

talked about the other night. He is talking about taxing “wealthier Americans.” What does that mean? It means people who make incomes above \$200,000, and that happens to be the group that represents the bulk of the small business entrepreneurs in America. Fifty percent of all small business income is paid in those top two income tax brackets on which the President would raise taxes.

So the very people we want to hire more workers, we are going to impose more taxes on; and then we are going to expect them to hire more to reduce unemployment so we can have greater economic growth? It simply doesn't work that way.

The final point has to do with regulations. More and more, the President seems to be acknowledging that the runaway regulations of his administration are actually beginning to harm business and job creation. This is why he has announced his effort to try to streamline the regulations and get rid of any that don't work; why he withdrew a proposed regulation from the Environmental Protection Agency recently that would have had a very negative impact on business. He is beginning to recognize that his administration is a big wet blanket over businesses these days because of their burden of regulations. We cannot stimulate the economy or job growth with the government imposing more and more costly regulations on American business every day.

The President set up a false choice in his speech the other night. He said: We have to do away with these job-killing regulations. But, he said, I will not do away with the regulations which protect the American people from—and then he named a litany of things he wants to protect the American people from.

Nobody is talking about eliminating all regulations or having unsafe food or unsafe products for little babies and the like. We are not talking about that. We are talking about the issuance of thousands and thousands of pages of new regulations every month by this administration at an extraordinary cost on American business with very little regard for a cost benefit—in other words, how much society benefits versus the cost of these regulations imposed on business.

By the way, when I say the cost imposed on businesses, who pays? Businesses are the people in the business. The consumers end up paying the cost of the regulations which obviously are passed on. So this is, again, another indirect tax on the American people. That is why I said before, no tax—but especially in a time such as this—whether direct or indirect, is a good idea because of the negative impact it has on job creation.

The bottom line of all this is, there are two basic theories. The one theory basically says we can get something for nothing. The government will get money, forget where it gets it. But

when it gives it to people, they will spend it. When they spend it, then whatever they spend it on, that producer has to produce more of those things so they will have to hire somebody to make more of them. But that is exactly backward. It doesn't work that way.

The supply-side theory says, first of all, the money didn't come to the government free. It had to be taken out of the private sector. The government either had to tax somebody, so they have \$1 less to spend, or it gives an IOU, which means eventually the taxpayers have to pay the taxes to repay the IOU. In either case, that is \$1 taken out of the economy. It is \$1 not there in the private sector for an entrepreneur to hire someone or to produce something.

So the supply-side economics says, let's look at the other side of the equation. Rather than focusing on consumption, let's focus on productivity where technology, labor, and capital can produce more, can make a society more productive, more wealthy, where more people can have work, they can have better paying jobs. What they produce has greater value, and people are willing to buy it, as a result of which they put more money back into the economy. That is the cycle that produces wealth, and it is the cycle that has caused economic growth and job creation and wealth generation in this country now for over 200 years.

It begins with the proposition that job growth starts in the private sector, that government doesn't create jobs, that money starts with the people, the taxpayers. They generate the income, and the government gets a piece of that in the way of tax revenue. But the money belongs to the people, not the government. Third, there is no magic when the government somehow gets \$1 in order to redistribute it so somebody can buy something with it. We have to remember where the dollar came from. It didn't materialize out of thin air. It started with a hard-working taxpayer who earned the dollar and then either paid it to the government in taxes or is paying it in taxes to repay a debt that the government incurred in order to borrow money for a stimulus package.

As we think about the President's proposed third or fourth stimulus, however we count it now, I hope we can keep these economic theories in mind: There is no free lunch. There is no free money. Eventually, the taxpayers are who create the wealth and the job creators create the jobs. If we keep those principles in mind, I think we will look a little bit more skeptically on the notion that we can somehow target job creation with yet another stimulus bill and that is going to get us out of our economic woes.

