

thanks, as he has given them all our thanks in the Senate and well wishes for the next chapter in public service.

In one of his early speeches in the Senate, PAUL KIRK spoke at length about his friend, Ted. He said Senator Kennedy was not one to sit idly by—he acted; he acted to help as many people as possible. Well, the same can now be said also of Senator PAUL KIRK, though obviously for a much shorter period of time. He was not one to sit idly by. In the short time he has been here, he did act, and he has helped as many people as possible.

When he was selected to replace his friend in the Senate, I was reminded then—and I think I mentioned this on the floor—of Ted Kennedy's fondness for the poet Robert Frost and a line from one of his poems. Frost wrote:

Men work together, I told him from the heart, whether they work together or apart.

Teddy and PAUL worked together for much of their lives. Even though they have been apart these past months, they have never stopped working together in the spirit and in the causes that PAUL has embraced in his time here.

As I think about the comments he just made, in talking about what we need in the Senate, I couldn't help but look across the aisle and not see a Senator there. I regret that. Senator INOUE, seated to my right, has served here much longer than most of us—and Senator LEAHY, who was just here, and Senator DODD—but I think we were all part of the Senate a number of years ago when that never would have been the case.

So it is what it is. I hope they hear his comments. I hope all our colleagues will reach for this moment Senator KIRK has asked us to and, in doing so, will keep faith not just with his service but with the service of our dearly beloved friend, Ted Kennedy.

I wish to thank PAUL KIRK for his service to the people of the country and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the way in which he kept faith with the spirit of the law which sent him here. I think he has served us all well, and we will miss him.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNER). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### THANKING SENATOR KIRK

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, before I speak on the issue I came to speak about, I have to take a minute to speak about PAUL KIRK and Gail Kirk and how much they have given this country for many years and what a great honor it has been for me to serve in the Senate with PAUL. He embodies all that is good about this country. He is someone who has incredible intellect, judgment, and he is a lot of fun to be around.

I want to tell you, whatever you do, PAUL and Gail, we all send you our best.

PAUL has been maybe not a long-term Senator but a great Senator.

Thank you.

#### RESTRICTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, on Tuesday night the Senate spoke with one voice expressing serious concern about ongoing attempts by China and other countries to restrict press and Internet freedom and condemning the recent cyber-attacks against Google in China.

In a bipartisan effort, a truly bipartisan effort, we unanimously passed S. Res. 405, introduced by myself and Senators BROWNBACK, CASEY, KYL, FEINGOLD, LIEBERMAN, MCCAIN, SPECTER, and WEBB—a broad spectrum of the Senate who all agree on this issue. This resolution reaffirms the centrality of freedom of expression and the press as cornerstones of U.S. foreign policy. It frames such freedoms as part of U.S. efforts to promote individual rights and voices concern over the ongoing efforts by many countries, and I mean many countries, to restrict free expression, highlighting the attempts to censor, restrict, and monitor access to the Internet.

The impetus for this resolution was a recent cyber-attack on Google's corporate infrastructure and at least 34 companies, reportedly originating in China. Google has evidence to suggest that a primary goal of this attack was to access Gmail accounts of Chinese human rights activists, journalists, and dissidents.

Even worse, this attack was only one of many recent attempts to exploit security flaws and illegally access computer networks of numerous individuals and institutions. These cyber-attacks are unconscionable violations of national security interests in addition to violations of intellectual property rights. With the passage of this resolution, countries from which such attacks originate or countries which take steps to restrict or monitor the Internet should consider themselves on notice.

The resolution calls on the Chinese Government to conduct a thorough review of the recent attacks and to make this investigation and its results transparent.

This is not just about cyber-warfare, and it is not just about China. This resolution highlights a much broader and far-reaching problem of state-sponsored efforts to restrict free and unfettered access to the Internet.

As technology continues to develop, an increasing number of governments have employed repressive tactics to monitor and control the Internet. In countries such as Iran and China, a growing effort has been made to silence the voices of their citizens and restrict the free flow of information. According to the 2009 "Freedom on the Net" report conducted by Freedom House, the

Government of China employs a sophisticated, multilayered, and wide-ranging apparatus to curtail Internet freedom. It also employs legal and economic means to coerce Internet service providers, Web hosting firms, and mobile phone companies to delete and censor online content.

Finally, it requires domestic Chinese and foreign companies with subsidiaries in China—such as Google but many others—to adjust their business practices to allow for increased filtering and supervision by the Government of China, which limits the data available on search engines.

This resolution urges companies to engage in responsible business practices in the face of such pressure from foreign governments by refusing to aid in the curtailment of free expression and welcomes the diplomatic initiative announced by Secretary Clinton in her January 21 speech on Internet freedom to support the development of technology aimed at censorship circumvention.

Finally, the resolution highlights violations of a free press in China, such as the ongoing jamming of Radio Free Asia, Voice of America, and other international broadcasters, despite the unimpeded broadcast in the United States of Chinese state-run media outlets. We allow China to broadcast to the CCTV and the Radio China outlets into the United States completely unfettered. Yet they jam all of our broadcasts by Voice of America and Radio Free Asia into their country. This is not fair, this is not reciprocity, and it is not becoming of a nation that hopes to become one of the great nations of the world.

It pays tribute to the professional and citizen journalists who persevere in their dedication to report in China despite the extremely high rate of imprisonment among journalists.

The freedoms highlighted in this resolution are not just an inherent good, they are also a practical benefit. As Secretary Clinton recently said:

... countries that restrict free access to information or violate the basic rights of Internet users risk walling themselves off from progress.

I am grateful for the widespread support and passage of S. Res. 405, and I thank the other cosponsors for their leadership. The United States must not sit back as voices in China, Iran, and around the world are silenced. It is my hope this resolution will help to promote an environment of expanded freedoms, especially when it comes to the Internet and the press.

I yield the floor and 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 that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.