

## Sen. Passes \$30B Small Business Measure

BY ANDREW TAYLOR  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Senate passed long-delayed legislation Thursday designed to open up credit to small businesses and award them with other incentives to expand and hire new workers.

Democrats won a 61-38 vote to pass the legislation, joined by two Republicans. The measure would establish a \$30 billion government fund to help open up lending for credit-starved small businesses, cut their taxes and boost Small Business Administration loan programs.

The tally gives President Barack Obama and his besieged Democratic allies in Congress a much-sought — but relatively modest — political victory with less than seven weeks to go before Election Day.

"At a time when small business owners are still struggling to make payroll and they're still holding off hiring, we put together a plan that would give them some tax relief and make it easier for them to take out loans," Obama said Wednesday.

The new loan fund would be available to community banks to encourage lending to small businesses. Supporters say banks should be able to use the fund to leverage up to \$300 billion in loans.

The loan fund is opposed, however, by most Republicans, who liken it to the 2008 bailout of the financial system. They warn it would encourage banks to make loans to borrowers who aren't good credit risks.

Democrats say the measure is needed to help small businesses cope with a credit crunch that worsened dramatically after the

financial crisis two years ago. This legislation would also aid lending by lowering Small Business Administration loan program fees and raising loan guarantee and lending limits.

"This small business jobs bill would give small businesses \$12 billion in tax cuts. It would increase small business lending. It would help small business owners to get private capital to finance expansion and hire new workers," said Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont. "And all these things would help small businesses to create as many as a half a million jobs."

The measure had been delayed for months and was successfully filibustered by Republicans in July. But on Tuesday, Democrats cracked the filibuster with the help of two Republicans, Sens. George

Voinovich of Ohio and George LeMieux of Florida. That set the stage for Thursday's vote.

After Senate passage, the bill would return the measure to the House, which is likely to approve it for Obama's signature.

The bill is advancing too late to help lower a 9.6 percent nationwide unemployment rate before Election Day. It follows successful efforts this year to provide a temporary payroll tax holiday to companies that hire the jobless, and to extend assistance to the unemployed, cash-starved state governments and local school districts.

Democrats had hoped to pass the bill in July but couldn't win any GOP converts. They fell just short of defeating a filibuster that was called because Democrats blocked Republicans from offering unrelated amendments.

## Lawmakers: Obama Promises To Push DREAM

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama is promising to work with senators to help pass legislation allowing thousands of young people who attend college or join the military to become legal U.S. residents, according to Hispanic lawmakers who met Thursday with the president.

"The president made it absolutely clear to us that he would leave no stone unturned" in pushing for Senate approval of what's known as the DREAM Act, Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Calif., said. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., has said he wants to add the immigration measure to a defense policy bill the Senate plans to take up before lawmakers leave town to campaign for the November elections.

Republicans oppose that move and have accused Reid of playing politics with the bills.

Some military leaders support Reid because of the recruitment potential for the armed services. Under the bill, the young people must have come to the U.S. before age 16 and have lived here for five years. At least two years of military service would be required.

"The president noted that it is time to stop punishing innocent young people for the actions of their parents, especially when those youth grew up in America and want to serve this country in the military or pursue a higher education," the White House said in a statement after Obama's meeting at the White House with Gutierrez, Rep. Nydia Velazquez, D-N.Y., and Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J.

When Obama was a senator he supported the DREAM Act, which has been kicking around Congress for nearly a decade.

The meeting followed Obama's speech Wednesday night at a Hispanic awards dinner, where he urged Latinos not to punish Democrats at the polls because he's been unable to keep his promise to sign a comprehensive immigration bill into law.

Advocates, meanwhile, are launching a major lobbying effort for DREAM, enlisting educators, clergy and others to press senators to back the measure.

Velazquez said passing the bill "is the right thing to do. It's a matter of fairness for thousands and thousands of young kids" who entered the country illegally with their families. She and others

say they should not be punished.

Republicans contend that the bill rewards law breakers.

"The DREAM Act is yet another attempt by Washington Democrats to grant amnesty to illegal immigrants who have broken our laws," said Rep. Phil Gingrey, R-Ga.

Carlos Saavedra, national coordinator of United We Dream, a coalition of student immigrant advocacy groups, said voters who care about the issue will be watching how senators vote on the bill.

"Folks are literally dropping their lives right now to work on this," Saavedra said Thursday. "This is one of our last chances to get some justice to the immigrant community and immigrant youth. It's huge."

