

rate of a country to go and make up for us not being there to compete.

I am hearing it from my potato growers who are saying that now India is basically producing French fries and selling them into various parts of the world. So if we think that we can take a year, 2 years, 3 years, and think that this is not going to have an impact on our manufacturing base—whether it is agriculture or heavy-duty manufacturing like cars or aerospace—we are wrong. We are wrong.

Now is the time to open up alliances in more markets, counter the Chinese in places like South America and Africa, and work to our advantages on alliances so that we have more markets to sell into at cheaper rates and continue the innovation that has been the hallmark of this Nation.

Next week, President Trump plans to impose what he calls reciprocal tariffs. He has talked about even more tariffs in the future on timber, dairy, pharmaceuticals, copper, and semiconductors. So where does it end?

I can tell you, on solar, it didn't end. It didn't end. And we are many years later in, manufacturing facilities that were in my State now are no longer there. So the point is, the United States builds alliances to enter these markets. We build alliances to counter unfair trade practices. We build alliances to stop the Chinese from doing the things that they do.

And right now, I would have a technology NATO. I would say, take the five biggest democracies and sophisticated technology countries and say, "No one in the world should buy from countries who don't meet our standards." Why? Because no one really should be buying from a country that has a government backdoor.

No, we shouldn't be spending taxpayer dollars pulling out Huawei when, in reality, we should have been on a campaign to say it never should have been there to begin with because no one in the information age should be buying technology with a government backdoor that has them and their ability to manipulate information at a critical time when data and information is so important.

So next week will be even more important to Americans and all of us. It is time for us collectively to work together on tariff issues, to say that this is the domain of the U.S. Senate. This is what our Founding Fathers had in article I, the first debates about tariffs. The Framers of the Constitution gave Congress this power to set duties and to regulate foreign commerce. Article I, section 8 could not be clearer. It is time for Congress to reassert that authority. We need checks and balances now more than ever. We need to invest in innovation. We need to invest in skilling and training a workforce. We need to invest in modernizing infrastructure and equipment at our factories, and we need to open foreign markets for exports of U.S. autos and aircraft.

American business does not need an endless trade war that creates chaos and raises prices on our consumers at a time when inflation has been too high. We need the President to address these inflationary costs instead of perpetrating tariffs.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume 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.

REMEMBERING KEVIN CRONIN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, some people come to Congress to check a box, collect a credential, and then head to where the big bucks are: lobbying firms. For others, working as a Capitol Hill staffer is part of a lifetime of public service.

Kevin Cronin was one of the latter types. He believed in public service, and I consider myself lucky that Kevin chose to work for me. It was during my years in the House of Representatives. Kevin was my lead staffer on the House Budget Committee. He was hard-working, clever, and smart as a whip.

Sadly, Kevin passed away earlier this month in Cleveland, OH, the place where he grew up and where he first learned about politics and public service.

Kevin was the middle son in a family of proud Irish American Democrats. Both of his parents were involved in the civil rights movement during the 1960s and 70s. His mom also was quite active in the women's movement.

John Glenn, the astronaut hero turned U.S. Senator, was a family friend. So was "Battling Bella" Abzug. Kevin's father worked for Carl Stokes, the first Black mayor of Cleveland. His mother worked on campaigns for Jane Campbell, Cleveland's first woman mayor, and Mary Boyle, the first woman commissioner for Cuyahoga County.

Kevin received his own introduction to shoe-leather politics when he was in middle school. He and his two brothers would knock on doors seeking to turn out the vote in elections.

Kevin was also an avid tennis player in the National Junior Tennis League, a program founded by Arthur Ashe that used tennis to teach city kids important life skills.

He graduated from Columbia University with a double major in political science and fine arts and earned a law degree from the University of Wisconsin. After that, he came to Wash-

ington. He served as a congressional aide for a decade and worked for some giants, including John Conyers, chair of the House Budget Committee, and the late Senator Dianne Feinstein of California.

