

They couldn't afford it so they began driving to Canada—not that far from Michigan—driving across the bridge to Canada, where the same medication costs \$71 because the Canadian Government negotiates the best price for Canadians.

Then the pandemic closed the border. Jim Lockwood needed to find a job with better health insurance, and he did—in Ohio.

American parents shouldn't be forced to either drive to Canada in order to pay for their children's prescriptions or they shouldn't be forced to uproot their families and move to another State in order to find a job with good insurance so they can afford their children's medicine.

It is time for Republicans to stop working on behalf of their wealthy buddies and join us in working on behalf of American families.

Children with diabetes, people under age 65 need a \$35-per-month cap on their insulin, just like we have been able to do as Democrats coming together for seniors, people on Medicare.

I think that is what we should be focused on here together and invite our Republican colleagues to join us.

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. KING assumed the Chair.)

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, when I joined the Senate Armed Services Committee in 2013, I encountered a new world of information. Along with that information came a new world of security measures. As a member of that committee, I reviewed document after document apprising me of critical national security developments. I also received strict orders not to share the classified information that I encountered. The American people expect Senators tasked with this solemn duty to take our responsibility seriously.

Let me illustrate just how restrictive the rules are around these classified documents. When I receive classified information, I have to go to a secured place known as a SCIF to read the documents. There, a security manager and often a Capitol police officer will perform checks when I enter and when I exit.

My background on Armed Services is one of the many reasons that I am shocked at the news that classified documents dating back to President Biden's time in the Senate were found sitting haphazardly in his garage this month. The President's personal attorney confirmed that some of those documents came from the Senate, and they have apparently been collecting dust

next to the President's Corvette for years.

It is also concerning that the President's documents were found, in the first place, by personal lawyers without the necessary clearances to view those classified materials.

We have all learned recently that the executive branch has issues regulating documents. I have refrained from commenting on that issue because I have never been a part of that branch of our government, and so I cannot speak to their regulations. But in the Senate, we have strict protocols that protect classified information.

Based on the rigorous security standards of the Senate, it is important that we now ask hard questions. How did classified Senate documents make their way from the Capitol Complex past Senate security managers and all the way to the President's House in Delaware? I think most people believe that this demonstrates incompetence, at best. If a newly elected Nebraska Senator in 2013 could figure out how these security procedures work, surely, a career politician like then-Senator Joe Biden could do so.

As chair of the Foreign Relations Committee, former Senator Biden likely had access to information that could have jeopardized lives, especially those of patriots serving in sensitive roles overseas. President Biden should know that leaked information puts people in danger. This affects all Americans, including the many Nebraskans that are serving abroad, not to mention that it impedes our national security here at home.

Of course, we have no idea what is in the Senate documents that found their way to Wilmington, DE, because the President and his personal attorneys refuse to share them with Congress. The Biden administration argues that it cannot brief us on the mishandled documents because of the ongoing special counsel investigation. There is precedent for intelligence briefings coinciding with special counsel investigations.

As my friend Senator CORNYN said last week, there are public safety and national security concerns that make this an exceptional case. If there was a breakdown in Senate protocols to protect classified information, then we need to know that and we need to know it immediately. That is the only way that we will know how to rectify the potential problems caused by the President's unsecured Senate documents.

We, at least, need to know what the general subject of the documents or the area of the world that they cover. I am proud of my colleagues on the Intelligence Committee, both Democrats and Republicans, for realizing the seriousness of this issue. I hope that we can continue to set aside partisan politics and that we can uncover the truth in this matter.

President Biden's comment on his handling of documents a couple of weeks ago was that he has "no re-

grets." Let me tell you, Mr. President, if a sitting Senator was found to have mishandled classified information, it would be more than just regrettable; it would call into question his or her capacity to serve in this Chamber, and it would be a slap in the face to the hard-working men and women of the Intelligence Committee. By the time we uncover the truth about these documents, I hope that the President will have learned to regret his bad decision.

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.

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

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

VOTE ON FALK NOMINATION

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I request consent for the scheduled vote to start immediately.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Falk nomination?

Ms. HASSAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

The result was announced—yeas 60, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 5 Ex.]

YEAS—60

Baldwin	Graham	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Reed
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Ricketts
Booker	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Brown	Hirono	Rounds
Cantwell	Kaine	Schatz
Capito	Kelly	Schumer
Cardin	Kennedy	Shaheen
Carper	King	Sinema
Casey	Klobuchar	Smith
Cassidy	Lujan	Stabenow
Collins	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Warner
Cramer	Menendez	Warnock
Duckworth	Merkley	Warren
Durbin	Murphy	Welch
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Ossoff	Wyden
Gillibrand	Padilla	Young

NAYS—37

Barrasso	Ernst	Marshall
Blackburn	Fischer	Moran
Boozman	Grassley	Mullin
Braun	Hagerty	Paul
Britt	Hawley	Risch
Budd	Hoeben	Romney
Cornyn	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cotton	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Crapo	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cruz	Lee	
Daines	Lummis	

Sullivan	Tillis	Vance
Thune	Tuberville	Wicker

NOT VOTING—3

Murkowski	Rubio	Sanders
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider with respect to the Falk and Zakheim nominations are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK HUGHES AND LINCOLN BEAN

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, it is Thursday, and it has been a while since I have been on the floor here on a Thursday afternoon, but it is my favorite time of the week because I get to do something that I certainly enjoy. We have a new set of pages here. I think they enjoy it, and I know some in our media enjoy it because it kind of signals the end of the week here. But it is when I get to talk about an Alaskan—or Alaskans, plural—who are doing great stuff for our State or their community or maybe even the country, somebody I refer to as the Alaskan of the week. We have been doing this for, geez, quite some time. I think 5 or 6 years, going on that. We have covered a lot of ground.

