

predicament have come to me in tears. These are hard-working middle-class families who have played by the rules, purchased flood insurance responsibly, and now are being priced out of the only home in which they have ever lived. This amendment would delay these potentially devastating changes until FEMA completes its study on premium affordability.

This study is the result of a requirement I authored in the flood insurance bill last year because I was concerned that premiums could become unaffordable for too many families. Of course, at that time the challenge was made by many of our colleagues, particularly on the other side of the aisle, who said: Well, we will let the flood insurance program die unless it can be self-sufficient.

Given the choice between having no flood insurance program—that, therefore, would mean no homeowner would have any insurance available to them, and, of course, it dramatically reduces the value of the home if you cannot get flood insurance and you are in a flood plain—or having a flood insurance program under the conditions our colleagues insisted on, there was a need to have a flood insurance program. But because I knew that had some potential rate shock to individuals, the study I required and sought and achieved in the flood insurance bill last year was because of this concern of unaffordability for too many families. That was even before Superstorm Sandy struck.

While my friends on the other side of the aisle protested my efforts to provide assistance to help low- and middle-income families afford insurance, I was able to include a requirement that FEMA conduct this study on affordability. Well, it has been 10 months since we passed the reauthorization, and there is still no study.

Unfortunately, my concerns about premiums becoming unaffordable have already come true for many New Jersey homeowners. Until FEMA does its job and provides options, according to the law, to improve affordability, the people of New Jersey should not have to face these skyrocketing premiums at a time they are, in essence, getting a triple whammy: They lost their homes or their homes are dramatically uninhabitable, they have to rebuild—in many cases, because of new flood maps, they will have to elevate—and they will have to pay incredibly higher premiums. That is simply a devastation that should not take place.

We all remember the devastation that happened in New Jersey in late October and the way the country came together to help the victims. Last week we marked the 6-month anniversary of Sandy, and the work is far from over. We still have too many people out of their homes and too many people who are afraid of losing their homes.

New Jersey families already suffered from a natural disaster. The next disaster should not be a manmade one. I

urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). The Senator from Connecticut.

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

TRIBUTE TO JOEL NAJMAN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, to many Vermonters, Joel Najman is part of rock-and-roll radio history. Taking the reins of the Vermont Public Radio show “My Place” 30 years ago this spring, he captivated rock-and-roll enthusiasts from around the region and staked his claim in Vermont radio history.

Marcelle and I have known Joel for many years and have followed his career with great interest. Starting in radio at Vermont’s own Middlebury College, Joel went on to WJOY in South Burlington and continues to work WDEV in Waterbury, in addition to hosting “My Place” on Vermont Public Radio.

Joel first joined “My Place” as a substitute host in 1982. After taking over full time in 1983, he took the show far beyond an “oldies rock radio hour” and made it his mission to apply cultural and historical context to rock music for his listeners. In each hour-long episode, he examines rock-and-roll history, providing his listeners with details that often take years to accumulate. He has even been known to spend his entire radio hour picking apart a single song.

In 2004, he was inducted into the Vermont Broadcaster’s Hall of Fame, and the Vermont State Legislature recently passed a resolution honoring him as a “rock and roll impresario.” Today, I would like to congratulate Joel for his 30 years as host of “My Place.” I ask unanimous consent an article from the Vermont publication, *Seven Days*, entitled, “Vermont Legislature Honors ‘My Place’ Host Joel Najman” be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From *Seven Days*, Apr. 26, 2013]

VERMONT LEGISLATURE HONORS “MY PLACE”
HOST JOEL NAJMAN
(By Dan Bolles)

On Wednesday, April 24, the Vermont Legislature surprised Joel Najman with a resolution congratulating the local DJ on his 30th anniversary as the host of the Vermont Public Radio show, and rock-and-roll time machine, “My Place.”

“My Place” was originally hosted by David Field and began life as a wide-ranging, inter-

active retrospective of rock and roll from the 1950s and ‘60s. But Najman dramatically revamped the show’s format when he took over in 1983, after serving as a substitute host the year prior.

Najman is as passionate a musicologist as he is a fan, which is really saying something. In each hourlong episode, he hones in on a specific theme or topic, sometimes sharpening his focus to a single song, and examines its historical context and cultural importance in painstaking detail.

He’s said those details can take years—yes, years—of sleuthing to fully unearth. Recent episodes of “My Place” have explored the first and second waves of the British Invasion, Berry Gordy’s pre-Motown canon and “Popular Songs About Women.”

“There are a lot of oldies stations, and you can buy oldies CDs, or go online and MP3 them or however you want to get the music,” said Najman in a 2007 interview with *Seven Days* celebrating his 25th anniversary. “But it’s relating it to the evolving culture of that time and the stories behind the songs—how they came about, how they were made—which has always been my hobby.”

Some hobby.

If you’re into stiff, overly formal verbiage with lots of “Whereas”-es, you can read the full resolution here. Whereas, if you’d like to hear from the man himself, Najman will appear as a guest on VPR’s “Vermont Edition” on Monday, April 29.

Whereas, you could also listen to “My Place” on VPR Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Congrats, Joel.

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN JOSEPH DAVID

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Brian Joseph David, who retired from the Department of Defense on December 31, 2012, after 30 years of dedicated service to the Federal Government. Mr. David’s expertise in continuity issues greatly enhanced the safety and security of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government.

While serving as the Detection Project Officer for the Joint Program Office of Biological Defense, JPO-BD, Mr. David supervised and operated DOD’s first integrated biological and chemical detection system, which was deployed overseas for force protection during Operation Desert Thunder in Kuwait. He also created the Concept of Operations for the Portal Shield biological detection Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration, ACTD, Program, which was implemented during actual deployment conditions. He was awarded the Superior Civilian Service Award for successfully leading this deployment overseas.

Mr. David played an integral role providing advice and counsel to assist national emergency managers as they worked to mitigate and recover evidence from biological warfare attacks on the Senate. Mr. David’s knowledge and expertise significantly reduced the recovery time and expenses related to the anthrax and ricin attacks on the Senate. He oversaw a major chemical, biological, radiological, and explosives defense effort to protect our country’s national assets. By combining surveillance and identification technologies, defensive measures and mitigation capabilities, Mr. David formed a standard