He was a whiz with budget details and parliamentary rules. He understood how to turn good ideas into good laws. Somehow, he always found time to encourage and teach younger staffers, including a Capitol Hill newbie named Pat Souders, who is now my chief of staff.

But Kevin's real passion was grassroots organizing, so he moved back to Cleveland and poured himself into civic campaigns and causes. He worked as a pro bono attorney for a group called Bike Cleveland that pushed successfully for new bike lanes to connect Cleveland and its suburbs. He also offered legal guidance to environmental groups working to expand the use of renewable energy sources, including harnessing the great wind power potential of Lake Erie.

He helped to preserve Cleveland's history, especially the city's links to the abolitionist and civil rights movements. He worked to raise awareness for the Cozad-Bates House, a stop on the Underground Railroad. He also was working to raise support to save Jesse Owens' childhood home and turn it into a museum.

His main job for 15 years was working as an ad litem attorney in the Cleveland City Courts, representing children who had been removed from their family homes and, very often, had suffered neglect and trauma. It was difficult, heart-rending work, but he did it because he believed the children needed someone on their side.

Kevin was diagnosed with severe aplastic anemia 15 years ago. It is a condition, similar to leukemia, in which one's body cannot produce enough white blood cells to protect against infection. He was able to lead a full life for years, thanks in part to an NIH clinical trial for a drug that kept his illness in check. But a few months ago, the drug stopped working. Kevin was 61 years old.

I want to offer my condolences to his brothers Kiely and Rob and their families, to Kevin's friends, and to the countless people whose lives he touched and enriched, from Capitol Hill to Cleveland and far beyond. He was a good man, and he will be missed.

NATIONAL AHEC WEEK

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize this week as National AHEC—Area Health Education Centers—Week.

The AHEC program, originally authorized in 1971, began by working in conjunction with other Health Resources and Services Administration programs to develop health professionals to staff brick-and-mortar community health centers across the country. Today, AHECs offer hands-on and

innovative health career curriculums for pre-college level students and are committed to continuing education, clinical training of health professionals, and responding to community health needs. The Nation's 300 AHECs operate in nearly every State and in multiple U.S. territories.

AHEC clinical training placements put students in a variety of real-world settings, such as urban and rural community health clinics and health departments that provide care to traditionally hard-to-reach populations. Students, in particular those working through their AHECs, are more likely to remain in the communities where they trained, making it critically important to establish training opportunities in rural and underserved areas.

The need to strengthen the healthcare workforce continues. According to new data from the Association of American Medical Colleges, the U.S. could see a shortage of up to 124,000 physicians by 2034, and the American Hospital Association says more than 200,000 new registered nurses are needed each year to meet increasing healthcare needs and to replace retiring nurses. AHECs have continued to work towards addressing workforce shortage areas, especially in rural and underserved communities. Just in the past 5 years, the AHEC program has trained 2 million healthcare professionals.

I have had the opportunity to work closely with the New Hampshire AHEC and have witnessed the amazing work they do. The mission of the New Hampshire AHEC is to support workforce development activities for current and future healthcare workers in the Granite State. In 2024, the New Hampshire AHEC offered continuing education to over 4,500 healthcare workers, improving treatment options for patients suffering from diseases such as diabetes and substance use disorder. In addition to working with providers, they also offer trainings on chronic disease, chronic pain and diabetes self-management to patients in the community. More than 3,000 individuals have participated in these programs since 2010.

The New Hampshire AHEC team were pioneers in identifying the need for a workforce that bridges healthcare and community. Over the past 27 years, New Hampshire AHEC has focused on building the healthcare workforce by offering both day and residential programs for high school students, while also providing didactics and community-based experiences for health professions students across the State. I cannot stress enough how important the New Hampshire AHEC is for our communities and how important it is that the program continues to be supported by Congress. AHECs not only address current healthcare gaps and challenges, but they recruit, train, and bolster our future health workforce. On behalf of my constituents at the New Hampshire AHEC program and the national AHEC program more broadly, I

call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing March 24 to March 28 as National AHEC Week.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I was absent on Monday, March 24, 2025, for rollcall vote No. 137. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 41, Christopher Landau, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

TRIBUTE TO CRAIG BEAM

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today, I want to recognize a U.S. marshal who has served his country and the great State of Kansas for 34 years.

