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No. 184

House of Representatives

Pursuant to section 2 of House Concurrent Resolution 440, 110th Congress, the House met at 11 a.m.

NOTICE OF REASSEMBLY

The SPEAKER. The Chair lays before the House the text of the formal notice of reassembly that was sent to Members on Friday, December 5, 2008.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, December 5, 2008.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: Pursuant to section 2 of House Concurrent Resolution 440, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, we determine that the public interest requires that the House reassemble at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, the Senate already being in session.

The Sergeant-at-Arms is directed to notify all Members of the reassembly of the House of Representatives for additional legislative business during the second session of the One Hundred Tenth Congress.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Best Regards,

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House.
HARRY REID,
Majority Leader of the Senate.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord, You are powerful and strong, yet You bend to Your people and show them mercy and sustaining grace. Help the leaders of our Nation make wise decisions in our day. Set us on a path that will lead to peace and security. We look to You for guidance every step of the way until we stand in Your light forever and ever.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's pro-

ceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 20, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 20, 2008, at 3:57 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6867.

Appointments:
United States-China Economic Security Review Commission.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota) laid before the House the following communica-

tion from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 24, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 24, 2008, at 10:05 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6859.

That the Senate passed S. 3663.

That the Senate passed S. 3681.

That the Senate passed S. 3711.

That the Senate passed S. 3712.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 435.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 20, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have sent the enclosed letter to Governor Timothy M. Kaine of Virginia resigning my office of United States Representative for the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, effective November 24, 2008.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve the people of Virginia.

Sincerely,

THOMAS M. DAVIS III,
Member of Congress.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H10859

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 20, 2008.

Hon. TIMOTHY M. KAINE,
Governor of Virginia, Office of the Governor,
Richmond, Virginia.

DEAR GOVERNOR KAINE: I hereby resign from the office of United States Representative for the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, effective November 24, 2008.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve the people of Virginia.

Sincerely,

THOMAS M. DAVIS III,
Member of Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS), the whole number of the House is 434.

APPOINTMENTS TO CONGRES- SIONAL OVERSIGHT PANEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 125 (c)(1) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-343), and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair announces the November 14, 2008, joint appointment by the Speaker and the majority leader of the Senate and appointment by the Speaker on the part of the House to the Congressional Oversight Panel: joint appointment:

Mr. Damon Silvers, Maryland; Speaker's appointment:

Mr. Richard H. Neiman, New York.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 8 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 2000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ARCURI) at 8 p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Ms. SUTTON, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-918) on the resolution (H. Res. 1533) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair

declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 2100

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CLAY) at 9 o'clock p.m.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 3663. An act to provide for the short-term partial extension of analog broadcasting; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 3681. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5070 Vegas Valley Drive in Las Vegas, Nevada, as the "Joseph A. Ryan Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

S. 3711. An act to authorize a cost of living adjustment for the Federal judiciary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3712. An act to make a technical correction in the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce; in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned; in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Ms. Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 6859. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1501 South Slappey Boulevard in Albany, Georgia, as the "Dr. Walter Carl Gordon, Jr. Post Office Building".

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on November 20, 2008 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 5714. To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the United States Army in 1775, to honor the American Soldier of both today and yesterday, in wartime and in peace, and to commemorate the traditions, history, and heritage of the United States Army and its role in American Society, from the Colonial period to today.

H.R. 6867. To provide for additional emergency unemployment compensation.

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on November 25, 2008 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 2050. To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the semicentennial of the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 10, 2008, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

9602. A letter from the Chief, Regulatory Analysis & Development, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002; Biennial Review and Reproduction of the Select Agent and Toxin List [Docket No.: APHIS-2007-0033] (RIN: 0579-AC53) received October 21, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9603. A letter from the Assistant Director, Directives and Regulations Branch, Office of Regulatory and Management Services, USDA Forest Service, Department of transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Areas; Roadless Area Conservation; Applicability to the National Forest (RIN: Number: 0596-AC62) received October 21, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9604. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Avocados Grown in South Florida; Revisions to Grade and Container Requirements [Docket No.: AMS-FV-08-0022; FV08-915-1 FR] received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9605. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Almonds Grown in California; Relaxation of Incoming Quality Control Requirements [Docket No.: AMS-FV-08-0044; FV08-981-1 FIR] received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9606. A letter from the Director, Policy Issuances Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling of Muscle Cuts of Beef (Including Veal), Lamb, Chicken, Goat, and Pork; Ground Beef, Ground Lamb, Ground Chicken, Ground Goat, and Ground Pork [Docket No.: FSIS-2008-0027] (RIN: 0583-AD38) received December 1, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9607. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael W. Peterson, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

9608. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved

retirement of Lieutenant General Stephen G. Wood, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

9609. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Major General Michael A. Hamel, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

9610. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the 40th report pursuant to Section 3204(f) of the FY 2000 Emergency Supplemental Act, as amended; to the Committee on Armed Services.

9611. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment, Department of the Navy, transmitting notification of the Department's decision to cancel to Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 public-private competition for the Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Emergency Management Dispatch (EMD) Support Services; to the Committee on Armed Services.

9612. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule — Home Mortgage Disclosure [Regulation C; Docket No.: R-1321] received October 27, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9613. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket No.: FEMA-8047] received November 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9614. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No.: FEMA-B-1011] received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9615. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA): Rule To Simplify and Improve the Process of Obtaining Mortgages and Reduce Consumer Settlement Costs [Docket No. FR-5180-F-03] (RIN: 2502-A161) received November 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9616. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pet Ownership for the Elderly and Persons With Disabilities [Docket No.: FR-5127-F-02] (RIN: 2501-AD31) received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9617. A letter from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Design and Construction Requirements; Compliance With ANSI A117.1 Standards [Docket No.: FR-5006-F-02] (RIN: 2529-AA92) received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9618. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a draft bill the proposes several reforms to the International Monetary Fund; to the Committee on Financial Services.

9619. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Trap Capital Purchase Program received November 19, 2008,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9620. A letter from the Director, Office of Legal Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Deposit Insurance Regulations; Temporary Increase in Standard Coverage Amount; Mortgage Servicing Accounts (RIN: 3064-AD36) received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9621. A letter from the Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting notification that the Agency plans to follow the advisory guidelines issued by the Office of Personnel Management in the Disciplinary Best Practices and Advisory Guidelines under the No FEAR Act report; to the Committee on Financial Services.

9622. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's "Major" final rule — Prohibition on Funding of Unlawful Internet Gambling [Regulation GG; Docket No. R-1298] received November 20, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9623. A letter from the Special Assistant to the Board, Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's "Major" final rule — PROHIBITION ON FUNDING OF UNLAWFUL INTERNET GAMBLING [Regulation GG; Docket No. R-1298] received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9624. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Temporary Exemption for Liquidation of Certain Money Market Funds [Release No.: IC-28487; File No. S7-32-08] (RIN: 3235-AK24) received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9625. A letter from the Asst. General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as Amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) received November 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

9626. A letter from the Secretary of Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Assistance to States for the Education of Children with Disabilities and Preschool Grants for Children with Disabilities [DOCKET ID: ED-2008-OSERS-0005] (RIN: 1820-AB60) received December 1, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

9627. A letter from the Assistant Secretary (Acting) Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's study on backup fuel capability, pursuant to Section 1812 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9628. A letter from the Attorney, Office of Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Incentive Program (RIN: 1901-AB25) received, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9629. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Patient Safety and Quality Improvement (RIN: 0919-AA01) received November 20, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9630. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services,

transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Medicaid Program; Premiums and Cost Sharing [CMS-2244-F] (RIN: 0938-AO47) received November 20, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9631. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Toll-Free Number for Reporting Adverse Events on Labeling for Human Drug Products [Docket No. FDA-2003-N-0313 (formerly Docket No.: 2003N-0342)] (RIN: 0910-AC35) received November 19, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9632. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report on Enhanced Aquaculture and Seafood Inspection, pursuant to Public Law 110-85, section 1006; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9633. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's fifth annual report for FY 2007 entitled, "MDUFMA Financial Report," pursuant to The Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9634. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Deputy Chief of Operations, Office of Diversion Control, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Import and Production Quotas for Certain List I Chemicals [Docket No.: DEA-293F] (RIN: 1117-AB08) received December 2, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9635. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Standards of Conduct for Transmission Providers [Docket No.: RM07-1-000; Order No. 717] received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9636. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Rule Concerning Disclosures Regarding Energy Consumption and Water Use of Certain Home Appliances and Other Products Required Under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act ("Appliance Labeling Rule") (RIN: 3084-AA74) received November 21, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9637. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: MAGNASTOR Addition (RIN: 3150-AI51) received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9638. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, and continued by the President each year, most recently on November 8, 2007, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9639. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with the United Kingdom (Transmittal No. DDTC 125-08), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9640. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement for the export of technical data, defense services, and

defense articles to the United Kingdom (Transmittal No. DDTC 137-08), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9641. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9642. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9643. A letter from the Vice Admiral, USN Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 09-04, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9644. A letter from the Vice Admiral, USN Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting a report in accordance with Section 36(a) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9645. A letter from the Vice Admiral, USN Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting various reports in accordance with Sections 36(a) and 26(b) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9646. A letter from the Assistant Secretary For Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Clarification of Export Control Jurisdiction for Civil Aircraft Equipment under the Export Administration Regulations [Docket No.: 080305374-81467-01] (RIN: 0694-AE31) received December 2, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9647. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on the status of family reunions between U.S. citizens and their relatives in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, pursuant to Public Law 110-181, section 1265; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9648. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, certification regarding the proposed transfer of major defense equipment from the Government of Jordan (Transmittal No. RSAT 01-09); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9649. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the 2008 annual report on the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program, pursuant to Public Law 106-309, section 304; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9650. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles to Ecuador (Transmittal No. DDTC 132-08), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9651. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Treasury, transmitting as required by section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9652. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 204(c) of the International

Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9653. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Syria; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9654. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's Semiannual Report of the Office of Inspector General for the 6-month period of April 1, 2008, through September 30, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9655. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 17-278, "Contingency Cash Reserve Transparency Amendment Act of 2007," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9656. A letter from the Auditor, District of Columbia, transmitting a report entitled, "OCFO'S Policy Regarding Background Checks on Specific OCFO Employees Who Handle Cash and/or Cash Equivalents," pursuant to D.C. Code section 47-117(d); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9657. A letter from the Administrator, Agency for International Development, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Inspector General for the period ending September 30, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9658. A letter from the Administrator, Agency for International Development, transmitting notification that the Agency is in full compliance with the "Disciplinary Best Practices and Advisory Guidelines" under the No FEAR Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9659. A letter from the Acting Chairman, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Commission's FY 2008 Performance Accountability Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9660. A letter from the Executive Director, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting notification that the Commission did not complete any competitions in FY 2008, pursuant to Public Law 108-199, section 647(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9661. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-29; Introduction [Docket FAR 2008-0003, Sequence 4] received November 19, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9662. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Fiscal Year 2008 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9663. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-28; Introduction [Docket FAR 2008-0003, Sequence 3] received November 19, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9664. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's Fiscal Year 2008 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9665. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's Semiannual Report of the Office of Inspector General for the period from April 1 through September 30, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9666. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting notification that the Department has adopted and will fully implement Disciplinary Best Practices and Advisory Guidelines under the No FEAR Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9667. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's semiannual report from the Office of the Inspector General, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9668. A letter from the Director, Office of Civil Rights, Department of Energy, transmitting notification that the Department is in full compliance with the "No FEAR Disciplinary Best Practices and Advisory Guidelines"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9669. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Semiannual Report for the period ending September 30, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9670. A letter from the Acting Assoc. Gen. Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9671. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's twelfth semiannual report for the period of April 1, 2008, through September 30, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9672. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's FY 2008 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9673. A letter from the Deputy White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9674. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's FY 2008 Annual Report on Performance and Accountability; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9675. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Department of Labor, transmitting notification that the Department is in full compliance with the "Disciplinary Best Practices and Advisory Guidelines" of the No FEAR Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9676. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 2008, through September 30, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9677. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's Performance and Accountability Report for FY 2008, as required by the Reports Consolidation Act of 2000; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9678. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's semiannual reports from the Office of the Treasury Inspector General and the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9679. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting notification that the Department will adopt the advisory guidelines detailed in the Office Personnel Management's (OPM) report entitled, "Disciplinary Best Practices and Advisory Guidelines Under the No FEAR Act"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9680. A letter from the Special Assistant to the President and Director, Office of Administration, Executive Office of the President, transmitting accounting expenditures from the Unanticipated Needs Account for fiscal year 2008, pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 108; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9681. A letter from the Special Assistant to the President and Director, Office of Administration, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the personnel report for personnel employed in the White House Office, the Executive Residence at the White House, the Office of the Vice President, the Office of Policy Development, and the Office of Administration, pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 113; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9682. A letter from the Chief of Staff and General Counsel, Executive Office of the President, transmitting notification that the Office will follow the guidelines of the Notifications and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9683. A letter from the Director, Executive Office of the President, transmitting notification that the Office will comply with the guidelines of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9684. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's fiscal year 2008 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9685. A letter from the President, Federal Financing Bank, transmitting the Bank's final strategic plan for the fiscal years 2008 through 2013; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9686. A letter from the President, Federal Financing Bank, transmitting the Annual Report of the Federal Financing Bank for Fiscal Year 2008, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9687. A letter from the President, Federal Financing Bank, transmitting the Bank's performance plan for fiscal years 2008-2009 and program performance report for fiscal year 2007, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9688. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting notification that the Commis-

sion has adopted and will adhere in full to the No FEAR Advisory Guidelines and Disciplinary Best Practices in accordance with Title II of the Notification and Federal Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9689. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's Semiannual Report from the Office of the Inspector General for the six-month period ending September 30, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9690. A letter from the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting the Board's Report of FY 2008 Audits and Significant Findings, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9691. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting notification that the Commission has taken and will complete steps to follow the No FEAR Guidelines, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. 724.404; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9692. A letter from the Director Institute of Museum and Library Services, Institute of Museum and Library Services, transmitting notification that the Institute is in full compliance with the "Disciplinary Best Practices and Advisory Guidelines" under the No FEAR Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9693. A letter from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities, transmitting the Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2008, as required by OMB Circular Number A-11; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9694. A letter from the Acting Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's Fiscal Year 2008 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9695. A letter from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the Office's Performance Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2008; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9696. A letter from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting notification that the Office will follow the Advisory Guidelines in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9697. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Inspector General and the Management Response for the period of April 1, 2007 to September 31, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9698. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled, "Federal Executive Board Authorization Act of 2008"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9699. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting notification that the Office will comply with the guidelines of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9700. A letter from the President & CEO, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9701. A letter from the Chief Administrative Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, transmitting notification that the Office will fully comply with the guidelines of the No FEAR Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9702. A letter from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Board's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2008, including the Office of Inspector General's Auditor's Report, Report on Internal Control, and Report on Compliance with Laws and Regulations; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9703. A letter from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Board's statement concerning disciplinary actions for conduct that is inconsistent with Federal Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9704. A letter from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Board's Office of Inspector General (OIG) Semiannual Report for the period April 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008, pursuant to Public Law 95-452, section 5; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9705. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting notification that the Commission's fiscal year 2008 Performance and Accountability Report is now available at <http://www.sec.gov/about/secpar2008.html>; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9706. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9707. A letter from the Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2008; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9708. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. International Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for FY 2008; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9709. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting notification that the Board will fully comply with the guidelines of the No FEAR Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9710. A letter from the Director, U.S. Trade and Development Agency, transmitting the Agency's Performance and Accountability Report including audited financial statements for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9711. A letter from the Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, United States Postal Service, transmitting notification that the Service will comply with the guidelines in the No FEAR Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9712. A letter from the Vice Chair, Election Assistance Commission, transmitting the Commission's various studies regarding the administration of elections; to the Committee on House Administration.

