

path. They are keeping us stuck and America stuck in this coronavirus crisis by demanding funding for things unrelated to coronavirus, per the Speaker of the House. You say: Oh, no, she wanted this \$3 trillion for all sorts of things unrelated to coronavirus. She has more money in that bill to send direct paychecks to illegal immigrants—people in this country illegally—than she does for coronavirus vaccines.

That is the kind of opposition and leftist thinking that we have been running into here in this body and that the American people rejected on election day and said: No, we want a path forward. We want to continue the great American comeback. We want our jobs. We want our kids. We want that path forward.

There is still more work to be done, and we are ready to do it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). The Senator from Oregon.

REMEMBERING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DELBERT LITRELL

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to recognize the distinguished service of one of Medford, Oregon's own and to ask my Senate colleagues to join me in support of the U.S. Marine Corps PFC Delbert Littrell's honorary promotion to corporal.

It is an honorary promotion because it was 75 years ago, in World War II, that Mr. Littrell served in the 14th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division.

His service was marked by a combat history of notable intensity and duration. He fought in five pivotal battles that together changed the tide of the war in the Pacific Theater: the Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaign, between November 1943 and February 1944; the Battle of Saipan, between June 15, 1944, and July 9, 1944; the Battle of Tinian, between July 24, 1944, and August 1, 1944; the Battle of Iwo Jima, between February 19, 1945, and March 26, 1945; and, fifth, the Battle of Okinawa, between April 1, 1945, and June 22, 1945. What an outstanding contribution to make to the fight for freedom, and what a remarkable bit of history to be part of.

As administrative officers noted while evaluating him, Private First Class Littrell performed excellently time and again. He should have received this promotion a long time ago.

The units he served in, however, were under constant enemy bombardment, and the kinds of performance reports and administrative submissions that would have given him that promotion were often misplaced or incomplete in the midst of the rigorous amphibious assaults pivotal to the Allied victory.

It wasn't until earlier this year, three-quarters of a century later, that the Marine Corps Advisory Panel reviewed the comprehensive record of Mr. Littrell's service to the Marine Corps and to the national security of the United States of America, and after reviewing the record, the Commandant

of the Marine Corps recommended Delbert Littrell's honorary promotion to the rank of corporal, which was endorsed soon after by the Secretary of the Navy.

Both of these leaders recognized Mr. Littrell's unique contributions, with the Secretary of the Navy noting the indelible mark that Mr. Littrell has left on the proud history of the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Navy.

The State of Oregon and our entire Nation are proud of Delbert Littrell's meritorious service throughout World War II. Mr. Littrell's remarkable combat history and his actions in support of freedom mean that this recognition is long overdue.

I am proud that this son of Oregon, who I hope is watching right now, is finally receiving this special honor.

Colleagues, I know that you join me in honoring, respecting, and appreciating Delbert Littrell and his commitment to the fight for freedom and his legacy of service to our Nation with the distinction of corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant 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.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, the American people sent a clear message in this election. They want us to get to work to empower people with a plan to fight this virus and to get people back to work, back to school, and back to their lives. They gave President-Elect Biden a commanding 5-million vote victory to do that. It is time for us to get to work.

We have had more than 1 million new cases just in the past week. Yet what does Leader MITCH MCCONNELL—what does he keep the Senate in session to do? He keeps the Senate in session and he puts essential workers at risk all to try to ram through an unqualified nominee who pretty much everybody in this body knows has no business serving on the Federal Reserve.

Let's be clear on what this is about. It is about our outgoing President—again, who lost the popular vote by 5 million people and lost an electoral college by a landslide—trying to sabotage our economic recovery on his way out the door. Yesterday, luckily, Senators of both parties rejected that effort. There were 80 million Americans—most ever by a lot—who voted for stability in this election. Judy Shelton, the Trump nominee, promises more Trump chaos.

