

Ukraine, but in finding a new political enemy. The fact that this is music to Vladimir Putin's ears may be just a coincidence.

In any case, Hungary's posture regarding Russia is unusual in the region, to say the least. As suggested in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Report we issued on "Putin's Asymmetric Assault," Russian disinformation isn't just creeping in over the transom; the Hungarian Government has opened the door and put out a welcome mat. Paradoxically, however, while Prime Minister Orban may tilt his country to east, Hungarians themselves remain among the most pro-European Union of Europeans and many still vote with their feet, forming a steady exodus west. In fact, the outward exodus is contributing to an emerging labor shortage.

It is not surprising that Hungary gets compared to Russia: the nongovernmental organization, NGO, Law adopted in Budapest last year was inspired by Russia, proposed by Jobbik, and passed by Fidesz, but there are still big differences between Hungary and Russia. Journalists are not murdered in Hungary, and no one goes to jail for his or her opinions. Instead, Hungary is using a fist in a velvet glove to silence civil society and thwart political dissent without ever leaving a mark. Viktor Orban has mastered nonviolent means of repression. He has used the renationalization of segments of the economy, the recentralization of state authority, and the kleptocratic control of putatively private business to stymie opposition and dissent. I know political analysts are using a lot of different terms to describe the specific system that has emerged in Hungary under Orban—illiberal or mafia state? Oligarchy or kleptocracy? One of the most apt may be "goulash authoritarianism."

There are worrying signs that things may get worse before they get better. Viktor Orban now appears set to fulfill his campaign pledge to extract "moral, political and legal" retribution from those who opposed him. He welcomed the publication of an "enemies list" containing some 200 names—including numerous American citizens—and urged the close-to-Orban media to do more to root them out. This is the kind of smear campaign that often comes just before the gloves come off and the blows begin.

Under these challenging circumstances, the United States needs to speak with a clear and unambiguous voice. As Senator CORKER said at the confirmation hearing last week, "Mr. Cornstein will have the important task of reminding the Government of Hungary that its future lies not in a return to the dark days of the past but in remaining an active member of the community of liberal democracies." Messages delivered behind closed doors are likely to have little effect or may even be completely misrepresented in public by Hungarian officials.

The United States will always have a relationship with Hungary, but the question is: What kind of relationship will that be? One built on deeply shared values or only fleeting transactional interests? Our strongest alliances are with countries where human rights are respected and democracy is strong, and that is the kind of relationship I hope Mr. Cornstein will help build.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO DENNIS AND BARBARA RAINEY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor Dennis and Barbara Rainey. The Raineys are residents of Little Rock in my home State of Arkansas. They are cofounders of FamilyLife, a Christian ministry committed to helping marriages and families.

Dennis and Barbara have been married since 1972. They have six children and a growing number of grandchildren. Their ministry, which is focused on strengthening marriage and the family, has grown into a nationally recognized brand that includes marriage conferences and cruises, books, devotionals, and public speaking engagements. FamilyLife reaches an estimated 60,000 people each year with its "Weekend To Remember" events for couples.

Dennis can be heard daily as host of the nationally syndicated radio program "FamilyLife Today" on more than 1,100 radio stations/outlets in nearly all 50 States. Together, they have authored or coauthored more than 35 books, and Barbara recently launched a new home decor line and teaching resource to help families and especially women express their faith in their homes. FamilyLife has grown into a dynamic ministry that has reached more than 109 countries across the world.

Dennis and Barbara truly live out their faith every day in their roles as teachers, speakers, parents, grandparents, mentors, friends, and neighbors. They have been pivotal members of the faith community in Little Rock, as well as throughout our State and the country.

My wife, Cathy, and I have been blessed by and treasured the friendship and mentorship of Dennis and Barbara since the start of their ministry.

We are very proud of the important, affirming work that they have been doing for decades. Taking this opportunity to celebrate Dennis and Barbara and their legacy shows just how much of an impact they have had on their community and beyond over many years.

