

If the networks are going to be open and accessible, neutral networks that we have all come to expect from our telecommunications networks in the past, we have to make sure there is no bias.

The second part of the FCC order tries to make sure these fixed and mobile network providers aren't able to block traffic and give their own content priority.

Third, it prohibits fixed broadband providers from unreasonable, discriminatory practices. Again, this is about content, but it also tries to get at that issue of how do we deal with those folks who have huge amounts of content that can clog the network. We have to make sure that we have open access, but we cannot have people overwhelm the network with their particular content without the ability to price that into the network provider's basic service offerings.

I know many of my colleagues' eyes are starting to glaze. I even see some of the pages' eyes are starting to glaze as we dive into some of the intricacies of telecommunications practices. But at the end of the day, what the FCC did in 2010 will be implemented later this month—unless the Senate rejects it and throws all the work out the window and says let's go back to square one. I think would actually do great harm to the progress made and provide even greater uncertainty to one of the fastest growing areas of our economy, telecommunications and broadband.

If we reject this S.J. Res. 6, which I hope we will, and allow this compromise that the FCC worked out to move forward, I believe it will allow the kind of broadband growth, the kind of Internet growth we have all come to expect. And it will help create new jobs in this country.

A couple final points. The wireless issues are a particularly challenging policy area still to be addressed. Wireless is a newer technology. The FCC decided in the Order to adopt a lighter hand of regulation rather than the more strict, full telecommunications regulation of the 1996 Act. This is because of the tremendous growth in the nascent area of mobile services. As of December 2010, 26 percent of U.S. households were wireless only, compared to about 8 percent of the households 5 years ago. The point here is a dramatic one. I think about my kids who, as they start to move into their own homes or even into college, don't even have a phone in their apartment at college. They rely entirely on wireless. We have to make sure we can continue to build out these wireless networks in the most robust way possible. I think the FCC basically got it right by not putting any more heavy-handed regulation on wireless.

In closing, the real issue is how do we ensure that consumers and content providers are treated fairly. The Internet was designed as an open medium, where every service and Web site had an opportunity to gain a following and

to be successful. This philosophy allows bloggers to compete with mainstream media and entrepreneurs across all sectors to compete globally. Small and medium businesses that rely heavily on Web technologies grow and export two times as much as businesses that don't, according to McKinsey.

Some have argued that neither the Congress nor the FCC should do anything in this area because there isn't a widespread problem currently. It is important to remember that the reason the Internet has been so successful has been the fact that no one has been able to control it—no network provider alone, no content provider alone. I hope that never changes.

I do believe the FCC Order should be allowed to be implemented. It helps set minimum rules of the road that will allow Internet growth, broadband growth, mobile growth, all areas where the United States can regain the lead and continue to create jobs and advance prosperity.

With that, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST SARINA BUTCHER

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, we are considering some veterans legislation this week. I rise to recognize the men and women who have selflessly served our Nation as part of the Armed Forces.

Veterans Day is approaching. It is one way to remind ourselves of the sacrifices so many have made and continue to make for our country.

We pay tribute to individuals such as SPC Sarina Butcher. For the past 18 months, she served with valor and distinction in Afghanistan as an automated logistical specialist with the Army National Guard. She earned awards, including the National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and the Oklahoma Good Conduct Medal. She dreamed of becoming a nurse, joining the Guard to help her along that path to support her 2-year-old daughter.

Last week, at 19 years old, Specialist Butcher paid the ultimate sacrifice. Specialist Butcher was the first female Oklahoma National Guard soldier to be killed during wartime and the youngest Guard member to die in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. I spoke to her mother, a resident of El Dorado, AR, and she stressed how her daughter loved serving our Nation. All our prayers are with this family.

CORPORAL DAVID BIXLER

I also wish to recognize CPL David Bixler of Harrison, AR. I recently had

the chance to meet David, one of five servicemembers chosen by the USO for bravery and sacrifice. While on foot patrol in Afghanistan, Corporal Bixler stepped on an explosive device while saving the lives of his team members. The explosion resulted in the loss of both his legs. He was awarded the Silver Star for his actions. I was moved by his unwavering strength and courage. I spoke with his young daughter, and it was easy to see the pride she has for her father.

