

Valley. Over the years, he served on numerous boards and committees, including the Yeager Airport Authority Board, Board of Trustees for the University of Charleston, Chairman Emeritus of the Inland Waterways Users Board, Trustee Emeritus of the West Virginia Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, Director Emeritus of the Mariners' Museum, past Chairman of the West Virginia Mining and Reclamation Association, former Director of the Charleston Area Medical Center Foundation, One Valley Bancorp, the Western Pocahontas Corporation, Ohio Valley Improvement Association, and so many more.

In recent years, Charlie was honored as a Distinguished West Virginian by the Governor, entered into the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels by the people of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, inducted into the West Virginia University College of Business and Economics Business Hall of Fame, and recognized as a West Virginia "Who's Who" by the State Journal.

Additionally, he received previous honors, such as the Charleston YMCA's Spirit of the Valley Award, induction into the Coal Mining Hall of Fame, Charleston Gazette-Mail's West Virginian of the Year, Seamen's Church Institute Lifetime Achievement Award, and the National Rivers Hall of Fame Achievement Award, to name only a few.

Put simply, Charlie was a regular Renaissance man. What stands out about Charlie's character was he that he was beloved by those who worked with him and knew him. He was compassionate and considerate and was also a strong leader and motivator with an unparalleled work ethic. It was an honor to call him a friend.

Once again, Gayle and I send our deepest condolences to his children, Laura Jones Pray, C. Tandy Jones, and Jennifer Jones. I am honored to join each of you in remembering Charlie's legacy, as well as the unwavering love he had for his loved ones, community, and, most importantly, our home State.

I know he and Mary Ellen and their son Nelson are looking down on each of them fondly today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

#### VENEZUELA

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the crisis in Venezuela, a defining human rights issue of our time. Nicolas Maduro is starving his own people, and innocent children are dying. What is happening in Venezuela is pure genocide. With every day that passes, the situation in Venezuela grows more dire.

I will not stand by and let Maduro continue terrorizing his people. I will not let Democrats in Congress use the Venezuelan people as a political prop. I will not allow the inaction to continue.

Americans have always stood up for freedom, and today is no exception. That is why I am here again to ask unanimous consent to pass my amendment to H.R. 549, granting temporary protective status for Venezuelans fleeing Nicolas Maduro's oppressive regime. Even though Senate Democrats blocked the same proposal last month, I refuse to give up. I stand with the proud Venezuelans.

My proposal has the support of all Senate Republicans. I believe that the President will sign this into law. It is the only solution that stands a chance of becoming law. We have to act.

We also need to be responsible. The courts have, basically, made a temporary program permanent, which is not sustainable. Despite what some confused Democrats, including Speaker PELOSI may say, the "T" in TPS actually does mean "temporary."

In addition to protecting Venezuelan people right now, my amendment makes much needed reforms to our TPS program and returns the program to its intended purpose. We want those seeking refuge from war and oppressive regimes to have a safe haven in our country, but we need a system that works and is truly temporary. We need to act now to save the Venezuelan people.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate in Spanish.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. (English translation of the statement made in Spanish is as follows:)

We need TPS now.

I stand with the people of Venezuela, and I will continue to fight for freedom and democracy in Latin America.

It is time for Maduro and his thugs to leave power.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 549

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 549. I ask unanimous consent that my amendment at the desk be agreed to, that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAMER). Is there objection?

The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, in reserving the right to object, I share the concerns expressed by my colleague, the Senator from Florida, about the situation in Venezuela.

I have met with many of my constituents of Venezuelan heritage and have discussed with them the crises that their relatives back in Venezuela face every day—shortages of food, water, medicine, and state-sponsored violence, which has caused 4.3 million people to flee the country.

That is exactly why I joined many of my colleagues in supporting legislation from many months ago of granting temporary protected status to people who flee the horror in Venezuela. Of course, the House of Representatives passed legislation to do exactly that. I have a copy of H.R. 549 in my hand, and it is sitting here in the U.S. Senate.

I say to my colleague, the Senator from Florida, that I am happy to sit down with him and discuss how we can revise and reform the entire TPS system in our going forward. In fact, I introduced legislation back in March of this year, S. 879, to extend temporary protected status to all of the people who are, right now, in great fear of being deported from the United States when their protected statuses expire. Yet I recognize there may be reforms we can make to the overall system.

I suggest that a bill that is just focused on TPS to Venezuela is not the place to try to reform the entire TPS system, about which I am more than happy to have a discussion. As the Senator knows, we have people with TPS status from many countries, including El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Haiti, and a number of African countries. To try to overhaul the entire system in one piece of legislation by passing something right now for Venezuela doesn't make a lot of sense, which is why I support what the House did, for it immediately addresses the situation in Venezuela with our current TPS system.

Let's not try to rewrite the whole TPS set of rules now. Let's address the emergency situation right now. The Senate can do that by passing the House bill, which, in a moment, I will ask to take up.

I object to the Senator's request to pass this version, which also tries to overhaul the entire TPS system.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 549. I ask unanimous consent that my amendment at the desk be agreed to, that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my unanimous consent request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 549

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 549