We are grateful for them and wish them well in the years ahead. May God bless the Raineys and the work they have left to do in service of His Kingdom. Our marriages and families are certainly better for it. •

##### TRIBUTE TO CHRIS KOLSTAD

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Chris Kolstad of Liberty County for his years of dedication to Montana agriculture.

Chris is a fourth-generation farmer in Montana's Golden Triangle. For the past 100 years, wheat has paid the bills for his family and put food on people's plates, and that will continue moving forward with his son Cory as a partner on the family farm. Chris and his wife, Vicki, have four children, and Chris's father Allen Kolstad served as Montana's Lieutenant Governor from 1989–1991.

While Chris runs an impressive and successful operation on the farm, it is his involvement in the community that makes him stand out. He has been an active member of the Montana Grain Growers Association, as well as the Montana Farm Bureau. In February of 2016, Chris was elected secretary-treasurer of U.S. Wheat Associates. Most recently, Chris was elected chairman of the U.S. Wheat Associates.

Chris works hard to ensure that U.S. wheat is the best in the world. While pushing for that, he proudly represents Montana's farmers and ranchers. I congratulate and thank Chris for his years of hard work and dedication to Montana's farmers and ranchers. •

##### TRIBUTE TO VAUGHN GRAHAM

• Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize my good friend Mr. Vaughn Graham as he nears the end of his term as the 113th chairman of the Nation's largest insurance association, the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America, also known as the Big "I." He was installed as chairman of the Big "I" in September 2017 in Chicago, IL, and over the past year, he has done an amazing job of piloting the association as a strong and thoughtful leader for independent insurance agents across the country.

Vaughn graduated from the University of Oklahoma and is currently the president of Rich & Cartmill, Inc., headquartered in Tulsa, OK, and with offices in Oklahoma City; Ozark, MO; Olathe, KS; and Greeley, CO. He is a past chairman of the Independent Insurance Agents of Oklahoma, IIAO, and has served as the Oklahoma director to the Big "I" national board of directors. He was recognized in 2012 with IIAO's highest honor, the Eagle of Excellence Award.

On the national association level, Graham has chaired the Membership Services, Inc., board and has served on several Big "I" committees and boards including the Big "I" advantage board, InsurPac board of trustees, and the Large Agents and Brokers Council. In addition, he has been engaged as a member of several insurance companies' agent advisory councils.

I would also like to recognize Candace Graham, Vaughn's esteemed

wife. Vaughn has been married to his wife, Candace, for more than 40 years. Together, they reside in Tulsa, OK, and they have two adult children, Hayden and Vaughn, Jr., and five grandchildren. Graham is also active in his community with charitable and civic organizations. He is a member of Leadership Tulsa, the Rotary Club of Tulsa, and is a volunteer mentor to students of Celia Clinton Elementary School.

The State of Oklahoma is proud of Vaughn Graham and wishes him and Candace well following his successful year as chairman of the Big "I."•

#### RECOGNIZING MAINE EMPLOYERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to honor and recognize the Maine Employers' Mutual Insurance Company, MEMIC, a workers' compensation company based in Portland, ME. MEMIC was recently recognized as the best workers' compensation company in the country according to a New York nonprofit that analyzes health insurance companies. A cause for celebration in itself, MEMIC also celebrates its 25th anniversary this year.

One of the greatest success stories in Maine's history, MEMIC revolutionized workplace safety by focusing directly on case management and results. Prior to its incorporation, the workers compensation system was in peril, negatively affecting Maine's economy and workplace environment. Insurance companies that offered workers' compensation were steadily bailing, as costs of writing policies increased. Liability costs climbed as work-related injuries reached peak in the early 1990s. MEMIC's mission was founded on a need for change; both employees and employers need to feel protected from mishap and accidents.

