

the Senate's most solemn duties and one to which I give the utmost care. I apply no litmus test with respect to a nominee's personal beliefs, and have voted for judicial nominees whose personal views differ from my own, but evaluating whether a nominee possesses an ability to set aside emotion and personal views while applying the laws in a neutral and impartial manner is critical.

In this regard, I believe Mr. Duncan will be faithful to the rule of law. He has pledged to the Judiciary Committee and to me that he will follow all precedents of the Supreme Court, and his actions in the Louisiana same-sex marriage case are evidence that he will do this, even if he disagrees with the outcome. I support his confirmation.

JESSIE'S LAW

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, in March 2016, we lost a young woman with great potential named Jessica Grubb. Jessie was a great student, a loving daughter and sister, and an avid runner. She was also recovering from an opioid addiction.

When she had surgery for an infection related to a running injury, her parents were there to take care of her, and both Jessie and her parents told her doctors and hospital personnel that she was a recovering addict and not to be prescribed opioids.

Unfortunately, Jessie's discharging physician did not see this note in her chart, despite it being in there eight separate times. He did not know that she was a recovering addict and sent her home with a prescription for 50 oxycodone pills.

Her parents talked to her on the phone when she got home, but that was the last time they talked to her. She had passed away that night in her sleep. The temptation was too great for her, as it would be for so many in recovery.

Her death was tragic, but preventable.

That is why I introduced Jessie's Law and why I fought to have it included as part of the fiscal year 2018 omnibus appropriations bill. The fiscal year 2018 LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee Senate Report, which was signed into law, includes the following common-sense language to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish best practices for hospitals and physicians for sharing information about a patient's past opioid addiction when that information is shared by the patient with the healthcare provider: "Opioid Medical Record Reporting.—The Committee is deeply concerned about the devastating impact that the opioid epidemic is having on families throughout the country, and recognizes that medical providers must have access to information about their patients' past opioid addiction if that information is provided by the patient. The Committee encourages the Secretary to develop and disseminate

standards that would allow hospitals and physicians to access the history of opioid addiction in medical records (including electronic health records) of any patient who has provided information about such addiction to a healthcare provider."

These standards will be created in honor of Jessica Grubb and will help ensure that a patient's substance use disorder history is included in a patient's record like any other life-threatening medical issue, including a penicillin allergy.

This will help keep a tragedy like Jessie's death from ever happening again by ensuring that, when individuals are open about their past addiction, healthcare providers will have access to the information that they need to provide medically appropriate care and save lives.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, today, April 26, 2018, we celebrate World Intellectual Property Day and recognize the important role intellectual property plays in the fabric of society. We take time to recognize the innovators and creators who are making our lives healthier, safer, and more productive through their ingenuity and the robust system of intellectual property protections enshrined in our laws.

This year's World Intellectual Property Day campaign in particular celebrates the women who are driving change and making our common future better through innovation in so many fields including science, healthcare, art, engineering, and design, just to name a few.

Inspiring contributions from countless women are powering innovation in our world. For example, Helen Murray Free was inducted into the National Inventor's Hall of Fame in 2000 and awarded the national medal of technology and innovation in 2010 for her pioneering work in self-testing systems for diabetes. She received seven patents for her work. Iowa's own Mary Florence Potts also used the American patent system to protect three of her inventions. Her work improved the safety of common household appliances, and her novel iron design was even displayed at the 1876 World's Fair in Philadelphia. Elise Harmon holds numerous patents for technology, ranging from microprocessor production to high-altitude carbon brush performance. Our intellectual property system must continue to protect and reward the work of women like Helen Murray Free, Mary Florence Potts, and Elise Harmon.

We need to continue creating an environment where innovative, creative women are empowered, connected, and celebrated. This involves ensuring a robust, inclusive intellectual property system that fosters and rewards innovation and the widespread ingenuity that has made America a leading force in the global economy.

The Founding Fathers recognized that robust intellectual property infrastructure fosters creative talent and enhances innovative spark. Article I, section 8 of the Constitution says "Congress shall have power . . . to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries." Placing this authority within Congress's enumerated powers underscores the weight that our Founding Fathers placed on intellectual property's value to the budding Nation. Although the American system of intellectual property rights has evolved since the ratification of the Constitution, its core mission of promoting innovation has remained constant. As a result, America has long been on the forefront of intellectual property and a leader in so many IP-intensive fields. Our IP system is one that rightly rewards creativity and passion, characteristics common to so many Americans.

Intellectual property is also critical to our national economy because it fuels innovation that improves lives and creates jobs. The United States is one of the most dynamic and innovative countries in the world. Our Nation's success in areas such as agriculture, manufacturing, computer technology, and medicine can be traced in large measure to our respect for and protection of intellectual property. In our modern, innovation economy, patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, and other forms of IP are more critical than ever. IP protections and incentives drive enormous economic activity and development, helping assure America's place as an economic and intellectual beacon to the world. According to the U.S. Commerce Department, IP-intensive industries account for more than 45 million direct and indirect U.S. jobs—that is nearly a third of the workforce—and almost 40 percent of U.S. GDP. In addition, these jobs pay well. Average weekly wages in IP-intensive industries are 46 percent higher than in non-IP intensive fields. As a society, we depend on innovators not just to fuel our economy, but to make our lives better and to solve the challenges we face. These innovators, in turn, depend on different forms of intellectual property.

The Judiciary Committee plays an important role in protecting intellectual property. The committee exercises jurisdiction over our Nation's intellectual property laws, including those governing patents, trademarks, and copyrights. We consider legislation that helps to ensure that intellectual property rights continue to promote jobs and innovation. The committee also exercises important oversight of the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, and various law enforcement entities charged with protecting IP. Just last week, we held an oversight hearing with Director