

this recess. Sadly, it is a missed opportunity for Senators across the aisle to have joined together with us and worked with the President to provide needed judicial resources.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S CALL TO GO TO THE MOON

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, May 25, 2011, marked the 50th anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's speech that set the original dream of American exploration with a goal of sending a human to the Moon and returning him safely by the end of the decade.

President Kennedy's speech was more than a call for a Moon shot. It was 17 days after Alan Shepard became the second human in space, and the Nation was still recovering from a recession and recovering from the Cuban missile crisis. That year, President Kennedy took the unusual step of coming to Congress in May to address urgent, "extraordinary" national needs. During his speech, he said, "In a very real sense, it will not be one man going to the Moon . . . it will be an entire Nation. For all of us must work to put him there." He sounded the starting gun of the space race. In that race, the United States and its young President were determined to cross the finish line first.

America is no longer in a space race. We are in a race for our economic future. We are not racing other countries. We are racing ourselves. To win this economic race, we must do as President Obama has urged us. We must work together to out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build our competitors. That is why I fight so hard to invest in America's exploration and discovery which creates jobs for today and jobs for tomorrow.

As we were 50 years ago, our space program is embarking on a new journey. This year, after 30 years of great service NASA will retire the Space Shuttle with honor and dignity. We will bid goodbye to this workhorse that launched and fixed Hubble and built the International Space Station.

Last year, Congress gave NASA a new path forward. My colleagues and I fought to pass a new authorization bill. It was not easy. There was confusion and chaos about the path forward, and the austere budget environment required tough choices. The authorization law established a balanced space program. It increased investments in Science and Aeronautics so we can explore the universe, protect the planet, and make air travel safer and more reliable. The bill provided for new Space Technology research and development to make exploring space safer and more efficient. Finally, it gave us a sustainable human space flight program that extends the International Space Station lab to 2020, opens low Earth orbit to commercial providers, for cargo first, then crew, and broadens human reach beyond low Earth orbit.

NASA will begin building our next generation vehicles to go beyond low Earth orbit, the heavy lift rocket and the Orion capsule. The private sector will build commercial cargo and crew vehicles, with NASA providing the venture capital to get cargo and astronauts to the International Space Station while building a whole new industry.

The shuttle is retiring, but our missions in space will sail on. It doesn't matter how we get there. We can't be defined by our Space Transportation System. Our future in space will be built on innovation and discovery from commercial rockets taking cargo and someday astronauts to the International Space Station; to the James Webb Space Telescope discovering new galaxies and new frontiers in science; to new technologies to grab and fix damaged satellites in space with robots.

New technologies don't just happen. They come from American ingenuity that is built on discovery and innovation. They have made America great and they have made us a nation worth imitating.

As we look around the world, we see people who yearn to imitate the democracy we have, who brought down dictators and autocrats with American innovations like Twitter. They believe representative, parliamentary bodies can give them an orderly way to move government forward and will give them better lives, helping them compete in the world economy.

Already, emerging nations, like China, are imitating our investments in discovery and innovation. China is embarking on an ambitious space program that is reaching for the stars with satellites and astronauts. China is increasing its science research budget 20 percent each year, seeking to replicate our National Science Foundation.

I don't worry about being in a race with China or other nations. China can't beat us. We can only beat ourselves by losing our drive to reach for great goals and by failing to invest in the research and development that will help us achieve them. I will keep fighting to for the innovation and discovery that makes America worth imitating.

I believe in the space program. I believe in space technology, in green science that helps us understand and protect the planet, and in heliophysics that studies the Sun so we know when solar storms could knock out the power grid. I believe in the men and women of the space program like the astronauts who risk their lives to extend our human reach in space, the astrophysicists who teach us about dark matter and the origins of the universe, and the machinists who craft the precision robots that explore the universe for us. The men and women of the space program are the best of the American economy, creating jobs for today and jobs for tomorrow.

