

truly devastating explosions and spills with pipelines, including in my home State of Michigan. The cost to clean up an oil spill from a pipeline break near Marshall, MI, into the Kalamazoo River has totaled over \$1.2 billion. A similar spill in the Great Lakes would be devastating to our economy, environment, and drinking water supply.

The transition to a clean energy economy is one of my top priorities, but in the meantime, as we push this transition forward, we cannot accept that pipeline spills are simply the cost of doing business. Our safety regulators must be equipped with the tools and equipment to better prevent pipeline accidents, protect public safety, and demand accountability when things invariably go wrong.

Our pipeline transportation system must be more transparent, and technology will continue to provide better insight into the pipeline network without compromising national security and proprietary information. Our land, air, water, and wildlife must be safeguarded against leaks and spills. By enhancing safety standards, we can reduce waste and cleanup costs while making sure we can proudly pass down a strong outdoor heritage to the next generation. We can also create jobs for our construction workers, pipefitters, steelworkers, and utility workers as we upgrade pipelines and fit them with state-of-the-art technology.

The PIPES Act will make strides in these and many other areas. I was especially focused on creating measures to safeguard against the catastrophic consequences of an oil spill in our precious waterways, especially the Great Lakes. Thanks to a provision I originally worked on with my colleague Senator STABENOW, the entire Great Lakes Basin will be designated as an unusually sensitive area. This will make any pipeline that could spill in and around the Great Lakes area subject to higher standards for operating safety. The bill also adds coastal beaches and maritime coastal waters as areas that should be considered when making an "unusually sensitive" determination.

We also must recognize the unique regional challenges our Nation's far-reaching pipeline network present. In Michigan, we get serious winters. Lakes and rivers freeze, and even the Great Lakes end up under very thick ice cover. To address these challenges, I worked to include a provision requiring pipeline operators to prepare response plans that address cleanup of an oilspill in ice-covered waters. The Coast Guard has stated that it does not have the technology or the capacity for worst-case discharge cleanup under solid ice and that its response activities are not adequate in ice-choked waters. We need to address this problem now before a spill under ice-covered water happens.

Any oil pipeline that is deeper than 150 feet underwater will be required to undergo an inspection every year as a result of this bill. This requirement

would be especially relevant for pipelines running through the Great Lakes, especially the twin oil pipelines resting on the lakebed in the Straits of Mackinac. The bill also establishes emergency order authority so that PHMSA can take quick action to ensure safety when pipelines pose an imminent threat.

This bill goes beyond just addressing pipelines; it also directs the Department of Transportation to issue minimum safety standards for underground natural gas storage facilities. The dangers of a leak from an underground storage facility was illustrated in a massive methane leak at a facility in California just a few short months ago which resulted in evacuations and an emergency declaration. These new standards are especially important for my home State of Michigan because we have more underground natural gas storage facilities than almost any other State in the Union.

Other sections of the PIPES Act encourage collaboration on research, development, mapping, and technology between Federal agencies, public stakeholders, and industry leaders. All of these constituencies were key to providing input into this bill.

I would like to thank Senators FISCHER, BOOKER, and DAINES, and of course Chairman THUNE and Ranking Member NELSON for their hard work on the PIPES Act. The Energy and Commerce Committee and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in the House were also instrumental in making changes and important improvements.

As we continue to move forward and find better ways to meet our energy needs, it is my hope that we can learn from past catastrophes and prevent future ones before they ever occur.

The bipartisan PIPES Act can be a model for how we work together to improve performance and raise our standards in the energy sector.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOVERING MISSING CHILDREN ACT

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the Recovering Missing Children Act. This bill provides law enforcement with an important tool to help find missing or exploited children.

Each year more than 200,000 children are abducted by their parents or other close relatives, according to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. In many of these cases, the IRS has information that could aid law enforcement in locating a child who has been abducted by a family member.

A study by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration found that in more than a third of the cases reviewed, the IRS has tax returns on file which used the Social Security number of a missing child. Of those, 46 percent had a new address on file, for a 13.4-percent total. However, the IRS cannot share this protected, confidential information with law enforcement officials since the Tax Code prevents the IRS from sharing the information unless specifically authorized as an exception to nondisclosure.

Senator ENZI and Senator KLOBUCHAR and I have introduced bipartisan legislation, the Recovering Missing Children Act, to aid in the recovery of missing children by providing a new tool to help law enforcement officials locate missing children and their alleged abductors. The bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to permit the disclosure of relevant tax information explicitly for the purpose of aiding criminal investigations into missing or exploited children. Specifically, the act ensures that select taxpayer information will only be released to law enforcement officials as part of a legitimate investigation or a judicial proceeding under the orders of a Federal judge.

The act amends the law to allow for Federal law enforcement to share information on a limited basis with State and local law enforcement that are part of the team directly involved in investigating and prosecuting such cases. Many investigations into missing and exploited children are conducted at the State and local level.

The act provides a commonsense fix that maintains an existing balance between taxpayer privacy and judicious release of information that will make a meaningful difference to a child's safety. For the families who are affected, the reality that their child is missing is devastating. If there is a step we can take to increase the likelihood that the missing child will be returned home, then we have an obligation to act. This is such a step.

I proudly have worked with both Senators KLOBUCHAR and ENZI on this important issue since 2011, and I am glad to have the endorsement of both the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the National Association of Police Organizations.

