

share a little about his story and how it relates to what is happening in our country today.

Cal was a Vietnam veteran and Washington's first openly gay State legislator. During my time as a State senator, we worked together to help make State government more accessible to the public. But in 1995, like so many at that time, we lost Cal too soon as a result of his AIDS diagnosis.

I remember visiting him in the hospital just a month before he passed, and, of course, he wasn't focused on himself. He was telling me, newly elected to the U.S. Senate, what I needed to do to make healthcare better for other people in our country.

That is still relevant today as we face down Republican attacks on Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act. Cal's election back then was a huge step towards equality, and he really helped change people's opinions.

I have served now on the Senate Appropriations Committee since I was first elected here and have always kept stories like Cal's close to me, fighting to invest in medical research and HIV prevention programs, year after year.

Over the years, we have made enormous and tremendous strides in the fight to prevent and even cure HIV and AIDS so that others do not suffer that fate that Cal did.

NIH funding is supporting work to discover an HIV vaccine. And, separately, PEPFAR, which helps prevent HIV infections around the world, has been one of the most effective programs in our country's history.

But Donald Trump has now terminated more than \$250 million in NIH funding supporting work to discover an HIV vaccine. Much of that work happened at Fred Hutch in Seattle for over 20 years. And now he is pushing Congress to pass hundreds of millions in cuts to PEPFAR.

And it is not just that. Trump is terminating all kinds of NIH studies if they even have the words "gay" or "trans" in them.

He is overseeing an all-out government campaign to turn back the clock and go after our trans friends and loved ones. It is totally wrong, and it is backwards.

Pride this year represents tremendous progress, but that progress is being threatened today like never before. So to everyone who is heading to Cal Anderson Park this weekend, I hope you will join me in reflecting on Cal's story, remembering how his fight matters today, and using your voice to speak up against this discrimination and this administration.

We can't let them sweep these attacks on science and the LGBTQ community under the rug. Let's keep fighting together to end HIV and AIDS, to protect healthcare for everyone, and for equal rights under the law no matter who you are or whom you love because in the end, we will win.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

HONORING THE LIFE, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND LEGACY OF FREDERICK W. SMITH

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, last week, our Nation lost a revolutionary business leader, a committed philanthropist, an incredible Tennessean; his name, Fred Smith.

Like all great leaders, Fred had a vision for a better future, and he did everything possible to make it happen. That is why, in 1973, he founded FedEx with a simple yet bold idea: improve overnight delivery.

Today, we take instant shipping for granted in many ways. It is the engine of our global economy, but back then, it was not considered to be a practical or workable idea.

So it took Fred to make it happen. He pioneered innovations in transportation and logistics, and those pioneering innovations have defined the industry ever since. He truly led the way, and it was not easy. But with his commitment to excellence, he grew FedEx into a \$53 billion company that employs half a million people, connects more than 220 countries and territories, and moves more than 17 million shipments each and every day.

Even with his global accomplishments, Fred never lost sight of home. He based his company in his hometown of Memphis, turning the city into a center for global logistics. And through his philanthropic support for education, community programs, arts, healthcare, and more, he always found ways to give back to his community and to make Memphis a better place.

In many ways, service truly defined his life. Before founding FedEx, Fred served for 4 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, including two tours in Vietnam. He was decorated with a Silver Star, Bronze Star, and two Purple Hearts.

But for Fred, the greatest honor was serving alongside his troops as a company commander. In an interview last year, Fred recounted a time when the men in his company dug his foxhole for him so that he could get more rest.

They were as tired or more tired, but they took their energy to take care of me. And it was one of the best things that ever happened to me, because it told me they cared for me, they appreciated my leadership.

We should all be grateful for Fred Smith and that he chose a life of leadership and service.

On behalf of all Tennesseans, I extend my heartfelt condolences to Fred's beloved wife Diane, his nine children, and his entire family.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent, the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 308, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 308) honoring the life, achievements, and legacy of Frederick W. Smith.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 308) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF DOBBS V. JACKSON
WOMEN'S HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, this week has given the pro-life movement quite a bit to celebrate. On Tuesday, we marked the third anniversary of the landmark decision in Dobbs v. Jackson. And today the U.S. Supreme Court delivered another life-affirming victory in the Medina v. Planned Parenthood case out of South Carolina, holding that States can defund the abortion industry by ensuring that abortion providers are excluded from the States' Medicaid Program.