Craig Beam grew up on his family's farm in Esbon, KS, and graduated from White Rock High School in Burr Oak. He continued his academic career at Great Bend Community College, where he earned an associate's degree in criminal justice. Craig later continued his education at Washburn University, where he played football and received a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice.

After completing his degree, Craig got his first law enforcement job with the Paola Police Department and later joined the Springfield Police Department in Missouri. After serving in local law enforcement for several years, Craig joined the U.S. Marshals Service in 1992 and served as a marshal until his retirement.

Throughout his tenure with the U.S. Marshals Service, Craig demonstrated his leadership, serving as the director of the Federal Fugitive Task Force for the District of Kansas, which averages 200 arrests per month, and as the Acting U.S. Marshal for the District of Kansas.

In 1993, Craig received the U.S. Marshal's Service Director's Distinguished Service Award for his heroic actions during the August 5, 1993, terrorist attack on the Frank Carlson Federal Building in Topeka. He bravely protected judges, cleared hallways, and escorted civilians to safety during the attack.

The U.S. Marshal Service's motto is "Justice, Integrity, Service," all of which Craig has modeled for the last 34 years. As he retires with the title of Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal, I know Craig will continue to uphold the values of the marshals in retirement.

Thank you, Craig, for your years of service, sacrifice, and leadership. I wish you the best in the next chapter of life and hope you enjoy this well-deserved retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING KANSAS FIRST RESPONDERS

• Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today I want to recognize the first responders

who responded to a tragic multi-vehicle wreck on Interstate-70 on March 14 and remember the victims of this accident.

Kansas is well-known for its windy plains and expansive prairies, but these features of our State can, on occasion, create dangerous weather conditions. Leading up to March 14, high sustained winds coupled with dry conditions on the plains had created the right conditions for a dust storm. In the afternoon of March 14, a dust storm ripped unobstructed across western Kansas, leading to a sudden and deadly dust storm on I-70.

The storm led to low visibility and hazardous driving conditions on I-70 between the two rural communities of Colby and Goodland, near the Colorado border. What began as a few collisions on I-70 quickly spiraled into a hazardous pile-up involving more than 70 vehicles, including several semi-trucks.

Despite the hazardous conditions, first responders from the neighboring communities rushed to the site of the accident still battling the low visibility and dangerous conditions brought on by the dust storm.

In rural communities, the police and fire forces are small and are often supported by volunteers. These men and women dropped what they were doing and put themselves at great risk to help the folks involved in the massive crash.

With limited resources and hazardous conditions, the first responders reacted quickly and with great skill to extract folks from their vehicles and transport them to the closest hospitals.

Goodland Fire Chief Brian James summed up the emergency response like this: "I don't think people realize the dedication these men and women give to make this community safe and secure. We had to think outside the box to get patients transported to hospitals in Goodland and Colby by using our fire department support vehicle with EMTs in the back to using patrol vehicles from Goodland Police Department, Sherman County Sheriff's Office and Kansas Highway Patrol. I'm sorry for the lives lost in this incident, but I'm grateful for the ones we could save."

Emergency crews poured in from neighboring counties doing everything they could to help. This included firefighters, EMTs, police, highway patrol officers, sheriffs and dispatchers from the Goodland Fire Department, Brewster Fire Department, Northwest Kansas Ambulance Service, Colby Fire Department, Goodland Police Department, Sherman County Sheriff's Office, Kansas Highway Patrol, Kansas Game Warden W300, Thomas County EMS, Wallace County EMS, Cheyenne County EMS, and Sherman County Dispatch.

These men and women put themselves at great risk to respond to this accident; and I have no doubt that their efforts saved many lives. I want to thank all the first responders for their service to the Kansans and travelers who they assisted on I-70.