

This is one of the worst ideas to come down the pike in a long time. It, obviously, arises out of a philosophy which is attracted to the way things occur in France and in Italy. It is a 1950s form of economics which was in vogue at one time, sort of a quasi-socialist view of the world which says essentially that someone should always be able to receive a benefit from the government, even if they are making choices which are basically counter to what the government policy should be.

It is a view of the world which seems to have incredible disregard for those Americans who are working and who are paying taxes, because it is essentially saying to those Americans who are working hard every day and paying taxes, we are going to subsidize someone to the tune of \$5,000 to take a job they do not necessarily need to take in many instances, but we are going to subsidize them, and then we are not going to ask that person to train. We are not going to ask that person to take a similar job. We are not going to ask that person to stay in the community. We are not going to find out whether that job was agreed to at arm's length. We are not going to check on the abuse. We are not going to check on even whether the person needs the job from a financial situation. We are simply going to pay that person \$5,000 to take less of a job, simply because they were allegedly put out of work as a result of a trade event and because they are over 50 years of age.

It delivers the wrong message to somebody who is working pretty hard, who is under 50 years old and happens to lose their job because they do not have this opportunity. It clearly delivers the wrong message to somebody who is working very hard trying to make ends meet, paying a significant amount of their income in taxes, and suddenly finds they are supporting someone to the tune of a \$5,000 benefit that creates less efficiency, less marketplace productivity, and undermines the basic concept of our approach as a nation to how one remains vibrant in a competitive world.

So this language, I would hope, would be deleted. Tomorrow we will have a vote on it. I appreciate the courtesy of the Senate, and especially the staff of the Senate, for listening.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the next Democratic amendments in order following the Torricelli amendment be a Landrieu amendment regarding maritime workers, a Harkin amendment re-

garding child labor, and a Reed of Rhode Island amendment regarding secondary worker TAA benefits. These, of course, will be interspersed with the Republican amendments, if they choose to offer them.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak therein for a period not to exceed 5 minutes each.

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

#### RUSSELL JANICKE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to commend Russell Janicke on his successful tour as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. *Louisville*. Under Russell's command, the *Louisville* has demonstrated superior tactical and operational competency, pioneered new tactics, and excelled in joint operations.

Russell was recently awarded the Retention Excellence Award for fiscal year 2000. This pennant recognizes ships, aircraft squadrons, shore commands and other units and organizations for achieving high levels of personnel retention—getting sailors to reenlist and stay in the Navy at the end of their first, second, and later terms of enlistment. It is awarded by the two fleet commanders in chief as well as by the commanders of other major commands.

This award is a visible recognition of Russell's commitment to maintaining a command climate that promotes retention. Russell's command's proactive personnel programs have led him to achieve the highest levels of retention excellence and have helped to reduce attrition. By receiving this award along with others, and praise Russell and his crew has received for successful missions, are testimony to his leadership qualities.

Sincere congratulations to Russell on a job well done.

#### AFGHANISTAN

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, as the loya jirga process moves forward in Afghanistan, all of us must realize that U.S. security depends on a political solution in that far-away country that truly creates functioning stability there. All of us know what the costs of an unstable Afghanistan have been—those costs were delivered to us on September 11.

A political solution in Afghanistan, in my opinion, cannot rely solely on the Northern Alliance leaders who control many aspects of the government today. While we have had numerous

military successes in Afghanistan, we must be as serious about our commitment to a truly multi-ethnic political resolution to the country's current ingovernability.

Last week, Dr. Marin Strmecki, a scholar on Afghanistan for the past 20 years, a fine intellectual who served on my staff many years ago, wrote an excellent analysis in the *National Review*. I have much respect for Dr. Strmecki's analysis and would urge my colleagues to read it. I ask unanimous consent that this article be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the *National Review*, May 20, 2002]

WINNING, TRULY, IN AFGHANISTAN

(By Marin J. Strmecki)

In late March, President Bush placed a call to Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy that led to the delay of the departure from Rome of the former king of Afghanistan, Zahir Shah. The king had wanted to return to his war-torn country in the hope of reunifying it—but the U.S. had credible information that there would be an attempt on his life. The most dismaying aspect of this news was that the ringleaders of the plan were members of the Northern Alliance, an Afghan faction closely aligned with the U.S. and propelled into Kabul by the U.S. rout of the Taliban.

This episode illustrates a growing danger: Despite having won militarily in Afghanistan, the U.S. may still lose politically. A complete victory would mean a pro-Western government in Kabul, one that would mop up the remnants of al-Qaeda and cooperate in the larger regional war. But if the U.S. doesn't change its policies soon, radical Islamists could end up in the driver's seat in Afghanistan.

The critical error came last fall, when U.S. officials selected their principal Afghan allies. The Bush administration opted against working with "the Rome group," a faction of Western-oriented Afghans (including the former king) who sought to recreate the country's moderate and secular pre-1978 government. Though it had no forces in the field, the Rome group could have rapidly mobilized sympathetic commanders and fighters, particularly in Taliban strongholds in southern and eastern Afghanistan. The U.S. chose instead to ally itself with the Northern Alliance, a faction supported by Iran and Russia and in control of about 10 percent of the country.

The Northern Alliance was a dubious choice. Two of its principal leaders, Burhanuddin Rabbani and Abdul Rasul Sayyaf, are major figures in the jihadist movement and were close associates of Osama bin Laden in the 1980s. When Rabbani served as president in the early 1990s, his administration granted visas to the foreign elements of al-Qaeda. Also, he and his party, Jamiat-i-Islami, sought to seize dictatorial power, with his secret-police and interior ministries, led by Qasim Fahim and Yunus Qanooni respectively, killing thousands of members of other political groups. Moreover, Rabbani's Tajik-led military forces carried out atrocities against ethnic Pashtuns in many areas, abuses that contributed greatly to the outbreak of the civil war out of which the Taliban emerged.

Not surprisingly, when Northern Alliance forces rolled into Kabul last fall, its leaders picked up where the Rabbani government had left off. Rabbani himself reoccupied the