

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CALIFORNIA CASUALTIES

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to 30 servicemembers from California or based in California who have died while serving our country in Operation Enduring Freedom since June 6, 2012. This brings to 381 the number of servicemembers either from California or based in California who have been killed while serving our country in Afghanistan. This represents 18 percent of all U.S. deaths in Afghanistan.

CPT Scott P. Pace, 39, of Brawley, CA, died June 6, in Qarah Bagh, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when his helicopter crashed. Captain Pace was assigned to 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC.

Cpl Anthony R. Servin, 22, of Moreno Valley, CA, died June 8, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Corporal Servin was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

SPC Nathan T. Davis, 20, Yucaipa, CA, died June 9, in Tore Obek, Afghanistan, of injuries suffered when his vehicle was attacked with an enemy improvised explosive device. Specialist Davis was assigned to 1st Battalion, Airborne, 501st Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, Airborne, 25th Infantry Division, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK.

Cpl Taylor J. Baune, 21, of Andover, MN, died June 13, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Corporal Baune was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Twentynine Palms, CA.

SSG Nicholas C. Fredsti, 30, of San Diego, CA, died June 15, in Spedar, Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire. Staff Sergeant Fredsti was assigned to 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC.

SGT Jose Rodriguez, 22, of Gustine, CA, died June 19, in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered from enemy small arms fire. Sergeant Rodriguez was assigned to 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA.

PFC Steven P. Stevens II, 23, of Tallahassee, FL, died June 22, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Private First Class Stevens was assigned to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

LCpl Niall W. Cotisears, 23, of Arlington, VA, died June 23, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Lance Corporal

Cotisears was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Twentynine Palms, CA.

SPC Alejandro J. Pardo, 21, of Porterville, CA, died July 8, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit in Maidan Shahr, Wardak Province, Afghanistan, with an improvised explosive device. Specialist Pardo was assigned to 978th Military Police Company, 93rd Military Police Battalion, Fort Bliss, TX.

Cpl Joshua R. Ashley, 23, of Rancho Cucamonga, CA, died July 19, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Corporal Ashley was assigned to 2nd Law Enforcement Battalion, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, NC.

PO2 Michael J. Brodsky, 33, of Tamarac, FL, died July 21, in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, from injuries related to a dismounted improvised explosive device blast. Petty Officer Second Class Brodsky was assigned to Navy Region Southwest Security Detachment, San Diego, CA.

SGT Eric E. Williams, 27, of Murrieta, CA, died July 23, of injuries sustained when his forward operating base received indirect fire in Pul-E Alam, Afghanistan. Sergeant Williams was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC.

1LT Sean R. Jacobs, 23, of Redding, CA, died July 26, in Khakrez, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when he encountered an enemy improvised explosive device. First Lieutenant Jacobs was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA.

SPC Benjamin C. Pleitez, 25, of Turlock, CA, died July 27, of injuries sustained from a non-combat related incident in Mazar E Sharif, Afghanistan. Specialist Pleitez was assigned to 1072nd Transportation Company, 746th Combat Support Battalion, 224th Sustainment Brigade, Van Nuys, CA.

PFC Jose Oscar Belmontes, 28, of La Verne, CA, died July 28, in Wardak Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered from enemy small arms fire. Private First Class Belmontes was assigned to 630th Engineer Company, 7th Engineer Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade, Fort Drum, NY.

GySgt Daniel J. Price, 27, of Holland, MI, died July 29, while conducting combat operations in Badghis province, Afghanistan. Gunnery Sergeant Price was assigned to 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion, Camp Pendleton, CA.

LCpl Curtis J. Duarte, 22, of Covina, CA, died August 1, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Lance Corporal Duarte was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Twentynine Palms, CA.

PFC Jesus J. Lopez, 22, of San Bernardino, CA, died August 1, in Paktika Province, Afghanistan, of

wounds suffered when he encountered an enemy improvised explosive device. Private First Class Lopez was assigned to 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, KS.

