

State of Indiana, 11,000 summer jobs. International companies even come to the State of Indiana because our door is open and what a great place to have a small, medium, or large business.

Saab will add a \$25 million investment in West Lafayette that will create 200 great-paying jobs.

Now back to my story. We raised a family, and I had the chance to start my business. In 17 years, it never got beyond 15 employees. That is the number of employees I started with in 1981 and that is what I had in 1998.

Perseverance, patience, reinvesting, keeping a low overhead so you can get through the scrapes that inevitably will come in an economy, and someday your day of opportunity will arise.

In the darkest hours of the great recession, when our industry shrunk by over 50 percent literally overnight, every asset I owned was a piece of commercial real estate—a warehouse. Everything I sold was an unnecessary want, not a need—auto and truck accessories. I wondered, what did the future hold?

Well, the future held the greatest opportunity I could have ever imagined because I lived my life in a way that set the stage for opportunity. I make that point because we are not doing it in this institution.

We have set ourselves up to ruin a lot of the good things that are occurring from decades and decades ago to the present if we don't get our house in order. The institution of the Federal Government should be the pride of our country. Running \$850 billion deficits and \$22 trillion in debt, that doesn't bode well for any of us. But the good news is, if we keep this economy going, I think it can go decades into the future, where we keep creating jobs and raising wages like have never been done before. But I mentioned earlier that some of us turn them into medium-size businesses and larger businesses, and so often, what got you there, you forget about.

I tell folks all the time: It doesn't matter what size business you have, if you are successful, share those benefits with your employees. Raise benefits through your 401(k) plan. Lower healthcare costs if you can, and certainly raise wages.

Make sure people look to the real world for what means the most and not to government. If you look to government, especially the Federal Government, you are going to be disappointed. The action in our country is on Main Streets in towns and cities across the country in our States.

My parting comments: The biggest companies in this country sometimes, in my opinion, behave most poorly. I am going to talk about two—Big Ag and Big Healthcare.

I took on the healthcare issue 10 years ago in my own company. Nobody should go broke because they get sick or have a bad accident. All small businesses want to offer good healthcare to their employees but can't. Why? Be-

cause the industry has gotten concentrated with huge corporations, from pharma to hospitals across the board and health insurance companies, which I had to tangle with.

I ask you to get with it, be transparent, and be competitive so you don't have a business partner that may only be the Federal Government down the road.

Big Agriculture—I want to end with this because in Joni's State, a high percentage of small businesses are farmers. Farmers take on the most difficult task of any business in our country—the weather, a high amount of assets for the income they generate. They have regulations like waters of the United States—great intentions but overbearing. There are farmers who now worry about ditch maintenance because ditches that don't have water in them most of the year are now considered waters of the United States. We have to get a better balance to where we have good regulations and not overbearing regulations.

I am asking folks in this Chamber, in this Congress, to look to get this house in order, and I am asking Big Industry—big companies in the agricultural arena and in the healthcare arena—to get their act in order so the doctors who participate within healthcare and the farmers who participate within agriculture can make an honest living. They are all small businesses, and small businesses drive this country.

Thank you.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois.

#### WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I might be the luckiest person in the world because I get to wake up on Sunday and spend Mother's Day, well, being a mom. I will probably spend the morning helping my 1-year-old take a few wobbly steps and then the afternoon watching my 4-year-old draw or chasing her around the house, celebrating the holiday surrounded by the people I cherish the most.

But that isn't the case for far too many other moms and kids around the country. That isn't the case for women like Denise Reed, Sybrina Fulton, or Valerie Castile, who lost their children to gun violence. That isn't the case for the hundreds of children born in the past year alone whose mothers died from preventable, pregnancy-related deaths. That certainly isn't the case for the families whom the Trump administration separated at our southern border and who still have not yet been reunited, the kids who were thrown in cages because their parents had the nerve to strive for a better life.

This Mother's Day, I am thinking of those whose hearts are hurting, those moms who would give anything for another lazy Sunday with their sons or those daughters who would do anything to hear their mother's laugh one more time.

