

As a result, great American patriots gathered in Washington to peacefully protest the illegal tampering of the 2020 Presidential election.

When the leader of the Democratic Party at the time Speaker NANCY PELOSI and the deep state learned that Trump supporters—and we all knew it—were headed to Washington, DC, to peacefully protest the fraudulent 2020 Presidential election results, they saw a great opportunity.

Speaker PELOSI spearheaded the true January 6 insurrection. This has all been proven to be true. Everybody knows it. She said it on tape. She admitted the responsibility for massive security failures that day. The deep state infiltrated the crowd with antifa and intelligence community members who would instigate trouble and massive chaos.

The FBI has confirmed that there were 274 FBI agents in plain clothes at the Capitol here that day.

Then Speaker PELOSI set up Capitol Police to fail by refusing to bring the National Guard in as backup; she admitted that. And then, of course, Democrats placed all the blame on President Trump and Republicans. I can remember it vividly that night, about midnight, we all took the blame here. After we came back that night, the Democrats called all the Republicans in this room everything that you can imagine, here on this floor. It was clear that they were planning that day that they were going after President Trump.

But the Democrats' plan to destroy President Trump and his supporters didn't end that day on January 6; for the next 4 years, President Biden and the Democrats did everything they could to arrest, harass, bankrupt, deplatform, and even tried to kill the former President of the United States Donald Trump, not to mention the Biden DOJ abusing their power by wasting almost \$3 billion in taxpayer funds to go after innocent—innocent—Trump supporters, fraudulently imprisoning them to intimidate their political opponents and the greater MAGA movement.

Hundreds, and I mean hundreds of innocent patriotic Americans sat behind bars for the past 5 years over this made-up witch hunt. Now, there were some guilty, but a huge number of them were vastly innocent. They even arrested grandmas for making phone calls on the Capitol steps, and the only person who died that day on January 6 was Ashli Babbitt an unarmed Air Force veteran who was shot that day in this very building. Ashli Babbitt was wrongfully killed on January 6, 2021. The Federal Government admitted it, and they actually paid money to her family, paid money. In the legal settlement they paid money.

Lives were ruined. Families were torn apart, careers were destroyed, all because lunatics on the left in our country would not let it go, and anyone who was involved in it was arrested.

So before we quickly try to pass a bill with a nice-sounding title, we ought to read what it actually does. Democrats claim this bill is about stopping so-called rewards for January 6 rioters, but in reality, the legislation says if the Federal Government prosecuted you, Congress can't even ask if the prosecution was fair, if the sentence was appropriate, if the evidence was handled properly, if detention conditions were lawful, or whether the government threw the book at you because you were a supporter of a political opponent. You can't even ask that.

This bill treats prosecution—prosecution—as proof, and that is not how American justice works. That is not how our justice system works.

Thankfully, Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche and the Trump Department of Justice established a standard—a standard—and lawful process to hear from American citizens who suffered lawfare or weaponization under the Biden administration. If they were wronged, the Trump administration will provide compensation from the Anti-Weaponization Fund. But if S. 3582 is passed, it would eliminate that process for American-loving Trump supporters who were wrongfully convicted before their claims are even reviewed.

In the future, the Federal Government—because of this bill—would be empowered to target a group of people, prosecute them, and make sure they never receive relief no matter what the facts. And there were some bad things that went on.

Radical Democrats and the deep-state folks do not like this country, and they dislike it so much—the way it is run—that they will do whatever it takes to weaponize our judicial system against anyone who opposes their globalist agenda. That is why I will not consent to this bill that treats prosecution as proof and blocks individualized review. That is not how this country works.

For that reason, I object.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from California.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, a couple of days ago, I had the pleasure—not just the honor but the pleasure—of welcoming a group of students from Southern California here to the Capitol. As so many schools from across the country do, it is sometimes an annual trip to come see not just a symbol of democracy but literally the home of Congress, where democracy is in action. These young students are smart. They are keeping up with the news to know what is going on in their communities and in their State and in our Nation.

Knowing that sometimes our—small “d”—democratic institutions are being challenged, are being stress-tested, as they are today, people can be discouraged, and part of our job, I think, is to have them not lose faith in our system.

It is not always running perfectly, but it is resilient.