PO3 Clayton R. Beauchamp, of Weatherford, TX, died August 7, when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device while conducting a dismounted patrol in the Shaban District, Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Petty Officer Third Class Beauchamp was assigned to 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6, 1st Marine Division, Forward, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Forward, Camp Pendleton, CA.

Capt. Matthew P. Manoukian, 29, of Los Altos Hills, CA, died August 10, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Captain Manoukian was assigned to 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion, Camp Pendleton, CA.

GySgt Ryan Jeschke, 31, of Herndon, VA, died August 10, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Gunnery Sergeant Jeschke was assigned to 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion, Camp Pendleton, CA.

SSgt Sky R. Mote, 27, of El Dorado, CA, died August 10, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Staff Sergeant Mote was assigned to 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion, Camp Pendleton, CA.

SSgt Scott E. Dickinson, 29, of San Diego, CA, died August 10, while supporting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Staff Sergeant Dickinson was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force.

Cpl Richard A. Rivera Jr., 20, of Ventura, CA, died August 10, while supporting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Corporal Rivera Jr. was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force.

CW2 Suresh N. Krause, 29, of Cathedral City, CA, died August 16, in a helicopter crash northeast of Kandahar, Afghanistan. Chief Warrant Officer 2 Krause was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, HI.

SGT Richard A. Essex, 23, of Kelseyville, CA, died August 16, in a helicopter crash northeast of Kandahar, Afghanistan. Sergeant Essex was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, HI.

PO1 Sean P. Carson, 32, of Des Moines, WA, died August 16, in a helicopter crash northeast of Kandahar, Afghanistan. Explosive Ordnance Disposal Petty Officer First Class Carson was assigned to an explosive ordnance disposal mobile unit in San Diego, CA.

PO1 Patrick D. Feeks, 28, of Edgewater, MD, died August 16, in a helicopter crash northeast of Kandahar, Afghanistan. Special Warfare Operator Petty Officer First Class Feeks was assigned to a west coast-based naval special warfare unit.

PO2 David J. Warsen, 27, of Kentwood, MI, died August 16, in a helicopter crash northeast of Kandahar, Afghanistan. Special Warfare Operator Petty Officer Second Class Warsen was assigned to a west coast-based naval special warfare unit.

LCpl Alec R. Terwiske, 21, of Dubois, IN, died September 3, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Lance Corporal Terwiske was assigned to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, like others in this body, including Senator UDALL of Colorado and my fellow senator from Vermont, Senator SANDERS, I support extending the production tax credit for wind energy. This extension is critical to maintaining America's leadership in green energy development and can directly increase domestic job growth. Vermont has already seen the positive results of the production tax credit for wind energy, but the wind industry impacts our entire country. Every American has a stake in the extension of this tax credit.

I am proud that Vermont is a leader in green energy. My State has set ambitious, yet achievable, goals to develop renewable energy resources and technology. We are doing our part to promote job growth, national security, and environmental benefits that tap into local, renewable energy sources. Yet despite these efforts, Vermont has already experienced negative consequences from the uncertainty that surrounds the extension of this tax credit.

I frequently hear the success stories in the renewable energy industry coming out of Vermont, and from industry leaders there about the exciting new projects they are developing. But this summer, the stories have been different. One such company, NRG Systems in Vermont, has been a global leader in wind measurement. The company's CEO, Jan Blittersdorf, and her team of dedicated employees take great pride in delivering precise, reliable and proven wind measurement and turbine control equipment. Jan is an industry leader who has been recognized as a Champion of Change by President Obama and who has been praised for her renewable energy work and efforts to advance the role of women in the green energy sector.