9713. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Extension of Administrative Fines Program [Notice 2008-12] received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on House Administration.

9714. A letter from the Librarian of Congress, Library of Congress, transmitting the Annual Report of the Library of Congress, for the fiscal year 2007, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 139; to the Committee on House Administration.

9715. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator For Regulatory Programs National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Record-keeping and Reporting [Docket No.: 080225265-81165-02] (RIN: 0648-AW28) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9716. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pennsylvania Regulatory Program [PA-148-FOR; OSM-2008-0014] received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9717. A letter from the Regulatory and Policy Specialist, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Indian Trust Management Reform (RIN: 1076-AE59) received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9718. A letter from the Assistant Secretary — Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Royalty Relief-Ultra-Deep Gas Wells and Deep Gas Wells on Leases in the Gulf of Mexico; Extension of Royalty Relief Provisions to Leases Offshore of Alaska [Docket ID: MMS-OMM-2007-0071] (RIN: 1010-AD33) received November 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9719. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Kansas Regulatory Program [SATS No.: KS-024-FOR; Docket No.: OSM-2008-0001] received November 24, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9720. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator For Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's "Major" final rule — Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Guided Sport Charter Vessel Fishery for Halibut [Docket No. 080821134-81140-01] (RIN: 0648-AX21) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9721. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's review of the management plans for Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, and Monterey Bay national marine sanctuaries; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9722. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Atlantic Whale Take Reduction Plan [Docket No.: 080123076-8078-01] (RIN: 0648-XF27) received November 19, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9723. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 630 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 071106671-8010-02] (RIN: 0648-XK72) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9724. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Subistence Fishing [Docket No.: 080310411-8949-02] (RIN: 0648-AU14) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9725. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Non-American Fisheries Act Crab Vessels Catching Pacific Cod for Processing by the Inshore Component in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 071106671-8010-02] (RIN: 0648-XK7) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9726. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Non-American Fisheries Act Crab Vessels Catching Pacific Cod for Processing by the Inshore Component in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 071106671-8010-02] (RIN: 0648-XK97) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9727. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 071106671-8010-02] (RIN: 0648-XK32) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9728. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Deep-Water Species Fishery by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 071106671-8010-02] (RIN: 0648-XK53) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9729. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Closure of the Limited Access General Category Scallop Fishery to Individual Fishing Quota Scallop Vessels [Docket No.: 070817467-8554-02] (RIN: 0648-XK82) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9730. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Northern Rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 071106671-8010-02] (RIN: 0648-XL00) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9731. A letter from the Acting Assistant Administrator For Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific

Coast Groundfish Fishery; Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustment; Correction [Docket No.: 0809231252-81272-01] (RIN: 0648-AX28) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9732. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Northern Rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 071106671-8010-02] (RIN: 0648-XL00) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9733. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Island Management Area [Docket No.: 071106673-8011-02] (RIN: 0648-XL42) received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9734. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; Commercial Quota Harvested for Massachusetts [Docket No.: 071212833-8179-02] (RIN: 0648-XK04) received December 3, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9735. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, National Park Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — National Park System Units in Alaska (RIN: 1024-AD69) received November 12, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9736. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the 2007 annual report on the activities and operations of the Public Integrity Section, Criminal Division, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 529; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

9737. A letter from the Federal Liaison Officer, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Miscellaneous Changes to Trademark Rules of Practice [Docket No.: PTO-T-2005-0018] (RIN: 0651-AB89) received November 19, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

9738. A letter from the Federal Liaison Officer, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes to Representation of Others before the United States Patent and Trademark Office [Docket No.: PTO-C-2005-0013] (RIN: 0651-AB55) received November 19, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

9739. A letter from the Federal Liaison Officer, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Fiscal Year 2009 Changes to Patent Cooperation Treaty Transmittal and Search Fees [Docket No.: PTO-P-2008-0023] (RIN: 0651-AC28) received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

9740. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rules of Practice and Procedure; Civil Money Penalty Inflation Adjustments [Docket ID: OCC-2008-0020] (RIN: 1557-AD11) received November 21, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

9741. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc RB211-535E4-37, RB211-535E4-B-37, and RB211-535E4-B-75 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2007-29343; Directorate Identifier 2000-NE-13-AD; Amendment 39-15721; AD 2008-22-24] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9742. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Congestion Management Rule for LaGuardia Airport [Docket No. FAA-2006-25709] (RIN: 2120-A170) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9743. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Congestion Management Rule for John F. Kennedy International Airport and Newark Liberty International Airport; Correction [Docket No. FAA-2008-0517; Amdt. No. 93-88] (RIN: 2120-AJ28) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9744. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Congestion Management Rule for LaGuardia Airport; Correction [Docket No. FAA-2006-25709; Amendment No. 93-87] (RIN: 2120-A170) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9745. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Congestion Management Rule for LaGuardia Airport; Correction [Docket No. FAA-2006-25709; Amendment No. 93-87] (RIN: 2120-A170) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9746. A letter from the Trial Attorney, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Electronically Controlled Pneumatic Brake Systems [Docket No. FRA-2006-26175, Notice No. 4] (RIN: 2130-AB84) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9747. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model AS332 C, L, L1 and L2 Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0430; Directorate Identifier 2007-SW-42-AD; Amendment 39-15694; AD 2008-21-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9748. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL-600-2C10 (Regional Jet Series 700, 701, & 702), CL-600-2D15 (Regional Jet Series 705), and CL-600-2D24 (Regional Jet Series 900) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0623; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-089-AD; Amendment 39-15699; AD 2008-22-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9749. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems Model SAAB 2000 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0848; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-082-AD; Amendment 39-15702; AD 2008-22-

07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9750. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Model Mystere-Falcon 900, Falcon 900EX, and Falcon 2000 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0729; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-052-AD; Amendment 39-15700; AD 2008-22-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9751. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc RB211 Trent 553-61, 553A2-61, 556-61, 556A2-61, 556B2-61, 560-61, and 560A2-61, 560-61, and 560A2-61 Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1063; Directorate Identifier 2008-NE-32-AD; Amendment 39-15725; AD 2008-23-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9752. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A318, A319, A320, and A321 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0342; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-305-AD; Amendment 39-15706; AD 2008-22-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9753. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. (EMBRAER) Model EMB-135 Airplanes, and Model EMB-145, — 145ER, — 145MR, -145LR, -145XR, -145MP, and -145EP Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0483; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-006-AD; Amendment 39-15716; AD 2008-22-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9754. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A318, A319, A320, and A321 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2007-27011; Directorate Identifier 2006-NM-175-AD; Amendment 39-15722; AD 2008-22-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9755. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Allied Ag Cat Productions, Inc. Model G-164 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0854; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-050-AD; Amendment 39-15718; AD 2008-22-21] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9756. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Model Falcon 2000EX Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0830; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-285-AD; Amendment 39-15711; AD 2008-22-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9757. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Stemme GmbH & Co. KG Models S10 and S10-V Gliders [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1161; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-067-AD; Amendment 39-15726; AD 2008-23-05] (RIN:

2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9758. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; DG Flugzeugbau GmbH Models DG-1000S and DG-1000T Gliders [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0989; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-029-AD; Amendment 39-15727; AD 2008-23-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9759. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Model PC-6 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0990 Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-060-AD; Amendment 39-15724; AD 2008-22-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9760. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Cessna Aircraft Company 150 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0790; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-042-AD; Amendment 39-15715; AD 2008-22-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9761. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL-600-2C10 (Regional Jet Series 700 & 701) Series Airplanes and Model CL-600-2D24 (Regional Jet Series 900) Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0555; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-074-AD; Amendment 39-15705; AD 2005-13-02 R1] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9762. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company (GE) CT58 Series Turbohaft Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0808; Directorate Identifier 2008-NE-18-AD; Amendment 39-15712; AD 2008-22-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9763. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL-600-2B19 (Regional Jet Series 100 & 440) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0643; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-094-AD; Amendment 39-15698; AD 2008-22-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9764. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Hawker Beechcraft Corporation Model 390 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1127; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-061-AD; Amendment 39-15707; AD 2008-22-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9765. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Maryland Air Industries, Inc., Model Fairchild F-27 and FH-227 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0734; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-004-AD; Amendment 39-15697; AD 2008-22-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to

5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9766. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company CF6-80C2 Series and CF6-80E1 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2007-28367; Directorate Identifier 2007-NE-19-AD; Amendment 39-15695; AD 2008-21-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9767. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1166; Directorate Identifier 2008-NM-179-AD; Amendment 39-15728; AD 2008-23-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9768. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 757-200 and 757-300 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2007-29343; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-006-AD; Amendment 39-15703; AD 2008-22-28] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9769. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Army, transmitting copies of the report of the Secretary of the Army on Civil Works Activities for October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9770. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's report entitled, "Office of Education Assessment Plan," pursuant to Public Law 110-69, section 2001(f); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

9771. A letter from the Director of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection Program (RIN: 2900-AN00) received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

9772. A letter from the Director of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Assistance to States in Hiring and Retaining Nurses at State Veterans Homes (RIN: 2900-AM26) received December 2, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

9773. A letter from the Chief, Border Security Regulations Branch, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Importer Security Filing and Additional Carrier Requirements [Docket Number USCBP-2007-0077] (RIN: 1651-AA70) received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9774. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Leona Valley Viticultural Area (2007R-281P) [Docket No. TTB-2007-0066; T.D. TTB-71; Re: Notice No. 76] (RIN: 1513-AB49) received November 21, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9775. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 26 CFR 601.601: Rules and regulations. (Also: Part 1, 857) (Rev. Proc. 2008-69) received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9776. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Update for Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates [Notice 2008-105] received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9777. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Information Reporting for Discharges of Indebtedness [TD 9430] (RIN: 1545-BH99) received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9778. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 26 CFR 601.105: Examination of returns and claims for refund, credit, or abatement; determination of correct tax liability. (Also Part 1, 62, 162, 170, 213, 217, 274, 1016; 1.62-2, 1.62-17, 1.170A-1, 1.213-1, 1.217-2, 1.274-5, 1.1016-3.) (Rev. Proc. 2008-72) received December 1, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9779. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 2008 Cumulative List of Changes in Plan Qualification Requirements [Notice 2008-108] received December 1, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9780. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Determination of Housing Cost Amounts Eligible for Exclusion or Deduction for 2008 [Notice 2008-107] received December 1, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9781. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Classification of Certain Foreign Entities [TD 9433] (RIN: 1545-BH23) received December 1, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9782. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Publication of the Tier 2 Tax Rates — received December 1, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9783. A letter from the Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting a consolidated report of the Administration's processing of continuing disability reviews for FY 2007; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9784. A letter from the Deputy Director, Office of Regulations, Office of the Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Technical Revisions to Overpayment Rules [Docket No. SSA-2007-0093] (RIN: 0960-AG02) received November 19, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

9785. A letter from the Deputy Chief Counsel, Regulations, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rail Transportation Security [Docket No. TSA-2006-26514; Amendment Nos. 1520-5, 1580-(New)] (RIN: 1652-AA51) received November 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

9786. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, Department of Energy, transmitting the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the Designation of Energy Corridors on Federal Land in the 11 Western States, pursuant to Section 368 of

the Energy Policy Act of 2005; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Natural Resources.

9787. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Report to Congress on the Evaluation of the Cancer Prevention and Treatment Demonstration for Racial and Ethnic Minorities," pursuant to Public Law 106-554; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

9788. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report on the Demonstration of Coverage of Chiropractic Services, pursuant to Public Law 108-173, section 651; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

9789. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Medicaid Program; State Allotments for Payment of Medicare Part B Premiums for Qualifying Individuals: Federal Fiscal Year 2008 and Federal Fiscal Year 2009 [CMS-2290-IFC] (RIN: 0938-AP38) received November 21, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

9790. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Evaluation of Medicare Advantage Special Needs Plans," pursuant to Public Law 108-173; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

9791. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulations Pertaining to Mergers, Acquisitions, and Takeovers by Foreign Persons (RIN: 1505-AB88) received November 25, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Financial Services, Energy and Commerce, and Foreign Affairs.

9792. A letter from the Senior Regulatory Officer, Wage and Hour Div., Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (RIN: 1215-AB35) received November 20, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Education and Labor, House Administration, and Oversight and Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. FRANK: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 6871. A bill to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to provide a 1-time adjustment in certain dollar amounts to account for inflation over the 21 years since the enactment of such Act, to provide for future adjustments of such amounts on a regular basis, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-917). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Ms. SLAUGHTER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1533. Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of Rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (Rept. 110-918). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. GOHMERT, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana):

H.R. 7308. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that all taxpayers have the ability to deduct State and local general sales taxes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GOHMERT (for himself, Mr. SHADEGG, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CARTER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. PENCE, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. SALI, Mr. AKIN, Mr. MCHENRY, Mrs. DRAKE, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. PAUL, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. MACK):

H.R. 7309. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to suspend employment and income taxes for the first two months of 2009, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DEGETTE (for herself, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. WAXMAN):

H.R. 7310. A bill to prohibit the implementation or enforcement of certain regulations; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BERMAN (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California):

H.R. 7311. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2008 through 2011 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 7312. A bill to prohibit the selling and counterfeiting of tickets for a Presidential inaugural ceremony; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCHUGH (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 7313. A bill to amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to allow the United States Postal Service to pay its share of contributions for annuitants' health benefits out of the Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. MICHAUD:

H.R. 7314. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief to the unemployed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. REHBERG:

H.R. 7315. A bill to suspend for 2008 and 2009 the required minimum distribution rules for

certain defined contribution plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

H.R. 7316. A bill to restrict nuclear cooperation with the United Arab Emirates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 7317. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on the acquisition of a parcel of land adjacent to Beaufort National Cemetery, Beaufort, South Carolina; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 7318. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to acquire a parcel of land adjacent to Beaufort National Cemetery, Beaufort, South Carolina; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. WEINER, Mr. DICKS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. MATHE-SON, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. LEE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. KIRK, Mr. WU, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. HOLT, Mr. CARNEY, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HODES, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. LINDER, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Mr. PASTOR):

H. Res. 1532. A resolution condemning the November 26, 2008, terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, and expressing sympathy to the innocent victims from India and around the world; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, private bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. GUTIERREZ:

H.R. 7319. A bill for the relief of Simeon Simeonov, Stela Simeonova, Stoyan Simeonov, and Vania Simeonova; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GUTIERREZ:

H.R. 7320. A bill for the relief of Rebeca Rojas de Guzman; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 661: Ms. HARMAN.
H.R. 2266: Mr. WEINER.
H.R. 2407: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
H.R. 3175: Mr. WEINER.
H.R. 4109: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.
H.R. 4138: Mr. HARE.
H.R. 5615: Mr. PETRI.
H.R. 5734: Mr. PASTOR, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, and Mr. WEINER.
H.R. 5927: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CLAY, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. STARK, and Mr. TOWNS.
H.R. 5935: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 6134: Mr. BILBRAY.
H.R. 6157: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 6201: Mr. HARE.
H.R. 6597: Mrs. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 6598: Ms. HARMAN.
H.R. 6801: Mr. WALSH of New York.
H.R. 6873: Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H.R. 6949: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 7157: Mr. WHITFIELD of Kentucky.
H.R. 7275: Mr. MCHUGH.
H.R. 7277: Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. GOODE, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. MACK, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. COBLE, Mr. WOLF, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. PETRI, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. KIRK.
H.R. 7281: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 7296: Mr. STARK, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. LEE, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.J. Res. 101: Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Ms. KAPTUR.
H. Res. 1037: Mr. BAIRD.
H. Res. 1064: Mr. COURTNEY.
H. Res. 1120: Mr. McCAUL of Texas.
H. Res. 1397: Mr. ACKERMAN.
H. Res. 1475: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.
H. Res. 1531: Ms. LEE, Mr. STARK, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. PASTOR, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.



