

Family members and other caregivers can also help seniors evaluate their homes for fall-inducing hazards and modify their living space with adequate lighting and assistive devices, such as grab bars in the shower or tub, to help ensure a safe environment.

There are more steps we can take. The costs of even minor modifications like grab bars and hand rails can add up quickly, while more expensive projects such as widening doorways or installing a ramp are financially unrealistic for far too many seniors. Several existing Federal programs can help seniors make these needed modifications to their homes, but few seniors are aware of them. To address this issue, I have joined Senators KING and AYOTTE in sponsoring S. 3230, the Senior Home Modification Assistance Initiative Act, which would improve awareness and better coordinate existing Federal programs.

Falling is not an inevitable consequence of aging. Practical lifestyle adjustments, evidence-based prevention programs, community partnerships, and continued research are among the tools available to reduce falls. Fall-related injuries have a devastating impact on the lives of our seniors, their families, and their communities. Our goal is to unite professionals, older adults, caregivers, and family members so that they might all play a part in raising awareness and preventing falls.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

JUSTICE AGAINST SPONSORS OF TERRORISM BILL

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I rise today to speak briefly about what occurred yesterday on the Senate floor when the Senate and the House of Representatives overrode a veto in order to ensure that the victims of 9/11 had an outlet, if you will, to try to seek justice and compensation. It was not as satisfactory as most in this body would hope. I am hopeful that over the course of time between now and the lameduck, or shortly thereafter, we will have a way to rectify some of the issues that concern us.

I don't think many Members are aware of that fact that Senator CARDIN and I attempted throughout the last weekend to set up a meeting with the White House to go over options that could, in fact, be more beneficial to our country and, at the same time, give some justice to the people of 9/11. I think many people here know that there were Saudi officials here seeking to come up with some option that might work better than the option that we all opted for, with none other available, yesterday.

We were unable to get the President to convene a meeting that we had hoped would include the Secretary of State—we had a couple of conversations with Secretary Kerry and I also had conversations directly with the White House—and to set up a meeting between the President and Secretary Kerry, and, of course, Leader MCCONNELL, Leader REID, Senator CARDIN, and myself, as well as the two major sponsors of the bill. The purpose was to see if the issues with the bill that we voted on yesterday could be resolved via a better route. Was there another option that we could consider, and could we develop a timeframe where that could be considered to take us to an improvement over where we were yesterday?

For reasons that still are unknown to me, that was not achievable. There was no desire whatsoever to sit down and meet. I am unaware of any meetings that took place to try to resolve this issue. My friends on the other side of the aisle mentioned that they did have a letter read to them at lunch one day regarding the President's views. But now we have passed a bill. In fact, the victims of 9/11, whom many of us have met with, now have an outlet to try to seek justice. I think there was a desire—as was written yesterday in a letter, which many Senators here signed and many others have discussed—to amend what occurred yesterday to put us in a better place.

So it is my hope, now that we have a piece of legislation that has become law, that maybe the executive branch—which, by the way, we tried to get to engage in this issue over this entire last year—will sit down with us and figure out an option that might work a little better than what passed yesterday on the floor. That hasn't occurred. There just has been no engagement. Even at the last minute, with the first veto override facing the administration, there was just an unwillingness to sit down and discuss routes that can take us to a better place.

So I know there is a desire on the House side, I know there is a desire in this body, as was widely expressed yesterday, and I know there is a desire—no doubt—for the victims to be able to get answers to the questions they have had and to seek, in their minds, justice. There is a desire for that. But there is also a desire to do so in a manner that will not possibly undermine other equities that the U.S. Government and our people have.

So I am hopeful that over the course of the next 6 weeks—last night I had a discussion with a Saudi official whom I know is desirous of sitting down and pursuing that, as they have been over the course of the last week—now that this has become law, the administration will be willing to do the same. My sense is that, with some of the comments that are going to be made publicly and some of the back-and-forth that will occur over the next 6 weeks, I am hopeful that the major sponsors of this bill, who are leaders in this body, will be willing to do that so that we will be able to create some alterations that, unfortunately, were not available to us yesterday to cause this piece of legislation to better serve U.S. national interests.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG AND HEROIN EPIDEMIC

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I am on the floor to talk about an epidemic that has gripped my State of Ohio and affected every single State in this body in every community we represent; that is, the issue of prescription drug, heroin, and now fentanyl and other synthetic heroin addiction.

This epidemic is affecting our communities in fundamental ways. It is breaking families apart. It is causing crime. In fact, in my home State of Ohio, as I talk to law enforcement officials in every county, they tell me it is the top reason for crime and the growth of crime.

It is affecting our first responders. When I go to a firehouse now and talk to firefighters about what they do with most of their time, they tell me they do a lot more heroin runs than fire runs, and thank God because they are out there saving lives every single day. They now carry Narcan with them, which is a form of naloxone, which is a miracle drug that reduces the dangers because it reverses the effects of an overdose. They have provided Narcan 19,000 times in the last year in Ohio. This is something that is out there in all of our communities.

Sometimes there is a huge spike in these overdoses. Sadly, we had that this week in Columbus, OH, when in the space of 24 hours we had 27 overdoses. I have been working with the county coroner's office and with the health department in the city of Columbus to try to help them determine what the cause of this spike in overdoses was. It appears to be another case where there is a particularly dangerous batch of heroin, and it probably