

something real is happening, when, in fact, the whole thing is a phony front?

And then you have, up at the head of the critter—you have how the people behind it get themselves paid. So you have advisers who advise these various entities. You have got the CRC Advisors as the name of the group. It has its public relations antenna here, and it has its strategic advice antenna here, and the money flows usually this way so that the people who run this scheme for the big donors can take their cut. They get paid here. These are all for-profit. These are all the not-for-profits that are set up because they allow you to hide who your donors are.

So that is the rig that was set up, and this is not the entirety of the front group scheme that was funded by the \$580 million. This is just one coordinated corporate critter that was set up in order to perform all of these different several functions.

Think back to the Founding Fathers and their desire to set up a democracy where people made choices about their governments, where popular democracy would be the way in which society went forward. Do you think they had in mind something as creepy and complex as this? And do you think all that effort to build all this scheming, all the lawyers to file all the papers, to cook up all the funny, fictitious names to create all of these bogus organizations—what is the point of all that? Could there be a legitimate point to that? Why all the shells? Why all the hiding if you are not up to no good?

Well, the bottom line is, they are up to no good. And the “no good” is to capture the U.S. Supreme Court and turn it from a proper Court into a captive political entity that will do what the people who are behind all this money tell it to do.

And there are many ways they do it, and I will go into those many ways on other occasions. But on this one occasion, I wanted just to focus on this multifaced corporate creature that hides its donors, that does all of this different work through fake, fictitious name organizations and through which money gets extracted by those who run it so they can pay themselves for this vast disservice to democracy.

To be continued.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 5376

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5376) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 14.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I now ask for a second reading, and in order

to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 1098 and 1099; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Annie Caputo, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2026 (Reappointment); and Bradley R. Crowell, of Nevada, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2027 (Reappointment) en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

REESE'S LAW

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5313, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5313) to protect children and other consumers against hazards associated with the accidental ingestion of button cell or coin batteries by requiring the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard to require child-resistant closures on consumer products that use such batteries, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (H.R. 5313) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

JENNA QUINN LAW

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 734.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 734) to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to provide for grants in support of training and education to teachers and other school employees, students, and the community about how to prevent, recognize, respond to, and report child sexual abuse among primary and secondary school students.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the Hassan for Cornyn amendment be considered and agreed to and that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The amendment (No. 5193) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To require reports on the program of child sexual abuse awareness field-initiated grants)

At the end, insert the following:

(b) REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF EXPENDITURES.—The Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services shall—

(1) prepare a report that describes the projects for which funds are expended under section 105(a)(8) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(a)(8)) and evaluates the effectiveness of those projects; and

(2) submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(c) REPORT ON DUPLICATIVE NATURE OF EXPENDITURES.—The Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services shall—

(1) prepare a report that examines whether the projects described in subsection (b) are duplicative of other activities supported by Federal funds; and

(2) submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 734), as amended, was passed as follows:

(The bill (S. 734) will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

NATIONAL ANTI-COUNTERFEITING AND CONSUMER EDUCATION AND AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 738, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 738) recognizing the importance of trademarks in the economy and the role of trademarks in protecting consumer safety, by designating the month of August as "National Anti-Counterfeiting and Consumer Education and Awareness Month".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the question is on adopting to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 738) was agreed to.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

AUTHORIZING THE PRINTING WITH ILLUSTRATIONS OF A DOCUMENT ENTITLED "COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, UNITED STATES SENATE, 1867-2022"

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 739, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 739) authorizing the printing with illustrations of a document entitled "Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate, 1867-2022".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 739) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MORNING BUSINESS

(At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, due to unforeseen circumstances I was unable to be present today for votes on amendment No. 5186 and 5187 to S. 3373, the Honoring our PACT Act, and to the underlying bill. I offer this statement in the RECORD in support of all three.

Amendment No. 5186 to S. 3373, offered by my good friend from Pennsylvania, Mr. PAT TOOMEY, closes an important budgetary loophole by preventing \$390 billion in baseline discretionary spending from being reclassified as mandatory spending under the legislation. I support this amendment, and I would encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Amendment No. 5185 to S. 3373, offered by my good friend from Tennessee, Mrs. MARSHA BLACKBURN, would expand care under the Veterans Community Care Program to include toxic-exposed veterans. This expanded care program is essential to ensure that toxic-exposed veterans receive the full range of support that they need. I would encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment.

Finally, S. 3373, the Honoring our PACT Act, creates a presumption that veterans who suffer from certain health conditions, and who were exposed to toxic substances as part of their military service, are eligible to receive Veterans Administration healthcare. This important bill will provide much-needed care to our veterans, including lifesaving early detection and treatment of certain illnesses. I support the passage of the PACT Act.●

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I am pleased that Democrats have come together to address the costs of prescription drugs and to lower Affordable Care Act health care premiums for Americans. I strongly support a negotiation process for prescription drugs that will enable the voices of affected stakeholders, especially older adults, patients and people with disabilities, communities of color, and other marginalized groups, to play an integral role and inform the development and oversight of Medicare drug negotiations.

The Department of Health and Human Services has the authority to ensure affected stakeholders provide input about the potential for drugs to achieve outcomes that improve their quality of life. I view the Inflation Reduction Act as an opportunity to put older adults, people with disabilities and patients in front of the process so those affected, especially those historically excluded from the data used to

make decisions, are at the table as the Department of Health and Human Services negotiates prices and advances the health equity goals we all share.

RECOGNIZING THE RECLAMATION OF WISCONSIN POINT FROM THE CITY OF SUPERIOR TO THE FOND DU LAC BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR OJIBWE

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam President, today I rise to recognize the reclamation of Wisconsin Point from the city of Superior to the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe. Wisconsin Point, a narrow strip of land separating Allouez Bay from Lake Superior, is a small portion of the Tribe's ancestral home and also an indigenous burial ground dating back 400 years. At least seven generations were laid to rest at the Wisconsin Point cemetery, including the Tribal community's leader Chief Joseph Osaugie.

The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior—or Wayekwaa-gichigamiing Gichigamiwininiwag—Lake Superior Men at the far end of the Great Lake—is an Anishinaabe—Ojibwe—band located near what is now known as Cloquet, MN. The Fond du Lac Band are one of six Tribes who comprise the federally recognized Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, which was organized in 1934 with a new constitution under the Indian Reorganization Act.

In 1918, approximately 180 Ojibwe graves buried on Wisconsin Point were exhumed by the U.S. Steel Company and reburied in 29 plots south of the St. Francis Cemetery to make way for industrial development. Living Tribal members were also uprooted and removed.

Now, more than 100 years later, significant work has been done by the city of Superior and Tribal leaders to acknowledge the trauma of the lives and culture lost.

On August 18, 2022, the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe and the city of Superior jointly host a celebration of the return of Wisconsin Point's sacred burial ground, as well as the mass grave near St Francis cemetery to the Tribe.

Please join me in celebrating this historic moment, where once again the Wisconsin Point lands return back to Lake Superior Ojibwe.

TRIBUTE TO KIM BRINKMAN

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I rise today to extend my congratulations and best wishes to Kim Brinkman on the occasion of her retirement from the Senate disbursing office. For 34 years, Kim has served this Chamber, its Members, and its staff with decency and grace. We are lucky and grateful that Kim—some three decades ago as a recent graduate from the University of Iowa—ventured to the library in Ames, IA, and answered an ad placed in a newspaper to travel to our Nation's