

and grandchildren. Congratulations on your retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO THE "BUILDING SKILLS FOR AMERICA" CAMPAIGN

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, last week nearly 200 high school and college student members of Skills USA-Vocational Industrial Clubs of America, their instructors, and corporate sponsors came to Capitol Hill to report the results of their year-long "Building Skills for America" signature campaign. Building Skills for America is a public awareness initiative by Skills USA-VICA to demonstrate the urgent needs of business and industry for a highly-skilled work force and the private sector's effective support for occupational instruction.

The campaign has given these students the opportunity to speak to their communities about their pride in their chosen professions and the many opportunities available through good technical education. The students were able to collect 200,000 signatures for the campaign. I congratulate all of these students for their skillful work and dedication in promoting state-of-the-art vocational education and job training programs.

I ask that a congratulatory letter to these outstanding young leaders, signed by Senators COLLINS, REED, GRASSLEY, KERRY, INHOFE, MILLER, LUGAR, BRYAN, MURKOWSKI, DODD, ROTH, KERREY, DEWINE, MURRAY, HAGEL, MIKULSKI, HATCH, HARKIN, REID, LINCOLN, BINGAMAN, HOLLINGS, LEVIN, CONRAD, CLELAND, WYDEN and myself may be printed in the RECORD.

The letter follows:

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, September 20, 2000.

STUDENT MEMBERS AND STAFF,
SkillsUSA-VICA.

Warmest congratulations on your impressive efforts to raise the awareness of all Americans about the importance of a well-trained workforce. We commend you for your recognition that the nation's prosperity depends on the skills of our workers, and that a shortage of highly-skilled workers threatens American competitiveness and hampers the ability of companies to compete successfully in the modern economy.

It is estimated that the nation will have 50 million job openings between now and 2006—and most of these openings will require highly developed skills. Clearly, we must do more to promote the training necessary to respond to this challenge.

Education and technical training offered through the nation's colleges and schools in conjunction with the SkillsUSA-VICA program is a national resource for teaching the academic, occupational, and professional skills that will help students to become well-trained workers and responsible citizens. The 200,000 signatures that you collected over the past year in your Building Skills for America campaign have increased public support for the on-going education and training of the workforce across the country.

You deserve great credit for the success of your Building America Campaign. We are proud to support continuing state-of-the-art vocational education programs and job training programs that reflect the changing needs of American business and industry. The con-

tributions of hard-working Americans have been and will continue to be essential to the prosperity of the nation. We look forward to working closely with you to achieve these important goals.

Edward M. Kennedy, Susan M. Collins, Jack Reed, Charles E. Grassley, John F. Kerry, James M. Inhofe, Zell Miller, Richard G. Lugar, Richard H. Bryan, Frank H. Murkowski, Christopher J. Dodd, William V. Roth, Jr., J. Robert Kerrey, Mike DeWine, Patty Murray, Chuck Hagel, Barbara A. Mikulski, Orrin G. Hatch, Tom Harkin, Harry Reid, Blanche L. Lincoln, Jeff Bingaman, Ernest F. Hollings, Carl Levin, Kent Conrad, Ron Wyden, Max Cleland.●

MS. LILLIAN ADAMS RECEIVES 2000 ALEXANDER MACOMB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, each year the Southeast Michigan Chapter of the March of Dimes recognizes a select group of individuals whose contributions to the Macomb County, Michigan, community have been invaluable. I rise today to recognize Ms. Lillian Adams, who will receive an Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year Award at a dinner benefitting the March of Dimes on September 27, 2000.

Ms. Adams has served as Executive Director of the Sterling Heights Area Chamber of Commerce for the past 24 years, after having held the same position on St. Clair Shores Chamber of Commerce for eight years. Her duties within these organizations have included small business advocacy, service as community ombudsman, and hosting local business cable programs.

Ms. Adams is a devoted participant in the Macomb County Community Growth Alliance and the St. Joseph Mercy Community Foundation. She has been an active supporter of the March of Dimes and the Kiwanis Club and serves on the boards of the Otsikita Girl Scouts and the Macomb Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Adams was a founding member of the Sterling Heights Foundation and the Shelby Township Community Foundation, and a past president of the Utica Community Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence.

And, as dedicated as she has been to these many causes, Ms. Adams is even more dedicated to her two sons, Micheal and Brian, and her grandchild, Brigitte.

I applaud Ms. Adams on the dedication she has demonstrated to Macomb County, and the many successful efforts she has made to improve the quality of life for its citizens. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate Ms. Lillian Adams on receiving the 2000 Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year Award.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS W. CORCORAN

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize one of the truly dedicated public servants of the State

of New Jersey. It gives me pleasure to extend my congratulations to Thomas Corcoran on receiving the Outstanding Citizen Award for 2000 from the Phillipsburg Area Chamber of Commerce.

Over the years, Mr. Corcoran has done a great deal for the betterment of Phillipsburg, New Jersey. He has fought for a better education for the children of the area through his efforts to promote a bond issue for the construction of new schools. He was appointed by former Governor Florio to serve as a commissioner on the Phillipsburg Housing Authority. Further, he has worked towards the revitalization of Phillipsburg's tourist industry by working with New Jersey State Legislators and other prominent individuals to promote Phillipsburg as the site of the New Jersey Railroad Museum.

Mr. Corcoran has always been there for the Town of Phillipsburg. Be it serving as town mayor and other public posts, or taking the time to serve as the public address announcer for Phillipsburg High School football games, Mr. Corcoran has been an exemplar of citizenship, town pride, and selflessness.

Through his efforts, Mr. Corcoran has shown the great dedication he holds for the town he calls home. Those efforts make it an honor for me to be able to stand with the Phillipsburg Area Chamber of Commerce and recognize an individual such as Mr. Corcoran.●

COMMENDING IDAHO OLYMPIAN, CHARLES BURTON

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the remarkable accomplishments of Charles Burton, an Idaho native and wrestler for the U.S. Olympic team.

Charles was born in Ontario, Oregon and raised in Boise, Idaho. He graduated from Centennial High School in Boise, where he was a state champion, and Boise State University, where he won All-American status. In 1997, Charles won the University Freestyle National Championship and became a Pan American bronze medalist. Charles earned the number two spot on the US National team in 1999 after earning a silver medal at the world team trials in Seattle, Washington. He will wrestle in the Olympics from September 29th through October 1st.

This Idahoan, and other devoted athletes, serve as reminders that through healthy competition, our challengers can inspire us to excel. They unify those of us who watch them through shared pride and passion. Their victories leave our souls soaring high and our feet light. In times of defeat, we are humbled by the fact that there is more work to be done to reach our team's victory.

The Olympic ideal is perhaps the best evidence that endurance, the desire to challenge oneself, and the pursuit of achieving top physical form are age-old endeavors. The events demonstrate