

NRA POSITION

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a letter dated May 26, 2011, from the NRA.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA,
Washington, DC, May 26, 2011.

DEAR SENATOR CHAMBLISS: Thank you for asking about the National Rifle Association's position on a motion to table amendment # 363 to the PATRIOT Act.

The NRA takes a back seat to no one when it comes to protecting gun owners' rights against government abuse. Over the past three decades, we've fought successfully to block unnecessary and intrusive compilation of firearms-related records by several federal agencies, and will continue to protect the privacy of our members and all American gun owners.

While well-intentioned, the language of this amendment as currently drafted raises potential problems for gun owners, in that it encourages the government to use provisions in current law that allow access to firearms records without reasonable cause, warrant, or judicial oversight of any kind.

Based on these concerns and the fact that the NRA does not ordinarily take positions on procedural votes, we have no position on a motion to table amendment # 363.

Sincerely,

CHRIS W. COX.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AU PAIR PROGRAM

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a milestone that has been reached by an important cultural exchange program administered by the State Department. In 1986, the United States Information Agency, USIA, exercised its authority under the Fulbright/Hays Act to establish the Au Pair Program on a pilot basis. This initiative was designed to provide opportunities for young Europeans to live with an American family, care for children, and pursue their educational interests.

One of the leaders in developing the concept of the Au Pair Program was the American Institute in Foreign Study, AIFS, located in my hometown of Stamford, CT. AIFS was one of the initial sponsors and worked in connection with the State Department to develop a comprehensive framework that supports American families and foreign nationals.

Over the past 25 years, the Au Pair Program has grown dramatically. Congress assisted in that growth by passing legislation, signed into law by President Clinton in 1997, which gave the Au Pair Program permanent authority under the J-1 visa program. This initiative has proven to be a remarkable success. In fact, over 180,000 au pairs from over 60 countries have lived with an American family for a year since the program's inception.

I can personally attest to the strength and value of the Au Pair Pro-

gram. When our youngest daughter was growing up, Hadassah and I had several au pairs. They became part of our extended family and we still keep in touch with them today. The exchange experience enriched the lives of our au pair and my family through the sharing of culture, language, and religion.

I am pleased the U.S. State Department is holding a reception on June 9, 2011, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Au Pair Program. I commend all those who have made this program so successful, and in particular AIFS, for its vision and leadership.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT JOSE PEQUENO

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of a real American Hero, SSG Jose Pequeno of my home State of New Hampshire, and his steadfast family. After leaving the U.S. Marines, Jose became one of the youngest police chiefs in the State of New Hampshire. After 9/11, he joined the U.S. Army, and heroically volunteered to go to Iraq. Following an IED explosion, Jose was almost mortally wounded, but fought to live. Now, with the help of his mother and family he continues that battle. This coming Memorial Day weekend, I ask all of us to remember the many servicemen and women and their families who have sacrificed so much for us. As each of our servicemen and women and their families teach us daily about faith and courage, I ask Americans to pray and remember their sacrifice, which continues to ensure our freedom is secure.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this poem penned by Albert Caswell be printed in the RECORD in honor of all those brave men and women we have lost.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

HEAVEN SO HOLD'S

Jose . . .
Heaven . . .
Jose, Heaven . . . so hold's . . .
Heaven, so hold's your place!
For Heaven, is so made . . . so made . . .
All for such men as you Jose, of such splendid grace!
All for such magnificent men, of 'oh so such courageous faith!
Who have such brilliant eyes, which to all hearts such warmth do so bathe . . .
Who but once had such strong arms, hands and legs, to protect all of us from such harm . . .
Who once, upon them . . . so such great burdens were so placed!
Whose entire life has been written with such kindness and courage, that time cannot so erase . . .
And so show us all, just what a magnificent heart can so create!
Whose whole entire life has but been so dedicated, to but protecting the human race . . .
Who so gave, and so marched off to war . . .
And came back home to wear a badge, and so much more . . .
And then to serve once again, to give it all up again and go back to war . . .
To volunteer, and give up all that you so love and so adore!

