

Mary Naylor played a critical role in the Affordable Care Act. With members of the Budget Committee, she helped to iron out the fiscal details of such a monumental bill, and she captivated a lot of my staffers in the office with tales of the high stakes parliamentary maneuvering she undertook to make sure the reconciliation component of the ACA complied with the Byrd rule.

One of the things that Mary does in my office that my staff loves is the parliamentary minute. At the end of every week, after I have gone back to Richmond, she will do a parliamentary minute and put an interesting problem or challenge on the table from the past and walk my legislative staff through how we should deal with it.

In 2011, the "Washingtonian" named Mary one of the 100 most powerful women in DC, and the "National Journal" named her among the top 14 women on the Hill.

Mary has helped me out in so many ways. She has learned more about aircraft carrier refueling than she ever thought possible and has helped me overcome now two bouts of the decommissioning of aircraft.

All of my staff understands that Mary has really been kind of the brains of the operation. She is in a league of her own. Every single bill of mine that has passed has her fingerprints on it, and I guess I am getting up to—I don't know—over 40 or 50 bills. She comes up with the ideas. She makes my ideas a lot better. She builds supports for our proposals. She tells me when my ideas are bad, and she is almost always right—not always right. She is almost always right. She helps me on my committees and floor strategy. She recruits, trains, and advises all of the amazing policy staffers I have working with me and all who have worked with me over the years.

That is what Mary has done for me and for the people of Virginia for 6 years. That is what she has done for the Senate for the United States for now 30 years. She is a policy whiz. She is a dogged go-getter, and I emphasize "dogged." That is a character reference if you know Mary's love of dogs. She is a walking parliamentary encyclopedia, and her dedication has helped me to achieve much more than I would have imagined as a Senator.

I recognize Mary to say, like so many in the offices in this building, her persistent service to Senator Conrad, to Senator Simon, to me, to the Budget Committee, to the Senate more broadly, and to the country have really made a difference in an awful lot of people's lives.

Anybody leaving, it is always bitter-sweet. I think that she is now going to find there is life after the Senate, and she has a cool next opportunity that she can pursue.

Whenever one of my staffers goes on to pursue a new cool opportunity, I am really happy for them, and yet it is hard to imagine what it will be like walking into the office every day and

not having Mary there as the brains of the operation and a great right hand at getting good things done.

So with that, I know my whole staff is thinking the same thought right now. We want to just thank Mary Naylor for her great service and commend her.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BRAUN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TAX REFORM

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, there was an article in the paper today telling us something that surprises nobody in this Chamber, really, on either side, surveying the tax packages, the proposals from Democrats and Republicans, and making the contrast, and it said the Democratic tax packages are significantly better for the middle class than the Republican tax package.

We know what happened 2-plus years ago when the Finance Committee, in the middle of the night, kept writing new language and biasing it towards the wealthiest people in the county.

We know that the Trump tax bill, voted for by the majority, opposed by all of us because over 75 percent of the benefits, over time, went to the richest 1 percent. Contrast that with our Working Families Tax Relief Act, which focuses on middle-class and working-class taxpayers, focuses on the earned income tax credit and the child tax credit under the theory that, if you cut taxes for the rich, which Republicans always do, that the money trickles down, but it doesn't trickle down. They say it is going to trickle down and help the middle class. Well, it really never does.

I heard President Trump promise a group of us in the White House that everybody would get a \$4,000 raise and several thousand dollars in tax cuts for middle-class families—it just didn't happen.

The way you grow the economy is you focus on the middle class, you cut taxes for the middle class, put money in their pocket, they spend it in local communities. You cut taxes for the rich, it goes to a Swiss bank account or wherever it goes.

So the newspaper today said what everybody already knows, that the best way to grow the economy, the best way to help this country, the best way to help the middle class is—surprise—cut taxes for the middle class. That is what the Working Families Tax Relief Act does. It helps working class kids.

The Trump tax bill pretended to cut taxes through the child tax credit. For the child tax credit, it actually left 26

million children out. Our legislation focuses on those 26 million children. They are not children of the rich. They are children of the middle class. They are working families. They are low-income kids.

So it is clear that that is the way this body should go. I understand who has the votes. I understand that the President of the United States—where the White House looks like a retreat for Wall Street executives—the President of the United States can always jam another tax cut for billionaires through this body.

But let's do the right thing and actually put our focus on working families.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

S. 151

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, earlier today, the Senate overwhelmingly approved the Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act, known as the TRACED Act, authored by our colleagues Senators THUNE and MARKEY.

I am pleased to have been a cosponsor of this bill to help protect consumers from fraudulent, aggravating, and incessant robocalls.

The TRACED Act makes a number of important changes to our laws that will make it easier to fight illegal robocalls.

Most important, the TRACED Act requires telecommunications carriers to implement what is known as SHAKEN/STIR technology to verify whether caller IDs that appear on incoming calls are authentic.

When fully implemented, this technology will be a major advance against the illegal spoofing of calls that have resulted in successful scams.

Combating illegal robocalls has long been a focus of the Senate's Special Committee on Aging, which I chair, and on which the Presiding Officer serves.

Over the past 6 years, the Special Committee on Aging has held 22 hearings to examine scams that specifically target older Americans. Scams that we have highlighted include the IRS imposter scam, the Jamaican lottery scam, computer tech support schemes, grandparent scams, elder financial exploitation, identity theft, and the notorious drug mule scam.

The number and the kind of these scams are endless in their variety. The criminals are ruthless and relentless, and they will continue to come up with new ways to defraud Americans, particularly our seniors.

These scams are often initiated by robocallers who use caller ID spoofing to perpetrate their schemes. Many of us remember back in 2003 when the Do Not Call Registry was created. At that point, what we were able to do was register our phone numbers and block those unwanted, illegal robocalls. Fortunately, back then, telecommunications equipment could not easily be