These two heroes, Sarina and David, are part of a long list of Arkansans throughout our State's history who answered the call to serve. Their resolve—that same dedication and love of country that brought down Osama bin Laden—was passed down through generations before them. They join the ranks of 2LT John Alexander of Helena, the second African-American graduate from West Point; BG William Darby of Fort Smith, the first commander of the U.S. Army Rangers; and Captain Maurice Britt of Carlisle, the first to receive the military's three highest medals for bravery for a single conflict.

Arkansans serving in the military have never wavered when their country called. Whether Active, Guard or Reserves, they have participated in our current efforts abroad and countless previous ones. These efforts continue to this day. For example, the Arkansas National Guard's Agriculture Development Team works with the farmers and herdsmen of southern Afghanistan. The 77th Theater Aviation Brigade worked in Iraq with command and control assets in the south. Little Rock Air Force Base continues to support tactical mobility operations around the globe while training our future airlifters.

Today, our country is facing many challenges, from rising unemployment among veterans to ever-tightening budgets. We should not let our current financial difficulties take away the support we owe those who serve. When looking for DOD savings, we must keep in mind that when these individuals joined the service, both sides made a commitment. We must honor these commitments.

When looking for ways to save, we should put our focus on improving processes and capitalize on efficiencies where we can. For example, I recently introduced the Veterans Relief Act, designed to reduce the backlog at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. I will continue to look for similar ways to streamline processes, improve efficiencies, and honor the obligations of those who have served.

Today, I look at veterans and say: Thank you. Thank you for your service, thank you for your sacrifice, and thank you for your dedication to our country. It is impossible for me to articulate the scale of my gratitude, and I will continue to support measures that honor the veterans of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

With that, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

COMMENDING THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 315, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 315) commending the St. Louis Cardinals on their hard-fought World Series victory.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. MCCASKILL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any related statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 315) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 315

Whereas, on October 28, 2011, the St. Louis Cardinals won the 2011 World Series with a 6-2 victory over the Texas Rangers in Game 7 of the series at Busch Stadium in St. Louis, Missouri;

Whereas the Cardinals earned a postseason berth by clinching the National League Wild Card on the last day of the regular season;

Whereas the Cardinals defeated the heavily favored Philadelphia Phillies and Milwaukee Brewers to advance to the World Series;

Whereas the Cardinals celebrated an incredible come-from-behind victory in Game 6 of the World Series, which will long be remembered as one of the most dramatic games in the history of the World Series;

Whereas Cardinals All-Star Albert Pujols put on a historic hitting display in Game 3 of the World Series, with 5 hits, 3 home runs, and 6 runs batted in;

Whereas Cardinals star pitcher Chris Carpenter started 3 games in the World Series, allowing only 2 runs in Game 7 after only 3 days of rest and earning the win in the decisive game;

Whereas David Freese, a native of St. Louis, won the World Series Most Valuable Player Award;

Whereas Manager Tony LaRussa won his second World Series title with the Cardinals, his third overall, and remains one of only 2 managers to win World Series titles as the manager of a National League and an American League team;

Whereas the Cardinals won the 11th World Series championship in the 129-year history of the team;

Whereas the Cardinals have won more World Series championships than any other team in the National League;

Whereas the Cardinals once again proved to be an organization of great character, dedication, and heart, a reflection of the city of St. Louis and the State of Missouri; and

Whereas the St. Louis Cardinals are the 2011 World Series champions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the St. Louis Cardinals on their 2011 World Series title and outstanding performance during the 2011 Major League Baseball season;

(2) recognizes the achievement of the players, coaches, management, and support staff, whose dedication and resiliency made victory possible;

(3) congratulates the city of St. Louis, Missouri, and St. Louis Cardinals fans everywhere; and

(4) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the Honorable Francis Slay, Mayor of the city of St. Louis, Missouri;

(B) Mr. William Dewitt, President, St. Louis Cardinals; and

(C) Mr. Tony LaRussa, Manager, St. Louis Cardinals.

