

gives to an unfettered executive. One can only wonder if Lincoln would think the “good of the people” has been served by a war that has climbed to more than \$845 billion in direct costs, with a total cost to the U.S. economy estimated by some to be more than \$3 trillion. What good has been served that is worth the more than 4,000 U.S. combat deaths and more than 31,000 U.S. casualties?

S. 1529 is a simple piece of legislation that applies only in the most limited but most important intergovernmental communications—the warmaking power. It prohibits the President, Vice President, and other executive branch officials from deliberately misleading Congress in an effort to persuade the Congress to authorize the use of force by the Armed Forces of the United States.

Officials are not prohibited from being wrong or having incomplete facts, but they may not knowingly and willfully falsify, conceal, or cover up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact, or make any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation. They may not make or use any false writing or document that they know to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement. If the Congress finds that it has been deceived or lied to, the official can be referred to the Attorney General by either House of Congress for investigation and judicial action, if warranted.

The Executive Accountability Act is limited to executive branch officials only, and only with regard to lying to Congress and only about decisions on the use of force. Therefore, its penalties are unlikely to inhibit the normal flow of intergovernmental communications by creating a fear that any statement made before Congress might result in the threat of prosecution.

To those who say that there are already laws that prohibit individuals from making false statements to Congress, rendering the Executive Accountability Act unnecessary, I urge them to read the history of the False Statements Act, section 1001 of Title 18, U.S. Code.

In 1995, the Supreme Court ruled in *Hubbard v. United States* that section 1001 covered only false statements made to the executive branch, not to the judiciary or to Congress. Congress then moved to reverse the ruling by legislating changes to section 1001 in 1996. However, that bill, as enacted, applies only to administrative matters within Congress and any investigation or review conducted pursuant to the authority of any committee, subcommittee, commission or office of the Congress.

The Executive Accountability Act clarifies the requirement for honest testimony and discussion with the Congress about the most important question debated by Congress and provided by the most authoritative officials of the government.

The Framers were absolutely clear about the warmaking power: they gave the President the authority to lead troops after war was declared and to repel invasions of the United States, but only the Congress could authorize the use of force—the ability to send troops into battle. The Framers were well aware of the dangers inherent in vesting the warmaking decision with a single executive, having the history of the world’s kings and emperors as their foundation.

Our recent history has shown us that a powerful and persuasive executive can, and too often has, used his command of the intelligence and information gathering and dispensing functions of government to paint a distorted picture designed to frighten and sway Congress into ceding even more power to him. Presidents of all political parties have shown themselves to be equally susceptible to the lure of absolute power, making the Executive Accountability Act a non-partisan solution to a deep-seated problem.

S. 1529 restores balance to the system of checks and balances by reinforcing the role of Congress in decisions to use force. Congress does not have millions of civil servants working for it. It does not have its own intelligence community or its own diplomatic corps. Congress must rely upon the executive branch for those missions and for the product of those missions. So Congress must be confident that the information it receives is complete and factual—particularly when that information is used to inform a decision to commit U.S. troops and U.S. treasure to any foreign battlefield. Testimony and communications from the White House and the executive branch must be reliable—not fictional, not distorted, not embellished, not cherry-picked for the purpose of supporting only the decisional outcomes desired by the President.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 1529. It is not retroactive. It will not reach back to affect any statements made by previous administrations. We can learn from the past, make this necessary correction, and move into the future with greater assurance that the most difficult and consequential decisions made by Congress—those involving the use of military force—will be made on the basis of open and frank discussion based on all of the facts.●

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I submit pursuant to Senate rules a report, and I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD.

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

DISCLOSURE OF CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

I certify that the information required by rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate related to congressionally directed

spending items has been identified in the committee report which accompanies S. 1406 and that the required information has been available on a publicly accessible congressional website at least 48 hours before a vote on the pending bill.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote No. 248, passage of H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

STENNIS CENTER PROGRAM

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, for 7 years now, the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Leadership has conducted a program for summer interns working in congressional offices. This 6-week program is designed to enhance their internship experience by giving them an inside view of how Congress really works. It also provides an opportunity for them to meet with senior congressional staff and other experts to discuss issues ranging from the legislative process to the influence of the media and lobbyists on Congress.

