

Federal funds expended to maintain custody of such children, and the Federal benefits available to such children, if any.

(3) ACCESS TO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY OPERATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), for the purposes of conducting the study described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide the Comptroller General with unrestricted access to all stages of screenings and other interactions between Department of Homeland Security personnel and children encountered by the Comptroller General.

(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The Secretary shall not permit unrestricted access under subparagraph (A) if the Secretary determines that the security of a particular interaction would be threatened by such access.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the commencement of the study described in subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives that contains the Commission's findings and recommendations.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I move to lay that motion upon the table.

The motion to lay upon the table was agreed to.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I wanted to thank all my fellow Senators, from both parties, who voted for this bill. If you are someone who has seen firsthand the results of violence against women, it would be almost impossible to vote no on this bill. Will this stop all violence? No. But will it stop a lot of it? Yes; and it will also make possible for those who are caught in violence a chance for support, a chance for someplace to go, a chance to be protected from future attacks.

This is the kind of legislation that speaks to the conscience of our Nation. It speaks to the conscience of the Senate. It tells everybody, usually the most defenseless in our society, this body stands with you. I would urge our friends on the other side of the Capitol to move quickly with similar legislation. This is something we should not hold up. This is a way we can say: We oppose violence against women. We oppose it today. We oppose it tomorrow. We will oppose it forever.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 5 minutes.

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

CORDRAY NOMINATION

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I was concerned when I saw a number of my colleagues are again trying to block the appointment of Ohioan Richard Cordray to the consumer agency. That agency has already played a significant role in saving tens of millions of dollars for consumers who have been wronged in a checking account transaction, who have been nickel-and-dimed, and then some by bank fees.

Former Ohio Attorney General Cordray has done an excellent job as the Director of that consumer bureau. But what troubles me is this is only the second time in the history of the Senate, at least as far as the Senate Historian can figure, when a group of Senators from one party has blocked the nomination of a Presidential appointee because they do not like the agency, because they oppose the construct of the agency itself.

The first time that ever happened was just a couple of years ago with Richard Cordray in this position. The creation of the consumer bureau went through regular order. It was passed by the Senate Banking Committee, on which I sit. It was part of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform bill, and it went to the House of Representatives. It went to conference committee. All that happened was regular order to create this agency.

Many people didn't like the agency. I submit I agree with that. I understand that. I don't agree that it is not a good agency. They don't like the agency in large part because it stood up to Wall Street, and it stood up to some of the bank abuses that put us in this financial situation as a country with the damage it did to our economy.

Even with that, if you don't like the agency, as I said, never before in history except these two times—with the same appointment process, the same appointee, the same designee, the same nominee of the President—has this happened whereby my colleagues said: Even though he is qualified, we are not going to vote to confirm Richard Cordray because we don't like the agency. If you are not willing to change the agency, we are not willing to support a director.

Imagine the kind of precedent that sets where if you don't like an agency, you are never going to let the President confirm a leader of that agency—in any agency of the Federal Government. If you don't like food safety, then you are going to block the appointment. If you don't like transportation, something in the Transportation Department, you don't like something else, you are going to vote against somebody taking the job to run the agency.

Government can't run that way. The government will be dysfunctional if this precedent is set and is ongoing, in addition to the fact that Cordray is right for the job. Also, this agency is important for the middle class, for working-class people, and for low-income people who need these consumer protections.

It sets a very bad precedent for this body. I am hopeful some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will think clearly about this and move ahead on the nomination and confirmation process.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS MEYERS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I stand before you today to honor and recognize a man whose legacy of service to the community, both as a physician and a citizen, is completely deserving of such recognition. I am speaking of Mr. Dennis Meyers of Clay County, KY. The Clay County Days Hall of Fame has chosen to induct Mr. Meyers for his excellent leadership of Manchester Memorial Hospital over the past 12 years.

Mr. Meyers' record of service can be traced back to 1969, when he served as a pastor in the Nebraska and Illinois conferences. After close to two decades of pastoral service, he pursued an occupational change that allowed him to aid others in the field of recreational therapy. He continued to pursue opportunities in medicine, moving into a registered nurse position at Hanford Hospital in 1986. Mr. Meyers then accepted the role of vice president of nursing at San Joaquin Community Hospital in 1990 and continued success brought him to Manchester Memorial, where he eventually served as president and chief executive officer.

Dennis Meyers' involvement in and care for his community have been immeasurable, especially when one considers the many community outreach initiatives he fostered. He helped the community by initiating Mission in Motion, public health screenings, Live It UP, and mission outreach programs.

Mr. Meyers' family shares his devotion to helping others, as his wife Susan also works for the hospital and his three children hold nursing degrees. He has recently retired from his lead role at Manchester Memorial Hospital but plans to stay involved through outreach and church programs.

At this time, I would like to ask my fellow Senators to join me in honoring Mr. Dennis Meyers for his induction into the Clay County Days Hall of Fame. The Commonwealth of Kentucky is all the richer because of his tireless spirit and his willingness to work, heal, and serve.

I also ask unanimous consent that an article in praise of Mr. Meyers that appeared in the Bell County-area publication *The Manchester Enterprise* be printed in the RECORD.

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