This commonsense decision from the Supreme Court reinforces the important work that pro-life lawmakers are doing at the State and Federal level to keep tax dollars out of the abortion business. We can rest easy knowing that pro-life States across America are fiercely protecting the lives of innocent, unborn children.

But a child's right to exist should not depend on geography, and that is why my fellow pro-life colleagues join me on the Senate floor today to commemorate this time when the responsibility of protecting human life has been returned to the people and their elected leaders at both the State and Federal level.

Three years ago, the Supreme Court held that:

The Constitution does not confer a right to abortion; Roe and Casey are overruled; and the authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected representatives.

I am especially proud that my home State of Mississippi was at the center of this historic decision. The Dobbs landmark decision and all those involved in making it happen are very close to my heart, including my friends Representative Becky Currie of Brookhaven, MS, who authored the bill, and Attorney General Lynn Fitch, who represented our State so well in the Supreme Court. The High Court gave us exactly what we asked for.

Two hundred twenty-seven of my pro-life colleagues in Congress joined me on the brief we filed in Dobbs asserting that "it is long overdue for this Court to return lawmaking to legislatures . . . we respectfully urge the

Court to affirm the constitutional authority of the federal and state governments to safeguard the lives and health of their citizens, born and not yet born."

While the pro-life movement has long sought to change hearts and minds through decades of court battles, today we can make a real difference to ensure our laws reflect the values we hold dear. A handful of examples of these legislative efforts include supporting pregnancy resource centers, protecting abortion survivors, and ensuring U.S. tax dollars are not funneled into the abortion industry.

While the pro-life community has held an outstretched hand to expecting parents who may be facing tough and scary hurdles—a primary one being the financial cost of birth—my colleagues and I are committed to supporting these families.

To that end, the Supporting Healthy Moms and Babies Act is meant to ease the out-of-pocket costs paid by parents to have a child. If we can relieve the financial stresses associated with pregnancy and childbirth, I hope expecting mothers and fathers will feel empowered to embrace the beautiful gift of parenthood.

As a proud Christian, mother, and committed member of the pro-life movement, I will continuously fight to uphold and defend the dignity of every life at every stage.

Dobbs lifted the gate for us to move forward, and there is still much important work to be done.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague Senator CINDY HYDE-SMITH of Mississippi, who also chairs the Pro-Life Caucus of the U.S. Senate. I want to thank her for organizing this event today because we just passed the 3-year anniversary of the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*. That was on June 24, 2022.

That decision was a pivotal moment in our Nation's history. *Roe v. Wade* was the worst Supreme Court decision, I would argue, since *Plessy v. Ferguson* and resulted in the tragic deaths of millions of innocent lives.

Countless numbers of precious, unborn lives have been saved. In fact, since *Roe* was overturned, just in these 3 years, 13 States have implemented laws to protect life starting at conception; 19 States total have enacted pro-life laws.

And earlier today, the Supreme Court delivered yet another pro-life victory in the *Medina v. Planned Parenthood* decision. The Court affirmed that States have the right to decide how Medicaid dollars are spent and that no one can force a State to fund the abortion industry.

For too long, abortion providers like Planned Parenthood have used Federal healthcare dollars as a backdoor to sustain their operations. And this ruling puts an end to that abuse and up-

holds the fact that taxpayers should never be compelled to subsidize Big Abortion.

Cindy and I are the parents of four—we are now the grandparents of seven—and have always believed that protecting the unborn is one of our most important duties. It is a belief that I carry with me each day in this job at the U.S. Senate.

In fact, that is why back in 2018, I founded the Pro-Life Caucus for the U.S. Senate. I had no idea at that point—this was pre-Dobbs—how important our work would become.