President Kennedy knew we needed all of the Nation's talents to go safely

to the Moon. Fifty years later, we live in different, and more frugal, times. We must not let our urgent, immediate needs keep us from investing in programs that see results well into the future. While looking toward immediate national needs, President Kennedy also urged investments for the long haul. He wanted the United States to take risks on science that changed the world, putting people on the Moon, and on a civilian weather satellite in space.

While America waits on our new crop of innovations to mature, we will keep reaping the harvest of the discoveries and investments made long ago that have become the Internet, medical imaging like MRIs, and countless other products that help American companies invent new products and create new jobs.

In these frugal times, we should all work together to keep alive President Kennedy's spirit of exploration and discovery and win the future.

INTENT TO OBJECT

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, consistent with Senate Standing Orders and my policy of publishing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a statement whenever I place a hold on legislation, I am announcing my intention to object to any unanimous consent request to proceed to S. 968, the PROTECT IP Act.

In December of last year I placed a hold on similar legislation, commonly called COICA, because I felt the costs of the legislation far outweighed the benefits. After careful analysis of the Protect IP Act, or PIPA, I am compelled to draw the same conclusion. I understand and agree with the goal of the legislation, to protect intellectual property and combat commerce in counterfeit goods, but I am not willing to muzzle speech and stifle innovation and economic growth to achieve this objective. At the expense of legitimate commerce, PIPA's prescription takes an overreaching approach to policing the Internet when a more balanced and targeted approach would be more effective. The collateral damage of this approach is speech, innovation and the very integrity of the Internet.

The Internet represents the shipping lane of the 21st century. It is increasingly in America's economic interest to ensure that the Internet is a viable means for American innovation, commerce, and the advancement of our ideals that empower people all around the world. By ceding control of the Internet to corporations through a private right of action, and to government agencies that do not sufficiently understand and value the Internet, PIPA represents a threat our economic future and to our international objectives. Until the many issues that I and others have raised with this legislation are addressed, I will object to a unanimous consent request to proceed to the legislation.

NRA POSITION

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a letter dated May 26, 2011, from the NRA.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA,
Washington, DC, May 26, 2011.

DEAR SENATOR CHAMBLISS: Thank you for asking about the National Rifle Association's position on a motion to table amendment # 363 to the PATRIOT Act.

The NRA takes a back seat to no one when it comes to protecting gun owners' rights against government abuse. Over the past three decades, we've fought successfully to block unnecessary and intrusive compilation of firearms-related records by several federal agencies, and will continue to protect the privacy of our members and all American gun owners.

While well-intentioned, the language of this amendment as currently drafted raises potential problems for gun owners, in that it encourages the government to use provisions in current law that allow access to firearms records without reasonable cause, warrant, or judicial oversight of any kind.

Based on these concerns and the fact that the NRA does not ordinarily take positions on procedural votes, we have no position on a motion to table amendment # 363.

Sincerely,

CHRIS W. COX.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AU PAIR PROGRAM

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a milestone that has been reached by an important cultural exchange program administered by the State Department. In 1986, the United States Information Agency, USIA, exercised its authority under the Fulbright/Hays Act to establish the Au Pair Program on a pilot basis. This initiative was designed to provide opportunities for young Europeans to live with an American family, care for children, and pursue their educational interests.

One of the leaders in developing the concept of the Au Pair Program was the American Institute in Foreign Study, AIFS, located in my hometown of Stamford, CT. AIFS was one of the initial sponsors and worked in connection with the State Department to develop a comprehensive framework that supports American families and foreign nationals.

Over the past 25 years, the Au Pair Program has grown dramatically. Congress assisted in that growth by passing legislation, signed into law by President Clinton in 1997, which gave the Au Pair Program permanent authority under the J-1 visa program. This initiative has proven to be a remarkable success. In fact, over 180,000 au pairs from over 60 countries have lived with an American family for a year since the program's inception.

I can personally attest to the strength and value of the Au Pair Pro-

gram. When our youngest daughter was growing up, Hadassah and I had several au pairs. They became part of our extended family and we still keep in touch with them today. The exchange experience enriched the lives of our au pair and my family through the sharing of culture, language, and religion.

