

|            |              |             |
|------------|--------------|-------------|
| Casey      | Johnson (SD) | Paul        |
| Coats      | Johnson (WI) | Portman     |
| Coburn     | Kerry        | Pryor       |
| Cochran    | Kirk         | Reed        |
| Collins    | Klobuchar    | Reid        |
| Conrad     | Kohl         | Roberts     |
| Coons      | Kyl          | Rockefeller |
| Corker     | Landrieu     | Rubio       |
| Cornyn     | Lautenberg   | Sanders     |
| DeMint     | Leahy        | Schumer     |
| Durbin     | Lee          | Sessions    |
| Ensign     | Levin        | Shaheen     |
| Enzi       | Lieberman    | Shelby      |
| Feinstein  | Lugar        | Snowe       |
| Franken    | Manchin      | Stabenow    |
| Gillibrand | McCain       | Tester      |
| Graham     | McCaskill    | Thune       |
| Grassley   | McConnell    | Toomey      |
| Hagan      | Menendez     | Udall (CO)  |
| Hatch      | Merkley      | Udall (NM)  |
| Hoeven     | Mikulski     | Vitter      |
| Hutchison  | Moran        | Warner      |
| Inhofe     | Murkowski    | Webb        |
| Inouye     | Murray       | Whitehouse  |
| Isakson    | Nelson (NE)  | Wicker      |
| Johanns    | Nelson (FL)  | Wyden       |

## NOT VOTING—4

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Chambliss | Harkin |
| Crapo     | Risch  |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid on the table.

Under the previous order, the President shall be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative action.

## SBIR/STTR REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2011—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order and pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 17, S. 493, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Mary L. Landrieu, Benjamin L. Cardin, Charles E. Schumer, Daniel K. Inouye, Joseph I. Lieberman, Bernard Sanders, Debbie Stabenow, Patrick J. Leahy, Tom Harkin, Kay R. Hagan, Michael F. Bennet, Al Franken, Herb Kohl, Sheldon Whitehouse, Thomas R. Carper, Richard J. Durbin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to S. 493, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from

Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MANCHIN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 84, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 40 Leg.]

## YEAS—84

|            |              |             |
|------------|--------------|-------------|
| Akaka      | Franken      | Menendez    |
| Alexander  | Gillibrand   | Merkley     |
| Barrasso   | Graham       | Mikulski    |
| Baucus     | Grassley     | Moran       |
| Begich     | Hagan        | Murkowski   |
| Bennet     | Hatch        | Murray      |
| Bingaman   | Hoeven       | Nelson (NE) |
| Blumenthal | Hutchison    | Nelson (FL) |
| Blunt      | Inhofe       | Portman     |
| Boozman    | Inouye       | Pryor       |
| Boxer      | Isakson      | Reed        |
| Brown (MA) | Johanns      | Reid        |
| Brown (OH) | Johnson (SD) | Roberts     |
| Burr       | Kerry        | Rockefeller |
| Cantwell   | Kirk         | Sanders     |
| Cardin     | Klobuchar    | Schumer     |
| Carper     | Kohl         | Shaheen     |
| Casey      | Kyl          | Shelby      |
| Coats      | Landrieu     | Snowe       |
| Coburn     | Lautenberg   | Stabenow    |
| Cochran    | Leahy        | Tester      |
| Collins    | Levin        | Thune       |
| Conrad     | Lieberman    | Udall (CO)  |
| Coons      | Lugar        | Udall (NM)  |
| Corker     | Manchin      | Warner      |
| Durbin     | McCain       | Webb        |
| Enzi       | McCaskill    | Whitehouse  |
| Feinstein  | McConnell    | Wyden       |

## NAYS—12

|        |              |          |
|--------|--------------|----------|
| Ayotte | Johnson (WI) | Sessions |
| Cornyn | Lee          | Toomey   |
| DeMint | Paul         | Vitter   |
| Ensign | Rubio        | Wicker   |

## NOT VOTING—4

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Chambliss | Harkin |
| Crapo     | Risch  |

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 84, the nays are 12.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

## MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. 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.

The Senator from Missouri is recognized.

## TRIBUTE TO MIKE MURPHY

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, last week Kansas City lost a treasure. A very special person to the Kansas City community passed away last week. This is a man, Mike Murphy, who was loved by just about everybody in the area. While his family and friends are gathered now in Kansas City for his memorial service—I am sure there are hundreds who are there—I would like to place these words in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in his memory. Obviously, my prayers go out to his family.