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Senate

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JON TESTER, a Senator from the State of Montana.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord of all, Your blessings to our Nation astound us. You have given us this rich land to produce an oasis of freedom in a barren world.

Bless our lawmakers as they seek to fulfill Your purposes. Give them great wisdom to choose what is best. As they grapple with complex issues, infuse them with confidence that Your providence will prevail. Renew their strength as they trust Your guidance, so that they will run and not be weary. In due season, bring them a bountiful harvest. We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JON TESTER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 9, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JON TESTER, a Senator from the State of Montana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. TESTER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CAL- ENDAR—H.R. 7005, H.R. 7006, H.R. 7060

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there are three bills at the desk due for a second reading; is that correct?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent for their second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bills by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7005) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide alternative minimum tax relief for individuals for 2008.

A bill (H.R. 7006) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide disaster assistance relief.

A bill (H.R. 7060) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for energy production and conservation, to extend certain expiring provisions, to provide individual income tax relief, and for other purposes.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following the remarks of the two leaders, the Senate will proceed to a period of morning business until noon today, with Senators allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

Those three bills that were reported are three tax bills. I have been in touch with the distinguished Republican leader. Those are placeholders for purposes of our having the opportunity to

get to the Detroit bailout, recovery plan, whatever we wish to call it.

I talked to my staff; they were up virtually most of the night working with the Banking Committee from the House and the Senate, and there are two remaining issues that have been discussed with the White House. I am confident those matters can be resolved within the next hour or so. They are both important issues, but I think they can be resolved. That having been done, we will confer, Senator McCONNELL and I, and decide how we are going to proceed. I think it would be to everyone's advantage that we move first, but we will have to wait and see how. The House can do that if they choose to.

We would hope they can complete work on this Detroit situation tonight or tomorrow. Then we have to wait for the White House to determine what, if anything, they are going to do with requesting the other money from the TARP money; that is, the bank bailout. That decision has not been made yet.

Members, I have received calls, as I am sure my distinguished counterpart has, that people have obligations at home, there are a number of important foreign meetings people wish to be involved in that they have set on their calendars for longstanding periods of time. These are not pleasure trips, they are business trips representing the Senate. We hope to be able to complete work here as soon as possible. The problem is we have to wait and see how we move through this. The Senate, being the unique legislative body it is, and it has been, one or two people can slow things down quite a bit. We hope that is not the case. We know what we have to try to do. We need to do it as quickly as possible.

So I hope that, in fact, can be done; that is, the legislation can be put before us and a vote taken.

On the reading of bills, the second reading, I would object to any further

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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proceedings with respect to these bills. I do it en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The measures will be placed on the calendar under rule XIV.

RECOGNITION OF THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

AUTO INDUSTRY REVIVAL

Mr. MCCONNELL. The auto industry is vitally important to our Nation's economy, and it is vitally important to my home State. This is not in dispute. The question before us is how to reverse the decline of some of those automobile manufacturers after decades of complicity between management and labor.

I understand congressional Democrats sent a revised proposal to which the majority leader referred, to the White House late last night. We will reserve our judgment until we see the latest text. But the proposal we saw yesterday afternoon fails to achieve our goal of securing long-term viability of ailing auto companies.

I wish to support a bill that revives this industry. But I will not support a bill that revives the patient with taxpayer dollars, yet does not secure a commitment that the patient will change its ways so future help is not needed. To do so would be a betrayal of the millions of hardworking taxpayers who are not at fault for the troubles in the auto industry. It would be unfair to the millions of Americans who depend on these companies.

On the management side, the draft plan released yesterday fails to require the kind of serious reform that will ensure long-term viability for struggling automobile companies. By giving the Government the option of cancelling Government assistance in the event that reforms are not achieved, rather than requiring it, we open the door to unlimited Federal subsidies in the future.

Instead, we should demand management make the tough choices that are required for long-term viability. This is the only fair approach from the standpoint of the taxpayer who is footing the bill. On the labor side, this bill proposal fails to require any serious reform of legacy costs. Indeed, it states explicitly that one of its purposes is to preserve the same retirement and health care benefits that have made these companies so uncompetitive.

It is delusional to expect a company that spends \$71 per labor hour to compete with a company in a neighboring State that spends \$49 per labor hour. In short, this proposal is deeply flawed because it fails to assure taxpayers, who rightly expect us to be good stewards of their hard-earned money, that they will not be asked to shell out billions

more in a few years or even a few months from now.

Now, there are times when help is needed. But one thing most people expect when they are asked for help is that the one asking makes a commitment to change. This proposal does not go nearly far enough. It holds neither management nor labor truly accountable.

In areas where one side is held accountable, the other side is not. One example is a provision that requires automakers to drop all legal challenges to State fuel economy standards that are inconsistent with the Federal standard. Where is the offer from our friends on the other side to call on environmental groups to drop their lawsuits?

Democrats say they want to solve this problem as much as we do. Yet they seem all too eager to tip the scales to the detriment of the manufacturers. Look, there is plenty of blame to go around for the problems that ail the auto industry, but fixing half of a problem is not a real solution.

Any successful proposal would force companies to reform, either inside of bankruptcy or outside of bankruptcy. Without that mandate, there can be no real expectation of reform. A good proposal would force automakers to get control of their benefit costs. A good proposal would make wages of struggling companies competitive with other automakers, not tomorrow but today. A good proposal would end the practice of paying workers who do not work. A good proposal would rationalize dealer networks.

Just as struggling airlines adjust their capacity to respond to market conditions, automakers must respond to market demands as well. I regret that the proposal Republicans saw yesterday afternoon does not do enough to fix the whole problem. It subsidizes it. A real solution must protect the taxpayers by forcing the changes needed to put these companies on the path to long-term success.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the lifeline we throw to Detroit has to be one that gets them to shore, not part way to shore. That is why I indicated in my opening statement that during the night there has been a lot of give-and-take between the White House and the two banking committees.

As I reported earlier, I think there are only two major issues that are still outstanding, and I am confident and hopeful they can be resolved in the next few hours.

The issue before us is, what can we do to stabilize an industry that has direct impact upon 2.5 million jobs in this country. The mere fact that we were trying to work something out yesterday caused the stock market to go up almost 300 points. The American people want us to try to resolve this issue.

But my friend is right. As strongly connected as I am to organized labor, it

cannot be a one-sided proposal that is brought before the Senate. I am confident it will not be. I have talked to the Big Three operators. Some are held in low repute. But that withstanding, I think we are in a situation now where we all have to kind of join hands, recognize that this is going to be a compromise, we are going to try to work something out. That is what legislation is all about, the art of compromise and consensus building. That is where we are now. As I indicated, I think we are very close to having something that I think we can bring before the body sometime today.

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

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

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business until 12 noon, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

FALLEN PENNSYLVANIANS

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, as we bring the 110th Congress to a close, our Nation confronts a daunting set of challenges. While we face the gravest crisis, perhaps, since the Great Depression, we must also remember that we are a nation at war. From Iraq to Afghanistan, from the Pacific to Europe and countless places in between, American service men and women are proudly carrying out their duties to protect our country and our way of life. Under stressful conditions and the constant threat of danger, members of our Armed Forces do what it takes to get the job done every day.

During this holiday season, I wish to take a moment to express my gratitude to our servicemembers. Their personal courage and honor should not be taken for granted but genuinely appreciated. I know that is the sentiment of the Senate on both sides of the aisle.

Today, on behalf of my family, the people of Pennsylvania, and people throughout the country, I thank the members of our armed services and their families, especially those who

gave, as Lincoln said, “the last full measure of devotion to their country.” To the families of those who have died or for those family members who are remembering those who are far away serving our country, in either instance, either by way of the loss of a loved one or because of distance, there is obviously a void in their lives. The words of the great recording artist Bruce Springsteen come to mind when I think of what these families are living through today. I remember the words from a song he wrote right after the 9/11 tragedy as he came out with a number of songs. One of them was “Missing.” Some of the lines from that song go as follows:

When I shut out the lights, you're missing.
When I close my eyes, you're missing.
When I see the sunrise, you're missing.

I believe so many families feel that today. They know that someone who was in their lives, a member of their family, a son or daughter, a husband or wife who was among them and living and then went off to serve and lost their life, they feel that sense of missing a family member or a loved one. But even if they are just away for 6 months or a couple of months or even a year, they are missing, especially at this holiday season. So we are thinking of them today, those families who are living with that loss or living with that void.

So far, 190 sons and daughters of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have sacrificed their lives during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Since the last time I paid tribute to those who have fallen, 21 Pennsylvania families have lost their loved ones. Today I would like to honor each of them by reading their names into the RECORD:

Aviation Boatswain Mate 3rd Class Daniel Verbeke of Exton, PA;
PFC Joshua Waltenbaugh of Ford City, PA;
LCpl Travis Stottlemeyer of Hatfield, PA;
PFC James Yohn of Highspire, PA;
SFC Shawn Suzch of Hilltown, PA;
LTC Ralph Marino of Houston, PA;
SPC Jason Kazarick of Oakmont, PA;
SSG Ryan Maseth of Pittsburgh, PA;
SGT Timothy Van Orman of Port Matilda, PA;
CPT Nathan Raudenbush of Royersford, PA;
SPC Luke Runyan of Spring Grove, PA;
Chief Petty Officer Michael Koch of State College, PA;
SSG Brian Hause of Stoytown, PA;
SPC Michael Hook of Altoona, PA;
SPC Zachary Clouser of Dover, PA;
SFC Michael Tully of Falls Creek, PA;
SSG David Wieger of North Huntingdon, PA;
SPC Camy Florexil of Philadelphia, PA;
PFC Adam Chitjian of Philadelphia, PA;
SFC David Cooper Jr. of State College, PA;
and finally
CPT Erick Foster of Wexford, PA.

To each of their families, please know our thoughts are with you today. I extend my sincere gratitude to each of these men and women for accepting the call to service. These men were courageous warriors who belonged to the finest military in the world and contributed to something larger than themselves. Later this week I will honor those who lost their lives during Operation Enduring Freedom.

I also personally thank the men and women of the Pennsylvania National Guard. The Pennsylvania Guard's motto is “civilian in peace, soldier in war.” They have certainly lived up to that motto. With two units deploying this winter and spring, the Pennsylvania National Guard is in the midst of its largest deployment since the Korean war. The 20,000 members of the Pennsylvania National Guard who give up the comforts of their civilian lives at a moment's notice, who protect Americans in the mountains of Afghanistan, the sands of Iraq, and worldwide, and who rescue Americans from devastating floods and natural disasters deserve our highest praise. Therefore, at this holiday season, I want the men and women in service to our country to know we are thinking of them, we are praying for their safety and well-being and for that of their families.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. 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.

TRIBUTE TO GREG MADDUX

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as a little boy in Searchlight, as I was growing up, I used to listen every day to the “Game of the Day” baseball on the radio, and because there was no entertainment in Searchlight, I loved those games. I listened to them. Dizzy Dean was one of the announcers, and a guy named Al Helfer was one of the announcers. I thought they were very good, very entertaining. In the seventh inning stretch, Dizzy would always sing “The Wabash Cannonball.”

Now, in my youthful mind, one thing I wanted to do more than anything else was to be a baseball player. In Searchlight, we tried to play baseball. We had a little field there. We did not have enough boys for the team, so we had one girl who made up the nine players. Her name was Mary Ann Meyers. She still lives in Searchlight. She was really quite good—frankly, better than a lot of the boys. She rode a horse bareback as well as anyone could ride with a saddle.

I spent a lot of my daydreaming playing baseball. I had a little paddle of some kind, and I would throw rocks in the air and hit them with that. That was part of my entertainment. I did that for a long time.

As they had no high school in Searchlight, I went to Basic High School in Henderson, NV, which was 45 miles away. I stayed with people during the week and would come home on a lot of weekends if I could. They did not have a freshman baseball team. They had no baseball team. I guess

maybe if there had been a freshman good enough—I do not really think that was the case; I do not think they let freshmen be on the baseball team. My sophomore year, I went out for baseball. I was one of two sophomores to make that team. It was so exciting for me. That team was so good, we were so good, we won the Nevada State Championship. The first year they had a championship, we won. We beat Fallon. We had a pitcher by the name of Rey Martinez who later became my chief of staff and was a left-handed pitcher who was very good. We were so good that we beat all of the Nevada schools and all of the California schools. Even though we were from that little industrial town in southern Nevada, we were the California Interscholastic Federation champions. We beat them all.

Now, I would like to stand before everybody here and say that one reason that was the case is I was instrumental in getting hits at the right time and making stellar plays, stealing bases as I dreamed I would do as a kid. But I sat on the bench most of the time. I caught batting practice. I was a catcher. But I felt that I was part of that team and will never forget my experiences there playing baseball.

My friend Don Wilson, who was the other sophomore, was a State batting champion. He was terrific, a great athlete. He went on the play at Arizona State. But we had tremendous athletes. We had Norman Craft, who was our center fielder, who was a Big 10 football player playing at Indiana.

I went to college on a football-baseball scholarship. I was a lot bigger then than I am now. I weighed almost 190 pounds. But I got hurt early in my college athletic career—meaning football—and I came to the realization that I was not the athlete of my dreams. I was not big enough, fast enough, or good enough. So my athletic career, as a freshman in college, ended. I fought after that, but not as the baseball-football player I dreamed of being.

The reason I mention all of this today is to tell everyone within the sound of my voice how much I love baseball. I love athletics. I think it is so good and it is so wonderful that women can now participate just like men—boys and girls can participate. When I was in high school, the only thing my wife could do—she was far more athletic than I am or I was—is be a cheerleader. That was all she could do. There was not a single program for girls. So now we have programs equally for girls and boys, and that is exiting and wonderful, and I am happy that is the case.

The reason I mention all of this today is that yesterday in Las Vegas was a very big day for people who love baseball. It was an important day, but in some ways it was kind of a sentimental day because the great Greg Maddux announced his retirement.

Gregg Maddux, one of the greatest baseball players of all time, announced

his retirement yesterday after 23 seasons in the big leagues. Greg Maddux announced his retirement. He is such a fine person, unassuming. We see all of the negative things about athletes today, their taking steroids and fighting at bars and carrying guns into bars and shooting themselves in the leg and having dogs fight each other, not setting good examples for kids as to how they treat women. Greg Maddux stood for everything that they didn't—a wonderful family man, beautiful children, who prizes his family.

This is not a speech about some guy who played baseball in Las Vegas. This is a statement about one of the greatest baseball players of all time. You take the thousands of people who have pitched in the big leagues, Greg Maddux, this small man, relatively small man, who never lifted a weight in his life, is eighth on the all-time list of pitchers, Cy Young, go down the list, Warren Spahn, Greg Maddux; he is 10 games away from being in the top four or five—10 wins.

Another reason it is so important is that Greg Maddux is from Las Vegas. He never left. He went away for 23 years, spent half the year playing baseball, sometimes more than that, but he always came home. Las Vegas is home. That is where his kids go to school.