I am pleased the U.S. State Department is holding a reception on June 9, 2011, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Au Pair Program. I commend all those who have made this program so successful, and in particular AIFS, for its vision and leadership.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT JOSE PEQUENO

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of a real American Hero, SSG Jose Pequeno of my home State of New Hampshire, and his steadfast family. After leaving the U.S. Marines, Jose became one of the youngest police chiefs in the State of New Hampshire. After 9/11, he joined the U.S. Army, and heroically volunteered to go to Iraq. Following an IED explosion, Jose was almost mortally wounded, but fought to live. Now, with the help of his mother and family he continues that battle. This coming Memorial Day weekend, I ask all of us to remember the many servicemen and women and their families who have sacrificed so much for us. As each of our servicemen and women and their families teach us daily about faith and courage, I ask Americans to pray and remember their sacrifice, which continues to ensure our freedom is secure.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this poem penned by Albert Caswell be printed in the RECORD in honor of all those brave men and women we have lost.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

HEAVEN SO HOLD'S

Jose. . . .
Heaven. . . .
Jose, Heaven. . . so hold's. . . .
Heaven, so hold's your place!
For Heaven, is so made. . . so made. . .
All for such men as you Jose, of such splendid grace!
All for such magnificent men, of 'oh so such courageous faith!
Who have such brilliant eyes, which to all hearts such warmth do so bathe. . .
Who but once had such strong arms, hands and legs, to protect all of us from such harm. . . .
Who once, upon them. . . so such great burdens were so placed!
Whose entire life has been written with such kindness and courage, that time cannot so erase. . . .
And so show us all, just what a magnificent heart can so create!
Whose whole entire life has but been so dedicated, to but protecting the human race. . . .
Who so gave, and so marched off to war. . . .
And came back home to wear a badge, and so much more. . . .
And then to serve once again, to give it all up again and go back to war. . . .
To volunteer, and give up all that you so love and so adore!

For there can be no greater gift! No greater love than all of this for sure. . . .
To so leave your loved ones, and give up all that you adore!
And yes, Jose, Heaven SO Hold's Your Place!
Ah yes Jose, one day you will so see our Lord's face. . . .
And all of those magnificent families. . . . like yours
Who had to so worry, and so wait!
Quiet heroes, who had to carry on somehow each day. . . .
Praying, not for that one phone call, did they!
Living through, all of that pain and hell and heartache!
For all of them, oh yes yours, Heaven So Hold's A Place!
For they shall too so see, our Lord's face. . . .
And, when you came back home Jose, that day. . . .
And they so looked upon your once golden face. . . .
And so saw what this war had so made!
And they broke down and began to cry!
As they so asked our Lord, why so why?
As they so wept. . . all on that night
But, some things can be only made with faith!
Because Jose, you so made the choice. . . .
As it was you Jose, who so heard that inner voice!
As your loved ones too, have so brought their light!
As upon their needs, they asked for courage. . . on high. . . .
Is that but not what Heaven is for?
Is that but not true love for sure?
For Heaven SO Holds A Place, for all of those who have shown such grace!
Who, will not give up, or in. . . even though each day the worst they so face. . . .
Yes, Heaven Holds Your Place!
Amen!

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DAVID C. BAILEY

• Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I recognize and congratulate Chief of Police David C. Bailey of the Bedford, NH, police department for his 40 years of dedicated service to the law enforcement profession, the town of Bedford, and the State of New Hampshire.

Chief Bailey began his law enforcement career in 1971 as a patrol officer with the town of Bedford; was promoted to lieutenant in 1976; deputy chief in 1981; and as the chief of police in 1989. A native of Bedford, NH, Chief Bailey earned his bachelor's degree from the University of New Hampshire in 1969.

During his long tenure as a police chief, David Bailey has been a leader in promoting community oriented-policing; in improving public safety within the State of New Hampshire; and in promoting sound public policies and practices, which have helped keep New Hampshire one of the safest States in the Nation. From 2002 to 2003, he served with distinction as the president of the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police. Chief Bailey has worked tirelessly with New Hampshire legislators, and other public safety officials, to better the administration of justice.

As Chief David Bailey celebrates his retirement, I commend him on a job