You can't say you support working people while putting someone in charge who has no problem whatsoever threatening their jobs and their savings to push a bizarre intellectual agenda. She has no idea how to handle an economic

crisis like the one we are in. Her positions aren't conservative. They are not traditionally conservative, which we could debate. I would be willing to vote for conservatives, as I have before, if I thought they were qualified and their thinking was not so far, far right out of the mainstream. But her positions aren't conservative; they are disqualifying.

For three decades, she has advocated returning to the gold standard. No serious person—progressive, moderate, conservative—no serious person, left or right, still believes in the gold standard. She opposes FDIC, Federal deposit insurance—the insurance that protects your money when you put it in the bank. She has flip-flopped on these issues several times during her nomination. The only thing consistent she stands for is that she—no surprise—wants to do what Trump wants to do. But Americans have moved on from Donald Trump, 80 million strong. It is time for the Senate to move on from this failed nomination and this failed Presidency.

This nomination was a waste of time. Look what we should have been doing instead. You all know that. Every moment we spend on unnecessary, unqualified nominees like this is time the Senate isn't spending saving lives. It is time to get to work delivering results for the people whom we serve.

We are watching hospitals fill up again from Oklahoma to Ohio. Our healthcare system is getting overwhelmed. Gig workers and self-employed workers will lose their unemployment insurance at the end of the year. Small businesses and local governments are running out of money. It doesn't have to be this bad.

I have had enough and I think my colleagues in both parties have had enough of this false choice between saving the economy and combating the virus. We have to do both, and we can do both. It is not an unsolvable problem. We need the resources, and we have the resources. We are the greatest, wealthiest country on Earth. We have some of the hardest workers, the best scientists, and the smartest doctors. We have manufacturing expertise. We have natural resources. We have the world's reserve currency. We have all those things.

But President Trump and Senator MCCONNELL want you to believe we can't solve big problems; we can't use our resources to help ordinary families; we can't use our talents to produce tests and PPE; we can't use our ingenuity to figure out how to open businesses and schools safely. They have essentially thrown up their hands and said: Sorry, America, you are on your own. They want you to believe this is the best America can do. In this election, Americans made it clear they don't buy that. They have had enough of aiming low and being told: We can't do that. We can't solve this problem; it is too big. We can't govern. We can't afford it.

We can do big things. We did big things in World War II. We did big things combating communism. We did big things combating the Great Depression. We can do big things, and we can solve the problems for the people we serve.

We did it this past spring. When we passed the CARES Act unanimously, one study said that 12 million people were kept out of poverty because of the \$600 unemployment insurance, because of the help to small businesses, because we helped local governments, and because we helped people stay in their homes. There were 12 million people kept out of poverty.

And the individual checks that were sent out, essentially, that expired in July and August. Since then, we have seen literally thousands of Americans a week falling into poverty. We kept millions of Americans from falling into poverty. We can do it again. We can keep Americans from losing their homes. We put in place an eviction moratorium. We gave people stimulus checks. We helped support the small businesses. Why are we not doing that again? Why does Senator McConnell not want to do that again?

We can rise to meet this moment. We can restore people's faith in their government. We can't allow President Trump—with his out-the-door appointees of people out of the mainstream—we can't allow him to sabotage this economy and sabotage this government from within, creating chaos wherever he can, after voters decisively, decisively, decisively rejected him with an electoral college landslide and rejected him by more than 5 million votes. The voters have sent a clear message to all of us to get to work.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

THANKSGIVING

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I am here today to join some of my fellow Senators here to talk about giving thanks to our military servicemembers and our veterans. Certainly, this is the thankful and grateful season that we are heading into. I think November has a lot of celebratory times both for our families and also for our veterans and military families.

There is no question that this year has been most different and has looked very different than most. We have faced so many challenges and adjusted to a new norm of teleworking, telehealth, telecommuting, all kinds of different ways to communicate on our devices, FaceTiming—I do a lot of FaceTiming with my family—and other socially distanced activities, and I don't see that coming to an end in the near future. But in the midst of all of

this, we certainly do have so much to be grateful for and thankful for.