By prioritizing fair and equal treatment of all stakeholders, MEMIC helped Maine's economy avert a crisis. In 1993, Governor John McKernan, Jr., signed legislation that reformed worker safety and appointed a board of directors to set attainable goals and accountability. By its third year, workplace injuries in Maine had dropped to the lowest level in over 16 years, leading to a significant drop in premiums. By its fifth year, MEMIC was able to partially return investment capital to its policyholders with a promise to return the rest within the next 5 years. In addition to lowering costs, reducing fraud, and boosting the economy, MEMIC reinforced transparency, social accountability, and market stability for business leaders. That trend continues to this day when, in November 2017, MEMIC announced that approximately 18,000 employers who purchased insurance through MEMIC would share in a \$21 million dividend, the highest shareholder return in history, and a true reward for improving workplace safety and helping injured workers get well and back to work as soon as possible. That is money going directly

back into Maine's economy through private, public, and nonprofit sectors in all 16 counties. Since 1998, MEMIC has returned more than \$240 million to Maine policyholders, a truly remarkable track record and testament to its integral role and value in strengthening Maine's workforce and economy.

With a 25-year foundation of success, MEMIC's current management and leadership team continue this strong commitment to a work environment conducive to innovation, as well as workplace safety and fair claims management. I commend MEMIC for its groundbreaking history, stabilizing Maine's economy and revolutionizing the workers' compensation industry.•

#### CENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

• Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, today I wish to pay special tribute to the American Legion Department of Michigan, which this year is celebrating its 100th convention.

When the American Legion was chartered by Congress 1919, its members were veterans of what was termed the War to End All Wars: World War I. They served alongside people like John F. Roehl, a former major in the Air Service and chief inspector for the Detroit Department of Health, first commander of American Legion Post 1 in Warren; Captain James Wilson, who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and received a citation for bravery in action from General John Pershing, first commander of Post 36 in Kalamazoo; and Lilly Larson of Ishpeming, who served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and today is the namesake of American Legion Post 114 in Greenwood.

Today's American Legion members have served on many fronts and in many capacities. However, they share a few key attributes with the American Legion's very first members. They all have a deep and profound love for this country. They all have served in uniform with honor, and they all are dedicated to continuing to serve their communities, their country, and their fellow veterans.

They do this in as many ways as there are American Legion posts in big cities, small towns, and rural areas across Michigan and across this country.

Post 44 in Marquette sponsors a youth hockey team, which gives area young people a chance to stay active and involved during those months when the snow is a bit too deep in the Upper Peninsula to play American Legion baseball.

Post 459 in Grand Rapids teams up with organizations including the Children's Advocacy Center of Kent County to raise funds to support children who are victims of abuse and to build communities where all young people are respected and safe.

Post 202 in Detroit has a strong focus on connecting young people in south-

east Michigan with educational and service opportunities, including Boys State, Student Trooper, JROTC, and college scholarships.

Post 68 in Paw Paw hosts an "All Gave Some . . . Some Gave All" golf outing to raise money for items like Trackchairs, so that wounded Michigan warriors can continue to enjoy the active, offroad life so many people in our State enjoy.

Whether they are finding housing for homeless veterans, connecting separating servicemembers with employment opportunities, supporting military families, or inspiring the next generation of patriots, every day, American Legion members are doing all they can to build stronger communities and a stronger country.

Their hard work and dedication is a testament to their organization and to the values that have been the foundation of the American Legion from the beginning: love of country, respect for continued service, promotion of a strong national defense, and devotion to their fellow servicemembers and veterans.

For a century, the American Legion has made sure that the voices of our veterans are heard and their service and sacrifice have not been forgotten. On its 100th anniversary, it is my honor to do the same for them.

Thank you.•

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgeway, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 9:50 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 204. An act to authorize the use of unapproved medical products by patients diagnosed with a terminal illness in accordance with State law, and for other purposes.

S. 2155. An act to promote economic growth, provide tailored regulatory relief, and enhance consumer protections, and for other purposes.

S. 2372. An act to establish a permanent community care program for veterans, to establish a commission for the purpose of making recommendations regarding the modernization or realignment of facilities of the Veterans Health Administration, to improve construction of the Department of Veterans