If my colleagues will keep these principles in mind, I think we will make wise decisions and prevent the country from going even deeper into debt and try to focus on the long term so businesses can actually make decisions based upon long-term thinking rather

than based upon the ephemeral effects of short-term stimulus.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BLUMENTHAL). The Senator from Wyoming.

REMEMBERING 9/11

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, yesterday marked 10 years since the horrendous attack of Americans on American soil, but it led to a lot of patriotism and a lot of flags being displayed all over the country.

Over the weekend, I noticed my 3-year-old granddaughter and my 4-year-old granddaughter, when they saw a flag hanging anywhere, said “God bless America.”

Throughout the history of the United States, each generation has had at least one iconic moment, one moment in time that served to galvanize the Nation and call each and every American to take on a cause much greater than themselves. Ultimately, the results they were able to achieve served to define who they were as a generation and what they were capable of, both as individuals and as a nation.

For my father, that moment was the bombing of Pearl Harbor. As we watched with growing concern, a terrible evil had taken the whole world to the brink of war. We found we no longer had a choice as to whether we would get involved. We were forced to take action and bring our military might to bear against an enemy that had set its sights on world domination.

As soon as the call went out, brave men and women from all across the country volunteered to serve in our military and to take up arms to defend the rights and liberties we cherish as Americans. They soon proved to be worthy of the task as we once again showed that ours was the greatest fighting force the world has ever known. Thanks to them, the tyranny and oppression that threatened to overwhelm Europe was halted and peace and freedom was once again restored to a war-weary world.

Returning home from the battlefields on which they had served with distinction, our service men and women took up another great challenge and that was to rebuild our Nation and to restore its greatness. Their commitment and dedication to that great mission helped to make the United States what it is today. Thanks to them, their sons and daughters received the greatest gift they could possibly receive, our American way of life. Their actions made it clear that the American dream belongs to everyone, and it can come true, if we are willing to do whatever is necessary to make it happen.

For me and my generation, our iconic moment came with the news that the Soviet Union had launched Sputnik into space. In that brief moment in time, we were once again filled with that same determination as we realized we were in second place in the race for space and in other things. That would never be acceptable or accepted.

In the days after that startling announcement, people of all ages found themselves looking to the skies, wondering if we could answer this daunting challenge. Our curiosity and our ingenuity would again be put to the test as we all tried to help in the effort to bring about that "one giant step for mankind" that wasn't to come for several more years.

My friends and I in junior high banded together—although we were all very young—to help. We wanted to learn all we could about rockets so we could become rocketeers or at least we tried our best to be worthy of the title. Once again, we had a difficult goal to reach for, and we were proud to think of ourselves as part of that call to action.

Of course, President John F. Kennedy then issued the challenge to the Nation that we would send a man to the Moon and return him safely to Earth. It sounded impossible, but with American know-how we were able to develop and put into action a plan that made it happen.

When the time came, the world watched with wonder and amazement as Neil Armstrong took those first steps on the Moon and proved once again that whatever goals we set, we always seem to find the tools and talent we need to get the job done.

For my children, their generation's iconic moment came on September 11, when we were once again cruelly attacked by terrorists who had hijacked several planes and used them to destroy the World Trade Center and part of the Pentagon. It was a moment in time that everyone will long remember for the impact that day and the events surrounding it had on the world and our lives, an impact that continues to be felt.

Even though it was 10 years ago, for almost all of us, the images of September 11 are still fresh in our minds. We can remember where we were when we first heard the news that our Nation was under attack. We can remember how we felt as we watched the Twin Towers fall and the sense of loss as the harsh reality of all the lives that were lost that day became all too real.

There are many lessons learned as we watched the rescue crews, along with our police and firemen, attempt to save as many as they could from the building and then from the wreckage. It was a harsh reminder of how delicate and precious our lives are and how the gift can be taken from us at a moment's notice.

Yet out of all that was lost, there was the birth of something even greater, something more powerful and enduring. It was the sense of community, this sense of country that bound us together as one Nation, as one American. We stood side by side with our neighbors, our families, and even complete strangers, looking out for one another and helping those in need.