And I am grateful to the State of Mississippi, to Senator HYDE-SMITH's home State, where the Dobbs decision came from. It was the courage of those folks in Mississippi that resulted in that case before the Supreme Court that had a profound impact across our Nation with this Supreme Court ruling just a little over 3 years ago.

During my time as chairman of the Pro-Life Caucus, we confirmed pro-life Justices to the Supreme Court, including Justice Amy Coney Barrett, who went on to serve as the critical fifth vote to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

I remember that day very well when that news came down. I was struck by a truth that is found in the Old Testament, the Book of Jeremiah 1:15—this is a great mystery, a mystery of God—where it says:

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, [and] before you were [even] born I set you apart.

What a great truth how God knows this, he loves us, and it is a reminder that all lives are made in the image of God. That is why there is dignity and there is value in every single life, and that includes the unborn, includes the disabled, the aging. All lives are worthy. I am glad to see our country has made great strides in defending the defenseless.

When we had our four children, I remember going to those doctor appointments with Cindy and seeing those amazing images, seeing ultrasounds. That was 20, 25, 30-plus years ago. Today, we get to relive that again with our grandchildren. Now our children are having their babies. The technology is so remarkable. It is amazing to get an insight of what is going on in the womb.

For those who don't believe in creation and don't believe we were created, I sometimes have to go back and see the miracle of life that is occurring as that little baby is being formed in the mom's womb.

But today, the chemical abortion pill is the most widespread form of abortion. In fact, in 2023, it accounted for 63 percent of all abortions, and that number continues to rise. President Joe Biden and his administration removed safety precautions on taking mifepristone, including the in-person dispensing requirement and followup visit with a medical provider. Thanks to the Biden administration, the pills can even be shipped out by mail, de-

spite concrete evidence showing they are extremely harmful to women.

In fact, the FDA and the pro-abortion advocates market the pill as "safe as Tylenol." But here are the facts: There is a recently published analysis of health insurance claims of over 865,000 women across the United States. They found that 1 in 10 women experiences serious adverse effects, many of these resulting in emergency room visits.

Let me share a stat here that is going to be shocking. The data here is irrefutable. We invite anybody to come check this data out. Here was the conclusion: The adverse health effects for women in this most recent study was 22 times higher than what is on the FDA's label on the abortion pills. Clearly, in no way is that abortion pill safe, and the FDA should reevaluate appropriate protections surrounding its use.

I am confident that with President Trump's leadership, with our Republican majority in the U.S. Senate, we are going to make some progress here. Already, President Trump is supporting the pro-life movement. One of his first actions after taking office was to pardon 23 peaceful pro-life protesters who were unjustly incarcerated by Joe Biden's Justice Department.

In the U.S. Senate, I was proud to join my colleagues this Congress to introduce the Unborn Child Support Act, which will allow pregnant women to receive child support payments. Caring for a child starts long before birth. Any pregnant mom—any mom who understands what that process is like—knows that caring for a child starts long before birth. By supporting expectant mothers, we recognize the humanity of the unborn child and make sure that women have access to the resources they need to choose life. I will fight to get this bill across the finish line.

It takes courage to stand for life in this day and age. I would like to take a moment to thank all who have played a role in advancing the movement, from my fellow Senators here, to advocacy groups, to the grassroots advocates back in our home States, and to those who offer us prayers at night. Everybody plays a part.

I am confident that one day, by the grace of God and the actions of this body, abortion will be unthinkable and every preborn child will be protected by law.

I spend a lot of time with students who come from our States. We all know that. We see the kids when they come, the tourists. We have junior high kids, sometimes grade school, high school students. They come from small towns, medium towns, and large towns from our States.

So when these Montanans come to our office, I always like holding a meeting. I bring them into my office, and we sit down. Sometimes there are not enough chairs, and students will be standing up.

I love to take questions from the students. Invariably, there will be a student that will raise their hand and ask

me a question about my stance as it relates to a women's right to choose or abortion. Rather than be a dad in that moment—and I have been a dad a lot of moments raising our four children, two boys and two girls—I think sometimes it is best for us to collect and kind of give some thought as to how to answer that question.