For there can be no greater gift! No greater love than all of this for sure . . .
To so leave your loved ones, and give up all that you adore!
And yes, Jose, Heaven SO Hold's Your Place!
Ah yes Jose, one day you will so see our Lord's face . . .
And all of those magnificent families . . . like yours
Who had to so worry, and so wait!
Quiet heroes, who had to carry on somehow each day . . .
Praying, not for that one phone call, did they!
Living through, all of that pain and hell and heartache!
For all of them, oh yes yours, Heaven So Hold's A Place!
For they shall too so see, our Lord's face . . .
And, when you came back home Jose, that day . . .
And they so looked upon your once golden face . . .
And so saw what this war had so made!
And they broke down and began to cry!
As they so asked our Lord, why so why?
As they so wept . . . all on that night
But, some things can be only made with faith!
Because Jose, you so made the choice . . .
As it was you Jose, who so heard that inner voice!
As your loved ones too, have so brought their light!
As upon their needs, they asked for courage . . . on high . . .
Is that but not what Heaven is for?
Is that but not true love for sure?
For Heaven So Holds A Place, for all of those who have shown such grace!
Who, will not give up, or in . . . even though each day the worst they so face . . .
Yes, Heaven Holds Your Place!
Amen!

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DAVID C. BAILEY

● Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I recognize and congratulate Chief of Police David C. Bailey of the Bedford, NH, police department for his 40 years of dedicated service to the law enforcement profession, the town of Bedford, and the State of New Hampshire.

Chief Bailey began his law enforcement career in 1971 as a patrol officer with the town of Bedford; was promoted to lieutenant in 1976; deputy chief in 1981; and as the chief of police in 1989. A native of Bedford, NH, Chief Bailey earned his bachelor's degree from the University of New Hampshire in 1969.

During his long tenure as a police chief, David Bailey has been a leader in promoting community oriented-policing; in improving public safety within the State of New Hampshire; and in promoting sound public policies and practices, which have helped keep New Hampshire one of the safest States in the Nation. From 2002 to 2003, he served with distinction as the president of the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police. Chief Bailey has worked tirelessly with New Hampshire legislators, and other public safety officials, to better the administration of justice.

As Chief David Bailey celebrates his retirement, I commend him on a job

well done, and ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him, his wife Susan, son Nathan, and daughter Jessica, well in all future endeavors.●

IRON HORSE BICYCLE CLASSIC

● Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, today I recognize the Iron Horse Bicycle Classic in which bicyclists race the steam-powered Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad from Durango to Silverton. May 28, 2011 will mark the 40th anniversary of this race which is an institution in my home State of Colorado.

This year's race has attracted some 2,500 racers from 44 States and 5 countries and 3,500 riders participating in all of the weekend's many cycling related events.

This race is the third oldest continuously sanctioned bike race in the United States and probably the most grueling of them all. The Iron Horse Classic is a 50-mile race that takes riders over two beautiful mountain passes in Colorado's awe inspiring San Juan Mountains. The race course tops out at 10,860 feet and has a vertical climb of some 6,600 feet for every racer.

The race is one that many professional bike racers compete in at some point in their career with many Olympians, National and World Champions riding in the race over the decades.

Organized for decades by cycling legend Ed Zink of Durango, the Iron Horse Classic is a tremendous asset to all of southwest Colorado. The race's economic impact on our economy is around \$2 million each year and it has donated around \$500,000 to local causes over the years.

As I am sure you can imagine, this is a grueling event for which all riders put in many long months of training.

I am proud to recognize all the riders, staff, volunteers and community members from southwest Colorado who have made the Iron Horse Classic into a premier Colorado cycling event on this its 40th anniversary.●

REMEMBERING F.T. HOGAN H'DOUBLER, JR., M.D.

● Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, as the Memorial holiday approaches, and the Nation remembers our brave soldiers who have served and are serving in our military, I ask the Senate to join me in remembering a decorated war hero and a fellow Missourian, F.T. "Hogan" H'Doubler, Jr., M.D., who passed away on November 24, 2010.

Dr. H'Doubler was born in Springfield, MO, on June 18, 1925. In December 1942, at the age of 17, he graduated from high school a semester early to enlist in the Navy. He was assigned to the V-12 training program at Miami University in Oxford, OH. He earned his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

After the conclusion of World War II, F.T. "Hogan" H'Doubler, Jr., M.D. entered the Navy as a lieutenant junior

grade in the Medical Corps. During the Korean war, he volunteered with the Fleet Marines, and while treating a wounded marine, he received multiple gunshot wounds and was evacuated from Korea. Because of these injuries, he received a Purple Heart with the Oak Leaf Cluster and a Bronze Star.