The truth is, the women—moms or otherwise—in this country deserve bet-

ter than the status quo. We deserve more than the Trump administration, which in just 2-plus years has already changed title IX sexual assault rules to favor the accused over the survivor, tried to defund health clinics that provide prenatal care and mammograms, pushed forward healthcare proposals that would have gutted maternity coverage, and handed employers the power to decide whether women should have access to birth control.

All this—well, it is shocking but unfortunately not surprising because we knew who Donald Trump was when we elected him. He is the man who has long made clear that he does not care about women or our autonomy. He is the man who once argued that women should be punished for taking up the right to choose; who has taken pride in trying to put the government between us and our doctors; who would rather throw those doctors in jail than even pretend to care about the women who make up 51 percent of this Nation; who just 10 days ago stood on a stage in Wisconsin and lied, lied, lied, prioritizing a roar from the crowd over the safety of patients and providers at health clinics nationwide; and who just last week issued two rules that would make it easier for doctors to either discriminate against women or deny them care altogether.

So don't tell me that Trump is "pro-life" when he is pushing for rules that endanger women's lives and when he spent years trying to strip healthcare away from Americans. Don't claim that he is just trying to protect families when he is the one to blame for the inhumane policy that is ripping toddlers and babies away from mothers' arms. Don't you dare argue that he is leading the "party of life" when he will not lift a finger to stop first graders from getting massacred in classrooms by the dozen. No, Donald Trump's anti-choice stance isn't about looking out for families; it is about getting a slap on the back from his base and exerting even more control over women's bodies. It is sexist, regressive, and flatout dangerous.

But even while this administration's agenda is a travesty, it is not an anomaly; rather, it is just the latest step in the far-right's long march to strip away women's rights. I am tired of it, sick of their trying to shame women when they are the ones who should be ashamed.

So enough with the hypocrisy, with the misogyny, with some men in halcyon halls in DC arguing that they know better than moms in Illinois or Arizona or Missouri. We can and we must do better. That means fighting for everything from equal pay to better parental leave. It means proving that we care about women every day of the year, not just on one Sunday in May. That is the least that our mothers, our daughters, and our sisters deserve.

Thank you.

With that, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, it gives me no pleasure to say this, but this administration is actively doing terrible things for women and their families. They have rolled back protections for workers. They have made it easier for companies to pollute the air and the water. They have cut investments in public education. They have literally taken children away from their parents and made zero effort to reunite them. They are working as hard as possible to prevent women from having access to the healthcare they need. These are not rhetorical statements. They are policies that hurt people. They are hurting moms.

The Centers for Disease Control came out with a report just this week showing that hundreds of women die every year from pregnancy-related complications and that many of these deaths are preventable. The report finds that one of the key ways to prevent these deaths is access to proper medical care. Yet this administration has made taking away people's access to healthcare a top priority. They have put legislation in to end the Affordable Care Act. They filed lawsuits to take away protections for people with preexisting conditions. They have issued regulations that allow healthcare providers to refuse to provide care to someone based on their personal beliefs and keep healthcare providers from giving their patients full and accurate information. As we all know, they have gone after Planned Parenthood—one of the leading sources of healthcare for women—with everything they have.

I remember when I first became a Member of this body, I visited a clinic in Honolulu. I remember meeting with the staff, who told me that clinic was the only source of healthcare for most of their patients. This was the one place women could go for family planning services, counseling, and breast cancer screenings.

Planned Parenthood's entire reason for being is to help families. In a single year, they cared for 2.4 million people and provided almost 10 million individual healthcare services, including 300,000 breast cancer screenings and over 200,000 well-woman exams—all in a single year. Yet a highlight of this administration's policy on women is to attack women's health and specifically Planned Parenthood.

But we know it is not just healthcare. As I said, it is workplace safety and fairness. It is investment in public education. It is clean air and clean water. These are things that all of us care about but moms in particular.

Whatever your political persuasion, everyone has a mom. Lots of people are moms or are married to a mom. This administration is inarguably bad for moms and bad for motherhood. Moms in this country deserve better.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arkansas.