Mike Murphy has been part of the fabric of Kansas City for almost 50 years. For over 40 years, he was the

most dominant local radio personality in all of the Midwest. He was popular. In fact, he became radio lore. At times over his career, over 50 percent of people listening to the radio in Kansas City were listening to his program.

He began his career in radio in 1968. He went on to rise to a class by himself in local and regional radio and, in fact, was the winner of the prestigious Marconi award in 1998.

Thousands of truckers and salesmen throughout the Midwest heard him on the mighty KCMO and became his fans and his friends. His program was an essential part of their day. Why? What was there about this guy? He really did not have a political agenda. Unlike today, he was not busy trying to get people all upset about the issues of the day. He did not take sides on political issues. He rarely had big stars as guests, but from time to time they came through wanting to promote something. Because his show was such a dominant show in the area, they wanted to get on it. He was just a funny, irreverent guy who always made you feel as if you knew him when you listened to his program. He talked like a real person. He did not try to show off his intellect. He was smart as a whip, but he never felt the need to impress anybody—I mean anybody. He just wanted to be your pal. He was fun and funny.

He is most famous in Kansas City for starting the second largest St. Patrick's Day parade in the country. How did he start it? In 1973, he was having a drink at a bar that a buddy of his owned. He and a very prominent PR guy who worked in campaigns around Kansas City, Pat O'Neill, Sr., and maybe one or two of their other friends, called Larry Moore, a local news reporter, and said: We are going to start a parade. They went out of Hogarty's bar, marched a few blocks, and they got a little film on TV that night, and the Kansas City St. Patrick's Day parade was born.

Years later, and thousands of floats and hundreds of thousands of spectators, every year in the St. Patrick's Day parade, where was Mike Murphy? On a garbage truck. He always rode on a garbage truck. It was his way of signaling to the people of Kansas City: I am no big deal. I don't need a fancy car. I am happy up here on the garbage truck.

He was getting upset about Kansas City's heritage at one point, so in 1996 he decided: We need to have a cattle drive again through Kansas City—harkening back to the days of a frontier town, and the stockyards were an important part of Kansas City's legacy. What did he do? He started a cattle drive through downtown Kansas City. He would get some amateur cowboys and then invite a lot of his pals to get on horses and take these cattle down the main street of Kansas City.

He loved characters. He thought being called "a little goofy" was the highest compliment you could pay him.

He loved to talk about UFOs and aliens. His show was a vacation from serious. His humor was never at the expense of someone else.

I was so fortunate to be one of the many who became part of his large group of regulars. It all began with a phone call to his show when I was driving back from Jefferson City to Kansas City as a young State legislator. This was over 20 years ago. He was saying stuff on the radio—of course, I was listening to Mike Murphy as I drove because everybody listened to Mike Murphy. He was saying something on the radio that was not correct. This is before cell phones. I pulled my car off the highway. I remember to this day exactly where it was. I got on a pay phone, and I called his show because he was saying something that was not correct. I was scared to death. He took my call. I was scared. He was funny. And we became friends. Like hundreds of other people just like me, we became friends.

In fact, we became such close friends that he taunted me until I agreed to be part of the cattle drive. One year, there I was on the top of a horse riding through downtown Kansas City behind a bunch of cattle. That might have been the last year of the cattle drive because I think that was the year some of them escaped into a parking garage in downtown Kansas City, and the Kansas City police were called to see if we couldn't get them off the top of a multistory garage in downtown Kansas City.

I was blessed to be in a bleacher seat to watch his heart at work—from his annual Salvation Army show to small acts of kindness to mere acquaintances, to his incredible loyalty to his friends.

His heart was as enormous as his patience for BS was small. He also had no patience for pompous. Some of his famous shows were shows where someone came on his show who would be considered a big deal, a star. If that person began being arrogant on Mike Murphy's show, if that person started talking down to Mike Murphy's friends—his listeners—Mike would let him know in no uncertain terms that the interview was over, that he was not interested in allowing anyone to talk down to his pals—his listening audience.

I will never, ever forget the twinkle in Mike Murphy's eye. It is important that he remain one of Kansas City's brightest legends of all time.