We are close to celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, and we have learned both from the steps forward our country has taken to be a more perfect Union and from some of the less proud moments of our Nation's history, where we tend to always come out a little bit stronger. And that comes to mind, it comes to the heart of this moment after hearing once again these conspiracies and these lies from Members of the Senate who should know better than either to believe them or to regurgitate them and to exacerbate them in this very debate.

The 2020 election was held. There were countless lawsuits before, during, and after the election. Ballots were counted. Ballots were recounted. Ballots were audited. It is clear who won the election. It is not some mass conspiracy to keep Donald Trump from having won that election.

January 6 happened. Don't take my word for it—plenty of video coverage. All types of news outlets saw the violence that day. It is undeniable.

The rule of law was followed. People who were accused of involvement on January 6 had their day the court. Maybe some were found innocent. Maybe some were found guilty of lesser charges. Many were convicted, found guilty because of the proof, because of the evidence, by juries of their peers.

It is President Trump who sent the message that if he came back into office, they would be pardoned. He won the election. I can say it. It was not my choice in 2024, but he won the election. I will admit it. And he made good on his promise to pardon those who were involved in the violence on January 6 in this Capitol. But I refuse to stand here and just let the administration and any Republican Member of Congress—in either House—who agrees with him to set up this slush fund. It is an offense and disrespectful to the American taxpayer, to our democracy, and to our Constitution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGERTY). The Senator from Alabama.

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, you know even the most hotly debated issues in this building pale in comparison to the American soldiers who have sacrificed their lives to give us the freedoms to debate and disagree in the first place.

Later this year, America will celebrate its 250th birthday. Most democracies, they don't even come close to that. They don't survive that long, but our great country has survived because of the brave men and women who have answered the call to defend our freedoms at home and all across the world.

Sadly, some of our Nation's heroes never return home. Alabama has numerous memorials across our great

State to honor our own fallen heroes. The USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park in Mobile, AL, hosts more than 400,000 visitors annually where they learn more about our military and those that served.

The city of Trussville, AL, is home to the Fallen Warrior Monument which honors Alabama servicemembers killed since 9/11, and Huntsville is home to one of the largest Memorial Day parades in the country.

These landmarks and events help tell stories of daughters, sons, husbands, wives, mothers, and fathers who answered the call to defend our country at home and abroad not knowing what their future might hold. You know, stories of mothers who hug their children and husbands who kiss their wives without knowing if it was their last time.

Next week, we recognize Memorial Day. Many will use this as an opportunity to grill out and go to the beach, but this isn't just another day off or another long weekend. It is a day to honor these fallen heroes and reflect on their sacrifice.

Today, I would like to recognize two fallen heroes from my State of Alabama: Alex Klinner of Auburn and Jeffrey Hall of Huntsville, along with their families.

HONORING ALEX KLINNER

Mr. President, earlier this year, we lost six servicemembers in a refueling mission, including three members of the 99th Air Refueling Squadron based at Sumpter Smith Joint National Guard Base in Birmingham, AL. Among those were this young man 33-year-old Auburn native Alex Klinner.

Alex joined the Air Force in 2017 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps from Auburn University after graduating from Auburn in 2016 with a degree in mechanical engineering. He deployed four different times in just 7 years, logging more than 563 hours in combat zones or support roles.

But as impressive as his pilot skills were, Alex's brother-in-law James said that he shone the brightest in his role as a husband to his wife Libby and a father to his three young children.

Alabama continues to mourn the loss of a hero gone way too soon. But Alex's legacy of faith, family, and freedom will continue to live on.

HONORING JEFFREY HALL

Mr. President, SSG Jeffrey Hall of Huntsville is another Alabama soldier whose life was cut short in service to our country at the young age of 28. Jeffrey's mom Annette said that he was destined to serve in the military. She recalls him as an energetic and headstrong child and a wonderful big brother to his sister Emily.

Jeffrey started showing an interest in being a soldier when he was only 3 years old. He was fascinated with army uniforms and always wanted to dress up as a soldier.

Annette and her husband Charles encouraged Jeffrey's dreams. She said

they must have bought out every army surplus store in North Alabama to give Jeffrey whatever military gear that he could find to use and to wear.

