, of whose side you are on. Are my colleagues going to stand, again, with the biggest telecom corporations as they stood with the big corporations that outsourced jobs, as they stand with Wall Street, as they stand with Big Tobacco, as they stand with the Koch brothers, as they stand with the big healthcare companies that deny insurance and deny healthcare to working families? Are they going to stand with them—with big telecom companies that slow down the internet, slow down the economy to pad their own bottom lines? Are we going to stand with the people we serve—with hard-working Americans and small businesses and students and entrepreneurs who need access to the internet?

The internet doesn't belong to a wealthy few. This Senate too often belongs to a wealthy few. It shouldn't. A lot have opposed those efforts. We know, though, that the internet should not belong to a wealthy few. The internet belongs to the people we were sent here to represent.

I hope my colleagues will join me and sign this petition to protect a free and open internet.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant 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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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 (Mr. TILLIS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, at 12 noon, on Thursday, May 10, all time be considered expired on the Brennan nomination and the Senate vote on confirmation with no intervening action or debate; further, that following disposition of the Brennan nomination, the Senate vote on cloture on Executive Calendar No. 729, the Carson nomination; further, that the cloture vote on Executive Calendar No. 777, the Nalbandian nomination, occur at 1:45 p.m.; and that if cloture is invoked on both nominations, debate time run concurrently. Finally, I ask that with respect to the Brennan nomination, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 828; that the nomination be confirmed; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon

the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

IN THE COAST GUARD

The following named officer for appointment as Commandant of the United States Coast Guard and to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 44:

To be admiral

Vice Adm. Karl L. Schultz

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO LEO MONTOYA

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, as we move through life, certain people leave a lasting impression, and I rise today to recognize one of them. Leo Montoya, a citizen of Utah, is an exceptional man who has impressed me with his commitment to family, faith, and community.

In 1928, the year Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin, Leo was born on June 4 as the seventh of nine siblings to Epifanio and Decideria (Gutierrez) Montoya. Decideria's family roots were in New Mexico, where she raised her family as head of household in La Jara and Lumberton. Decideria worked outside the home, so her daughters took care of their youngest siblings while the older brothers contributed to support the family any way they could. The family lived under extreme poverty and hardship in La Jara until Leo's 14-year-old brother, Candido, traveled 90 miles north to find work in the Lumberton coal mines.

Candido saved his meager earnings to buy a small ranch to support his mother and siblings with the help of his younger brothers, Jose and Eudoro, who also worked in the mines. Jose had only one arm but loaded coal shovel-for-shovel against any other worker. Both Candido and Eudoro served in the military during WWII, and Leo, Tony, and Elisandro served during the Korean war. Leo's oldest child, Tereso, was born during the Korean war.

It is Utah's good fortune that the entire Montoya family eventually settled in Utah. They are hard-working, honest, and enterprising people who value God, family, and country above all else. Leo is the last of them, and it is fitting that his achievements and con-

tributions to Utah are recognized. Leo is a true American success story.

While serving in the Army, Leo met the love of his life at a small town dance, Rebecca Manzanares, of Monticello, UT. They were married in the Glendale neighborhood of Salt Lake City and together raised 11 children: Leona, Jay, Guy, Luben, Jim, Tanya, Reba, Leo, Max, Toni, and Belen. Leo worked at Hall Process Company for \$1.45 an hour, but he and Rebecca still managed to invest a small fortune in real estate.

Where some saw oppression and exploitation, Leo and Rebecca saw opportunity and fortune, teaching their children that they could obtain and achieve anything America offered if they worked hard, became educated, and stayed out of trouble. Their children succeeded in different ways and remain powerfully united as a loving and supportive family unit.

Leo also contributed to the Salt Lake community. Beginning in 1965, he began encouraging young boys to discipline themselves through sports in his Glendale neighborhood. At first, Leo trained young boys on a punching bag hung under a tree in his side yard, where he could keep an eye on them while he worked. By 1970, boys started showing up in larger numbers, many of them troubled youth from broken homes, so Leo began holding daily practice in church and school gymnasiums to give the boys something to do after school.