So this is a statement about a wonderful man who is a role model for anyone who participates in athletics but also someone Nevada is very proud of. He went to Valley High School, a high school that is still there. There are wonderful stories about this boy who went to that high school. A columnist from a prominent newspaper—I think that is where it was—a few years ago wrote a story, a column about Greg Maddux. He was a senior in high school. They had this skinny little sophomore who was going to pitch against him and his team. And he looked forward to batting against this skinny little sophomore who was pitching for Valley High School. And he describes in the column he wrote, he struck out every time he got up against this guy and they were, of course, beaten. Stories like that are all over Nevada about what he did in his youth.

Greg will soon be 43 years old. Yesterday he held a press conference. In effect what he said is: Thank you to everybody in baseball. He said: I still think I could play this game but not as well as I would like to, so it is time to say goodbye. And that is what he did.

His accomplishments are legendary; 355 games he won. He won more games than Roger Clemens, and he did it without taking any supplements of any kind. I repeat what he told me. He said: You know, I have never lifted a weight. He said: When I was in high school, a physical therapist said: Don't mess with your body. And Gregg may have pushed a few weights with his legs, but no way did he touch his arm, not because his arm had such great power, because he didn't throw as hard as a lot

of pitchers, but his accuracy was nearly perfect.

Of the seven men in front of him on the victory list, only Warren Spahn pitched in the second half of the last century. He is the only 300 game winner to have more than 3,000 strikeouts and less than 1,000 walks. He averaged less than 30 walks per year. That is a remarkable accomplishment; the first player in the history of baseball to win at least 15 games in 17 straight years; the only player in the history of baseball to win 13 games over 20 years.

He won four straight Cy Young awards. He won a World Series with the Atlanta Braves. He won 18 Gold Gloves. What is a Gold Glove? That means you are the best fielder in baseball at that position. He won 18 of them. No one will ever match that. That is for his fielding excellence. That is the most of any player ever, 18 Gold Gloves.

How did he do this, a man who didn't throw that hard, wasn't a monster on the mound being 6 foot 9? He was about my size, a little heavier than I am. He was able to do that because of his consistency, his control, and his mental acuity. He studied those batters. He knew their weaknesses and their strengths, and everyone marveled at how he could throw that baseball.

The stories will go on and on about Greg Maddux, but one story is not legend. It is true. For a sportswriter's entertainment, he said: Have the catcher hold up his glove and then we will make sure the catcher can't see so he can't move his hand. Let's see if you can hit that glove.

Think about that. The catcher is, in effect, blindfolded. He didn't do it once. He did it three times. Think about that. For those of us who have ever thrown a baseball, to hit that target is pretty significant. He is a man of humility. I just am so proud of Greg Maddux. I don't know what team I am going to root for now, because when he was with the Cubs, I was a Cub fan. When he was with the Atlanta Braves, I was a Braves fan. As difficult as it was playing for those losers, the Padres; they wouldn't get him any runs, I followed them because I knew Greg Maddux was on that team. And then he went with the Dodgers, and I became a Dodger fan. I don't know who I am going to cheer for. I really don't know.

His brother is a wonderful man. He was a long-time pitching coach for the Milwaukee Brewers. He has now, I understand, gone with the Texas Rangers. Whenever he came to town, I tried to visit with him. He was also a major league pitcher, 5 or 6 years older than his little brother Greg, but always looked out for him and was always so proud of him.

I want the record to reflect that America lost from baseball a great human being yesterday. But for us in Nevada, the place of his home, we still have Greg Maddux. His ties to Las Vegas make us all so very proud. Local historians will say—and rightfully so—that Greg Maddux is the greatest athlete in the history of our State.

RECESS

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 2:30 today.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:54 p.m., recessed until 2:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. CARPER).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who seeks recognition?

The majority leader is recognized.

AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY LEGISLATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I just finished a meeting with my staff representative who has been working with the two Banking Committees and the White House on the Detroit situation that we are trying to work out. I think there has been a whole lot of progress made. I hope the White House will be meeting with Senator MCCONNELL in the near future and we can start moving forward.

We very much want to complete this as soon as possible. I have had calls from lots of different Senators, all having very important things to do and places to go dealing with their service as a Senator. I think it is going to be very difficult to get a vote today. The legislation is not drafted yet. Most of it is, but there are a couple provisions they are working on. So I think it is very unlikely there will be votes today—not impossible but unlikely. It is more likely there will be something tomorrow.

But everyone should understand, if we have a number of Senators who are objecting, who want to slow this down—they have a right to do that; I understand that—we are going to complete the process. That being the case—everyone knows the rules around here; and I do—it may be necessary, if we get some push back from some of our Senators, where we have to go through the process of moving to proceed and filing cloture and all that kind of stuff—if that is the case, everyone should understand we are going to work until we complete this.

The American people want us to make a decision. I am fairly confident that all the work that has gone into this is going to bear fruit, that we will be able to pass legislation that will be good legislation. It will help the workers. When I say “the workers,” not only those people who are directly employed by the automobile manufacturers, but the suppliers, the bondholders, and on and on down the road. A lot of people are dependent on our doing something that is appropriate, and I think that can be done.

We are going to have a vote on this sometime. We can either have it sooner or we can have it later. But everyone should understand there will be no stalling us from doing this. We are going to complete this legislation. That may mean—and people have heard me talk about this before, but

everyone knows I am serious about this—that may mean we have to work this weekend. I hope that is not the case. Today is Tuesday. But the rules are as they are and we may have to work through this. We cannot let a few people stop us from doing the people's business.

I think Senator McCONNELL and I have the same view; we discussed it this morning, that we want to move forward making sure all parties feel they have been part of the process. There is nothing we could do that would be perfect. So we can only do the best we can; that is, to work through this legislation with the art of compromise. We have had to do that on this piece of legislation.

So we will have to wait until the White House completes their meetings with the leadership on the Republican side. Hopefully, today, we can have a better direction as to when we can complete this.

I think the seriousness of what we are engaged in with Detroit and the financial bailout of the banking institutions and the financial apparatus of this country has been very hard and difficult, and we need to keep moving forward. As everyone knows, thousands of jobs have been lost, and we need to get our country back in a position where we are talking about and feel good about the jobs that are being gained, not the jobs being lost.

So having said that, Mr. President, I will be happy to answer any questions anyone has. They know how to get ahold of me.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators allowed to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, and that the morning hour expire at 4:30 p.m.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SANDERS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I want to take the next several minutes, as we are getting together back in the Cap-

itol, to discuss the possible future assistance the Federal Government might provide to our auto industry.

Coming down on the train, several people said to me—some for and some against the proposal—that they were not comfortable with the idea of giving money to the auto industry, and I said neither am I. I am not interested in giving money to the auto industry any more than I wanted to give money to the financial services industry.

I invite the people who are following this issue to go back in time to 1979, 1980, when Chrysler was going through a difficult time, and Lee Iacocca was the CEO of the company then. He called for Federal assistance. I think at the time they were interested in a Federal loan to Chrysler. We weren't interested in doing that then, but we agreed to provide loan guarantees so that if Chrysler could find financing elsewhere, the Federal Government would provide a backstop in the form of a guarantee of the loans; otherwise, Chrysler would not have been able to obtain the needed financing. We called on Chrysler to make some difficult decisions to reduce costs and make sure that in the long haul they would be successful and viable as a company.

At the time, Lee Iacocca told us: If we could make that Chrysler K Car, that is our ticket to salvation and redemption and profitability. He said we don't have the financial wherewithal to get there. The Federal Government agreed to provide a lifeline in the form of a loan guarantee. A number of States, including my State of Delaware, agreed to provide loans—direct loans in this case—to Chrysler. We negotiated a collateralized loan to Chrysler in 1980. In return for the Federal taxpayers taking on the risk in 1980 of the loan guarantees, we asked for an ability to participate in an upside. We wanted to make sure not just the shareholders and employees would benefit but that the taxpayers would benefit. We agreed to make loan guarantees in return for getting warrants—not warrants for anybody's arrest but a warrant that is a financial instrument that can be used to turn into stock and provide the potential, at least, for the Federal taxpayer to make some positive return on this investment.

As it turned out, when the deal was closed and Jimmy Carter signed the legislation in the early part of 1980, the stock for Chrysler was about \$5 a share. Under the terms of the agreement, the Federal Government was able to purchase Chrysler stock for \$13 a share. It didn't sound like a very good deal at the time. Nonetheless, we had that option to buy Chrysler stock at a future date at \$13 a share. Later, Chrysler built the K Car and returned to profitability. They made money and the value of the shares appreciated. The time came when the Federal Government decided to go to Chrysler and say we would like to use our warrants and buy the stock at \$13 a share. Then we turned around and sold them for \$30 a

share after that. The difference between the \$13 and the \$30 we sold them for led to an appreciation or accumulation of about \$310 million for taxpayers. The loan the State of Delaware made to Chrysler—the collateralized loan I negotiated as State treasurer—was paid in full. Not only did we get the principal back, but we made interest for the taxpayers of my State. The same thing occurred to the taxpayers of other States. Meanwhile, Chrysler agreed to make a number of concessions that there be a sharing of sacrifices made by labor and management and others to help make that company viable for the longer haul. Lee Iacocca worked for \$1 a year.

The long and short of it is that it worked. That was in 1980. It worked for over a quarter century. Chrysler has gotten themselves into trouble because they began relying more and more on large inefficient vehicles—SUVs, trucks, and relatively few fuel-efficient cars or fuel-efficient light trucks or SUVs. In the end, by this time last year, roughly 70 percent of what Chrysler was building was energy-inefficient cars. During the CAFE increases last year, among the companies that pushed back initially was Chrysler. They have had to begin pivoting, if you will, to move from a product line where up to 70 percent of the vehicles were light trucks and SUVs, relatively few cars, and not many very fuel efficient, to one where not just the light trucks and vans and SUVs were energy efficient but also the cars. You cannot do that. Chrysler cannot do it, and Ford and GM cannot move within a year, or even 2 years, from a product line that is woefully inefficient in terms of fuel economy to one that is highly efficient. It has taken a period of time.

I am encouraged by the progress they are making at Chrysler. They are a couple of years out from being where they need to be, given the marketplace and what consumers are asking for.

Meanwhile, over at Ford, about 2 years ago, they largely redefined the company, including the logo, to begin a major transformation. Under the leadership of Bill Ford and Alan Mullaley, former head of Boeing, who was brought in to run Ford a couple years ago, they began a transformation not 12 months ago but more like 2 years ago to move to vehicles such as the Focus and Fusion. They are in a better position now as people are buying fewer vehicles and are looking for energy-efficient vehicles. There is some neat, nifty technology and items for the vehicles as well, with the partnership they have worked out with Microsoft.

Over at GM, meanwhile, GM is hopefully about to introduce, in a year or year and a half, what I call the most advertised car that has never been built, the Chevrolet Volt. I saw it unveiled at the Detroit Auto Show about a year and a half ago—a plug-in hybrid, flex fuel vehicle with the potential of getting not just 40 miles out from the garage in the homes in the morning,

but a potential for getting 80 to even 90 miles per gallon by using an alternative onboard fuel system, a propulsion system, not to propel the car but to recharge the battery. Unfortunately, we have not built the battery yet. Nobody has built a battery yet that can do that or designed one that will work at minus 10 degrees Fahrenheit or 110 degrees Fahrenheit. They have worked for 10 years under all kinds of conditions. Efforts are underway in many countries to win a race to build that battery. The Federal Government has provided a fair amount of financial support, investing in technology to make sure we get to the finish line ahead of our foreign competitors. It is an important race. GM, I think, stands to benefit from this, and so do the folks who work there and those who have shares with GM. So do the rest of us, frankly.

Let me come back to what I said earlier, about the conversation I had with several people on the train coming from Wilmington today. They said to me: We didn't like the fact that you gave all that money to the banks, and we don't like the idea of giving all that money to the auto industry. If you look at what we have done with the financial institutions, we have, under the legislation, created a so-called TARP. Under that legislation we authorize the Treasury to invest in the banks, to take an equity position. With the moneys we have infused or invested into most of these banks, we bought preferred stock. That preferred stock pays initially 5 percent per year, and later 9 percent if it is not bought back by the banks. In addition, we get options, much as we did with Chrysler in 1980, that could be converted into shares of stock that we can benefit from—not just we but the taxpayers can benefit from.

The idea there was to make the investment with the possibility that if there is an upside or rebound by the financial institutions that asked for this investment, the taxpayers have the opportunity to participate in the profits, as we did with respect to Chrysler all those years ago. The money that we are now talking about, or will be debating, whether to make available for working capital for the auto companies—let me add that only Chrysler and GM have indicated an interest in drawing down this money. Ford said: We think we are OK. Maybe later we will need a line of credit. For now, we think we are all right.

That is good news. So what we are working on is an approach where we, just as we invested in the financial institutions in order to get back preferred stock that pays 5 to 9 percent and also carries the possibility of warrants that we can turn into profit-making stock shares later, we want to do the same thing with our auto industry.

The Presiding Officer will recall a year or so ago when we passed CAFE legislation. In it we passed section 136, which said we want to provide as much

as \$25 billion so that the auto companies can modernize their plants for the principal purpose of building more energy-efficient vehicles. We feel that is what is needed—high quality and good productivity. But that is one of the major things needed to be competitive in the world today: energy-efficient cars, trucks, vans, and so forth.

That \$25 billion is not going to be available, apparently, right away to go into plant modernization.

The idea is to take as much as \$15 billion of that \$25 billion to make available to Chrysler and General Motors. The idea is not to give them this money; the idea is to invest this money in ways they can use it for working capital to get them through the next several months and, in the meantime, to require, under the guidance of what has been called a czar or an oversight board whose job would be to act almost as a bankruptcy judge, to make sure that further savings are realized by both Chrysler and GM but to ensure there is some further givebacks not just from labor, not just from management, not just from bondholders, not just from dealers, and not just from lenders but all the above. It is a concept that makes sense. The idea of here is \$15 billion, and we hope you can get better and repay the money down the line, is not what we are interested in doing.

We want to improve the likelihood that we will get back every dime we lend of this \$15 billion and more, if needed, later on. But we want to make sure the companies, particularly Chrysler, Ford, and GM, make the additional changes they need to increase the likelihood that they will be viable for a long period of time.

I close by saying we are seeing a real transformation in our economy. We used to be a big manufacturing country. We are less so today. Some people say that is fine, we will be a service economy, we will provide financial services and legal services, we will have insurance companies, maybe we will grow some food to feed ourselves and some of the rest of the world. But at the end of the day, we still need to make things. We still need to make things that people here and around the world want to buy.

One of the things I believe we need to make are cars, trucks, and vans. It has been that way for a long time. It needs to continue to be that way going forward.

I have had the privilege of representing and working for the people of Delaware, gosh, since 1976, when they elected me their State treasurer. We have had two auto assembly plants in my State for 50, 60 years—a Chrysler plant and a GM plant. The Chrysler plant is going to close at the end of this month. It is painful to me, and I know all the people who work there, the retirees, all who bought their vehicles and supported the plants in ways large and small over the years. But the writing is on the wall. My fear is that is going to happen.

As this happens and we see plants such as our plant in Newark, DE, the Chrysler plant, close, it is important we also remember the people who are losing their jobs there, the folks who have not enough experience, enough time to retire and be eligible for benefits. As they prepare to close the doors at the Chrysler plant in Newark, DE, I wish to make sure the folks who are losing their livelihood have the opportunity to be trained for other jobs in my State or other States that will enable them to be gainfully employed, to make a decent income for themselves and to support their families.