As soon as Jeffrey graduated from Huntsville Christian Academy in 2000, he set out to make these childhood dreams a true reality. After Jeffrey made a great soldier, he became a jumpmaster, a pathfinder, and a sharpshooter receiving numerous awards for his accomplishments, including Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

He had just re-signed for another 4 years in the military when his vehicle hit an IED in Afghanistan on June 1, 2009, the day before his second wedding anniversary with his wife Allison. Jeffrey experienced the joys of fatherhood for only 6 months to his daughter Audrey Faith before he deployed. She was only a year old when he was killed.

Annette decided to honor her son's sacrifice by starting an American Gold Star Mothers chapter. This chapter connects and supports more than 40 mothers across 18 counties in North Alabama and the Tennessee Valley. They also raise awareness for the sacrifices made by Gold Star families, including with a float in Huntsville's Memorial Day parade each year.

Annette repeatedly says it is a joy to speak of her son because she never wants to forget the life he lived or the sacrifices he made for his country. Her and Charles are heroes for raising their son to love this country and continuing to carry on the same sense of patriotism even after Jeffrey's untimely death.

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. President, John 13:15 says:

Greater love has no one than this: [than] to lay down one's life for [his] friends.

Alex Klinner and Jeffrey Hall both know the danger and knew the danger involved with their mission, and they did it anyway. They left the safety of their homes so we could sleep safely in ours. They were fathers, sons, husbands, brothers, and friends; but to us, they are American heroes.

We owe them our full gratitude. We also owe our gratitude to the Klinner and the Hall families. The loss they have to live with every day is unthinkable. We continue to hold them in our prayers this Memorial Day and Memorial Day weekend.

As Memorial Day approaches, I hope we will take the time to honor Americans fallen along with all of our brave Gold Star families around the world.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). The Senator from Alabama.

LULU'S LAW

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, today, I rise to honor Lulu Gribbin and to celebrate that Lulu's Law has now passed both the Senate and, as of yesterday, the House of Representatives.

I want to take you back a second.

So Lulu Gribbin has inspired the world. And for those of you who don't know her story, you have to go look it up. This child, 15 years old, on June 7, 2 years ago—almost 2 years ago—was doing what so many families do, particularly from Alabama. She was enjoying the gulf coast.

She was looking for a sand dollar with one of her friends when, unfortunately, she was attacked by a shark. In the moments that followed, she lost her left arm, and she lost her right leg. But she lost two-thirds of the blood from her body in the moments following. It is literally by God's grace that that precious child is still with us.

There were doctors and EMTs and nurses and Good Samaritans that came to her aid and her rescue immediately. As they worked diligently to save Lulu and to figure out what the pathway forward was, the world became inspired by her grit, by her grace, by her resilience, by her toughness, and by her attitude of positivity and saying: How can I take what has happened to me and make sure other people's lives are better?

Lulu is one of four. She is actually a twin. We loved hosting her entire family here yesterday. It was such a special moment. Lulu walked out onto the House floor and got to be there when they voted for this law in her name—this law that she said is going to protect people. It is going to make beachgoers safer, and it is going to make the country stronger and better.

So what Lulu's Law does is actually really simple. And when you think about how this came to be, we were talking about this—a group of friends of mine, a group of women—and we were talking about what happened to Lulu and the events that followed. And we said "Golly," and one woman said, if there had just been an alert that they knew a shark attack had occurred—because to know this law, you have to know Lulu's story.

Just 90 minutes before Lulu was attacked, a woman from Virginia, Elisabeth Foley, was attacked by a shark and lost her left hand. It was just a short 2-plus miles down the way, on the beach where Lulu was attacked, 90 minutes later. If she had had any idea about Elisabeth Foley's attack, she and her friends would never have been in the water.

So what this does is, it just authorizes local, State, and Tribal leaders to be able to utilize the wireless alert system if an attack occurs. It is simple. It is common sense.

When I called Lulu's parents, Joe and Ann Blair Gribbin, who have just—their resiliency, their love for their daughter, the foundation they have created are just nothing short of remarkable.

They said: We have been talking about this exact same thing.

When we brought the idea forward—I want to thank my colleague from Hawaii, Senator BRIAN SCHATZ, for his