By 1975, his boxing team had more than 20 members that he took to compete in tournaments throughout the intermountain area and beyond—all at his own expense. By 1980, Leo knew he needed something more permanent for the boys, so he bought an old second-hand store in Salt Lake's Guadalupe neighborhood and converted it into the Leo Montoya Boxing Club, which still welcomes young male and female boxers.

Leo supports his Guadalupe neighborhood in other ways as well. In the winter, he plows the sidewalks of the Boys and Girls Club on 600 West and 300 North, as well as the sidewalks for his elderly neighbors. Leo regularly patrols the Guadalupe neighborhood in his golf cart to keep his community clean and safe. Virtually every resident and businessowner in the neighborhood appreciates Leo's vigilance.

In 2012, Leo was celebrated in one of Utah's major newspapers under the Salt Lake Tribune headline: "In His West-side Gym, Leo Montoya Turns Boys Into Men." In 2013, Leo's contributions to the neighborhood were featured on the front page of the Deseret News under the headline: "Community Celebrates Boxing Coach's 85th Birthday, Impact on Neighborhood." A quote in the Tribune article might have best captured what makes Leo unique and such a treasure as he contemplates: "It makes me feel great that I've been accomplishing something nice (and helped) somebody . . .

Everybody wants to get paid for everything. Somebody's gotta do something for nothing."

Leo has also been a dear friend to me for many years, and he proved it by posting my 6-by-9-foot campaign posters in front of his gymnasium for every one of my reelection efforts over the past 33 years. His gym is located in a predominantly Democrat neighborhood. Leo's son, Luben, and daughter-in-law, Ruthie, have been like family to me for more than 30 years, and I had the privilege of blessing his grandson and namesake, Leo, 24 years ago. Elaine and I have also truly enjoyed the company of Leo and Rafaelita over the years.

From helping his brothers in the coal mines and train yards at 14 years old, to supporting his community and building a small business empire, Leo is truly deserving of recognition as a great American success story. I am proud of Leo and his family, and I am very grateful for his contributions to his community, to Salt Lake City, and to Utah. In this, the year of his 90th birthday, I welcome this body in joining me to wish Leo many more years of good health and happiness.

LEGIONNAIRES' OUTBREAKS AT IVH QUINCY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to discuss the Illinois Veteran's Home at Quincy, which houses nearly 400 residents, and has provided quality long-term care to veterans and their spouses since its founding in 1886.

Sadly, for the past 3 years, IVH Quincy has struggled with recurring Legionnaires' disease outbreaks. This tragic issue is nothing short of a scandal.

Legionnaires' disease is a pneumonia-like illness caused by the legionella bacteria and spread through water droplets in the air. At IVH Quincy, residents are elderly and suffer from other medical conditions, making them more likely to get Legionnaires' disease. IVH Quincy has had outbreaks every year since 2015, most recently in February. In total, more than 65 people have been sickened, and 13 people have tragically died.

After every outbreak, Senator DUCKWORTH and I reached out to the State asking Governor Rauner what he needed and offering help. We urged his administration to request assistance from the CDC and the VA, and we committed funds through annual appropriations to help State Veterans Homes like IVH Quincy. We pressed the State to upgrade the plumbing across the IVH Quincy campus and undertake renovations—particularly in those buildings where the bacteria has been most prevalent. We reached out to the CDC and VA ourselves, to help make sure that even though this is a State facility—owned, operated, and managed by Illinois—we were doing everything we could at the Federal level to help support them.

Both agencies assured us they were available to help at any time and have made that clear to State officials as well. In fact, the VA is due to schedule a site visit to provide additional expert assistance any day now.

I have visited IVH Quincy many times in my years representing Illinois, most recently in January and then again on April 30. I had the opportunity to meet with the veterans who reside in the facility, as well as the staff that provide such exceptional care.