Terrorists thought we were a weak nation that would crumble in the face of violence. Those who wanted to hurt

us sent a clear message. Yet we sent another. American flags sprung up in every yard, flew from every building, and even hung from our overpasses. The powerfully simple message of the Stars and Stripes was our message: We are America and we stand together.

Like those moments before, the morning light the next day brought with it the firm resolve that we would, once again, come together as one to address that attack. Political differences would no longer separate us. Concern for our shared future was so strong it would unite us to face this threat to our well-being. Together, we resolved we would do everything we could to ensure that terrorism would never again take such a terrible toll from our Nation or any other nation.

I remember during that time being at events where ambassadors from around the world offered an outpouring of sympathy and comfort for our grieving Nation. I was touched by their sympathy and care for America. I was also pleased so many countries helped us to follow the money trails which led to the arrest and prosecution of countless terrorists.

In the years since that terrible day, justice has also been delivered by our brave service men and women who have once again answered the call to duty and taken up arms to rid the world of the network of terror wherever it is found. Thanks to their efforts, nations that had never known freedom before now dare to dream of a better tomorrow for themselves and for their children. People who had lived in fear under the tyranny of oppression will now have a say in their shared future as citizens of the world. Those who had known nothing but anguish and despair now have a reason to hope for a better life. The Middle East is still in turmoil as the people reach for freedom and individual prosperity.

C.S. Lewis once said:

God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks to us in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world.

I think it is clear that the pain we felt that day was sufficient to rouse us to all the action as it opened our hearts and our minds to God and each other.

In the days to come, the memories of all we witnessed on September 11 will stay with us and serve as a constant reminder that freedom isn't free. It often comes to us at all too great a cost. In that spirit we will never forget those who lost their lives that day, their loved ones and all who knew them and called them their friends. For this generation and those who follow, their memory will continue to inspire us to be ever vigilant and constantly on guard at the gates of freedom to ensure that this "one nation, under God, indivisible" will continue to be the home of "liberty and justice for all," for ourselves, for our children, and for many generations to come.

Let's remember September 11 and the feelings we had for our country and

each other. May we rekindle the sense of community, country, and world we felt then. May lasting good come out of chaos.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BLUMENTHAL). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

DISASTER FUNDING

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if we would pause a few minutes and think about what has gone on in America this year: We have had flooding on the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and other rivers in the Midwest. To show the power of this flood, on the Mississippi River alone there are 3 million acres underwater—farmland. We have had devastating tornadoes in the South. These tornadoes don't have names but they have a viciousness that is hard to comprehend. In Joplin, MO, about 200 people were killed. There was devastation. It is believed those winds reached nearly 300 miles an hour. Some say they are the highest recorded winds ever. They eliminated everything in their path.

Wildfires in the South and the West have been extremely harsh. Take Texas alone. Fires have been burning in Texas for the last month. Two thousand homes have been destroyed, burned to the ground. The fires are still present. I heard today that they are about 50 percent controlled.

We now have had Hurricane Irene. The wake of damage from Hurricane Irene hit numerous States, States that usually have no damage, all up the coast. Vermont has no coastline but they were devastated. Hundreds of bridges were washed out in Vermont. Vermont is a sparsely populated State. There are about 600,000 people, I understand, in the whole State, but it has been really hurt. The largest office complex in the whole State, with some 1,700 employees, is out of operation, underwater.

Tropical Storm Lee quickly followed Irene. Tropical Storm Lee has left damage in lots of places. We haven't been hurt real hard here in the metropolitan area of the District of Columbia. I have been here quite a while and I can never remember it raining for a week at a time, but that is what we just had. It rained basically all last week. The Potomac River is very high, but other States have been hurt worse by Tropical Storm Lee. I don't remember the exact number of deaths because of Lee, but it is approximately 20. Here in Virginia a 12-year-old boy in his backyard was washed away.

Since the first of this year, President Obama has issued disaster declarations