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, in St. Louis this fall, we had much that was special and different. We had the rally squirrel that ran through one of the playoff games. We had the saying “happy flight,” and “happy flight” became synonymous with a team that was chocking up improbable victories night after night, day after day.

I am going to term this speech a “happy speech.” I have had to give a number of speeches on the floor of the Senate since I have been blessed enough to be given this opportunity to serve my State. Sometimes I come to the floor angry. Sometimes I come to the floor frustrated or upset. Sometimes I come with a passion for a piece of policy that I think is essential in terms of our government operating the way we would want it to operate. Today, I just come happy. I just come happy with the notion that our team provided the kinds of thrills that baseball yearns for in this country—especially at these moments when many families are faced with long days and tough decisions as they try to right the ship as we travel through a very difficult economy.

The 2011 World Series was an unlikely one for our Cardinals. It wasn't supposed to happen. Bookies made a lot of money off the World Series this year because the Cardinals weren't supposed to be in it. The Cardinals were 10½ games out with 30 days to go. In fact, the Cardinals secured their wild card berth on the last day of the season at the eleventh hour. As a wild card team, they weren't supposed to do well. They weren't supposed to defeat Philadelphia. That just wasn't going to happen. Philadelphia has one of the top three payrolls in baseball, right? That wasn't going to happen.

Well, it did. We won against Philadelphia and then took on the mighty Brewers, the winner of our division, and, of course, we won that also. Then it was on to the Texas Rangers, who were supposed to win this year because they had won last year, and we weren't

supposed to be able to compete with the depth and breadth of the Texas lineup. Well, as everyone now knows, that is not how the story ended.

This was a special World Series. It was a unique World Series. It was competitive. It was fun. And I was lucky enough to be at some of the games. In fact, I was at game 3 when Albert Pujols put on a show for the world. He showed everyone why he is the best player in baseball—three towering home runs in one World Series game. All of a sudden his name was being used in the same sentence as Lou Gehrig.

It was a special night to watch the Cardinals pound the Rangers in Arlington, TX, but the Rangers came back the next night to win and the next night after that. So the Cardinals returned to St. Louis once again with their backs against the wall. Once again, everyone assumed it was over because all the Rangers had to do was win one game. And that is when game 6 occurred. I was fortunate enough to be at game 6, and I am saving my ticket stub for generations to come. People in St. Louis are going to claim they were at game 6, so I am going to save the proof. None of us will ever forget game 6.

At our eleventh hour, trying to win our 11th world championship, in the year 2011, our hometown guy—right from St. Louis, graduated from Lafayette High School—walked to the plate in the 11th inning, after the Cardinals twice, with two outs and two strikes, saved the game by getting a hit—twice; not once but twice—so there we were in the bottom of the 11th with the score tied, and our hometown guy, at the eleventh hour, in the 11th inning, in the year 2011, cracked the bat, and that ball sailed out for a home run, and suddenly we had secured the most improbable and exciting victory in World Series history. Now, maybe that is hyperbole, but, honestly, I don't think so. Find someone who watched that game who knows baseball, and they will tell you that was among one of the very best World Series games in the history of American baseball. And what a history that is. With that one crack of the bat, Cardinal Nation became Cardinal World, and all of the world stood in amazement as we cheered like crazy for our Cardinals.

What did this team do this year? We had a masterful manager whom we will miss very much. We had David Freese, our hometown guy, who rose to the occasion when we needed him. We had Albert Pujols. We had Carp, who was amazing as a pitcher. We had a bullpen that rose to the occasion when necessary, after they had been maligned through most of the season. We had Yadi, we had Craig, and we had so many of our players who did what had to be done when it had to be done to deliver a World Series championship to a city that loves them more than we love the arch and more than we love our beer.