

She is really unexcelled when it comes to an intuitive sense of this Senate and its machinations. Abby is the literal personification of the wonderful ability to maintain great grace under extraordinary pressure—the true mark of the professional.

Few individuals understand the great personal sacrifice routinely made by the legislative floor staff here in the Senate, on both sides of the aisle. Unpredictable schedules, long hours, intense pressures, time away from loved ones at important moments, broken engagements with friends and family—all are experienced to some degree by senior Senate staffers, but no one group experiences these demanding and trying disruptions with more frequency than the Senate floor staff.

These positions, in particular, demand extreme dedication, steady nerves, alert and facile minds, hearty constitutions, patience, and a deep and abiding love for, and dedication to, this institution and the important work it must perform. Never was there a better example of that dedication than C. Abbott Saffold. She is in every way a marvel, with the ability to perform difficult and demanding duties, always with a pleasant demeanor and unequaled coolness under fire.

I would be less than honest if I did not admit that Abby's decision to leave us causes me considerable sadness, because she is so much a part of the Senate family. In many ways, I cannot imagine the Senate without her. I know that for many months after her departure, I shall search in vain for her familiar cropped head and her friendly grin in the Chamber, only to have to remind myself once again that she has gone.

I offer her my heartfelt congratulations on an outstanding Senate career, and on her service to her country. Certainly I wish her blue skies and happy days as she begins her well-earned retirement time. But, I cannot deny that I regret her leaving. I shall miss her friendship and her always sage advice. As Paul said of two women Euodias and Syntyche—both eminent in the church at Philippi—"They labored with me in the gospel," so I say to Abby: "You labored with me in service to the Nation." For me, there will never be another Abby.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

COMPREHENSIVE REGULATORY REFORM ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 343, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 343) to reform the regulatory process, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Dole amendment No. 1487, in the nature of a substitute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Michigan is recognized to offer an amendment relative to small business.

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I will shortly offer the Abraham amendment.

In essence, our amendment would ensure that Federal agencies periodically assess the utility of regulations that disproportionately impact small business.

I think it is critically important any regulatory reform bill take into account concerns of America's small businessmen and women.

At this time, I yield to the distinguished chairman of the Judiciary Committee as much time as he desires for comment.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I thank my colleague, and would like to thank the distinguished ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, Senator BYRD, for his excellent remarks covering the women of the Bible as well as I have heard him cover on the Senate floor, and his tribute to Abby Saffold, who, of course, all Members have a great deal of respect for.

Mr. President, I intend to start each day in this debate—I may not fully comply—with the top 10 list of silly regulatory requirements.

I would pick a few at random today. Let me start with No. 10: Delaying a Head Start facility by 4 years because of the dimensions of the rooms; No. 9, forcing a man to choose between his religion and his job because rules do not allow workers to wear a mask over a beard—stupid rules, I might add, silly regulatory requirements; No. 8, throwing a family out of their own home because of painted over lead paint, even though the family is healthy; No. 7, fining a gas station owner \$10,000 for not displaying a sign stating that he accepts motor oil for recycling; No. 6, reprimanding a Government employee who bought a new lawn mower with his own money but failed to go through the proper procedures; No. 5, citing a farmer for converting a wetland when he fills his own manmade earthen stock tank and made a new one, elsewhere on his property—on his own property, I might add. No. 4, failing to approve a potentially lifesaving drug, thus forcing a terminal cancer patient to go across the border to Mexico to have it administered; No. 3, prohibiting an elderly woman from planting a bed of roses on her own land; No. 2, fining a man \$4,000 for not letting a grizzly bear kill him.

These are my top 10 list of silly regulatory requirements. No. 1: Requiring Braille instructions on drive-through ATM machines. We can see a lot of reason for that in our society today.

These are just a few of the reasons why we are here today. I intend to bring some more to the attention of Members as we continue to go on here. We all know the regulatory process is

out of control. Regulators have an incentive to regulate.

Some regulations are not only counterproductive, they are just plain stupid, as some I have just mentioned. The status quo is not acceptable to the American people, especially if they get to know what is really going on in our society. And they all suspect the costs of regulation are mounting. Paperwork costs the private sector and State and local governments a small fortune. Compliance costs cost even a bigger fortune.

Regulation restricts freedom. What you can use your own land for, what medical treatment you can have or provide for your family, what your company is required to do, et cetera, et cetera.

It is especially onerous on small businesses. Regulatory reform is absolutely necessary to get the Federal Government off our backs. For economic flexibility and growth as well as to reform personal freedoms, we need to change the way in which the Federal Government regulates.

Regulatory reform is an essential part of making Government smaller. Regulatory reform will mean less Federal spending, lower Federal taxes, fewer Federal regulations, smarter regulations, and accountability on the part of those in the bureaucracy.

This bill is about common sense. I think most Americans would agree that our Federal Government is out of control and that the overregulatory system is eating us alive, especially in terms of the burdens it places on all Americans.

This bill simply requires that Government agencies issue rules and regulations that help, rather than hurt, people. It will require that the Federal bureaucracy live by the same rules that Americans have to live by in their own lives—you and I and everybody else. These rules are that the benefits of what you are telling people to do have to justify the cost.

The notion of common sense and accountability and rulemaking may be a radical idea inside the Washington beltway, but I believe that our fellow Americans are smothered in bureaucratic red tape in all aspects of their lives and they are pretty darned tired of the status quo.

This bill will not mean an end to safety and health regulations, as some of its critics would have you believe. All it will mean is that the people in Washington who devise such rules will have to ensure that the interpretations of those rules, or the rules themselves make sense. They will have to quit being the protectors of the status quo.

MYTHS AND FEARS: UNFOUNDED ATTACKS ON
S. 343

In his first inaugural address, Franklin Delano Roosevelt inspired a nation beleaguered by the Great Depression with these calming words: "We have nothing to fear but fear itself." Now