If the provisions in this bill can bring one child back to their rightful families safe and sound, it is worth it. This will assist those who have been searching and spending sleepless nights worried about their missing children and do it in a way that doesn't undermine Americans' privacy.

With that, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3209 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3209) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the disclosure of certain tax return information for the purpose of missing or exploited children investigations.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CASEY. I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3209) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. CASEY. Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate all who have worked on this bill but particularly Senator CASEY's leadership and Senator KLOBUCHAR's leadership on this issue that just passed.

Here is a terrible thought: Every year, thousands of children are abducted and taken away from their homes. This bill provides new tools to connect missing and exploited children with their families, while also respecting important and appropriate safeguards of taxpayer privacy.

Senators CASEY, KLOBUCHAR, and I have worked together on this matter for several years. We worked with outside groups such as the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the National Association of Police Organizations, and we are proud that both organizations have endorsed this legislation.

With new tools and better collaboration between Federal and State authorities, law enforcement agencies can send a strong signal to those who are perpetrating this type of crime. I hope this act will help law enforcement officials solve these cases more quickly for the benefit of the youth who have been exploited.

I yield the floor to my colleague from Minnesota.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I am proud to join my colleagues Senator CASEY from Pennsylvania and Senator ENZI from Wyoming to speak in support of our bipartisan legislation, the Recovering Missing Children Act, something we have been working on for so long.

I remember hearing about this in a Judiciary Committee hearing and learning about the surprising number of cases that can be solved when this information from the IRS is shared with law enforcement. It sounds almost absurd that information is sitting in government files of where a child who has been abducted is living, but in fact

it is. Oftentimes the abductor claims the child on taxes or has their address on their taxes and it is as easy as looking at a file. A family can be reunited, and a child who wasn't supposed to be taken from their home can be brought back to their home.

As my colleagues have noted, our bill would give law enforcement officers important tools to solve some of the most heartbreaking cases. To accomplish this, the bill will offer information sharing by Federal law enforcement officers on a limited basis. It was something we discussed at length in the Judiciary Committee, and I know we also discussed it in the Finance Committee with the State and local law enforcement officials who are involved in the investigation and prosecution of a case. Under current law, the IRS is barred from sharing its taxpayer information with local law enforcement, even though in many cases the IRS actually has the location of the child. Imagine a hardworking local police officer out trying to find a kid, looking everywhere, following up on every lead, and our own government has the information in their files. This is a narrow exception that allows this information to be shared.

As a former prosecutor, I know firsthand that returning missing children to their families is one of the most important tasks law enforcement officers have, and they need every resource available to do their job. The faster law enforcement can locate the child, the greater the likelihood the child can be returned to their family unharmed, and they can go on to live a normal life.

I do want to mention one person who has been someone I talk to about missing and exploited children issues, and that is Patty Wetterling from the State of Minnesota. There was a horrible case in which her son Jacob was abducted years and years ago and never found. She served as the chair on the board of the missing and exploited children group. She has done so much work nationally and locally. While we don't believe this would have helped in Jacob's case, she did it for all those other children who are still out there. So this one is for you, Patty. Thank you.

I yield the floor.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPRO-
PRIATIONS ACT, 2016—Continued

MASS SHOOTING IN ORLANDO AND STANDING
AGAINST HATRED AND INTOLERANCE

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise to offer my heartfelt condolences to

the victims and the families of the terrorist attack in Orlando. As a mother, my heart breaks for the parents of the victims. As an American, I share in a profound sense of sorrow for the loss of innocent life.

Many questions remain unanswered. Did the terrorist communicate with foreign terrorist groups? If so, how did they interact and what level of support or direction did they provide? What was his path to radical Islamism and what lessons can we learn to stop others on this path to violence? Was his association with jihadist groups simply a superficial one to mask deep personal hatred?

In the coming days, investigators will compile evidence to answer these and many other questions. While there is much we do not know about the attacks in Orlando, there are a few very important things we do know. We know 49 people were killed, and 53 others were injured. We know their families are suffering and we grieve with them. We know the gay community was specifically targeted. There is something else we know. This attack was brought against innocent people.

While knowledge of the specific circumstances of this tragedy will hopefully help us improve our efforts to fight terrorism and radicalization, for the victims of this horrific attack—indeed, for many Americans—such information can seem irrelevant. This is because the attack is an assault on the age-old Western value of social pluralism. These are American values—ones we hold dear. These are the principles which forbid violence on others, no matter how strongly you may disagree with them. This is a basic conviction that unites Americans.

We have many disagreements in our country. We have them in this Chamber, we have them at work, and we have them around the dinner table. Sometimes our words are harsh, sometimes our words are heated, but we don't kill people who disagree with us. We protect their rights to think differently. This is a key part of our identity as Americans.

The attack in Orlando reminds us that we are in the middle of a global battle between two ways of life: one of open democracy and one of violent jihadism. Our way—the American way—values pluralism. It permits dissent from dominant social and political views. It protects the freedom of expression and the freedom of religion. It defends our shared human dignity. In our society, the value of your life is not determined by your views. Here, your life has value because you exist. That is good enough for us.

That is not good enough for radical Islam. Its followers do not believe these things. They impose uniformity and destroy dissent. For radical Islamists, there is no "live and let live."

Their ideology demands obedience. It allows only one way to live your life