

Brownback. It helps in our deliberations that someone has had the experience as a big city mayor in challenging times, and Governor of Ohio and, perhaps a less challenging time but a challenging time nonetheless, from the perspective that GEORGE VOINOVICH has brought as a chief executive coming to the Senate, sharing those thoughts and ideas with legislators.

The second thing I think of is Lake Erie. If you live in northern Ohio or in the right places in Wisconsin and Minnesota and Michigan and Indiana and Illinois and New York and Pennsylvania, you think about the great lake you live near. In northern Ohio there is an old story. I grew up about 75 miles from the lake, and GEORGE grew up much closer. There is something about people who have grown up within 10 miles of Lake Erie. You can ask them wherever they are, which way is north, and they always seem to know.

From what he has done with Asian carp and his belief in the importance of our greatest national resource, the five Great Lakes, his commitment is always to maintaining the pristine quality of that lake in terms of recreation, in terms of drinking water, in terms of industry, in terms of all the things that the Great Lakes, especially Lake Erie, do for Cleveland and everything in between. GEORGE VOINOVICH gets much credit for that.

I think about GEORGE VOINOVICH in that he is always elevating the discussion about the quality of the Federal workforce. The term "public servant," unfortunately, doesn't mean in the public's mind what it used to; partly deserved, perhaps, because of some people's missteps or worse, but mostly because people run campaigns against the government, whatever the reasons there. The term "public servant" is so important to GEORGE VOINOVICH, and he has done more than just mouth the words and compliment workers, which he has done often and deservedly. I applaud him for that. He has played a major role in shining the light on how we improve our Federal workforce. How do we give them opportunities for advancement, how do we do training, attract the right people to public service. I still think we have a terrific public workforce. Whether it is at the city, county, State, or Federal level, it is of high quality. And, in the great majority of cases, that is because of a few—and I say a very few—public servants such as GEORGE VOINOVICH who has kept the public spotlight on government service. I know Ralph Regula, the Congressman from Canton who retired in 2008, has shared a lot of those thoughts and ideas and continues to in his retirement with Senator VOINOVICH.

Whether it is his work on Lake Erie or his contributions here, he has certainly made the Senate of the United States a better place. He has made the United States of America a better country. I thank him for that, as my senior Senator.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to my colleague. What a great gentleman. This is an august body, a wonderful place, a delightful place to serve. It has great issues before it. There are people who are gentlemen and gentleladies in it who conduct themselves in one of the highest regards and highest abilities. And when I think of that, I think of GEORGE VOINOVICH. He is a really good guy, a real gentleman in the Senate, and a man who lives his faith, believes it, which is tough to do in this body. It is tough to do in any position in life. Yet he does it and has done it for over four decades in public service to the people in the State of Ohio and the people of the United States. That is quite a tribute.

He and his wife I get to see often. When I think of the expression "two people becoming one," I don't know if I could describe it any better than the Voinovichs, how two become one.

The smile is the same. The look is the same. The attitude is just a wonderful togetherness that the two of them live. At a time when marriages have a lot of difficulties, it is great to see an example of somebody in high office who has lived in public life for over four decades and then has this oneness in their marital relationship. I think they both have served in that capacity, whether it is for their family or for the people of Ohio or the United States.

Living publicly the right way and living privately the right way are both beautiful attributes and difficult things to be able to get done, and it is great to be able to see it happen. For that, I give great tribute to a wonderful American, GEORGE VOINOVICH.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNET). The time allotted for morning business has expired.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order for perhaps 2 minutes.

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

The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, thank you very much.

Mr. President, GEORGE VOINOVICH and I served as Governors together for 6 years. He chaired the National Governors Association, and he was good enough to let me be his vice chairman. I got here and, lo and behold—in fact, for a while he chaired a national drop-out prevention program called Jobs for America's Graduates. I was his vice chairman. I got here, and he chaired a subcommittee on the Environment and Public Works Committee, the Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, and I got to be his vice chairman. So I am used to being his second banana. But I love the guy, and I have learned an enormous amount from him.

He is one of those people who really, every day, try to say: What is the right thing to do—not the easy thing to do, not the expedient thing to do, but what is the right thing to do? And he tries to

do it. He is the kind of person where we go to the Bible study group that meets about every Thursday with the Chaplain and some of our colleagues, and we are always reminded by Barry Black that the Golden Rule is treat other people the way we want to be treated. It is the cliff notes of the New Testament, and GEORGE really personifies that. He treats everybody the way he would want to be treated.

He is a person who focuses on excellence in everything he has done—as mayor, as Governor, and here in the U.S. Senate—and he is always looking for ways to do better what he does and calls on the rest of us to do the same.

Finally, this guy is tenacious. He does not give up. If he thinks he is right and he knows he is right, just get out of the way, and you know he is going to prevail.

He has wonderful folks on his staff who are here with him today, and we salute all of you. He knows how to pick—you are—good people and turn them loose and really to inspire them and us.

I do not think Janet is here today. Maybe she is watching on television. I hope so. But to her and their family, thanks very, very much for sharing with us an extraordinary human being.

We love you, GEORGE.

Mr. President, I yield back.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2010

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 4853, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment with an amendment to H.R. 4853, an act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid/McConnell modified amendment No. 4753 (to the House amendment to the Senate amendment), in the nature of a substitute.

Reid amendment No. 4754 (to amendment No. 4753), to change the enactment date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I understand that under the previous order, I have 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. COBURN. I will attempt not to use that complete time.

MOTION TO SUSPEND

We have an amendment No. 4765, which is a motion to suspend the rules