

Senators from Alabama don't want anybody to be able to pursue their interests and their judgments about their own healthcare.

President Trump's decision would be a self-inflicted wound as we face a major land war in Ukraine and the saber-rattling that we are hearing in the Pacific. Every day that goes by, there is another article about how critically important our space assets are in this fight for freedom all around the world.

I am really, really pleased that President Biden is coming to Colorado Springs next month to speak to the graduating class of the Air Force Academy, and I hope that is going to give us the opportunity to learn about this decision and how harmful it was and give us the chance to restore integrity to the process—to ensure that national security, not politics, drives our basing decision—and at the same time give us the chance once again to stand on the side of expanding rights and expanding opportunity in America, not restricting it.

The Supreme Court had no interest—had no interest—in grappling with the consequences of their ruling on our country, on our society, on the men and women in uniform, on our national security. They didn't have to because if it wasn't a right in 1868, it is not a right today; if it wasn't a freedom in 1868, it is not a freedom today.

The men and women in our 21st-century Department of Defense deserve better than that. The men and women who have signed up to serve this country selflessly deserve better than that.

I heard my colleague from across the aisle say that this was a country about the stronger defending the weaker. I don't think that is what this is about. The responsibility each one of us has—each one of us has—whether we are born strong or weak or rich or poor or in Colorado or in Alabama, to uphold our national security, to uphold our democracy, to make sure that we land on the side of our highest ideals.

I think most people feel like there has been too much politics in America lately. I think people would see that they have fundamental disagreements with each other about a woman's right to choose or an endless number of things, but I also think people could understand what would happen if, instead of continuing to debate, continuing to have a conversation, that our attitude was “I am just taking my ball and going home” or, in the case of the Senator from Alabama, “I am going to hold up 200 flag officers who have been duly promoted in our Department of Defense.”

So I don't know how this is going to end, Madam President. This is not a great day in the history of the U.S. Senate. There is a reason why all of our colleagues going back for 230 years haven't put the kind of hold that we have seen put on today.

It is staggering to me that, at a moment when the majority of Americans

are saying that they think the decision in Dobbs was wrongly decided, that they think this decision should be made between a woman and her doctor, that we would be out here on the floor of the Senate using tactics that nobody has ever used before to impose one's personal view on the rest of the country.

I would ask that the Senator from Alabama reconsider the position he has taken, and I would ask the Biden administration to undo the terrible political decision President Trump himself said he was making singlehandedly, over the objection of the generals in the Air Force.

Now, in the wake of the decision in Dobbs and seeing what the intention is among some folks on the other side of the aisle, there is no excuse to picking up this military installation and moving it all the way across the country, the United States of America, just to ensure that women don't have the free exercise of their freedom and to ensure that it would be delayed as a result of going there and that we will be less safe as a result of it going there.

I know the temptation is strong to not overturn the previous decision because people, I think, are worried about looking political. It would be political to keep this political decision in place. They need to listen to the words of the Republican mayor, John Suthers; listen to Donald Trump's own words; listen to what the generals said.

But this is the fourth time I have been out here, Madam President, on this issue, and I am going to keep coming back as long as it takes. I appreciate your patience and your indulgence this evening.

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. BENNET. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in 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.

ABORTION

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following article in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

NOT ENOUGH ABORTIONS?

(By Marjorie Dannenfelser, Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith)

When Americans think about supporting U.S. troops, they usually think about servicemembers with difficult deployments far from their families. Or wounded veterans in need of health care, jobs, or homes. You know what doesn't top the list? Abortion. “Not enough abortions” probably never crosses their minds as a problem that needs solving, much less as taxpayer expense.

AT this very moment, unbeknownst to many Americans, the Biden administration is using our tax dollars to pay travel expenses for elective abortions—and not only for servicemembers, but for their kids, spouses, and other dependents. This isn't just a brazen moral affront to hardworking Americans, it is also illegal. At this pace, it is estimated to lead to an increase of more than 4,000 unborn children killed in abortions each year.