So I ask: How many of you have a smartphone?

Most every one of those students has a phone.

Let's do a thoughtful experiment here. Go to Google and type in "15 week baby"—1–5 week baby—and then touch on the "images" link on top. Let's talk about what we see there.

Of course, the students—there is not a lot more said at that point; it is silence.

I have done this many, many times. I just ask a basic question: Let's just have a debate. Is that life or not?

If we were NASA scientists and the Mars rover lands on Mars and that image was projected back to a group of Ph.D. scientists, literally rocket scientists, would they conclude that is life or not?

I have done this many, many times, and I will tell you, it is just silence as we all reflect on that basic question.

Why did I pick a 15-week baby in the womb? Because that was the line of demarcation that Mississippi had in their Dobbs case that defined—Mississippi said that is where life begins, that is where protections begin. It was on that basis that case went before the U.S. Supreme Court, what a 15-week baby looks like.

I think all of us should reflect on that no matter where we are politically, where we are in terms of advocacy. Just take a look at those images and reflect and ask yourself: Is that a baby or not? I think the images and technology today, with the clarity of ultrasounds, are a pretty convincing argument.

So this week, as we celebrate this historic anniversary of the Dobbs decision, let's reflect with grateful hearts on the progress we made. Let's look forward with hope to a future where every life, whether born or unborn, is valued.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled rollcall vote be called immediately.

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

VOTE ON KIES NOMINATION

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, 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 Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ

MASTO) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 327 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murphy	Warner
Fetterman	Murray	Warnock
Gallego	Ossoff	Warren
Gillibrand	Padilla	Welch
Hassan	Peters	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Reed	Wyden

NOT VOTING—2

Cortez Masto Markey

The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. MORENO assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUSTED). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak up to 10 minutes each.

PROMOTING RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAINS ACT

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to enter into a colloquy with the Senator of Oregon regarding S. 257, the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act, a bill to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, and for other purposes.

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

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I introduced the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act, S. 257, with Senators BLACKBURN and BLUNT ROCHESTER to mitigate or prevent disruptions of critical supply chains that could have a devastating impact on the U.S. econ-

omy. The bill charges the Department of Commerce's Assistant Secretary for Industry and Analysis with promoting the stability and resilience of critical supply chains. It creates a new government-wide Supply Chain Resilience Working Group, led by the Assistant Secretary, to prepare for and respond to supply chain shocks by mapping, monitoring, and modeling U.S. supply chains for critical industries and emerging technologies in consultation with the private sector. The group will identify any gaps or vulnerabilities for critical goods, including any gaps in manufacturing, warehousing, transportation, and distribution and providing strategies to mitigate supply chain shocks. The bill calls for consultation with allies and key international partner nations to identify potential critical goods or manufacturing capacity in their countries that might be needed to avert supply chain disruptions. Finally, the bill requires ongoing reporting to inform Congress and the public, including a national strategy and review on critical supply chain resiliency and U.S. manufacturing.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, international trade is critical to the resilience and functioning of global supply chains, with goods and services—including industrial inputs and manufacturing equipment being imported and exported along the way. The trade policies and trade actions of the U.S. Government impact the structure, operation, efficiency, and security of U.S. supply chains, and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) plays a key role in developing and coordinating the implementation of those trade policies and actions. USTR can provide valuable input to the Supply Chain Resilience Working Group, and the committees with jurisdiction over trade—the Senate Committee on Finance and House Committee on Ways and Means—can likewise provide valuable oversight. I look forward to working with my colleagues who sponsor this bill to bring those trade interests into the fold. In addition, I look forward to working to clarify the definition of "ally or key international partner nation" to ensure that this bill will focus on supporting more secure and resilient supply chains in the United States and reliable partner nations, while limiting our critical supply chains' exposure to foreign countries that may not be aligned with the economic or security interests of the United States. I thank my colleague Senator CANTWELL for her work on this bill and her willingness to work with me on these issues.

Ms. CANTWELL. Thank you, Senator WYDEN, I agree with you and will work with you and our House colleagues to incorporate these changes into the bill as the legislative process moves forward.