IRAN

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, 5 years ago, I, along with 46 of my fellow Senators, released a letter to Iran's Ayatollah letting him know that any nuclear deal he reached with President Obama wouldn't be worth the paper it was printed on unless it was ratified as a treaty by two-thirds of the U.S. Senate. We wrote: "The next president could revoke such an executive agreement with the stroke of a pen and future Congresses could modify the terms of the agreement at any time."

A lot of people were upset by this letter, but I don't really know why. All it did was state a straightforward lesson on American civics—something any ninth grader who has read our Constitution should know. Yet the Ayatollah agreed to a deal with President Obama that was not, in fact, approved by two-thirds of the Senate. In fact, it was almost rejected by three-fifths of the Senate. Just as we cautioned, not 3 years later, a new President did, in fact, revoke that deal with the stroke of a pen.

Today is the 1-year anniversary of America's withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal, and a lot has happened since then.

Just this morning, Iran threatened to renew its rush to the bomb, stockpiling more uranium and producing more heavy water—even threatening to enrich nuclear fuels to dangerous levels in the months ahead if the civilized world does not cave to its demands.

We know better than to cave in to the ayatollahs. The United States will remain steadfast in our maximum pressure campaign against Iran until that regime abandons its nuclear and missile program and its support for terrorism. I welcome the news that the President is announcing new sanctions on Iran's mining industry as well.

As for our European allies and partners and members of the business community abroad, I hope Iran's threats will serve as a needed wake-up call. Any attempt to invest in Iran's market under any circumstances other than Iran's complete and verifiable cessation of its full range of malign activities will be fraught with huge legal and financial risks—huge risks. Businesses shouldn't put themselves in that compromising position, and European partners shouldn't give in to Iran's high-stakes nuclear blackmail.

Of course, today's announcement is just the latest dangerous provocation by the Iranian regime. In the past year, Iran and its well-armed proxies have continued their killing spree across the Middle East—the same spree they were on before and during the Iran nuclear deal. This time, the United States has stood up to Iran rather than rewarding its evil deeds.

We designated the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps for what it is—a foreign terrorist organization—for plotting attacks around the world and arming groups like Hezbollah, Hamas, and Palestinian Islamic Jihad, the very

same groups that slaughtered innocent civilians in Israel just last weekend with no regard for the lives they purportedly represent in Gaza.

We reimposed sanctions on Iran that were waived by President Obama. We have also recognized Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights, affirming a close ally's right to defend itself against Iranian-backed aggression. These are good things. Iran is a weaker adversary today than it was a year ago when it was flush with bribe money from its nuclear deal with the Obama administration.

Not everyone sees it that way. At least six Democratic Presidential candidates have talked about reentering this outdated obsolete nuclear deal with Iran. They would give the ayatollahs and his armies sanctions relief yet again at a time when Iran's economy is on the mat, not just in recession but in borderline depression. If we were to give them sanctions relief, we know what they would do with that money. We have seen this movie before. They would use it to build ballistic missiles, to kill and maim innocent civilians, and to fuel chaos in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, and further abroad.

A return to the Iran deal would be a disastrous decision, but more importantly, such a decision would be every bit as reversible as the first. When are these people going to learn? Everybody ought to keep in mind this simple fact, whether you are a politician making promises or on the campaign trail or a business leader considering major investments in Iran.

To make it abundantly clear, on the 1-year anniversary of our withdrawal from that horrific, terrible nuclear deal, I have a gift for them all. It is the first anniversary. So it is a paper gift. I have introduced a resolution with my colleagues that reaffirms the policy of the United States to never, never allow Iran to acquire nuclear weapons. Furthermore, the resolution reaffirms that sanctions can only come off of Iran once it meets the basic conditions approved by Congress under existing law. Among other things, that law requires that Iran must stop supporting terrorism and dismantle its ballistic missile program before sanctions can be waived. They can't simply be waived by a President using his so-called pen and phone.

I hope this resolution clears up any confusion about where the United States stands with respect to Iran and for anyone considering investing in the Iranian market. America will continue to apply maximum pressure against the ayatollahs' regime so long as they continue their campaign of terror and violence against the United States and our allies throughout the Middle East, and we will continue to assist those allies as they fight against Iranian-backed aggression.

To the Ayatollah and all of the rulers of Iran: Happy anniversary.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Montana.