One of the things we can do, in addition to providing, if you will, a loan guarantee or direct loan with strong conditions to these auto companies, is remember our responsibilities to those who are left behind and those left behind without the prospect of ever working again in the auto industry.

There are some countries around the world—Finland comes to mind, Denmark, and a couple others—that do a good job. As industries grow up, mature, the nature of the job market, the industries in those countries change. Some countries around the world do a very good job of helping people whose skills for building, whether it is cars or buggies or buggy whips, are no longer appropriate—retraining people, supporting them for a period of time, giving them the social support net they need but then training them for jobs that need to be done, in this case, in the 21st century.

There you have it, some thoughts. My hope is we will come back and have a robust debate for the remainder of this week, and before this week is over we will vote not to give away \$15 billion to Chrysler or to GM but that we will vote to be willing, as we did in 1980, to make an investment that has a potential upside, not just for the people who work in the companies, not just for the people who own shares of those companies but also for the American taxpayers. If we do take on this risk, there needs to be a reward for the taxpayers whose money is at risk.

Mr. President, thank you for this opportunity. 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. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. McCASKILL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO EINAR DYHRKOPP

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, this past Saturday, 1 day before the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, a survivor of a different World War II kamikaze bombing died quietly at his home in Shawneetown, IL, at the age of 82.

Einar Dyhrkopp, business leader, public servant, and patriot, was a 19-year-old Navy firefighter assigned to the bowels of the USS *Aaron Ward* when the destroyer-minelayer was attacked by 25 kamikaze bombers in the battle for Okinawa.

In the years after World War II, Gen. George C. Marshall was asked if America had any secret weapons to win that conflict. General Marshall replied, yes, we do, "the best darn kids in the world." Einar was just the kind of kid General Marshall was talking about. About 365 men were assigned to the USS *Aaron Ward*; 42 of them burned to death or were lost overboard in the 52-minute battle on May 3, 1945. Einar was one of the lucky ones: he survived the attack, although his hair was burned to his scalp as he fought to douse the ship's flames.

When the war ended, Einar came home like so many World War II vets, found new ways to serve his country. He married Frances, and they had a son. He was a banker, a business leader, a livestock and grain farmer in southern Illinois, and a great politician. He was elected mayor of Shawneetown, IL, where he was born and lived his entire life. He was a self-described "dyed in the wool" Democrat. He was respected and admired by people from both political parties.

He was also a dedicated public servant. In 1993, Einar Dyhrkopp was appointed by President Bill Clinton to the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors and served two terms as the Chairman. During his tenure, the Postal Service experienced an unprecedented 5 straight years of positive net income. It also enhanced service and increased its ontime delivery rate for next-day delivery to 94 percent. He cared about the Postal Service's bottom line and its customers. He talked to me so many times about issues related to the Postal Service. He cared about the workers there too. He once invited picketing postal workers in for coffee and cinnamon rolls and, after talking with them, answered all of their questions. He visited countless postal facilities, asking employees what we can do to make their job better and make our services better in the Postal Service. In 2003, the post office in his beloved Shawneetown was rededicated and renamed in his honor. Einar had tears in his eyes as the tributes were read.

Mr. Dyhrkopp also served on several Illinois State commissions and was a member of the Regional Advisory Board of Southern Illinois University Public Policy Institute.

There was the one curious political chapter in his life. In 1986, Einar Dyhrkopp ran what he called a non-campaign for the U.S. Senate. He ran on the Illinois Solidarity Party slate, a roster of statewide candidates put together by Adlai Stevenson III. Mr. Stevenson, son of the two-time Democratic Presidential candidate, had won the Democratic nomination for Gov-

ernor, but that primary had been raided by the LaRouche party. He abandoned the Democratic Party ticket after two disciples of the extremist Lyndon LaRouche won slots on the Democratic slate in a disastrous primary election. Mr. Stevenson said he could not in good conscience share a ticket with people whose views he found so objectionable. State law required that the new Illinois Solidarity Party field a whole slate of statewide candidates, not just the gubernatorial candidate. So Einar stepped up and agreed to be the new party's nominee for U.S. Senate.

What a crazy campaign. Mr. Dyhrkopp did not accept a single penny in campaign contributions. He did not spend a dollar or make one speech. He did not even vote for himself, announcing he was going to cast his ballot for his friend, the incumbent, Senator Alan Dixon. As one political writer put it, his strategy was "not to leave the house until the election was over so he wouldn't draw attention or votes away from Senator . . . Dixon." Despite his best efforts to avoid the voters, Einar ended up with 15,000 votes. That is the kind of man he was—hard not to like. As my friend Paul Simon said some years ago, "Einar Dyhrkopp represents responsible citizenship at its best. He has aided his community and provided leadership on the State and national scene. He has gone out of his way to help those who need assistance."

For years after the bombing of the USS *Aaron Ward*, Einar did not talk about the attack. He told a reporter, "When you go through something like we went through together, almost everyone wants to get it out of their minds the first few years." Later in life, he changed his mind. He became active in a group of survivors of the *Aaron Ward* attack. He was interviewed by Southern Illinois University's public broadcasting stations in conjunction with the broadcast of "The War," by Ken Burns, a documentary on World War II. He told a reporter that his change of heart was simply because "[w]e do not want the experience lost. If you lose history, you're destined to repeat it."

America's history might have taken a far different and darker course had Einar Dyhrkopp and millions of others of "the best darned kids in the world" not sacrificed and served in that conflict and had they not come back home to serve their Nation in other ways for decades more.

He was a good man who gave much to his community, much to my State of Illinois, and much to America. Last Friday, at the urging of some friends who told me he was seriously ill, I called his home. Frances answered the phone, and I told her who I was. I said I thought I would say a word or two to Einar if he can take the call. Well, she said, I am not sure he can talk to you. I did not know how sick he was. And she leaned over, and I could overhear her saying: Einar, it is Senator DURBIN.

The next think I knew, Einar was on the phone. We only chatted for a minute or two. We talked about the great times we had together, about that wonderful man, Paul Simon, who inspired us all to get involved in public life.

He said: I think this is the end for me.

I said: You have had a good run at it, Einar. You have been with some great people, and you have been a great friend.

Those were our last words. He died the following day.

I offer my sympathy to Mr. Dyhrkopp's wife Frances, their family, including their three grandchildren, and so many friends in southern Illinois. Einar Dyhrkopp will be missed.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SALAZAR). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO SENATORS

JOHN WARNER

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, Today is a day I have dreaded. Today I say farewell to my good friend and esteemed colleague, Senator JOHN WARNER.

A few years ago, in an article for a Capitol Hill publication, Senator WARNER called attention to the courage of America's war veterans. He explained that the men and women who serve in our military are "heroes [who] share the timeless virtues of patriotism and selfless devotion to duty in defending our country."

Mr. President, Senator WARNER is one of my "heroes." He is a man who has always displayed "the timeless virtues of patriotism and selfless devotion to duty in defending our country."

Indeed, Senator WARNER has spent his life in service to our country. He enlisted in the Navy at the tender age of 17 in order to serve in World War II. A few years later, he joined the Marines in order to serve in the Korean conflict. From 1969 to 1972, he served as the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and from 1972 to 1974, as Secretary of the Navy.

In 1978, he was elected to the U.S. Senate, and is now the second longest-serving Senator in the history of his beloved Commonwealth of Virginia.

His entire Senate career has been marked by his dignity, style, grace, and integrity. He is one of those men with whom one can disagree without rancor. I cannot recall ever hearing anyone speak ill of JOHN WARNER.

A few years ago, on another occasion in which I paid tribute to my good friend, I referred to him as "the classiest of class acts"—and he is. We

will miss his comity, his courtesy, and his refreshing bipartisan spirit always seeking consensus solutions for the good of the country. Whether in committee or on the Senate floor, he never succumbs to the bitter, destructive partisanship which has all too often characterized this chamber in recent years.

Senator WARNER has spoken out against his own party when he felt that the wrong course was being pursued. When the horrors of Abu Ghraib came to light, JOHN WARNER did not hesitate to help write the legislation to restrict the use of torture.

Senator WARNER embodies the guiding principles set down by another of our country's brave warriors, GEN Douglas MacArthur, who proclaimed his leading lights to be, "Duty, honor, country."

Mr. President, without qualification, I can say that it has been an absolute pleasure to have served with this distinguished and esteemed Virginia gentleman, and I will miss him.

CHUCK HAGEL

Mr. President, I came to know Senator HAGEL in 1997 when we worked together on the Byrd-Hagel Resolution related to the Kyoto Protocol. We made a good team because our effort was approved unanimously, by a vote of 95-0.

In our work together, I made a new friend because I found Senator HAGEL to be a likeable and cooperative person as well as a knowledgeable and hard-working Senator.

My respect for this dynamic Senator increased as I watched him become one of the Senate's most outspoken critics of Mr. Bush's war in Iraq. Several of us were already pointing to the disastrous results of the Bush administration's flawed and failed Iraqi war policies. But Senator HAGEL's opposition to the war carried very special impact. He is a conservative, a member of the President's own political party, and a military veteran. In fact, he still carries shrapnel in his chest and remnants of burns to his face from his service as an infantryman in Vietnam. Senator HAGEL now calls Mr. Bush's war in Iraq "an absolute replay of Vietnam."

I will miss my friend and colleague. The Senate needs strong, independent voices like Senator HAGEL—lawmakers who are willing to put the best interests of our country and American people over partisan politics.

PETE DOMENICI

Mr. President, when the Senate convenes next January, it is difficult to accept that Senator DOMENICI will not be here.

This son of an Italian immigrant grocer was elected to the Senate in 1972, making him the first Republican in nearly 40 years to be elected to the Senate from the great State of New Mexico. He is now the longest serving Senator in the history of New Mexico.

In the Senate, he established himself as an expert on fiscal policies and the intricacies of the Federal budget. Hav-

ing served with Senator DOMENICI on the Appropriations and Budget Committees, I have come to know and respect him not only as a dear friend and colleague, but also as a formidable opponent. Senator DOMENICI and I have clashed swords many times on the Senate floor, and, believe me, when you clashed with him, you would have the fight of your life. He has one of the sharpest minds on Capitol Hill. He is one of the most knowledgeable people on the budget on Capitol Hill. And he is always prepared.

Oh, how I regret that he will be leaving us all too soon. But I would like to use this opportunity to thank the senior Senator from New Mexico for his wonderful service and to congratulate him on an outstanding career in the Senate.

Thank you, Senator DOMENICI, for all your work for your State, and our country. And, thank you, PETE, for being a friend.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR BENJAMIN VENNING

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Major Benjamin Venning, U.S. Marine Corps, for his 3 years of service to the U.S. Senate and for his continued service to our Nation and its Corps.

From December 2005 to December 2006, Major Venning served in my office as a military fellow. He came to my office soon after a tour in Fallujah, where his actions in service to the United States earned him a Bronze Star. Major Venning had experienced first-hand the rising violence in Iraq. His on-the-ground experience in Iraq gave him tremendous insight on issues affecting servicemembers and veterans.

Many who served in Iraq and Afghanistan have returned with serious physical injuries or have even paid the ultimate price. Others have returned with more invisible wounds, injuries that are not immediately apparent but that bring pain and suffering to a returning veteran and his or her family. Today, traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress syndrome are recognized as signature injuries of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. While Major Venning served on my staff he helped draw attention to these invisible wounds. With his relationships at Bethesda Naval, he helped me understand the impact of traumatic brain injuries on returning soldiers and marines. With Major Venning on my team, I was able to ask hard questions about how our government was responding to the growing number of veterans needing help for these serious injuries.

In April 2006, I sent a letter that Major Venning worked on, which was one of the first to ask the Department of Veterans Affairs to closely review its ability to provide proper mental health care to returning veterans. Another Senator from the State of Illinois signed that letter: Barack Obama. Today, as the world awaits his inau-

guration, the President-elect has promised he will continue to improve mental health treatment for troops and veterans suffering from combat-related psychological injuries.

After his service as a military fellow, Major Venning was named the Deputy Director of the Marine Corps Senate Liaison Office. It is no surprise that he was as loved in that office as he was in mine. It was my pleasure to host his promotion to major, with his friends and family in attendance, in my office in the Capitol. His commanding physical presence is matched only by his compassion and understanding of the issues facing our returning servicemembers, which was never on better display than when he helped shepherd wounded veterans as my guests at the State of the Union.

Major Ben Venning is a marine in the best tradition of the Corps. His efforts have informed the Congress and have represented the Corps' values and capabilities. His performance here will leave a lasting mark on my office, the U.S. Senate and the Marine Corps long after he has departed.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is my pleasure today to congratulate and thank Major Benjamin Venning of the U.S. Marine Corps. This week, Major Venning finishes up a highly successful assignment as Deputy Director of the Marine Corps Liaison Office to the U.S. Senate, which is responsible for providing information about the Corps to this institution. He has served the Senate and the Marine Corps superbly, and he is a credit to the entire Corps.

Major Venning learned about the Senate during a fellowship in 2006 with Senator DURBIN of Illinois. He worked on timely reserve pay and budget issues, getting to know the ins-and-outs of the often arcane appropriations process. Senator DURBIN, as I am, is a member of the Senate's Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, which handles the Senate's work in writing the annual budget bill for the Department of Defense. That was an ideal perch for Major Venning to grasp the complicated but essential financing of our extensive national security operations.

In his next assignment, joining the Corps' liaison office, he brought the same sense of intelligence and integrity that he showed in that year with the senior Senator from Illinois. Major Venning was always prompt in answering questions about the Marine Corps, whether about plans for growth of the force or the minutia of a particular program. He and the entire team in the liaison office provided excellent support for Senate delegations traveling to foreign nations to meet with international leaders and to review foreign assistance programs. He ensured that extensive itineraries unfolded smoothly and productively.

Major Venning is a marine through and through, displaying great dedication to and knowledge about the force. Staffing a recent mission overseas, for example, hewing to longstanding tradition, he made sure that the Corps'

birthday was observed in a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday."

It should be little surprise to anyone who has known Major Venning over the years—in his years growing up in South Carolina and Virginia or at college at the Virginia Military Institute—that he would become such an asset to the Corps. I have no doubt that he will bring the same sterling qualities in his next assignment with Company A, 4th Amphibious Assault Vehicle Battalion at Norfolk, VA.

Major Venning will go far in his future endeavors with the Corps and beyond. I know that all Senators join in wishing him all the best and in expressing our heartfelt thanks for a job well done.

REMEMBERING RICHARD AND JEAN DEWINE

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the parents of our good friend and former colleague from Ohio, Mike DeWine. Richard and Jean DeWine died just a few weeks ago, 4 days apart from each other. Dick was 85, and Jean was 83. They were together almost their entire lives, sharing a beautiful love story and 65 wonderful years of marriage.

I had the honor of meeting Mike's parents in February when I was visiting Young's Jersey Dairy in their hometown of Yellow Springs, OH. It was a privilege to talk to them. They were so gracious and kind. I could see how proud they were of their son and how proud they were of our Nation.

Mike spoke about his parents' lives and especially their love of family at their joint funeral service held on November 5, 2008. In tribute to Dick and Jean, I ask unanimous consent that the entirety of his remarks be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of mine.

There were no two finer Americans than Dick and Jean DeWine. May God bless them and their family.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Thank you all so much for coming today and for your friendship and love. Thank you to JoFranny, Patty, Jocelyn, and the choir for the music, and to our grandson Albert for playing the piano before Mass.

Thank you Father Geraci and Father Hagan for being the celebrants today, but I have to say to Father Tom that right now, Dad must be thinking: "This Mass is much, much too long!"

