

As Trevor Potter, a Republican, former Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, said in a statement submitted to the Rules Committee: Disclose 2.0 is “appropriately targeted, narrowly tailored, clearly constitutional and desperately needed.”

The same cannot be said for the conservative majority’s holding in *Citizens United*, echoed again today in *American Tradition Partnership*. The conservative Justices’ desire to maintain their error and to keep the corporate money flowing represents a sad, sad day in the history of the Court. It will, as I said earlier, one day be corrected. One day, *Citizens United* will lie next to *Lochner v. New York* and other decisions that have disgraced the Court in the past on the junk heap of judicial history. But until that day, it is up to all of us to work together to restore control of our elections, to restore control of our democracy, to put it back in the hands of the American people, to assure that we continue a government of the people, by the people, and for the people—not a government of the big corporations, by the big corporations, and for the big corporations.

I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I will take a moment to go through the closing script, and in doing so I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO TSA DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR GALE ROSSIDES

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant, a talented administrator, and a tireless warrior for homeland security. Transportation Security Administration Deputy Administrator and Chief Operating Officer Gale Rossides is retiring at the end of the month, and her departure will be a significant loss not just for TSA and the Department of Homeland Security but for the American people, whom she has served so well throughout her 34-year career in the public sector.

As Chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I came to understand the central role Ms. Rossides played at TSA. In appearances before the Committee, she impressed me as a knowledgeable and experienced manager whose dedication to the agency helped TSA stay on track through a difficult and chaotic start up and develop into a more mature agency as the years progressed.

Ms. Rossides’ institutional memory, alone, will be irreplaceable. She was one of the original six executives hired to build TSA from the ground up in 2001, and in his book “*After: How American Confronted the September 12*

Era,” Steven Brill wrote that “no matter what was added to her plate, or what she reached out for to put on it herself, she seemed to take it in stride.” Despite the grueling 13-hour days and 6-day weeks, Ms. Rossides stayed at TSA for 10 years—with a 1-year hiatus as senior advisor to the Under Secretary for Management at DHS. I think it is fair to say that today she is one of the department’s most respected senior executives.

Ms. Rossides brought critical management experience to the nascent TSA. In the tense period after September 11, 2001, she led the team of government and private sector officials that trained and certified more than 50,000 screeners in less than 6 months—the largest public mobilization since World War II. She oversaw the debut of TSA’s federalized screening force at Baltimore Washington Airport. And she led the effort to develop and implement screener technical training and certification standards.

Throughout her TSA tenure, Ms. Rossides has fostered collaborative partnerships with stakeholders; pushed for more intelligence sharing; created leadership development programs; and developed innovative workforce programs to encourage communication and conflict management. Under her watch, TSA reduced its employee injury and attrition rates and raised employee morale through innovative solutions like providing benefits to part time personnel.

Ms. Rossides moved steadily up the management ladder during her tenure at TSA. She has served as the Associate Administrator/Chief Support Systems Officer, been a Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary and the Under Secretary for Management at DHS, and in 2007 she was appointed acting Deputy Administrator, a position that became permanent in January 2008. She has held that position longer than any other in the agency’s history.

From 2009 to January 2010, she served as Acting TSA Administrator. As such, she oversaw the implementation of Secure Flight and introduced other key security programs, including measures implemented to detect and deter improved explosives devices that could be concealed on terrorists, in the aftermath of the attempted Christmas Day terrorist attack.

This career arc more than justifies Steven Brill’s description of her in his book as “an incurable workaholic” who would “run over or cleverly sidestep almost any obstacle to get to the goal.” It is a tribute to her character that she remained universally well-liked while doing so.

Before she was hand-picked to help launch TSA, Ms. Rossides had worked at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, within the Justice Department, for 23 years, where she started as an administrative assistant. She was co-chair of a blue ribbon panel to overhaul ATF after the 1993 siege of the Branch Davidian ranch in Waco, TX.

For 8 years, she served as the first assistant director, in charge of all law enforcement, investigative, regulatory, and leadership training at ATF—the first woman to hold such a significant post at the bureau. And she was a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for 6 years.

The American people have been fortunate that Ms. Rossides has given much of her life to the Federal Government. We are certainly better off because of it.

AGRICULTURE REFORM, FOOD, AND JOBS ACT

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I could not support Senate passage of S. 3240, the “2012 Farm Bill.” CBO estimates the Senate’s Farm Bill will consume a colossal amount of taxpayer dollars—at least \$966 billion over 10 years. While I agree that we need nutrition programs to assist low-income families as well as programs to ensure farmers receive a fair return on their labors, the fact remains we are living in an era of crushing national debt and runaway government spending. Ultimately, the American people, both farmers and consumers, lose under this bill.

Farm Bill programs are ripe for reform. Unfortunately, we rejected amendments to fix USDA’s sugar programs which cost American consumers \$3 billion annually in artificially high sugar prices. We created several new so-called “shallow-loss” subsidy programs, which could balloon to \$14 billion each year if crop prices drop from today’s record high levels and return to average prices. We implemented a new \$3 billion cotton program that may exacerbate our ongoing trade dispute at the World Trade Organization. We could have eliminated the outdated mohair subsidies, but didn’t, and wound up creating several new and unnecessary subsidy programs for products like popcorn and maple syrup. We’ve made some progress on imposing stricter payment limits on subsidies and we eliminated wasteful and duplicative USDA programs like the Catfish Inspection Office. Unfortunately, much more remains to be fixed in the Senate’s farm bill before I could support it.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO IKE LIBBY

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Mr. Ike Libby, who, with his company Hometown Energy, has worked tirelessly to ease the burdens of rising home heating costs for the people of my home State.

Founded in 2004 by Ike Libby and Gene Ellis, who handles the business aspects of the company and owns a variety store next door, Hometown Energy of Dixfield, ME, supplies heating oil to a region that knows just how cold winter can be. With seven employees, Hometown Energy is a quintessential local small business. Known for its