

Let me be clear. This is an important security bill and I regret that for the second Congress in a row my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are obstructing it. Members of the minority have criticized the chemical security legislation for not covering these facilities. This legislation has basically passed the House of Representatives twice. The minority party in the Senate is blocking this important security bill.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN JOEL T. BROYHILL

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Virginian, and dear friend, the former 10th District Congressman, Joel T. Broyhill, who died this past weekend.

Congressman Broyhill was an outstanding public servant. He had a certain "joie de vivre" that one does not often find—his presence, his spirit would fill up a whole room. His sense of civic responsibility—both through his service in the U.S. Army and as the Representative to Congress from Virginia's 10th District—was second to none. And his devotion to his three daughters, stepdaughter, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren was unmatched; they were the joys of his life.

A native of Hopewell, VA, Congressman Broyhill was born on November 14, 1919. He attended Fork Union Military Academy and George Washington University.

In 1942, he enlisted in the Army. He served as an officer in the European Theater in the 106th Infantry Division and was taken prisoner in the Battle of the Bulge. After 6 months in German prison camps, he escaped and rejoined the advancing American forces. On November 1, 1945, after 4 years of service, Congressman Broyhill was released from active duty as a captain.

In 1952, at the age of 33, Broyhill was elected as a Republican from Virginia's newly created 10th District to the 83d Congress, by 322 votes. Congressman Broyhill was reelected 10 times, serving 21 years in Congress, until December 1974.

Congressman Broyhill's prime source of political success was his dedication to constituent service. At the time of Congressman Broyhill's tenure in Congress, the 10th District contained more Federal employees than any other district in the United States. In 1972, Congressman Broyhill estimated that he had aided more than 100,000 district residents during his 20-plus years in office.

According to the 1974 Almanac of American Politics:

[t]here are few congressional offices in which the demand for services is so high, given the number of Federal employees in Broyhill's district; and there are few indeed that take care of constituents' needs and complaints with more efficiency.

The 10th District of Virginia was shaped and forever changed by Con-

gressman Broyhill's initiatives in Congress. He laid the foundation for major transportation projects, including the construction of Interstate 66, the Metrorail System, the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, and Washington Dulles International Airport.

The Almanac also describes Congressman Broyhill as one who "should be credited with voting his conscience."

Even after he left Congress, Congressman Broyhill continued serving constituents by maintaining an office to assist those with problems relating to the federal government. In fact, my Senate office would receive a call about once a month from the "Broyhill Office" asking us to follow up on a constituent inquiry.

In 1978, I was honored and proud to have my longtime friend come out of retirement to serve as General Chairman of my U.S. Senate campaign. It was great to see him back on the political stage in Virginia. Congressman Broyhill's knowledge of the Commonwealth and of campaign strategy were invaluable to me as he introduced a most interesting couple to the political scene. Congressman Broyhill helped me to convince my wife at the time, Elizabeth Taylor, that being a candidate's spouse was the best role she could play. Many times he accompanied Elizabeth to campaign events when I was unable to attend. He was an exemplary ambassador for my 1978 campaign.

Congressman Broyhill's "house by the side of the road" in Arlington was never without yard signs during any election. As one of the first Republicans elected in Virginia, he was a trailblazer and he helped every Republican member of the Virginia congressional delegation—including its two current U.S. Senators—to be elected under the Republican banner.

Congressman Broyhill was instrumental in building his father's real estate business, M.T. Broyhill & Sons. The company was started in Hopewell, and the family later relocated to northern Virginia when Congressman Broyhill was growing up.

Congressman Broyhill and his wife Suzy were stalwarts of charitable giving and have given both their time and resources to many organizations across the Commonwealth, and notably, to the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts.

It is with a great sense of humility that we pay tribute today to the life of our dear friend and dedicated public servant, Congressman Joel T. Broyhill. We offer our condolences to his three daughters, Nancy, Jeanne and Jane Anne, his stepdaughter, Kimi, and his wife of 25 years, Suzy. He also has four grandchildren: Meredith, Maureen, Lindsay, and Kathleen, and three great-grandchildren: Molly, Jack, and Kara.

THAILAND

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I remain deeply troubled by the military

coup that occurred in Thailand on September 19. The forceful removal of Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra was an assault on the democratic institutions of that country and is a dangerous development for a key ally in an increasingly important region. Now, almost 2 weeks after the coup, it is apparent that the coup leaders had only a tentative plan for transitioning back to democratic rule and that their rhetoric about restoring democracy to Thailand may not be as sincere as some had hoped. As the military junta fumbles through its next steps, it is critical that the United States show strong leadership in helping this critical ally reinstitute a civilian democratic government and that it do so immediately.

Mr. President, this coup is particularly troubling because it is a step backward from almost a decade of relatively positive democratic developments. During Thailand's last coup in February 1991, the military overthrew Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan and a bloody power transfer followed, culminating in what Thais call "Black May." Those events kicked off a national dialogue that resulted in the establishment of a new constitution in 1997 that restored authority to civilian democratic institutions, ultimately ushering in democratic elections in 2001 and 2005. Thaksin's party, Thai Rak Thai—"Thais love Thai"—won both of those elections in landslide victories.

This recent coup rolls back these developments. There is no doubt that Thailand was suffering from extreme political divisiveness during Thaksin's tenure. When I met with him in Bangkok earlier this year, he was in the throes of a political battle against a growing opposition movement. He was also under fire for mishandling the insurgency in Thailand's three southernmost provinces in which 1,700 people have been killed since January 2004. It was evident that his ability to effectively manage the Thai Government had been diminished.

But this hardly provides justification for a military junta to overthrow a popularly elected government and to discard the nation's constitution. This new military junta, led by General Sonthi Boonyaratglin, and awkwardly self-titled the "Council for Democratic Reform Under Constitutional Monarchy", is deeply troubling.

This coup is a significant setback for Thailand's democracy. While the coup occurred in a matter of hours, it may take years before a new civilian and democratic government restores full authority and legitimacy in Bangkok. Unfortunately, this new military council has banned political gatherings and has put some restrictions on the media. It has disseminated a wide range of other decrees and rules, many of which have troubling consequences for freedom of expression and the democratic process. Given these early signs, we have no reason to believe that this council will be any different in nature