

that also help the people who care for them. Many caregivers for people with Alzheimer's find themselves, caring for their patients in the middle of the night. Telehealth technologies have been developed to let someone else from their caregiver support group know that they're up and available to talk, even at 3:30 in the morning. A "presence lamp" system uses simple home security sensors and the internet to turn on a lamp in one person's home when their friend also happens to be awake in the middle of the night, and vice versa. It becomes a lifeline between family caregivers who could reach out for emotional and social support, even in those darkest and bleakest of hours.

All these innovations point to the fact that a technological revolution is going on right now in home health care solutions, and it's time health care reform brought those solutions into the mix. If done right, reform should do more than give affordable, quality care to all Americans. As these technologies prove, health care reform should also stimulate the economy with new jobs and industries that will allow us to care for our rapidly aging population.

Home health care will help put America at the forefront of a new health care services industry that will generate more than a million new jobs that can never be outsourced. Those jobs will come from inventing new home-based care technologies and using those technologies to deliver virtual and remote care services here at home and abroad.

I have already introduced legislation that uses the concept of coordinated home health care to help people on Medicare live healthier by managing their chronic conditions and reducing duplicative and unnecessary services, hospitalization, and other health care costs. This bill has broad bipartisan support, from Senators BURR and CHAMBLISS to Senators STABENOW, MIKULSKI, and, previously, the late Senator Kennedy.

My bill, the Independence at Home Act, establishes a 3-year Medicare pilot project that helps Medicare beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions remain independent for as long as possible in a comfortable environment. It provides for coordinated-care programs that hold physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other team members accountable for quality, patient satisfaction, and mandatory minimum savings. The act was accepted into the Senate Finance Committee health reform bill and I will pull out all the stops to see it included as part of the final health reform legislation that the Senate will vote on.

Before Congress finishes writing the bill for 21st century health care reform, it is important to define what Americans are paying for, how best to deliver much-needed personalized care to patients where they live, work, and play, and how to make the U.S. a world leader in home-based care industries. The

home can become a fundamental location for health and wellness and also a priority for reform. In addition, all this can be done with a focus on stimulating our economy with new jobs, technologies, and services for a world that will share the challenge of caring for an aging population.

I encourage my colleagues to ensure that health care reform is about new approaches to patient care, quality of life, and growing old with independence and dignity, not just about who's paying the bill. This is a chance to redesign our health care system with a new vision that sees the patient as the center of a more efficient and effective system. It is a chance to change our health care system to one that helps prevent disease, treat patients, support family caregivers, and enable seniors to maintain their independence, by bringing health care reform home.

MORNING BUSINESS

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BEGICH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, due to an unfortunate illness in my family, I regrettably missed rollcall No. 352. If I had been present, I would have voted "aye" on the passage of S. 1963, the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Service Act of 2009. This legislation is very important to veterans living in Montana. Many of Montana's veterans live in rural areas, hours away from the closest VA facility, and this bill will improve access to health care in those rural areas. I am pleased to see this bill passed with bipartisan support. We must uphold our promise to honor our veterans and provide them with the benefits they have proudly fought for and deserve.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

STAFF SERGEANT RYAN L. ZORN

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to express our Nation's deepest thanks and gratitude to a special young man and his family. I was saddened to receive word that on November 16, 2009, SSG Ryan Zorn of Wright, WY, was killed in the line of duty while serving our country in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Staff Sergeant Zorn died near the town of Talifar in northwestern Iraq from injuries sustained when his armored vehicle overturned.

Staff Sergeant Zorn was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, out of Fort Riley, KS. Staff Sergeant Zorn grew up in Upton, WY, and

joined the Army following his graduation from Upton High School. He loved his country, and loved serving his country. His mother JoAnn says this is what he lived for. He was on his third tour of duty in Iraq. His family and his faith were very important to him. Friends and neighbors remember him as always open and friendly, with a broad smile and a wonderful sense of humor. He was dependable and generous, always willing to help others without hesitation.

It is because of Ryan Zorn that we are allowed to go about our daily lives as free people. America's men and women who answer the call to service and willingly bear the burdens of defending our Nation deserve the deepest respect and gratitude of all Americans. They put their very lives on the line every day, and because of them and their families, our Nation remains free and strong in the face of danger.

Jesus says in the Book of John that, "Greater love has no man than this, that he lay his life down for his friend." SSG Ryan Zorn gave his life, that last full measure of devotion, for you, me, and every single American. He gave his life serving and defending his country and its people, and we honor him for this selfless sacrifice.

Staff Sergeant Zorn is survived by his mother JoAnn, his father Myron, and his brother Todd. He is also survived by his brothers and sisters in arms of the U.S. Army. We say goodbye to a son, a brother, a friend, and an American soldier. The United States of America pays its deepest respect to SSG Ryan L. Zorn for his courage, his love of country and his sacrifice, so that we may remain free. He was a hero in life and he remains a hero in death. All of Wyoming, and indeed the entire Nation, is proud of him. May God bless him and his family and welcome him with open arms.

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, each November, we celebrate National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month to honor the original inhabitants of our great nation and celebrate their formative impact on American history. This month is an opportunity to promote the tenets of tribal sovereignty and recommit to the Federal Government's treaty and trust responsibilities to American Indians. I would like to personally honor the nine treaty tribes of South Dakota: the Cheyenne River Sioux, the Crow Creek Sioux, the Flandreau Santee Sioux, the Lower Brule Sioux, the Oglala Sioux, the Rosebud Sioux, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, the Standing Rock Sioux, and the Yankton Sioux. Each tribe's rich heritage greatly influences the character of South Dakota.

It is fitting that hundreds of tribal leaders journeyed to our Nation's Capital in early November to participate