## OBITUARIES

### Lawrence 'Buster' Nelson

MISSION HILL — Lawrence "Buster" N. Nelson, age 86, of Mission Hill, SD entered into rest late Wednesday evening, September 15, 2010 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital.

A celebration of Lawrence's life will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, September 18, 2010 at Vangen Lutheran Church, Mission Hill, SD with Rev. Lance Lindgren officiating. Burial will be in the Vangen Lutheran Cemetery, Mission Hill, SD with Military Graveside Rites by the Rudolph Christensen American Legion Post #237 (Gayville).

Visitations will be 5 to 8 p.m. Friday (today) at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with 7:00 p.m. prayer service. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Lawrence "Buster" N. Nelson was born on February 7, 1924 in Yankton, SD to parents Robert and Margaret (Kohoutek) Nelson joining a sister, Roberta, in their farming community. Lawrence attended Pershing Grade School and graduated from Yankton High School in 1942 and from Yankton College with a degree in Economics in 1953. His family purchased and moved to their present Riverview Farms in 1940 where he spent his life farming and raising livestock, with the exception of two different periods of army intelligence service during WWII and the Korean War.

Lawrence married Nancy Lee Hooth on September 12, 1959 at Vangen Lutheran Church in Mission Hill, SD. Their children include Christopher (Jennifer) in Sioux Falls, Robert (Kellee) in Brandon, Lee in Creighton, NE, Constance in Stillwater, MN and Mark (Rita) in Mission Hill. Grandchildren include Alyssa,



Nelson

Andrew and Amanda in Brandon, Mitchell in Sioux Falls, and Laura and John in Mission Hill. These children and grandchildren survive him as well as his wife Nancy and many other cousins, neighbors and friends.

Lawrence entered into rest on September 15, 2010 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton following his stay at Avera Yankton Care Center where his was lovingly cared for since 2001. He was preceded in death by his parents, a daughter Cynthia Lynn (1963), sister Roberta and her husband Herb Heidepriem and his nephew Stephen Heidepriem.

Lawrence was a long time, active member of Vangen Lutheran Church, serving as president, deacon, Sunday School teacher and choir member. He was chaplain of the Gayville American Legion Post and member of the Yankton Elks. Lawrence loved farming and raising shorthorn cattle. He and his father received several record breaking high yield corn production awards in Dekalb's National Corn Growing Contest from 1946-53.

In lieu of flowers, please, consider a memorial to: Vangen Lutheran Church @ 300 West 3rd Street, Mission Hill, SD 57046, your local food pantry or the Honor Flight South Dakota @PO Box 947, Sioux Falls, SD 57104.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
September 17, 2010



Online condolences at:  
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

## Gates: Surge Seems To Be Working In Afghanistan

BY ANNE GEARAN

AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON — Evidence is building that the Obama administration's surge strategy is working in Afghanistan, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Thursday, citing recent assessments from the new top U.S. and NATO commander and Gates' personal impressions from a recent trip to Afghan battlefields.

"I was encouraged," Gates said, predicting that a critical year-end U.S. review of its own war plan would show that the strategy President Barack Obama put in place a year before is taking hold.

Gates' upbeat assessment of the Afghan war comes as the Obama administration faces growing skepticism with the progress and direction of the war. The campaign against the Taliban insurgency in Helmand and Kandahar provinces this spring and summer has yielded uneven results and taken longer than planned, and the U.S. has suffered setbacks in its effort to curb corruption in the Afghan government.

"We need to have confidence and be able to demonstrate, I would say in four to six months, that we are moving in the right direction; we are moving toward

the accomplishment of our goals," Gates said. "I think there is a general feeling that there has been some progress in that area, but it will have to be sustained."

Gates said that with the addition of 30,000 forces this year, war commander Gen. David Petraeus sees the beginning of a turnaround in the nine-year war. Gates endorsed that assessment in remarks Thursday at the Pentagon.

Despite his overall optimism, Gates cautioned that the United States won't make the mistake in Afghanistan of predicting success too soon. The lessons of Vietnam and the disastrous Soviet occupation of Afghanistan loom nearly as large as the prolonged U.S. military involvement in Iraq.

"Most of us try to err on the side of caution because of previous experiences, particularly in Iraq, of people perhaps being too optimistic, and certainly too optimistic prematurely," Gates said. As in Iraq, the United States is trying to blunt enemy momentum with a massive though temporary infusion of U.S. forces.