My hope for Mike Murphy's memory—I am not surprised that Mike chose the first 17 days of March to meet his Maker because of the fun he had around St. Patrick's Day. My hope is that every St. Patrick's Day in Kansas City, people will raise a glass to Mike Murphy, and when they do, they will tell a funny story. It would be great if that story would be about Mike Murphy, but the most important thing is that it is a funny story. Let me tell you, Mike will not care if it is not even true.

To Mike Murphy, the kind of man who walks as a giant among us and we do not even realize it until he is gone, a man who never lost sight that the little salesman out there driving in his car and the mother at home doing her family's laundry were the most important people on the Earth—here's to you, Mike. Godspeed, my pal.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

#### CLEAN AIR ACT

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the importance of a landmark piece of legislation, the Clean Air Act. Congress passed the Clean Air Act over 40 years ago with broad bipartisan support from both Chambers of Congress, and President Nixon wisely signed it into law. Since then, we have seen remarkable benefits to the health of our Nation. We have seen significant reductions in pollution from lead, mercury, sulfur dioxide, and a host of other contaminants. America reduced pollution and made remarkable strides in improving public health even while our economy adjusted and thrived. In fact, the Clean Air Act has a long track record of promoting job creation and economic growth while reducing pollution.

The economic benefits of the Clean Air Act are significant. For every \$1 spent on Clean Air Act protections, we get \$30 of public health benefits in return.

In the year 2010 alone, the Clean Air Act saved 160,000 lives and avoided millions of cases of pollution-related illness, including 1.7 million cases of asthma exacerbation, 130,000 heart attacks, 86,000 emergency room visits, 3.2 million lost school days, and 13 million lost work days.

This is a profoundly important law. It protects every single American from the types of pollution that can cause asthma attacks, lost school days for young children, emergency room visits, heart attacks, strokes, and even premature deaths.

The House of Representatives recently passed a continuing resolution for the remainder of the fiscal year that would make truly Draconian cuts to Clean Air Act funding and authority. These policy riders do not belong in the 7-month budget. And I am glad the Senate recently voted down that legislation.

Upon passage of the House bill, the American Lung Association, which is the leading organization working to save American lives from the ravages of lung disease, said:

The House of Representatives also adopted amendments that would block implementation of the Clean Air Act and its lifesaving protections . . .

These provisions and others adopted by the House would result in millions of Americans—including children, seniors and people with chronic disease such as asthma—being forced to breathe air that is unhealthy.

Breathing air pollution can cause asthma attacks, heart attacks, strokes, cancer and shortened lives.

That is coming from one of the most respected public health organizations in the world telling us that this weakening of the Clean Air Act would have dire public health consequences, that more Americans will get sick from toxic pollution.

We can and should be flexible and listen to the industries affected by the law, but we cannot undermine its purpose. Legitimate concerns about regulation should be addressed so we can prosper and grow jobs in the United States of America. It is important that the Clean Air Act be enforced in a commonsense manner that is workable for American businesses, but we cannot abandon its core charges—to preserve public health and ensure the cleanliness of the air we breathe.

I know there is often tension between the EPA, the regulated community, and stakeholders seeking to navigate the Clean Air Act, and there probably always will be. Our economy functions best and in a way that is best for our citizens when we seek a robust Clean Air Act and are responsive to the needs of our economy.

An example of this working well is recent praise that the administration received from the CEO of a leading energy company, who said:

When I look at what EPA has done so far . . . it's actually been pretty moderate.

When the same CEO was asked whether Congress should delay the administration's work to protect public health for 2 years, he said:

That's just two more years of uncertainty where I think a lot of the investment will remain on the sideline in our industry instead of being invested in technology. We know how to build . . . I don't support delay for those reasons.

I support continued implementation of the Clean Air Act and will oppose efforts to undermine this important law. For my part, the decision is very simple: We should let doctors and scientists dictate our public health policy instead of politicians. I hope my friends on both sides of the aisle will come to this same conclusion as well and vote against efforts to weaken the Clean Air Act.

For more than 40 years, we have seen that protecting the air we breathe does not have to come at a cost to the Nation's economy. Both can improve, both must improve hand in hand.

To close, I would like to reiterate that the Clean Air Act has been successful in reducing levels of dozens of dangerous air pollutants and protecting the health of millions of Americans, all while our economy grew. This is a landmark law that has had strong bipartisan support for decades. The Senate should not weaken it.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and 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. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.