While I acknowledge that the legionella bacteria exists in the environment, it was important that the State of Illinois do more to help prevent any future outbreaks.

In 2016, the State finally invested \$6.4 million in upgrades to improve the home's water treatment and delivery infrastructure; 65 percent of these funds will soon be reimbursed by the VA.

Governor Rauner visited IVH Quincy on July 27, 2016, and claimed mission accomplished, but clearly it was not enough.

There are also serious discrepancies about the State's handling of these outbreaks. Some families have claimed they were told belatedly about the outbreak or that their loved ones weren't diagnosed or given antibiotics quickly enough to fend off the disease. There are concerns that staff first heard of problems at IVH Quincy through the news or even on Facebook. It is unclear when the Governor himself was notified about the outbreaks or whether his administration requested Federal assistance in a timely fashion. The Governor's office may have also sat for years on formal engineering proposals to renovate older buildings or construct new ones on campus. Now there are outrageous reports that the Governor's staff tried to pin the blame for these outbreaks onto Senator TAMMY DUCKWORTH. Can you believe it?

Now, 3 years after the first outbreak, the Governor has finally released a detailed plan of action, and he has finally hired a dedicated staffer to handle the Quincy project. I guess all Governor Rauner needed was an election year to get into gear.

Now I am pleased that Illinois General Assembly officials have been holding hearings in the general assembly on the Quincy Legionnaires' outbreaks. They have committed to providing funds to help prevent these outbreaks from recurring and called for an audit of the State's handling of the outbreaks because, 3 years and 13 deaths later, we still need accountability from this Governor.

At least now we have a plan of action from him, and Senator DUCKWORTH and I will continue to be here, ready to help, because it is about time our veterans at IVH Quincy finally get the respect and care they deserve.

VENEZUELA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, a few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to

visit a mounting crisis in our immediate neighborhood, specifically in Venezuela.

What I saw were in fact three overlapping crises: economic, humanitarian, and political.

Hyperinflation, malnutrition, con-founding refugee flows into neighboring countries, political repression, and staggering mismanagement and corruption are all endemic.

Some of you may have seen the front page of Tuesday's New York Times with the heartbreaking photo of Venezuela's indigenous Warao people who are suffering an AIDS epidemic because of the collapse of the country's healthcare system, just one of many such tragedies unfolding in a country without basic vaccinations or adequate food.

The situation and suffering are only getting worse as the government continues to deny the obvious problems or simply blames them all on other countries.

We have heard this canard before, most notably in Cuba where the regime blames the mismanagement and repression under its corrupt leadership on everyone but itself.

Also as in Cuba, the regime is cruelly detaining an innocent American—in this case Josh Holt—who by all accounts is a political hostage.

It didn't have to be this way.

Venezuela used to be a wealthy country with an imperfect but functioning democracy. It also had deep and unaddressed chasms of poverty, a gulf neglected by many ruling parties of the region that led to their ouster at the ballot box, including in the case of Hugo Chavez's initial victories.

But like so many autocrats at heart, Chavez used his position of power to dismantle the country's democracy and democratic institutions. He mis-managed the economy and allowed corruption at a scale that made a mockery of what he initially campaigned against. His successor, President Maduro, has doubled down on this approach. Political opponents are jailed or run out of the country, political opposition parties are arbitrarily banned or disqualified, and the reign of corruption on the backs of the Venezuelan people has only expanded.

Tragically, Maduro had a choice to avoid what appears to be the inevitable collapse of his once proud nation. He could have seized the opportunities offered by the Vatican and other regional powers to mediate a peaceful political path forward in Venezuela. He could have taken obvious steps to restore confidence and abide by basic democratic norms.

Sadly, his government repeatedly rejected such negotiations with the opposition and is recklessly moving ahead with a snap and discredited election on May 20; yet this election does not come close to meeting international democratic standards and will likely only plunge the country into further isolation and crisis.