

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.

When I met with Maduro and others in his regime in Caracas last month, I pointed out that Republicans and Democrats don't agree on much in Washington these days, but they do agree on Venezuela. The Trump administration is correct this week in urging a suspension of this election under such absurd conditions.

Let me give you just one example, that of leading opposition figure and former mayor of a district of Caracas Leopoldo Lopez who remains under house arrest and disqualified from competing in the upcoming election. I was able to meet with his brave wife, Lilian Tintori, in Venezuela—whose passport has been taken by the government—and speak with him by phone. We were not allowed to visit him in person.

Why was Lopez jailed, kept in solitary confinement, and now put under house arrest? Because, according to the government, he was using subliminal messages to direct protesters to act unlawfully.

That is right. One of the country's leading opposition candidates is in jail for sending "subliminal messages."

One of the prosecutors who led the case against Lopez later fled the country and said the trial was a farce based on false evidence and that Lopez is innocent. This tells you the nature of the outrageous political disgrace at play in Venezuela.

Senator MENENDEZ, I, and 10 other Democrats made the same point as the Trump administration in a resolution introduced earlier this year, specifically that the results of this rushed election will not be considered legitimate if basic conditions are not met.

Let me repeat them here as they are so obvious: All political prisoners and jailed candidates, including Leopoldo Lopez, should be immediately released and free to participate in the election process; all parties should be free to peacefully participate in the election; the discredited election commission must be reformed into a credible non-partisan body to administer the election; there must be no linking of government food to one's political participation or support of the ruling party, a particularly cruel tactic when many are suffering from severe malnutrition; local and international election monitors must be allowed, accredited, and given genuine access in the pre and actual election periods; and there must be at least 6 months to allow for a legitimate campaign under these conditions.

I believe the Venezuelan Government provided me a visa to visit because it was looking for a way out of its increasing and deserved international isolation.

Well, the path forward is actually quite clear and entirely in the Venezuelan Government's control, and it begins with running a clean and fair election as just described. Quite simply, have the courage and decency to allow the Venezuelan people the same

fair and open process afforded Hugo Chavez when he first won at the ballot box. Have the courage to allow the world, including the American people, to help your people who are suffering and fleeing in desperation.

In terms of the relationship with the United States, also let Josh Holt and his Venezuelan wife come home. Don't continue down the path of a hostage-taker.

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, on May 5, 1984, former President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation designating the first week in May as National Correctional Officers Week. He did so "in recognition of the contributions of correctional officers to our Nation." I believe it is important to continue to recognize the contributions and critical work that correctional officers engage in on a daily basis, often risking their own safety in the course of carrying out their duties.

Correctional officers are tasked with keeping inmates safe, as well as the thousands of staff supporting the operation of correctional facilities. Our Nation's correctional officers are not only an integral part of the criminal justice system, but they play a key role in helping maintain public safety.

Correctional officers are also placed in a unique position to have meaningful interactions with incarcerated individuals. It is not uncommon for correctional officers to provide the prisoner population with the support and resources they need to succeed after their release so that inmates are able to become productive members of society.

During National Correctional Officers Week, we are reminded of the service and sacrifice of correctional officers. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the over 400,000 correctional officers in the United States for the often thankless job that they do. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these key public servants.

DISCHARGE PETITION—S.J. RES. 52

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 52, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to "Restoring Internet Freedom," and further, that the resolution be immediately placed upon the Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

Edward J. Markey, Ron Wyden, Amy Klobuchar, Jeanne Shaheen, Maria Cantwell, Brian Schatz, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Tim Kaine, Sherrod Brown, Richard Blumenthal, Jack Reed, Charles E. Schumer, Elizabeth Warren, Martin Heinrich, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tammy Duckworth, Tammy Baldwin, Patrick J. Leahy, Michael F. Bennet,

Richard J. Durbin, Debbie Stabenow, Mazie Hirono, Cory A. Booker, Chris Van Hollen, Angus S. King, Tina Smith, Dianne Feinstein, Claire McCaskill, Robert Menendez, Tom Udall, Gary C. Peters, Jon Tester, Christopher A. Coons, Patty Murray, Robert P. Casey, Doug Jones, Bernard Sanders, Kamala D. Harris, Christopher Murphy, Jeff Merkley, Margaret Wood Hassan, Heidi Heitkamp, Sheldon Whitehouse, Mark R. Warner, Joe Manchin, Thomas R. Carper, Bill Nelson, Catherine Cortez Masto, Joe Donnelly.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES HALL

• Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor a lifelong champion of the American labor movement, Mr. Charles Hall, director of the United Auto Workers Region 1, on the occasion of his retirement from the UAW. As a member of the U.S. Senate, it is both my privilege and honor to recognize Mr. Hall for his lifetime of service and contributions that have strengthened our community and State.

Chuck Hall has been a tireless advocate for his UAW brothers and sisters throughout his career. He joined the UAW as a member of Local 3 when he began working at Chrysler's Winfield Foundry in Detroit, MI, in 1972. There, he worked in the inspections and heat-treat departments. In 1977, Chuck accepted a job in timekeeping at Huber Foundry in amalgamated UAW Local 889. He continued to work both there and at Chrysler's Dodge main plant until it closed in 1980. He then returned to work at the Winfield Foundry, where he worked until 1983 and was also recalled to the timekeeping position.

In 1987, Chuck accepted a position at Chrysler corporate payroll and in 1991 was elected as chief steward of his unit. Seven years later, he was voted unit financial secretary and appointed civil rights chairperson for his local. Shortly thereafter in 2001, Chuck was elected as financial secretary for Local 889. He was voted to serve as a delegate to the UAW constitutional convention in 2002 and served on the credentials committee.

In February 2005, Chuck was appointed to the UAW international staff and assigned to Region 1. In the beginning of 2010, he was named the Region 1 assistant director on the recommendation of then—Region 1 director Joseph Peters. Chuck was elected director of UAW Region 1 at the UAW's 35th constitutional convention on June 16, 2010, in Detroit, MI. During his term, Chuck has served Region 1 and all of organized labor with honor, integrity, and selflessness.

Chuck has spent his career and life in support of his community, organized labor, and civil rights. He currently serves on the boards of the Economic Alliance of Michigan, United Way for Southeastern Michigan, Community