The program is a joint effort of the Stennis Center and a number of current and former senior congressional staff who have completed the Stennis Congressional Staff Fellows leadership program. These Stennis Senior Fellows use their experience and expertise to design the program and to participate in each of the interactive sessions and panel discussions.

Interns are selected for this program based on their college record, community service background, and interest in a career in public service. This year, 21 outstanding interns, most of them juniors and seniors in college, who are working for Democrats and Republicans in both the House and Senate, participated.

I congratulate the interns for their participation in this valuable program, and I thank the Stennis Center and the Senior Stennis Fellows for providing such a unique experience for these interns and for encouraging them to consider a future career in public service.

I ask unanimous consent to have a list of 2009 Stennis congressional interns and the offices in which they work be printed in the RECORD.

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

Matthew Blake, attending the University of South Dakota, interning in the office of Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, Jennifer Brody, attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison, interning in the office of Sen. Herb Kohl, Benjamin Eachus, attending Pitzer College of the Claremont Colleges, interning in the House Committee on Science and Technology, Tyler Ernst, attending Michigan State University, interning in the office of Sen. John Barrasso, Susan Gleiser, attending Vanderbilt University, interning

in the House Committee on Science and Technology, Zack Hester, attending North Carolina State University, interning in the House Committee on Science and Technology, Ashley McCabe, attending Florida State University, interning in the office of Sen. Robert Menendez, Chase Neely, attending George Mason University, interning in the office of Rep. Sam Farr, Christopher Neuman, attending the University of Pennsylvania, interning in the office of Rep. Robert A. Brady, Dwayne Petersen, attending the University of the Virgin Islands, interning in the office of Rep. Donna Christensen, Beersheba, Philippe, attending Boston University, interning in the office of Rep. Donald Payne, Jeleesa Randolph, attending Morgan State University, interning in the office of Rep. Donna Christensen, Ted Ratchford, attending Tulane University, interning in the office of Rep. Michael N. Castle, George Read, attending Amherst College, interning in the office of Sen. John Barrasso, Tyler Roth, attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison, interning in the office of Sen. Herb Kohl, Twaun Samuel, attending the University of Mississippi, interning in the office of Rep. Maxine Waters, Mary Lynn Seery, attending the Catholic University of America, interning in the office of Rep. Donald Payne, Niki Shah, attending Rutgers University, interning in the office of Rep. Donald Payne, Ken Story, attending Minot State University, interning in the office of Sen. Kent Conrad, Zachary Wittchow, attending Northwestern University, interning in the office of Rep. Thomas E. Petri, Alina Zarr, attending the University of Texas, interning in the office of Rep. Lynn Woolsey.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING ROBERT ROSAS

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am honored to remember U.S. Border Patrol agent Robert Rosas, who was killed in the line of duty at the age of 30.

On July 23, 2009, Agent Rosas was shot and killed after responding to a call in Campo, CA. Every day he placed duty ahead of his personal safety while protecting our Nation's Southwest border. In spite of the known dangers, Agent Rosas and thousands like him answer the call to service.

Agent Robert Rosas was born and raised in El Centro, a border city in Imperial County. He joined the U.S. Border Patrol in May 2006, and was assigned to the Campo Station in the San Diego sector. Agent Rosas was also a reserve officer for the El Centro Police Department, known as an outstanding officer and a positive role model in the community.

Agent Rosas is survived by his wife Rosalie, a son, Robert, age 2, and a daughter, Kayla Alisa, 11 months.

My thoughts and prayers are with Rosalie, Robert, and Kayla Alisa Rosas at this tragic time. They have lost a husband and father. I also send my deepest condolences to Agent Rosas' colleagues in the Border Patrol service. Theirs is a difficult and too often dangerous job. I commend their service, protecting our Nation, and our people.●

COMMENDING DR. GARY V. WHETSTONE

• Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I wish to honor Dr. Gary V. Whetstone, the senior pastor and founder of Victory Christian Fellowship and of Gary Whetstone Worldwide Ministries. He is a Delawarean who, over the past quarter century, has touched the lives of thousands through his proactive and inspirational ministry.

