

women from participating. Despite numerous threats to her life and her family, including calls for suicide attacks against her by local extremists, she continues to work to improve the lives of women throughout Pakistan.

Ms. Shad is one of 10 remarkable women the State Department honored this year. Every one of these 10 stories is inspirational, but they also represent literally millions of women around the globe who are out there fighting and suffering to be heard. There are countless women who don't receive the recognition they deserve and who continue to be silenced by persecution and harassment. Today we recognize, honor, and celebrate all of those nameless, faceless women around the world who are continuing the fight.

Far too many women remain excluded from full participation in society, to the detriment of their communities, their countries, and the world. Although strides have been made in recent decades, women across the globe continue to face significant obstacles in all aspects of their lives, including the denial of basic human rights, discrimination, and gender-based violence. According to the World Bank, women make up 70 percent of all individuals living in poverty. Women account for 64 percent of the adults worldwide who lack basic literacy skills. Women continue to remain vastly underrepresented in national and local governments around the world.

So there is no doubt that we have a lot of work to do, but all of society benefits when women are more fully integrated into their communities and their villages around the world. In the words of President Obama, "Our common prosperity will be advanced by allowing all humanity—men and women—to reach their full potential."

As we reflect on the past, present, and future achievements of women, I believe it is important to recognize the vital and untapped resource that women represent for our world. The ability of women to realize their full potential is critical to the ability of a nation to achieve strong and lasting economic growth, political and social stability, and enhanced security for all its people.

Thank you very much, Mr. President. I yield the floor and note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I would also like to ask the permission of the Chair to display this box during my remarks.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ISAKSON. Thank you, Mr. President.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I am proud to stand here today on International Women's Day, the 8th day of March, 2012, to pay tribute to women around the world but also to acknowledge that women around the world, on Monday, March 12, will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Girl Scouts of America, founded in Savannah, GA, a beautiful town, by a wonderful Georgia lady, Juliette Gordon Low. Girl Scouts around the world will be celebrating the founding of that great organization, which has had a positive effect on women around the world.

Each of us right now is well aware of the Girl Scouts because of boxes like this box the Acting President pro tempore gave me permission to display, which is what is left of a box of Thin Mints. The Girl Scouts sell boxes of cookies this time of year to raise money for their operations around the world. I eat far too many of them. They are good. They are good for me, they are good for America, and they are good for the Girl Scouts and the fundraising they do.

The Girl Scouts is an organization of leadership, developing women for the future. While only 17 percent of this body are women, almost all of them were Girl Scouts. Almost all women of business were Girl Scouts. And almost all women who were in Girl Scouts pay tribute to the Girl Scouts of America and the contribution they have made to their lives. There are 3.2 million active Girl Scouts in America today, and there are 50 million Girl Scout alumni in America. That has a tremendous impact on all that is right about America.

The Girl Scouts have been pacesetters. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a native of my city of Atlanta and a native of our State that Juliette Low was from, cited the Girl Scouts of America as "a force for desegregation" during the troubled times of the 1950s and 1960s. The Girl Scouts were at the forefront of integration and leadership for youth.

The Girl Scouts of America also pledge themselves and they make a promise, which I would like to read.

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout law.

Which reads:

I will do my best to be honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do,
and to respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place, and
be a sister to every Girl Scout.

That is not a motto just for the Girl Scouts but one that would serve us all well in this body.

So on this International Women's Day on March 8, I would like to acknowledge that on Monday, when we are not here, around the world women will celebrate the founding of the Girl Scouts of America, and the 3.2 million Girl Scouts in America today will be building for the future the Acting President pro tempore and I work for today in this body, the U.S. Senate.

I yield back the remainder of my time and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION ACT

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, later today I will be down on the floor to offer a budget point of order on the highway bill. I have been down here several times over the course of the last several days.

I think most in this body—a large majority of people in this body—have been a part of encouraging us to, in a very bipartisan way, solve the budget problems we have in this country. There were 64 of us—32 on each side of the aisle—who signed a letter to the President encouraging him to really adopt some of the principles that were laid out in Bowles-Simpson. After that, there was a very large number of Senators on both sides of the aisle who signed a letter to the supercommittee asking them to go big and really deal in a serious way with the budget issues, the deficit issues with which our country is dealing.

I have been down here multiple times talking about the various oddities in this bill. What is getting ready to happen in this bill is that we are actually, over the next 2 years, going to create a \$10 billion to \$11 billion deficit. Because of the various gimmickry we use, we are figuring out ways to get around that. One of the budget gimmicks we are using in the bill is that we are going to spend the money over a 2-year period but pay for it over a 10-year period—2 years worth of spending, 10 years worth of revenues.

I think the Acting President pro tempore was here during the period of time we had the health care debate in our Nation, and many of the folks on my side of the aisle, rightfully so, were concerned about the health care bill because there were 6 years' worth of costs and 10 years' worth of revenues, and a lot of people thought that was a budget gimmick. Candidly, many of my friends on the other side of the aisle, while they may have supported the