A little fun fact is, I was actually born on Thanksgiving Day, and my parents always joked that they were going to name me "Thankful Ever Moore" because my last name was Moore at the time. And while my parents, thankfully, decided to go a different route with my name, the meaning still holds true today.

It is true because I am thankful evermore for many things, especially, as I said, as we approach this Thanksgiving holiday, which is just around the corner. And it is going to look a little bit different for a lot of people, but that doesn't mean it can't be just as special.

I am thankful evermore for my own personal good health and that of my family's. I am very, very grateful and thankful for the first responders and the essential workers and now those workers in the hospitals who are really seeing a lot more patients coming in with COVID. I think about the grocery store workers, the truckers, and others who have really kept life moving during those first months when we weren't sure how to cope.

I am very grateful for my wonderful community of Charleston, WV, where I have lived for over 40 years. And I am very grateful for the opportunity and the honor of a lifetime to represent the people of West Virginia in the U.S. Senate. I am grateful for our country and all of the great American thoughts and prayers that have carried many of us through these last few months.

But I am especially thankful and grateful for the brave servicemembers who have put their lives on the line for our country year after year. I am grateful for the many veterans who have come before them and for the military families from all over the country who support the men and women who serve.

Just last week, we celebrated Veterans Day. It is always a very special, kind of solemn day in our State, and it is very well attended. This year we couldn't have the parades. We did a lot of virtual celebrations, but it was no less special. This is a day to honor the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces, both past and present, who have stood up to protect the freedoms that we hold dear.

Our military is undoubtedly the very greatest in the world. From the "greatest generation" to our younger soldiers who have fought in Iraq and Afghanistan, all of our soldiers have served admirably, and I am pleased to be serving with some who have not just served several years ago but in recent times.

My home State of West Virginia has a long and proud history of answering the call of duty. I think we have the highest percentage per capita of military veterans.

I am the proud daughter of a World War II veteran and Purple Heart recipient. I grew up hearing stories about heroism displayed on and off the battlefield and have always been in awe of those who have served this country.

Interestingly, too, in hearing my father's generation talk about their service to the country, it was always framed in terms of duty and love of country and never in terms of "I had to do this" or "my parents thought it was a good idea." These were things deeply held inside of those veterans who wanted to be a part of something that they held dear—their love of country, their love of freedom, their love of liberty.

Woody Williams is one of those individuals who lives in my State. Many of you have seen them. He did the coin flip at the Super Bowl last year, I think. I continue to be inspired by him every day. I have mentioned him more than a few times on the Senate floor, as have all of our proud West Virginians. He is a proud West Virginian himself and is one of the last remaining Medal of Honor recipients from World War II. He turned 97 last month.

He valiantly fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima and rightfully earned the military's most prestigious medal for his actions during the war. We are so proud of him and all he does with our Gold Star families. We have memorials all throughout our State and across the country, where Woody inspires not just those who have served but those who support and the families who support those who serve. So we are very proud to call him our West Virginia own. We did rename the VA center, hospital, in Huntington after Woody. We had a grand opening. It was really fun.

Whether it be the Korean war, the Vietnam war, the first Gulf war, the ongoing fight against terrorism in the Middle East, and all the conflicts that America has fought, our country's servicemembers have made the ultimate sacrifices to keep our liberties intact.

Sometimes I think people get kind of down about where we are going, and it seems like we don't have the optimism as a country. Do you know what? I am very optimistic because of what I am talking about today.

Without the sacrifices of men and women, we would not be able to have these many freedoms, and it is important to remember those men and women who have supportive family members.

It is fitting also that this month is Military Family Appreciation Month. I think about the different moves or the nights of sleeplessness where you are unsure where your loved one is or how they are serving. This is a month to honor and recognize the sacrifices and challenges that military families face while supporting these brave men and women.

Our military families do face unique challenges, and I think here in this body we take that into consideration quite a bit when we are looking at appropriations and ways to help our families. We are forever indebted to the sacrifices they make as their loved ones are fighting for our freedoms. They are often the ones behind the scenes, faced with difficult decisions every single day, and it is not easy.