I once asked Dad why he kept going to Fairborn to Mass. He told me he found a great priest there, whose homilies were exactly 3 minutes long!

Fran and I thank all of you who helped care for my parents, enabling them to stay in their home the last few years, especially Patrick, Jamie, Megan, and Barbara—thank you. All of my parents' care givers have been just great.

And, thanks to all of you who stopped by to visit my parents. Cousin Jerome, we thank you for always being there to brighten my parents' day.

When I was growing up, I always thought that I had the greatest parents in the world.

I never changed my mind.

My parents both grew up in Yellow Springs and both lived on Xenia Avenue. Dad was born at home in a house, which is the present day Wind's Cafe Wine Cellar. They lived next door to the family feed store. Growing up practically in the feed store, itself, and right in the heart of Yellow Springs, Dad was surrounded by a colorful cast of characters who would make a novelist proud! He could remember watching out his bedroom window on Saturday nights, as fights would erupt between patrons of the local bars.

One time, when Dad was a young boy, my grandfather asked him if he wanted to ride with his employee, Jimmy, when he took a feed delivery to Springfield. He told Dad he could drag the bags from the back of the truck up to the front, so that Jimmy wouldn't have to get on and off the truck to get them.

Before leaving town, Jimmy and Dad each had a dime and bought a 5-cent Bluebird pie. Since they both had a nickel left over, Jimmy asked my young Dad if he wanted to play the numbers. And, he did!

Later that day, when they got back to the feed store, my grandfather, shouted, "Dick, the Sheriff's been looking for you! Were you playing the numbers? Dad ran out of the store, screaming, "The Sheriff will never find me!"

He went out and hid among the stacks of feed sacks. When my grandfather finally found him, all he said was, "Here's your \$25—you won!"

At the same time, my mother was growing up not far up the street. Mother's father was a professor of literature at Antioch College. He was an expert in Shakespeare, Chaucer, and Milton. He and my grandmother greatly influenced my mother, particularly instilling in her a great love and appreciation for words.

My grandfather had grown up on a farm in upstate New York, and every summer, he would take his family back there so he could help with the farm work. Some of Mother's fondest memories were of those idyllic summers—playing with her sisters, Judy and Dorothy, in the ice house on hot summer days, riding hay wagons, walking to get groceries at the local general store, and watching her grandmother milk cows on a one-legged stool!

As a young girl, Mother loved to ride horses. In fact, her parents kept a horse at their house on Xenia Avenue! They called the horse Cheyenne. Once when Mother was about 11 years old, she rode Cheyenne all alone from Yellow Springs to Wilberforce, some 7 miles away, using only the directions and map that my grandfather drew for her.

In the summer of 1940, one of my father's best friends was Herbert Berger. That year, Herbert went away for the summer. He had asked Dad to "look out for" his girlfriend, who happened to be 15-year-old Jean Liddle. Well, Dad did. And, my parents were inseparable from then on.

Dick DeWine and Jean Liddle married 3 years later on September 2, 1943. Dad was 20, and Mother was 18.

World War II, of course, was raging at this time. Dad went in as a replacement. He was a Private with K Company and saw combat in France, Germany, and Austria. Captain Bell was their leader. About five years ago, Dad sent an email about first seeing Captain Bell when he and his buddy, Ernie Dessecker, had arrived in Europe and were awaiting their company assignment. This is what my dad wrote:

"We were told that the next morning, we would be assigned to some infantry company. That night, we went into a bar and were bought some beer by some GI's who knew we were—for want of a better word—

very uptight. All they talked about was Captain Bell and his K Company. They told us that if we wanted to do a lot of fighting that would be the company to be assigned to. That was not really what [Ernie] and I had in mind!"

The next day, we were loaded on a truck and at each town, it would stop and some names were called to get off. When Dess and I were told to get off, the first thing we asked was, "What company is this?" When told it was Company K, we both wished we could climb back on that truck and head for the rear echelon! Of course, in a very short time, we were so very proud to be part of Captain Bell's Company K. . . ."

Dad never forgot the men with whom he served, maintaining friendships for over six decades. He also never forgot the horrific things he saw when K Company was sent to the Dachau concentration camp shortly after it was liberated in April 1945. From the time I was just a kid, Dad told me stories about Dachau and how people in the nearby town would tell the soldiers that they hadn't really known what the Nazis were doing. Dad could never quite comprehend that.

On the day before the German surrender in Europe, Dad spent the night in a fox hole near Innsbruck, Austria. He heard rumors that the War was nearing an end. But still, Dad stayed awake all night in that fox hole, fearing that the enemy would attack. He remembered thinking that he saw German troops coming at him. When he compared notes with all his buddies later, they, too, had experienced the same thing.

When the War did end that next day, they rode into Innsbruck, where people greeted him and the other soldiers with a shower of flowers. Meanwhile, Mother and Aunt Judy celebrated the German surrender by riding on a fire truck in an impromptu parade down the streets of Yellow Springs. Dad's two younger siblings, my Aunt Mickey and Uncle Jerry, watched the parade with pride.

Last week, I started reading my parents' letters to each other when Dad was fighting in Europe. They are letters of great passion and love, written by two young kids, who were only married a year when the War separated them. They write of their plans and dreams and of the child they hoped to conceive as soon as Dad got home. Dad's letter refers to that child as "Mike," while Mother's letter references Michael—a distinction they would each make throughout my life.

Dad came home in April, in time for Reds Opening Day, and I was born on January 5th, that year.

Dad taught me to fish, to hunt, and to love OSU football and Dayton Flyer basketball. But, his real passion was the Cincinnati Reds!

When Dad was 16, he and one of his buddies camped out in line for 36 hours to get tickets for the 1939 World Series, when the Reds were playing the Yankees. They ended up in two different ticket lines, but had made a deal that whoever got up to the ticket counter before the tickets ran out would buy two. Dad was able to get two tickets, but then he couldn't find his friend. It got close to game time, and Dad had to go inside the ballpark.

When he was inside, though, he went up to the top deck at Crosley Field and searched again for his friend. He looked down below, outside the ballpark, and there was his buddy, walking away in tears, empty-handed.

Dad reached into his pocket and pulled out the silver dollar that his father had given him and wrapped the other baseball ticket around it. Then, he threw it over the railing, hoping and praying that it would fall at the feet of his friend.

Amazingly, it did—and they both watched that game together.

Mother taught me about different kinds of things. She passed on to me her love of books and taught me about the power of language and the written word. She also taught me how to debate and argue.

You see, Mother loved words—and knew how to use them. When I was growing up, the conversations at our dinner table covered a whole range of topics—books and music and sports and movies and, of course, current affairs and politics. Both Mother and Dad were always interested in politics, but Mother took her positions to the public.

In the early 1960s, after seeing several of her Letters to the Editor in the Yellow Springs News, then-editor Keith Howard persuaded Mother to write a weekly column articulating a conservative viewpoint—a position that was certainly not then—and certainly not now—especially popular here in Yellow Springs. She titled her column, “A View from the Right.”

In an October 21, 1964, column, she articulated her strong support for Barry Goldwater and conservative philosophy. She opened the column with this line, “If I were to give one, and only one, reason for voting for Barry Goldwater, it would be because of his firm stand against the frightening growth of the federal government, its power-grabbing programs, and its insidious intrusion into virtually every phase of our lives.” And that was back in 1964.

Mother was such a bright, articulate, well-read, knowledgeable woman, with the most sophisticated and clever wry wit. Her amazing, light-hearted rhyming poems always made you smile. Take this one, for instance, that ran in her column at Christmastime in the early 1960s. She titled it, “Love One and All—Right, Center and Left!”:

’Twas the week before Christmas, and all through the town, ev’ry creature was stirring—both uptown and down.

The stores were all fancied with tinsel and things, and somewhere a highly-fi’d caroler sings.

While I at my battered old typewriter sit, my brain in a quandary, my brow tightly knit.

I can’t seem to think now on Cuba or Adlai, or the state of the world—either goodly or badly.

I cudgel my brain for the newsworthy fellas, the Stevensons, Goldwaters, Khans, and Ben Bellas.

Not a thought do they bring to my brain sore and lame, tho’ I whistled like crazy and called them by name:

“Now Hoffa, now Bobby, now Rocky and Barry,

On Jack and McMillan and ‘Fidel-the-Hairy.’”

To the top of my head to the top of the page The gears in my brain simply will not engage.

It’s Christmas and I am opinion-bereft, and I love one and all—Right and Center and Left.

So I’ll leave you with this thought (at least for tonight), Merry Christmas—that’s all—from “A View from the Right.”

My mother was unique and extraordinary. She had many sides to her and many interests. In her youth, she was a vibrant, strikingly beautiful woman. She and Aunt Judy were varsity cheerleaders at Bryan High School. She rode horses, and early in their marriage, Dad and Mother fished and camped, often taking Uncle Jerry and Aunt Mickey with them, and also camped with Aunt Judy and Uncle Leo. Later, Dad and Mother would stay out on their old houseboat on the Ohio River.

Mother loved music. I can remember her playing the accordion when I was a kid. Mother always had an LP record playing—

Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, Jo Stafford, the Kingston Trio.

Mother could have been a professional writer. All of our kids got their ability to write from their grandmother (it skipped a generation). The kids didn’t inherit her abilities so much as they learned to write through Mother’s presence in their lives and by listening to her and how she chose her words in their conversations. She read prolifically herself, and loved to read books to our kids.

My dad could talk to anyone, and that is because he had a genuine interest in people. He was naturally curious about them. It didn’t matter whom he was talking to, he wanted to know all about the person. How did you make a living? Where did you grow up? What about your family? Many times, I marveled that Dad knew more about my own friends than I did. That is because he asked them questions and talked to them and listened.

As our son, John, wrote to his grandparents,

You taught me how to treat people. Employees, the guy at the paint shop, whoever—regardless of their social status, you treat everyone the same. And it is a good way to treat people.

And that is part of what made Dad such a brilliant negotiator, trader, and investor. Like his parents before him, he built DeWine Seeds and the Ohio Twine Company on close personal relationships—whether they were with local farmers, seed dealers, elevator operators, or international businessmen. Dad took the business his parents were so successful at and took it to a new level. These relationships, which he maintained until his death, allowed him to keenly understand the markets and to gather information to make trades and deals across the country and around the world in places as different as Uruguay, Poland, and Ireland.

Dad was a real dealmaker. Our oldest son, Patrick, put it best, “It didn’t matter if he was buying a new lawnmower or selling seed in Europe, no one was better than Dick.”

Dad was always an optimist. He told me that he just couldn’t wait to get up every morning. He loved life immensely. When my mother a few months ago expressed the hope that they would leave this Earth together, he looked at her and allowed as how he was not about to leave anytime soon.

At the end of each day, he looked forward to the next and to working on the list of things on his legal pad that he wanted to accomplish. Dad never stopped working and never stopped looking ahead. In fact, in the last month of his life, after battling cancer for over 3 years, he still had his list. He went through his files and sent out old photos and newspaper clippings to friends.

And, in those last days, Dad even bought a farm.

Mother and Dad loved their home on their 24 acres on Fairfield Pike. After they sold the seed business, my dad and mother would be found each day out in their office in the barn working. You would go out there, and there they would be—one at one desk and one at the other.

They had purchased that property—which was part of Whitehall Farm—from Martha Rankin. Along with my grandfather, they rebuilt the dam that had been blown in 1912, and created a pond, which attracted countless ducks and Canada Geese. They spent years converting a pasture field into a mosaic of grape vines; berry thickets; vegetable and flower gardens; and fruit, nut, and state trees, including sugar maples, spruce, red oak, hemlock and bald cypress. Dad grew many of the plants himself in the greenhouse he built with bricks from the old St. Brigid Church, which he, Mother, and some of the

grandchildren gathered after the 1974 Xenia tornado.

My parents were extraordinary grandparents. They gave our children the best gift of all—and that was the gift of their time.

Mama and Dick, as all my kids called them, were always involved in their lives. They put each of their eight grandchildren to work as they were growing up, teaching them how to weed; paint fences; prune trees; pick apples, cherries, and raspberries; and mow grass. My parents were both phenomenal teachers who taught their grandchildren how to enjoy hard work and appreciate a job well done.

All of our children have such fond memories of Mama and Dick, whether the kids were working in the greenhouse; fishing in the pond; or picking fruit and berries on hot summer days. They can still smell the fire burning outside when they would help Mama and Dick make bean soup and maple syrup from their own trees.

Dick would tell the kids fantastic stories about the Giant Mouse, who would fly him around the pond, and the leprechauns living under the trees. And Dick and Mama both played countless games of checkers with the kids.

And then, there were the muddy feet that Mother tried so hard to keep off her floor. As she wrote in a limerick for her grandchildren:

To all grandkids great and small
Muddy feet don’t walk in the hall
Take off your shoes and make it snappy
If Mama’s mad, nobody’s happy

Our daughter, Alice, remembers “picking berries and selling them at the Farmers Market” and “Mama’s Crustless Sandwiches” (cut into fourths) and “Mama’s Fettuccini.” Our daughter, Anna, remembers painting Mama and Dick’s fence with her brother Mark and nephew Albert and “being covered head to toe in paint!”

The kids also remember “all of the fires Dick made in the fireplace—so comforting and always done just right.” As our daughter, Jill, recalled, “We could sit for hours alternating between warming our backs and backing away for a few moments long enough to cool off enough, and then going back for more.”

There were also all the conversations that took place in the back of their car when Mama and Dick would take the kids to and from lunch on their work breaks. As our son Mark described,

“The stories that I have heard there have always stuck close to me. They can be about my seven unique siblings, the way things used to be, or maybe even a lesson learned in grammar. The tales I hear, some are the same, and some are new. The old ones never lose their luster; because every time I hear them, they take on a new meaning. No radio could ever replace the great anecdotes I have listened to [in the back of that car].”

One of our son Brian’s favorite memories was when we were visiting Mama and Dick in Florida once and, as Brian says,

“My sister, Jill, threw me in the pool with all my clothes on (she still denies it!). For some reason, I think Dick thought I deserved it. Then Mama had to take me shopping to get new shoes so we could go out and to eat.”

Our daughter, Becky, was also very close to Mama and Dick. They visited her when she was studying in Britain. They met Becky and her friend, Kim, in Cornwall. That trip always had special meaning for my parents.

When I woke up this morning, I realized that I won’t be able to go tell my mother and father about how our son Patrick was just elected Judge yesterday and how our daughter Alice passed the Bar Exam. . . .

When I look back at my parents' lives, they have left a very tangible legacy. It is visible in the land—the trees and the flowers and the plants that they grew on their 24 acres and the improvements they made to their farmland.

But their more important legacy is their grandchildren. That is the lesson of my parents' lives: There is no substitute for the time spent with family and with people.

They were an integral part of our children's lives. They worked with our kids, talked with our kids, listened to our kids. It was a wonderful relationship and a wonderful gift that dramatically influenced each of them—in ways obvious and not so obvious—and will, in turn, influence each of their children.

The last thing my father did before he died was have our son, John, order several bushels of flower bulbs. Up until the very end, Dad was planning for the future. He wanted the bulbs to be planted in his yard and in Aunt Judy's yard and in our yard. His great-grandchildren helped plant those bulbs just a week before his death.

And when those flowers bloom next spring, we will think of Mama and Dick.

For over 65 years, my parents loved each other and took care of each other. They had fun and loved their life together. They were quite a team. Mother always considered herself "Dick's straight man." And she was. They made us laugh. They made us smile.