This week marks the 25th anniversary of Pastor Whetstone's ministry, and it will be celebrated in Wilmington this Thursday through Sunday at the Riverfront Center. The festivities will include renowned gospel preachers, including T.D. Jakes, Donnie McClurkin, Martha Munizzi, and Rod Parsley.

A man of great charity, Pastor Whetstone established over 85 outreach ministries throughout Delaware and the surrounding area. This includes the very successful "Blessings, Dressings, and More" program, begun more than a decade ago, which serves over 2,500 Delawareans in need with food and clothing each week.

His work with victims of HIV/AIDS, substance and alcohol abuse, and the incarcerated are testament to his mission to improve lives.

His hands-on approach to ministry has not stopped at the State line. Internationally, Pastor Whetstone has founded over 400 Bible schools in countries as far and varied as Ireland, Nigeria, and India. His vision to spread the teachings of his faith across the globe has undoubtedly been furthered by his comprehensive Bible learning programs.

Pastor Whetstone recently presented "Murder What's Next," an original dramatic production that teaches about effects on children of being raised in a fatherless home. This show, with its large cast and professional quality, delivers a powerful message about the benefits of involved fathers and of a strong spiritual foundation. Over the past 2 years, the production has been seen by over 35,000 people and has received local and national acclaim, including from the premiere Christian periodical, Charisma Magazine.

I am proud to offer Dr. Gary V. Whetstone my congratulations on the 25th anniversary of his ministry. I also wish him and his wife, Pastor Faye Whetstone, all the best as they continue in their noble work.●

RECOGNIZING COUNTY SUPER SPUDS

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, 2 weeks ago, residents in Aroostook County took part in the 62nd Annual Maine Potato Blossom Festival, a weeklong celebration of the indispensable role agriculture has played in Northern Maine's economy. Indeed, early in the 20th century, Northern Maine was known as the Potato Capital of America. While the times have changed and varieties of crops have expanded, po-

tato farming remains a prevalent way of life in rural Aroostook County. With this in mind, I wish to recognize a fifth-generation family-owned small potato company from Mars Hill, County Super Spuds, whose owners, the McCrum family, have been harvesting potatoes in Northern Maine since the mid-1880s.

It was Lemuel McCrum who, in 1886, moved across the border from New Brunswick, Canada, to the small town of Mars Hill in order to establish a future for his family in potato farming. Lemuel and his wife Ada had 14 children, teaching them the value of good stewardship of the land and work ethic, thus ensuring that future McCrums would harvest bountiful crops on the same land. In the 1960s, Dana McCrum, a member of the family's third generation, moved to a new location in Mars Hill, where County Super Spuds has been situated ever since. The fourth generation of McCrums Jay and David began their farming in the early 1970s, and they were joined by their sister's husband, Bobby Lunney, in 1981. By 2004, the family's fifth generation, Jay's sons, Darrell and Wade, and David's sons, Nicholas and Jonathan, began cultivating their own futures at County Super Spuds.

Since its founding, County Super Spuds has grown into a thriving business that now encompasses three subsidiaries: JDR Transport, a family trucking firm launched in 1992; Penobscot McCrum, LLC, a potato processing plant in Belfast that supplies spuds to customers and restaurants around the world; and Sunday River Farms, a 500-acre farming operation in Rumford Point. McCrum family members all operate and manage these firms, which stretch across the State of Maine. Additionally, the McCrum principle of seeking and finding resolutions to issues of quality assurance with their crops was epitomized by their decision in 2006 to begin utilizing a new GPS system. This technique assists the McCrums in accurate equipment placement within its fields in order to maintain the highest quality product for the Nation's dinner tables.

A proud family with a rich tradition of potato farming, the McCrums have been lauded with prestigious awards on numerous occasions. Jay McCrum was named Young Farmer of the Year in 1986 by the Maine Potato Board, the State's foremost advocate for the potato industry, and a decade later was also named as the Farmer of the Year. And in 2001, County Super Spuds received the Maine Potato Board's highest honor, as they were recognized as the Farm Family of the Year. These awards exemplify that this family has been and continues to be an example of the dedication and determination of the McCrum spirit to succeed within this prestigious profession through every season and every economic and environmental trial and tribulation.

However, many across Maine, and indeed the Nation, may know County