Dr. H'Doubler became a Shriner in 1956 and served as Potentate in 1968. He later became the Imperial Potentate of the Shrine of North America from 1980-1981. He was an Emeritus Trustee of Shriners Hospitals for Children, and served as chairman of both the Medical Research Planning Committee and the Budget Committee. He was also a member of the Finance Committee and an Emeritus Representative of the Shriners International. He is credited with starting the Stop Burn Injury Program, which is still active today.

Dr. H'Doubler belonged to many professional organizations, including the American Medical Association, Missouri State Medical Society, Greene County Medical Society, American Thyroid Association, and the American Academy of Alternative Medicine, of which he served as president in 1985.

He is survived by his wife Marie, and his four children: daughters Julie Thomas and Sarah Muegge, and sons Kurt and Charles, and six grandchildren.

I would like to pay tribute to this wonderful man who served his Nation and his community with distinction and achieved the Shriners goal of free orthopedic and burn care for all children. Dr. H'Doubler was always a trusted resource on medical issues on whom I could rely at any time. His insight, his compassion, and his willingness to lead on important issues made him a sought after expert. I always enjoyed spending time with Dr. H'Doubler, and he often took time to mentor me on medical and political topics. He was a remarkable man with a full, rich life, and I was glad to call him my friend.●

REMEMBERING GENERAL MATTHEW BUNKER RIDGWAY

● Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, when GEN Matthew Bunker Ridgway passed away on July 26, 1993, he was one of the most decorated soldiers in the U.S. Armed Forces. Members of his family, including some of my constituents from Columbia, MO, gather each year. This year, they will honor General Ridgway's leadership, character, and courage as they celebrate the 60th anniversary of his command as Supreme Commander of the United Nations forces in Korea and Supreme Commander of the U.S. Far East Command during the Korean war.

General Ridgway was born on March 3, 1895, in Fort Monroe, VA, to COL Thomas Ridgway and Mrs. Ruth Ridgway. He went to high school in Boston, MA, and afterward planned to follow in his father's footsteps at West Point. Young Matthew failed the math portion of his entrance exam but was

not deterred. He studied harder for his second attempt, passed, and graduated from West Point. In 1917 he was commissioned as second lieutenant. After the disappointment of not being sent into combat during World War I, Lieutenant Ridgway said, "The soldier who has had no share in this last great victory of good over evil would be ruined." After serving on various generals' staffs and commanding the 15th Infantry in Tientsin, China, General Ridgway would get his chance to fight.

In August 1942, General Ridgway succeeded Omar Bradley when he was given command of the 82nd Airborne Division. The 82nd was chosen as one of the Army's five new airborne divisions. The conversion of an entire infantry division to airborne status was an unprecedented and daunting task which Ridgway successfully accomplished. In 1944, General Ridgway helped plan the airborne operations of Operation Overlord, the Allied invasion of Europe. In Normandy, he courageously jumped with his troops, who fought bravely for 33 days in advancing to Saint-Sauveur-le-Vicomte near Cherbourg, France.

In 1950, as the Korean war raged, General Ridgway was given command of the 8th Army. When Ridgway assumed command the 8th Army was in tactical retreat and suffering from low morale. After a successful reorganization of command structure and service at the front lines, General Ridgway had repaired morale among his soldiers. Ridgway shifted tactics and, relying heavily on coordinated artillery, went on the offensive, helping slow and later stop the Chinese at the battles of Chipyeong-ni and Wonju. When General MacArthur was relieved of command in 1951, General Ridgway took the helm as Supreme Commander of U.N. forces in Korea and Supreme Commander of the U.S. Far East Command. Over the next year, Ridgway was responsible for conduct of the Korean war. He also followed General MacArthur as military governor of Japan, where he oversaw the restoration of Japan's Independence and sovereignty. In 1952, he replaced GEN Dwight D. Eisenhower as the Supreme Allied Commander for the North Atlantic Trade Organization, where he was credited for improvements through command structure, forces, facilities, and training. For his last assignment, General Ridgway served as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army from 1953 until his retirement in 1955.

In retirement, General Ridgway would serve on boards, write, speak to groups, and advise other leaders, including President Lyndon B. Johnson. In 1986, President Ronald Reagan awarded General Ridgway the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

GEN Matthew Bunker Ridgway passed away at his home outside Pittsburgh at the age of 98, on July 26, 1993. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery, and during his eulogy Colin Powell said: "No soldier ever upheld his honor better than this man. No soldier ever loved his country more than