I would like to conclude by reading from one of Mother's letters to Dad, as she waited for his return to Yellow Springs from World War II. This one was numbered 407. She wrote:

I can have patience, though, in this matter [of your return], specially since, if the news is good, and I think it will be, I know what the outcome of it all will be—it'll be exactly what I've been, and of course, my darling, you, too, [have been] waiting for, for so damned long—the perfect set-up of Jeanie and Dick, together for ever and ever.

Remember that, "As long as you both shall live?"

That's right, honey, that's us 100%—and if nothing else, I'm sure of that.

NOMINATION OF NEIL BAROFSKY

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I am pleased to have supported the nomination of Neil M. Barofsky to be the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, or TARP, at the Treasury Department.

I have a great interest in the Special IG for the TARP. I raised the idea in the first place, the first weekend that we were examining the Treasury financial bailout proposal.

As many will remember, the Treasury's original proposal for the TARP was three pages long. It gave the Secretary of the Treasury unlimited power over \$700 billion. And it provided no oversight by anyone.

The House and Senate spent 2 weeks hammering out a better bill. That better bill included strong oversight, and it included the office of a Special IG for the financial rescue program, as I proposed that first weekend.

The size and complexity of this effort is unprecedented in recent memory. It is essential to have a team that focuses exclusively on the TARP program as managed by the Treasury Department, and it is essential for that team to re-

port to Congress on the status of this new program.

My proposal for a Special IG was based on the Iraqi Reconstruction Special Inspector General. That was another massive oversight challenge. As the Congress debated what to include in the rescue package, 33 Senators signed a letter to the congressional leadership endorsing the idea of a Special IG to oversee the troubled asset program.

During the negotiations, the Treasury Department resisted. But then the administration and Congress agreed that the Special IG should be part of the final legislation. Congress passed it, and the President signed it into law.

The law gives the Special IG a \$50 million budget. He will have the duties and responsibilities of inspectors general under the Inspector General Act of 1978. He will have the power to supervise and coordinate audits and investigations of TARP activities. He will have the power to appoint staff to carry out the activities of the office. And he may enter into contracts for audits and studies. We expect a report to the Finance Committee every 120 days on the activities of the TARP, and the law also directs the Special IG to report to Congress if information he requests is refused.

I support the nomination of Mr. Neil Barofsky. I congratulate him for his willingness to serve his country. It is going to be a demanding job. For some time, he is going to be playing catchup. I believe Mr. Barofsky's experience as a prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of New York will serve him well in his new role as the Special IG.

The financial rescue program is huge—\$700 billion. The number and variety of financial institutions receiving money from Treasury is extensive. Tracking the path of the bailout dollars through these institutions is going to be a difficult task.

The harsh reality is that almost half the \$700 billion is already out the door of the TARP. The new Special IG will be looking back at Treasury's use of about \$290 billion dollars in 45 days.

Anyone who has seen a number of the congressional hearings this week, including our Senate Finance Committee on November 17, knows there are a lot of questions about how the TARP is operating.

We know that the Treasury Department has named Neel Kashkari, Assistant Secretary for International Economics, to head the financial rescue program.

Treasury has decided to send \$125 billion to nine major banks, including Citigroup and JPMorgan Chase. Another \$125 billion will be allocated for thousands of small and midsize banks. The American International Group, or AIG, will receive around \$40 billion of TARP funds in return for issuing preferred shares to the Treasury Department.

Secretary Paulson has also announced a policy regarding preferred

shares and warrants for common stock. Standards for restrictions on executive compensation are being developed. Those include a clawback provision and a ban on golden parachutes during the period that Treasury holds equity issued through this program.

Several senior posts have been filled. And the law firm Simpson Thacher & Bartlett has been selected as a legal adviser.

Treasury has announced that the Bank of New York Mellon will serve as its custodian for the implementation of the Troubled Asset Relief Program, and PricewaterhouseCoopers and Ernst & Young have been hired to help with accounting and internal controls services.

These decisions made by the Treasury Department are critically important to the financial rescue program. Yet the Treasury has made them all without any oversight by a Special IG.

As for the use of the funds, the bottom line, frankly, is that the Secretary of Treasury told Congress and the American people that the Bush administration needed \$700 billion to purchase troubled assets. Yet last month, the Treasury Secretary announced that, in fact, there were no plans to purchase troubled assets. To say that this was a surprise is an understatement. Congress needs to find out why the first plan was rejected and a new plan was developed. What is the theory behind the new plan for providing equity to these financial establishments? What exactly are the agreements with the financial institutions who have received TARP funds? And what conflict of interest standards were followed? Once the Special IG is in place, we can start to answer some of these questions.

Half the money is gone. And it is way past the time when we should have had a Special Inspector General on the job overseeing the program.

I am pleased that the Senate has confirmed Mr. Barofsky, and I look forward to helping him conduct aggressive oversight of the TARP program.

IDAHOANS SPEAK OUT ON HIGH ENERGY PRICES

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, in mid-June, I asked Idahoans to share with me how high energy prices are affecting their lives, and they responded by the hundreds. The stories, numbering well over 1,200, are heartbreaking and touching. While energy prices have dropped in recent weeks, the concerns expressed remain very relevant. To respect the efforts of those who took the opportunity to share their thoughts, I am submitting every e-mail sent to me through an address set up specifically for this purpose to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This is not an issue that will be easily resolved, but it is one that deserves immediate and serious attention, and Idahoans deserve to be heard. Their stories not only detail their struggles to meet everyday expenses,

but also have suggestions and recommendations as to what Congress can do now to tackle this problem and find solutions that last beyond today. I ask unanimous consent to have today's letters printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

I am one of the owners of Doug Andrus Distributing in Idaho Falls. We operate nearly 270 trucks, hauling freight all over the United States. As you are probably aware, energy prices are taking quite a toll on trucking companies across the country. I have recently been made aware that nearly 1,000 trucking companies have gone out of business in the 1st quarter of this year. The combination of high fuel prices and a slow economy has made the trucking business very difficult. Because of the slow economy there is too much supply in trucking making it difficult to pass on the increased costs primarily driven by fuel.

In September of 2005, our company's fuel costs reached \$1 million. Today they exceed \$2 million on nearly the same amount of business. We are looking for every way we can find to get better fuel economy. Most recently we have slowed our truck speeds to 62 MPH. While this should result in great fuel savings for our company, it potentially will reduce the total income of our drivers as they will struggle to drive the same number of miles in the driving hours they are restricted to. Drivers are paid per mile. Therefore the paychecks for 270 Idaho drivers will likely decrease while at the same time their cost of living is increasing due to increasing costs for fuel and food.

We have got to realize in this country the serious consequences of our energy policy. The highest priority must be to increase production of petroleum within our own borders. We must open more areas to drilling and we must build more refineries. We must also renew efforts to develop nuclear energy to take some of the demand away from oil.

I appreciate your concern for this issue. I watch closely the way you handle these issues and am very supportive of the positions you have taken. I hope the high prices will encourage Americans to let their voices be heard so that Congress will make policy that will encourage activities to alleviate the pressures on energy prices.

Respectfully,

JASON, Idaho Falls.

Keep up the great work, Senator, and let us decorate our beaches before the foreigners do. Besides, windmills and derricks are beautiful!

MERLE.

I am a single mother of two with one full-time job and one part-time job. Between the two jobs, I work approximately 56 hours a week. Because of the high gas prices, I will work my part time job longer than I had originally planned. We have cut back on grocery shopping, going out to eat, entertainment. We have a large video library and use that for entertainment. It is just too expensive to drive anywhere. I am scared what will happen once the gas prices reach an amount that will not allow me to drive anywhere. I cannot afford the prices right now and keep cutting back on spending on other important things like food and utilities. I feel poor and I am not. I wish the government would do what is right and protect American consumers at the pumps.

NIKCOLE.

First of all, allow me to thank you for not only listening to your constituents when we

have contacted you in the past, but also for soliciting our opinions now when energy crises face us.

I have taught at a small school 38 miles south of where I live for the past seven years. I love where I teach and I love my students. However, this last month I have applied for a job in my home town due to the doubling of gas prices. I have tried to convince my district to go to a four-day school week, like some surrounding districts have done, but they are not interested. Thus, as a commuter, I have made the tough decision of leaving the job I love simply because I cannot afford the gas bill.

Five Priorities for Congress:

1. Free America from foreign oil dependency.
2. Stop tying America's hands: loosen EPA regulations and government restrictions for drilling, building refineries, and bringing existing refineries up to code.
3. Allow responsible drilling for oil in ANWR and off the coast. Take advantage of the shale in the Rockies.
4. Seek alternatives that do not harm Americans (i.e. corn for ethanol when we are facing food shortages across the globe).
5. Explore nuclear and clean coal options.

I personally believe the current energy crisis has been crafted and perpetrated by the far left Eco-jihadists. They will promote their "green earth" agenda to the detriment of American interests and our entire economy. When gas prices are high, people drive less, and thus Environmentalists are ecstatic. The clearly Marxist overtones in all of this carbon footprint mumbo jumbo (cap & trade = the redistribution of wealth) is frightening only because Congress has begun to listen to these anti-capitalists and sponsor/pass legislation reflecting their alliances.

APRIL, Lewiston.

In the past couple of months the gas prices have really affected me and everyone around me. My brothers took over my dad's cabinet shop about a year ago and the economy has taken such a dive that they do not have any work and had to lay off my boyfriend. My boyfriend found another cabinet shop that was still busy, but within 2 months he was laid off again due to lack of work. We went another two months with only my part-time income before he was able to find work again. We cannot afford gas to get to work so we are riding our bikes to work. We have shut off our phones and are still struggling to pay for groceries, and are paying all of our bills late. We are racking up credit cards for groceries or gas when we have to. We used to be a very active couple that would go camping, back-packing or mountain biking all over the western region, and now we only ride our bikes to work and are too tired to go on the trails after work. We only walk the dogs through the neighborhood instead of going up to the hills and letting them run and play and we are not able to go on any trips this summer. I know that there are lots of other people suffering more than we are, but not being able to live our normal lives is extremely hard and frustrating when we watch the gas companies getting richer as we are all suffering.

Gas companies are reporting their highest profits while the economy is nearing a dangerous low; someone needs to step in and stop the gas companies. If they were smart, they would lower gas prices again so that more gas would be bought. People are not going on vacations or buying anything that is not necessary. If gas was affordable, we would be traveling every weekend, buying more groceries, and splurging on date nights or clothes that I do not have to get but just want. The more the money is returned into the economy, the more jobs are provided

which, in turn, is more people with money who are able to spend more. The gas companies may be too blinded by greed to realize that this all comes full circle to them because the more products that are bought the more products are needed to be shipped across the country which takes gas to get to us either in a truck or a plane. At the rate that we are going, the lower and middle classes will end up in depression status, unable to survive, and the rich will become the middle class and eventually end up with the rest of us because the economy depends on the lower and middle class to survive. The wealthy get their money from the spending habits of the lower classes and if there is no money, there is no spending and the economy crashes.

BRANDI.

I have a different angle than most who will likely write to you with concerns about rising gas prices.

I work out of an office in my home, providing customized training to clients around the world. Since I do not commute to/from work, you might think that I am not concerned about higher prices. However, even though I do not drive my car much for work, the dramatic cost increase is affecting me and everybody else because virtually all of our day-to-day cost of living expenses are directly tied to the cost of petroleum—many of them in multiple ways causing the increases to be multiplied.

Because of the work that I do, primarily coaching technology commercialization professional, I am aware of so many energy-related technologies that are being developed in the research laboratories across the U.S. and around the world. And many other countries are taking a much more proactive stand to assist in bringing these exciting new innovations a state where they can be highly beneficial to all of us, save us a lot of money, and be helpful to the environment, etc.

Each and every U.S. citizen—democrat, republican, white, black, Jew, Christian, Muslim, male, female, young, old—stands to benefit greatly by our government taking appropriate measures to get the U.S. on a faster track to more effective energy production, distribution, and use.

JOHN, Idaho Falls.

I do not know that a single story can convey the frustration, anger, hardship and disappointment that I (and others) I talk to are experiencing as a result of the current state of the "energy economy". It affects my family, my business, my customers, my employees, my neighbors. Without being over melodramatic the effects are deadly. The most frustrating part is that many of us believe it is not only a self-inflicted wound, but that we continue to reload the weapon and offering handing it over to others to shoot us as well.

Cap and trade, gas tax holidays and wind-fall profit taxes are some of the most asinine ideas to come around the pike since James Earl Carter introduced us to malaise. There has to be someone who understands that a centralized economy does not work to alleviate market problems, but only makes them worse in the long haul.

Please do your part to pass some sensible rules to protect the natural environment, establish an economic environment that gives some certainty to the people and companies that will invest in identifying and producing market driven energy, and please, please do your part to get the Congress out of the way so Americans can do what Americans do best—solve the problem.

Sending our capital to the Middle East to pay for energy that we have in abundance on

the land and on the shelf does not speak well for our collective intelligence.

Unleash the sleeping tiger of free-enterprise.

RON.

Drilling for oil now is our only hope. It is out there; it is what we need; go get it! I am encouraged this morning that John McCain wants to drill off shore again. All of the conserving, all of the money being invested in testing new technologies is not going to cut it and it is no substitution for what we really need: OIL! Wind and electricity are not going to power my car or the many other things that need it. Depending on oil from the Middle East is shameful. Please tell Congress to allow production in full force offshore California and in the Gulf, Alaska and in the mid-west now and start repairing the old refineries and building new ones. It needs to be on the fast track; in other words do not take years writing an environmental impact statement. It can be done safely and with minimum impact to the environment.

It is very sad that I am no longer able to travel to visit my 78-year-old Mom in northern Arizona, a trip I/we used to make twice a year. This is distancing families more than ever. I may never see my other family members in California or Minnesota again unless gas prices drop. I am a 56-year-old widow struggling to make ends meet. I have had to give up driving any long distances. I only drive for local errands. It is a struggle now to pay heat, electric and food bills and it will only get worse. But heck, my family and friends are in the same boat; they cannot afford to visit me either.

I am sadly watching the elderly and disabled attempting to walk or ride bicycles to the grocery store that should not. I am seeing empty shelves at the grocery stores and other merchants because the trucks have not come in or are not coming as often. This is nuts.

My husband admired you; if he were here now, he would be the one who had a lot to say about the current situation America is in. You met him on a boat in Lake Coeur d'Alene quite awhile ago. He had much knowledge of our current situation as far back as the 1970s and predicted as did many others our current situation. He died of a brain tumor in 1999. His resume included work in Libya, Alaska, the Gulf, offshore Santa Barbara working for Baroid, and over 30 years of government service with the U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Land Management.

CAROL, *Moscow.*

In response to your energy prices email—the increase for gasoline has been tremendous for my husband and me. We both are senior citizens, but still have jobs and go to work every day. Bob is a realtor and spends \$100 minimum per week. My cost is \$50 plus, even though I do not use my vehicle for work. We live about 14 miles from our offices, and we do not have economy vehicles. We probably could not even sell our cars right now. I work on commission and my paycheck for last month was \$256; that barely covers the \$200 plus for gasoline. Both of these businesses are down right now.

We totally agree with your thinking on this—keep up the good work. Why cannot others get it??

CHERYL, *Coeur d'Alene.*

Feeling the pinch is an understatement. I am very eco-friendly as much that can be afforded; however, when you weigh in the costs for the current prices, it makes it close to impossible to save to afford to be more eco-friendly. Thus creating a further pinch on my way of life. We are setting back those in

our economy and simply making it more difficult to do business. From my aspect, I oversee four hotels in the area and not only is airline travel being down causing an issue to our hotels but the overall cost of operations has risen. These operational costs have been from the increase in food cost many sur-charge related to fuel, to a higher rate of pay to incentive employees to drive that car to work every day, the list can go on.