And before I talk about our two Alaskans of the week—special Alaskans—I usually give an update about what is going on in the great State of Alaska for anyone watching on TV. We have people back in the Gallery. So we love that.

We always do a plug for Alaska. You have to get up there. Take a vacation with your family. You will love it. You will have the vacation adventure of a lifetime.

So I usually give an update of what has been going on. We have had an intense winter, a lot of snow, particularly in Southcentral Alaska, where I live. Schools have even been closed. That is very rare for our State, to close schools because of winter or really cold weather, but we have had both—some cold snaps, some warming—and much winter fun, as you can imagine, if you love winter sports.

The winter solstice has already come and gone since my last “Alaskan of the Week” and so have Christmas and the holidays. By the way, there is no better place to spend Christmas than in Alaska, where a man named Santa Claus—a good man, by the way—lives in North Pole, AK, and even runs for Congress. You may have seen that news last year. He didn't win, but he is a good guy. I know him well: Santa—Santa Claus—a politician in North Pole, AK.

Now, our two Alaskans of the week are Frank Hughes and Lincoln Bean. They are both Alaska Native leaders, longtime community leaders and members of the organized village of Kake. Kake is a village of about 500 people in beautiful—gorgeous, actually—Southeast Alaska. So, again, if you are vis-

iting, you have to come to Southeast. But we are such a big State that you have to go everywhere.

Now, Frank and Lincoln know what the holidays are about, which we just celebrated, and because of their efforts, they and many others in Kake got a very special early Christmas gift this year that I want to talk to everybody about.

On November 18, both Frank and Lincoln were on a plane from Oregon back home to Alaska. In the belly of the plane was a 40-gallon bin locked with zip ties, filled with 25 precious Native objects, some estimated to be up to 200 years old. And because of their efforts, these precious, sacred objects and the spirits in them were coming home once again and are now resting in Kake, where these objects belong.

Those items include baskets, a head-dress, a replica of a canoe, ceremonial paddles, and rattles used by Tlingit spiritual medicine men. There was also a wooden mask, which would have been carved into a tree in Kake as a territorial marker. Frank said the mask would have had to have been cut out of the body of the tree to be removed.

These items were painfully and lovingly crafted by the village's Tlingit ancestors generations ago, precious items that didn't belong to others but were taken—in some cases, ripped from villages—without even a thought of whom they belonged to. But like I said, now they are home, and, according to Frank and Lincoln, both say that the spirits within these sacred objects are also at home and at peace.

So who are Frank and Lincoln, and why did they think it was so important to bring these items back to their village of Kake?

This is an effort, one of many, being taken across the country since Congress passed the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act in 1990. NAGPRA is the acronym. This congressional act requires any public institution receiving Federal money, like colleges and museums, to return indigenous human remains—yes, these institutions literally have human remains—and cultural items to Tribes or descendants throughout America, to Native communities, wherever possible.

Since then, many artifacts have been, and are continuing to be, returned to Tribes in Alaska and in the lower 48. Still, it is a slog. Many institutions, believe it or not, are not always cooperative—big institutions, famous American institutions.

According to the National Park Service, remains from more than 108,000—let me say that number again—108,000 indigenous people and more than 600,000 artifacts are known to be still held by museums, universities, and Federal Agencies across the country. Think about that. Your ancestors' bones are in a museum somewhere. Not acceptable.

My wife Julie is on the board of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the

American Indian and actually serves on the repatriation committee. And the process can be tedious. But it is so important for the communities who have had artifacts removed from their communities—or remains, for goodness' sake—removed from their communities. It is so important for these communities to be able to heal. It is certainly not always easy to identify these objects, for the recipients to request them, and then to get these objects back to where they belong. And it takes work and determination and, literally, years, particularly for small villages like Kake, which don't have a museum or a trained curator. But Frank and Lincoln and others in the community had the will and determination to make this happen. So a big shout-out to them. That is why they are Alaskans of the week today.

They had a letter—and this is a university, by the way—George Fox University in Newberg, OR, a private Christian college that reached out to Kake—very cooperative, by the way—telling them they thought they had some items that might belong to the village.

By the way, that is a great example of a university—an institution—doing the right thing: helping, taking the initiative. It is unclear exactly how the artifacts made their way a thousand miles to George Fox University in Oregon in the first place. There were Quaker missionaries in Alaska in 1891, and George Fox University was founded in 1891 by the Quakers. So Frank and Lincoln think there is probably a pretty good chance that there is some connection between the missionaries and the artifacts.

And the process, as I mentioned, has taken a long time, starting back in 2018, when Frank was the coordinator for NAGPRA and Lincoln was a council member. As a coordinator, Frank had done many indigenous artifact repatriations across the country, but when the community received the letter from George Fox University, they both got very excited because this was their home village. Some of them, they thought, might be artifacts from members of the Eagle and Raven clans in Kake. These are Tlingit, Haida clans in southeast Alaska.

Now, a little bit about both of these great Alaskans. Frank is an Army veteran. By the way, Alaska Natives—they are both Alaska Native leaders—serve at higher rates in the U.S. military than any other ethnic group in the country. Special patriotism, I refer to this as. And Frank is a great example of that. You go to Native communities, Native villages in Alaska, you ask to raise your hands for veterans, and pretty much every male in the village, in communities I have been to raise their hand. It is unbelievable, the patriotism and service of guys like Frank. He spent his career serving his country. When he got out of the Army, he worked as a substance abuse counselor, as an EMT, served on his village council, and continued serving by being the