Senator Tommy Tuberville of Alabama is doing all Americans who value life a great service by exposing this scheme and vowing to put a hold on promotions at the Pentagon until it stops. Senator Tuberville is not alone. A majority Americans and many colleagues in the Senate and House support his effort to hold the Biden administration accountable to the law and the people.

Americans have made it clear repeatedly that they abhor their tax dollars going to fund abortions. The latest annual Marist poll shows 60% of Americans—millions of Independents and rank-and-file Democrats included—oppose using tax dollars to fund abortion domestically, and 78% oppose using tax dollars to fund abortion abroad.

The people's will is expressed in our federal laws and in bills that Congress votes on year after year. The most familiar is the longstanding Hyde Amendment, which saves millions of lives by keeping taxpayer-funded abortion out of programs like Medicaid and has been reapproved annually in larger bills supported by Democrats. In addition, the Defense Department specifically has been prohibited in permanent law from paying for elective abortions for nearly 40 years.

Pro-abortion Democrats have failed to get rid of these critical protections through legislation, so the Biden administration is resorting to violating federal law to bypass them and impose agenda that would never fly at the ballot box.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and the pro-abortion media accuse Senator Tuberville of impairing military readiness. But the truth is that Senate Democrats don't need Senator Tuberville's help to move personnel appointments forward—they simply complain that he is not helping fast-track them. The issue he raises is not frivolous, it is one of life or death.

Democrats also complain that service members don't have enough access to abortion on demand. With a handful of exceptions like North Korea and China, virtually the entire world—including most of Europe—has stronger national protections for unborn children than the United States. Clearly, this has never ground our military to a halt.

Only when the U.S. Supreme Court returned the right to protect unborn children and their mothers to the people and their elected representatives, and more than a dozen states moved swiftly to let the people's consensus become law, did this become a political maneuver for Democrats to appease its radical, angry base.

We are grateful for all those who are already making their voices heard, and we hope others who have not yet joined in will soon add theirs. The GOP's long tradition of standing for life is a great strength and there

is growing support in Congress to block this administration's lawless abortion policies for our military, including Iowa Senator Joni Ernst's bill to do just that. Sadly, Senate Democrats have insisted on promoting abortion on demand until birth, paid for by the taxpayers, and stonewalled Senator Ernst's legislation, rather than allow any debate.

What is more important: that Majority Leader Schumer and Senate Democrats spend less time on the Senate floor approving military promotions and nominations, or that the most vulnerable and defenseless of American lives are protected from President Biden's lawlessness?

The time is now to hold the Biden administration accountable for its illegal policies that have conscripted our military into facilitating the violence of abortion. We are proud to stand with Senator Tuberville, Senator Ernst, and others in fighting back. Together we will not back down.

MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE TO MICHIGAN'S VETERANS

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I rise today to honor the Michigan veterans throughout history who have given their lives for our Nation.

During some of the toughest times for our country, Michiganders have been there. We have been willing to put our lives on the line for the cause of freedom. That certainly was the case during the Civil War. More than 3 million Americans fought in the Civil War. Around 90,000 of them were Michiganders, and more than 85,000 of them were volunteers. It is said that President Lincoln exclaimed, "Thank God for Michigan!" when 75,000 volunteers from our State arrived in Washington, DC, in May of 1861.

The 24th Michigan Infantry fought at Gettysburg, where a monument stands to this day commemorating their service in the "Iron Brigade." And the 24th was selected to provide military escort during President Lincoln's funeral procession. Few trials have so tested a nation—or a President—as did the Civil War. As historian Jon Meacham explores in his new book "And There was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle," President Lincoln and the Nation he led faced multiple existential threats: the fracturing of our country, threats against our democracy, and an institution that treated 4 million Americans not as people, but as property.

The echoes of these challenges remain in our Nation to this day. And in Lincoln, we see a path forward. We see that by keeping our moral center as our North Star, a nation can, in the words of Lincoln, "long endure." We have long endured as a nation in part thanks to those brave, selfless Michiganders who were willing to put their lives on the line in order to preserve our Union. More than 13,400 of them never made it home. They have been followed by so many others.

This Memorial Day, we honor all Michigan veterans throughout history who gave their lives in service to our country. And we honor their families.