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## NATION/WORLD DIGEST

### Obama Says Education Is Key To Innovation

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama says innovation is key to the country's economic future but that innovation depends on students developing their skills in science, technology, engineering and math.

As part of an effort to promote those subjects, Obama announced Thursday a nonprofit organization called Change the Equation. It's designed to bring successful, privately funded programs to 100 schools and communities that are most in need.

More than 100 corporate CEOs have agreed to work together to help improve student performance in those fields.

Former astronaut Sally Ride and current and former executives from Intel, Xerox, Time Warner Cable and Eastman Kodak founded the nonprofit organization.

### Ex-Lobbyist To Plead In Earmarks Probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former lobbyist has decided to cooperate in a Justice Department probe of campaign donations to members of Congress who direct hundreds of millions of dollars to defense contractors without competitive bidding.

A person familiar with the criminal investigation says the ex-lobbyist, Paul Magliocchetti (mag-leo-CHEE-ee), will enter a plea in federal court in Alexandria, Va.

An electronic entry on the courthouse docket specifies that Magliocchetti will have a "change of plea hearing" in his case.

Magliocchetti pleaded not guilty to an 11-count indictment felony indictment on Aug. 20. He is charged with paying hundreds of thousands of dollars in illegal donations to scores of campaigns.

### House OKs Loans For Rural Energy Efficiency

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House has passed legislation that would provide people in rural areas with low-interest loans for energy upgrades for their homes.

Democratic-led supporters said the bill would promote construction jobs while helping homeowners lower their energy costs through better insulation, double-paned windows or more efficient heat pumps.

Under the legislation, the Agriculture Department would make zero-interest loans to rural electric co-ops, which in turn would make loans to qualified consumers at interest rates not to exceed 3 percent. The loans would be repaid on the consumers' utility bills, with savings from the energy upgrades covering much of the cost.

The measure must still be taken up by the Senate.

### States Wait To Act On Aging Pipe Lines

SAN BRUNO, Calif. (AP) — Some of Pennsylvania's natural gas pipelines are 120 years old. Portions of lines also date to the 1800s in Massachusetts. And hundreds of miles in New York state are made of leak-prone cast iron.

Tens of thousands of miles of pipelines that run beneath communities nationwide are old or decaying.

An Associated Press survey found that no states in the parts of the country with the greatest concentration of people and pipes have ordered a safety review in the week since a deadly explosion in California raised public awareness of potential problems.

Officials from Massachusetts to Texas say their inspections are adequate, and they are waiting for federal investigators to determine the cause of the Sept. 9 gas line explosion before deciding what to do.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)



Rev. Dr. Paul M. Opsahl  
After Care Counselor

## Healthy Healing Begins Here...

Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory announces a program for those who have lost a loved one and are dealing with grief. Our goal is to assist people through this difficult time. Leading this after care program will be the Rev. Dr. Paul M. Opsahl.

### Dates:

September 27	October 18
October 4	October 25
October 11	November 1

### Topics to be covered:

The Meaning of Grief  
The Normal Experience & Features of Grief  
Constructive Ways of Handling Grief  
The Need To Reach Out and Set Goals  
Coping with Special Days  
Grief, the Latter Stages  
What does the Future Hold?

Paul Opsahl is not new to the community as he attended Yankton College and the School of Theology where he earned the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Theology. He earned a Master of Divinity Degree from Hartford Seminary, Hartford, Conn. His doctoral studies were with McCormick Seminary, Chicago, Ill. He was awarded an honorary degree from Yankton College, where he has served on the Board of Trustees for over 20 years. Rev. Opsahl has over 40 years of pastoral experience, which reflects his concern and compassion for people.

Anyone who has suffered a loss is welcome to join in this program, which will meet on Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory in Yankton.



## THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who made the 2010 Tribute to Clint event a success! The day was beautiful and everyone had a great time remembering our son.

Thank you to all who donated money, food, raffle prizes, purchased raffle tickets and helped out on the poker run, team roping, and the setting up and serving the meal. Thanks to the Irene Rodeo Club for hosting the event at the rodeo grounds. Special thanks to "Clint's Crew" who had the idea, planned and made the tribute event happen. Proceeds from the tribute event will be going to a scholarship at Southeast Technical School in Sioux Falls and to a Sioux Falls agency where men, women and children who are victims of domestic violence can get 24 hour assistance. Thank you again.

**Larry & Debbie VanderPoel**