During the recession, as jobs were being cut in many sectors across the country and in Vermont, NRG bucked the trend by hiring new workers, and the company continued to innovate

and look for ways to grow their business. Today, you can find their products in more than 144 countries. Now, however, due to the uncertainty surrounding the extension of the production tax credit, companies like NRG are putting new projects on hold, and for the first time in its 30 year history NRG Systems has been forced to lay off workers—a devastating prospect for a business in a rural state that has prided itself on its ability to adapt to changing market conditions and its strong support for its workers.

These are skilled and dedicated employees losing vital domestic jobs. American workers cannot afford a delay in the extension of the production tax credit. At a time when manufacturing jobs have been shipped overseas, the wind energy sector has done the opposite: it has added manufacturing jobs here in America. Wind energy companies, like NRG Systems, are entrepreneurs who are doing the kind of groundbreaking work that drives our economy.

We have a chance to invest in jobs for America, rather than subsidizing the oil industry to the tune of billions of dollars every year. Our continued dependence on fossil fuels ensures that we will have more of the extreme weather events that have long been a predicted consequence of global warming, such as the drought that is devastating our Nation's farmers this summer and the terrible flooding from Hurricane Irene last summer. It is time to say goodbye to the big oil tax subsidies and usher in a new era of wind energy. The benefits are clear: wind energy has propelled a sustainable and domestic energy source, increased jobs for Americans, and strengthened our domestic energy security.

These are jobs we cannot afford to lose. In Vermont, and for the wind industry across the country, NRG Systems is the canary in the coal mine—an early indicator of the crisis that the wind industry is headed toward if the production tax credit is not extended. This crisis is something we have seen every time this tax credit has lapsed. Each time the production tax credit has been allowed to lapse, revenues in the wind industry fall precipitously, businesses shutter their doors, and workers lose their jobs. There are ways to avoid this catastrophe.

We must continue the production tax credit now or we will most certainly cede these jobs to other countries. I urge all Senators to join me in supporting these important credits. They support American jobs, American companies, American ingenuity, and American energy security. We should extend the production tax credit for wind and continue America's leadership in this growing energy sector.

OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise to express my support for women

and families affected by ovarian cancer. In 2012, it is estimated that approximately 22,280 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer and 15,500 will die of the disease. In my State of Minnesota, an estimated 260 women will die from ovarian cancer this year. Too many American women—sisters, daughters, nieces, wives, friends, neighbors, and coworkers—are losing their lives to this disease.

Because no ovarian cancer screening or early detection test exists, organizations such as the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance stress that “until there's a test, awareness is best.” I commend the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance for its steadfast commitment to make women aware of the risk factors, signs, and symptoms of ovarian cancer and for its advocacy on behalf of women and families touched by this devastating disease. I also would like to commend the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance's Partner Member groups in my State, including the Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance, which is one of the largest funders of research for ovarian cancer in the country.

Experts recommend that women see a gynecologist if they experience any of the often subtle symptoms of ovarian cancer daily for more than a few weeks. Four major symptoms of ovarian cancer include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, and frequent or urgent need to urinate. I ask all of my colleagues to become familiar with these symptoms and to share the information with their friends, family, staff, and constituents.

Ovarian cancer is the ninth most common cancer among women and the fifth leading cause of cancer-related deaths, making it the deadliest of gynecologic cancers. If ovarian cancer is treated before it has spread outside the ovary, the 5-year survival rate is 93 percent. Currently, only 15 percent of ovarian cancers are found at such an early stage and overall the relative 5-year survival rate is 46 percent. I urge my colleagues to help make women aware of the potential warning signs to prevent future deaths. Experts acknowledge that symptoms can be vague and may be associated with other medical conditions. However, as the saying goes, it is better to be safe than sorry.

September is National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month—an important time during which ovarian cancer organizations, advocates, and others will be helping to raise awareness about the disease and its symptoms. I urge my colleagues and their staff to join me in recognizing September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and to join with us in wearing teal throughout September to increase public knowledge about this deadly disease.

TRIBUTE TO ROSAIRE LONGE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is an honor to recognize Rosaire Longe, a