It is only because of their sacrifice that our democracy lives on.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOUNG AT HEART CENTER

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Young at Heart Senior Citizens and Community Center in Rock Springs, WY. On May 19, 2023, a gala will be held at the Young at Heart Center to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

The Young at Heart Center has served the Sweetwater County community since its founding in May, 1973. Founding board members were J. Garrett Smith, Louis M Groh, Ruth Lucas, T.H. Smith, Dwight J Jones, Lyda Hium, Elmer Halseth, Willie Heikes, and Ernest J Mecca. The center was originally designed to serve the senior population. With the construction of their new facility in 2009, their services expanded to address the needs of the entire community.

The Young at Heart Center exemplifies their mission of "a community place for the young and the young at heart." The center offers 14 different programs with amenities, activities, and services for residents of all ages. Young at Heart is a safe place for Sweetwater County residents to gather, receive educational and nutritional services, pursue interests, and participate in social and recreational activities. The center is also a public-use space for meetings and events. The center serves as a cornerstone for the senior population by providing meals and care. Seniors participate in numerous daily activities that include games, hobbies, exercise, and opportunities for friendship.

Young at Heart added several home health and caregiver services for patients 18 and older. These include skilled nursing services, personal care services, assistance to at-home caregivers with support and education, home-delivered meals, and the Senior Companion Program. Each of these fosters wonderful relationships within the community. Many young people in Sweetwater County have been impacted by the Young at Heart's Early Learning Center. The Early Learning Center focuses on building children's self-esteem and self-worth through strong partnerships with parents. The center provides positive guidance, indoor and outdoor gross motor space, and technology to enhance learning. The importance of nutrition is highlighted by the dedicated kitchen staff who prepare breakfasts, lunches, and afternoon snacks.

The Young at Heart Center receives funding through various government grants and private programs. They also rely on the generosity of Sweetwater County organizations and individuals. The Young at Heart Center would not be able to provide a safe and engaging space without the dedication of staff and volunteers. Volunteers use their

skills and interests to help lead support groups, serve meals, assist special events, offer companionship, and maintain the grounds.

Jamie Loredo began her career with the center as the activities coordinator and facilities secretary. In the fall of 2022, she took over as executive director. Her resolute dedication to the center is notable. She has focused on gaining community involvement, helping to advance the center's success. Jamie has made a significant difference in the lives of Sweetwater County residents.

The wonderful staff and board members who keep the center running are:

Jamie Loredo, Executive Director
 Louise Webb, Receptionist
 Brianna Romero, Early Learning Center Director
 Billie Seneshale, Director of Nursing
 Brandy Sellers-Martin, In-Home Services Supervisor
 Gina Randolph, Access Care Coordinator
 Misty Wilson, Center Bookkeeper
 Cindy Stensgard, Home Services Bookkeeper
 Daphne Palmer, Kitchen Manager/Home Delivered Meals Coordinator
 Kandi Lewis, Facility Secretary/Activities Coordinator/Outreach Coordinator
 Meagan Rogers, Aging Division Coordinator/ Outreach Coordinator
 Board of Directors
 Diana Jessop
 Suzette Williams
 Kent Porenta
 Richard Vandersloot
 Michelle Quiroz
 Kathy Gilbert
 Wanda Bobo-Ferber
 Kevin Maloney
 Sue Riggs
 Mary Thoman, County Liaison

It is an honor for me to recognize this significant milestone for the Young at Heart Center. The center serves as a gathering place where the Sweetwater County community can enjoy friendship and fellowship. Bobbi joins me in extending our congratulations to the Young at Heart Center on their 50th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ALAN S. RUDOLPH

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary public service career of Dr. Alan S. Rudolph as he concludes his tenure as vice president for research at Colorado State University—CSU—one of the Nation's top research universities.

Dr. Rudolph received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, an MBA at George Washington University, and a doctorate in zoology from the University of California, Davis. As a National Research Council postdoctoral fellow, his work at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory NRL showed how we can learn from organisms that survive extreme environments to protect biosensors and blood products for use in the field.

Following his time at the NRL, he was recruited to join the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency—DARPA—as chief of biological