Personally, I am a single mother and all the costs of my child are that for me to provide. The smallest incremental raise in cost creates stress in our way of life. We have to wage out some other wise “affordable” fun things to do if driving is (and as I love to see Idaho) involved. My gas costs have nearly doubled, food is costing more, and there are limited options other than facing these and dealing with them at face value. I would love to see there be more alternate fuel options so that we are using only what is necessary when it comes to oil.

I support anything you are doing that will make the world a more friendly environment and reusable environment; my greatest hope would be for this evolution to also allow more of my money to stay in my home.

Shawna.

Thank you for the opp. Our small business is fairly new, started in 2005, when we changed venue from a motel. It has never been a million dollar enterprise, but we did not expect that and did not need that; just hoped it was something we could hand to our kids when we retire. Every time the gas prices went up, business went down. Then the foreclosures started. Now many of our customers are gone. Some are even going back to California! We are now contemplating bankruptcy. The energy costs are a large part of the reason why. We have a small second hand store where we also sell hand crafted furniture and our pottery. When someone comes into our store with a LIST! we know things are going down the tube. This is the kind of store people normally spend time browsing in. Very few customers can afford to just shop anymore. They are struggling to buy gas to even go to town, and to buy groceries. I suggest an investigation into hydrogen power. It was going well in 1978, then no more was heard about it. We are promoting it to anyone who will listen, and I am going to spend time investigating; not just the feasibility of it, but the how. It is now a definite option.

Thank you for listening,

NANCY, *Priest River.*

I just want to say that as a Disabled American, I feel the pain!! My wife of many years works for the City of Boise while I am disabled and we are no longer moving forward. She works hard at the Water Treatment plant everyday and I battle my conditions equally hard and yet as I fight, the more it costs, electricity for my oxygen machine, co-payments to doctors offices, procedures, medications . . . etc. Now with this INFLATION hitting, we are feeling the effects of \$4.00 gas, higher utilities cost across the board, food prices and on and on.

See the thing is, we have been preparing for this for awhile now. Back in 2004 we traded in our 1994 Ford Taurus SHO @ 16 MPG Premium Fuel for a 2004 Honda Civic Hybrid that has gotten us to a real 40 MPG regular fuel. About the same time we moved closer to Sandra's work to save on daily driving. We even went to riding trikes to the Pharmacy and the grocery store, and my wife additionally rides hers to work now a couple of times a week or so . . . and yet we are using savings and have even cut back on putting funds that is matched by the City of Boise. We will be in trouble in a few years unless

something changes. I do not know what our government is going to do, but I believe that if they gave some sort of incentive to buyers to get into hybrids as well as the new clean burning diesel ala Europe. We could improve the oil situation, we have cut our usage by more than you would believe. Drilling up north is happening next door in Canada, what is up with us? We need to be making changes that the rest of the plant sees. We could help the USD to bounce back some and that would help reduce the cost of gas.

PETE.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FREDERICK NEWS-POST

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, today I wish to honor and congratulate the Frederick News-Post on its 125th anniversary. On October 15, 1883, a printing company in Frederick, MD, published the first edition of The News, an evening newspaper that reported about local happenings. In 1916, this printing company purchased another local paper, the Frederick Post, which it continued to offer in the mornings. After almost a century of circulating these two editions, the company chose to merge the two papers in 2002 and offer just a morning paper that included not only great local news stories but also important national coverage.

The Frederick News-Post circulates over 11 million papers a year and employs over 200 people. The company also includes FNP Printing & Publishing, a commercial printing venture as well as an Internet division called FNP Interactive. The Frederick News-Post is a vital part of the Frederick community, and I am so proud that this Maryland newspaper has been successful for the past 125 years. I hope that it continues to bring the news to families around the State for 125 more.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 11:14 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 6859. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1501 South Slappey Boulevard in Albany, Georgia, as the "Dr. Walter Carl Gordon, Jr. Post Office Building".

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 7005. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide alternative minimum tax relief for individuals for 2008.

H.R. 7006. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide disaster assistance relief.

H.R. 7060. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for energy production and conservation, to extend certain expiring provisions, to provide individual income tax relief, and for other purposes.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. Res. 724. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the horrific terrorist attacks and siege in Mumbai, India, beginning on November 26, 2008, and concluding on November 29, 2008; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. Res. 725. A resolution acknowledging the accomplishments and goals of the Youth Impact Program; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. Res. 726. A resolution designating December 13, 2008, as "Wreaths Across America Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 727. A resolution honoring the victims of the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 on the twentieth anniversary of the tragedy; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 3683

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3683, a bill to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act to require approval by the Congress for certain expenditures for the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

S. 3697

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3697, a bill to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act to require approval by the Congress for certain expenditures for the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

S. 3698

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 3698, a bill to prohibit any recipient of emergency Federal economic assistance from using such funds for lobbying expenditures or political contributions, to improve transparency, enhance accountability, encourage responsible corporate governance, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 724—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE HORRIFIC TERRORIST ATTACKS AND SIEGE IN MUMBAI, INDIA, BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 26, 2008, AND CONCLUDING ON NOVEMBER 29, 2008

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. CONRAD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 724

Whereas, on the evening of November 26, 2008, evidence strongly suggests that 10 terrorists came ashore into the city of Mumbai, India, from a hijacked fishing trawler in the Arabian Sea, and conducted coordinated attacks on major hotels, restaurants, hospitals, and transportation hubs, and a religious center;

Whereas the attackers entered into a standoff with security forces of the Government of India over the next 60 hours at a number of sites, deliberately holding many hostages while trapping other innocent victims with no means of escape;

Whereas authorities of the Government of India brought the horrific three-day siege of Mumbai to a close on the morning of November 29, 2008;

Whereas the final death toll from the siege exceeded 170 victims, with hundreds more injured;

Whereas those murdered include citizens of India as well as 22 foreigners from 11 different countries, including the following six United States citizens: Aryeh Leibish Teitelbaum, Rabbi Gavriel Noah Holtzberg, Ben Zion Chroman, Sandeep Jeswani, Alan Michael Scherr, and Naomi Leila Scherr.

Whereas the terrorists who attacked Mumbai attacked a symbol of religious pluralism and outreach, a Jewish outreach center at the Nariman House, murdering six residents of the Nariman House, including Rabbi Holtzberg and his five-month pregnant wife, Rivka, orphaning their two-year old son, Moshe, who was heroically rescued by his Indian nanny, Sandra Samuel;

Whereas nine of the attackers were found dead at various sites where they were engaged in a standoff with authorities of the Government of India, with only one surviving attacker taken into custody;

Whereas evidence collected to date suggests the involvement of an Islamic militant group, Lashkar-e-Taiba, that has ties to al Qaeda and operates out of Pakistan;

Whereas India has endured a series of devastating terrorist attacks in recent years, suffering 3,674 deaths from terrorist attacks in a recent three-year period; and

Whereas India, the world's largest democracy, is a strategic partner of the United States, and this bilateral relationship is built on common values and unity against extremism: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) affirms that the people of the United States stand in unison with the people of India in the aftermath of these horrific terrorist attacks;

(2) condemns strongly the atrocities perpetrated against the people of Mumbai, conveys its deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those killed, and expresses its wishes for the speedy recovery of the hundreds of people injured in these senseless attacks;

(3) notes that these attacks did not only target citizens of India, but represented a collective assault against the international community, with 22 foreigners, including six Americans, among those murdered;

(4) noting that President Bush has offered United States Government assistance, encourages the Government of India to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the attacks and applauds the tone of moderation and restraint exhibited by the Government of India to date in reaction to these horrific attacks;

(5) urges the Government of Pakistan to investigate aggressively the possible connection of groups based in Pakistan, including the Lashkar-e-Taiba, to the Mumbai attacks and take definitive action to apprehend and detain suspects, and is thus encouraged by the raid on an apparent militant camp on December 7, 2008, and the arrest of key suspects;

(6) calls upon the Government of Pakistan to take all necessary steps to root out all extremist groups operating on its territory, halt attacks aimed at Pakistan and any other countries, and ensure that no elements of the Government support such groups;

(7) strongly encourages President-elect Obama to consider ways in which the United States Government can bolster counter-terrorism cooperation with the Government of India to ensure that authorities in that country possess all the requisite equipment and training needed to prevent and respond to future terrorist attacks; and

(8) urges bolstered United States efforts to develop and implement policies and projects to combat all forms of religious extremism, including anti-Semitism, in order to deter the type of targeted attacks like that waged against the Chabad Lubavitch center in Mumbai.

SENATE RESOLUTION 725—ACKNOWLEDGING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND GOALS OF THE YOUTH IMPACT PROGRAM

Mr. VITTER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 725

Whereas many at-risk young men in the inner cities of the United States face a challenging and uncertain future;

Whereas the future success of at-risk young men can be greatly enhanced through sustained mentorship;

Whereas effective working partnerships between and within the public and private sectors can have a lasting and positive impact on the future of at-risk young men;

Whereas participation in organized sports has provided a creative and disciplined outlet and a path to a better life for many at-risk young men;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program combines the disciplines of football, mentoring, and academics in partnerships between local National Football League franchises and universities to promote discipline, learning, and positive values;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program is a community-based program that has proven its value over the past 2 years in raising the outlook and aspirations of at-risk young men and has provided at-risk young men greater exposure to academics, core values, and life skills;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program provides year-round mentoring to its participants, a proven formula for building success;

Whereas the National Football League, the National Football League Players Association, the University of Southern California, and Tulane University have provided critical support to the Youth Impact Program;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program will be expanded to 3 additional cities in partnership with local National Football League franchises and universities;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program seeks to establish a presence in each city with a local National Football League franchise; and

Whereas under the vision and leadership of Mr. Riki Ellison, the founder of the Youth Impact Program, a 10-year veteran of the National Football League, a 3-time Super Bowl champion, and a University of Southern California alumnus, the Youth Impact Program has expanded from a regional program to a program with a growing national presence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the ongoing and significant contributions of those organizations that support the Youth Impact Program; and

(2) encourages the expansion of the Youth Impact Program to inner cities across the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 726—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 13, 2008, AS “WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY”

MS. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 726

Whereas, more than 15 years ago, the Wreaths Across America project began the tradition of donating, transporting, and placing Maine balsam fir holiday wreaths on the graves of the fallen heroes at Arlington National Cemetery each December;

Whereas, since that tradition began, through the hard work and generosity of the people involved in the Wreaths Across America project, hundreds of thousands of wreaths have been sent to more than 200 national cemeteries and veterans’ memorials in all 50 states;

Whereas, in December 2008, the Patriot Guard Riders, a motorcycle and motor vehicle group dedicated to patriotic events, with more than 65,000 members nationally, will continue their tradition of escorting a tractor-trailer full of donated wreaths from Harrington, Maine to Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas hundreds of volunteers participate in the escort each December; and

Whereas Wreaths Across America will continue this proud legacy on December 13, 2008: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 13, 2008, as “Wreaths Across America Day”; and

(2) honors the Wreaths Across America project, the Patriot Guard Riders, and all other volunteers and donors involved in this worthy tradition; and

(3) recognizes the sacrifices our veterans and service members and their families have made, and continue to make, for our great Nation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 727—HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE BOMBING OF PAN AM FLIGHT 103 ON THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGEDY

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 727

Whereas, on December 21, 1988, 259 passengers and crew members on board Pan American Airways flight 103, and 11 people on the ground in Lockerbie, Scotland, were killed by a terrorist’s bomb;

Whereas 189 people of the United States and nationals from 20 other countries were victims of this heinous attack;

Whereas the families and friends of the victims of this tragedy have suffered immeasurable losses;

Whereas people around the world actively have worked to diminish the possibility of future terrorist attacks;

Whereas, in 2003, Libya accepted responsibility for Libyan officials’ involvement in the bombing of Pan Am flight 103, denounced terrorism, and vowed to abandon its weapons program;

Whereas, on October 31, 2008, almost 20 years after the terrorist attack, Libya completed delivery of long-awaited compensation to the families of the victims of the bombing of Pan Am flight 103; and

Whereas nothing can replace the loved ones lost in the attack, and the United States must never forget the victims of this crime: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 21, 2008, as “Twentieth Anniversary of Remembrance for the Victims of the Bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 Day”; and

(2) conveys the most sincere condolences to the families, friends, and communities of the victims of the attack on Flight 103.

DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 718 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 718) designating November 30, 2008, as “Drive Safer Sunday.”

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 718) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 718

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas everyone driving on the roads and highways needs to do so more safely to re-

duce deaths and injuries resulting from motor vehicle accidents;

Whereas, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saved 15,434 lives in 2004, 15,632 lives in 2005, and 15,383 lives in 2006;

Whereas Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters has urged all people of the United States to understand the life-saving importance of wearing a seat belt and has encouraged motorists to drive safely, not just during the holiday season, but each time they get behind the wheel; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the busiest highway traffic day of the year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide educational campaigns to urge students to drive safely;

(B) national trucking firms to alert truck drivers to focus on driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and to publicize the importance of the day using Citizen’s Band (“CB”) radios and truck stops across the United States;

(C) clergy to remind members to travel safely en route to religious services and gatherings;

(D) law enforcement personnel to remind drivers and passengers to drive safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(E) all people of the United States to use the Sunday after Thanksgiving as an opportunity to educate themselves about highway safety; and

(2) designates November 30, 2008, as “Drive Safer Sunday”.

PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 720 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 720) supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The resolution (S. Res. 720) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 720

Whereas approximately 37,680 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year in the United States;

Whereas pancreatic cancer is the 4th most common cause of cancer death in the United States;

Whereas Randolph (“Randy”) Frederick Pausch, who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2006, delivered his “Last Lecture” on September 18, 2007, which gave a voice to victims of pancreatic cancer, and inspired people to live life to the fullest;

Whereas the lecture by and advocacy of Randy Pausch have brought, and will continue to bring, renewed advocacy and commitment to the field of pancreatic cancer research and treatment;

Whereas the lecture by and advocacy of Randy Pausch have touched countless people throughout the United States and the world and encouraged them to change their lives for the better;

Whereas 75 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis and only 5 percent survive more than 5 years, making pancreatic cancer the deadliest of any cancer;

Whereas there has been no significant improvement in survival rates in the last 30 years and pancreatic cancer research is still in the earliest scientific stages;

Whereas there are no early detection methods and minimal treatment options for pancreatic cancer;

Whereas when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is generally too late for an optimistic prognosis, and the average survival rate of those diagnosed with metastasis of the disease is only 3 to 6 months;

Whereas the incidence rate of pancreatic cancer is 40 to 50 percent higher in African-Americans than in other ethnic groups; and

Whereas it would be appropriate to observe November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month to educate communities across the Nation about pancreatic cancer and the need for research funding, early detection methods, effective treatments, and treatment programs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Indian Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 719 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 719) recognizing National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of American Indians and Alaska Natives and the contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the United States.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 719) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 719

Whereas from November 1, 2008, through November 30, 2008, the United States celebrates National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives are descendants of the original, indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States;

Whereas, in 2000, the United States Census Bureau reported that there were more than 4,000,000 people in the United States of American Indian and Alaska Native descent;

Whereas, on December 2, 1989, the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate held a hearing exploring the contributions of the Iroquois Confederacy, and its influence on the Founding Fathers in the drafting of the Constitution of the United States with the concepts of freedom of speech, the separation of governmental powers, and checks and balances among the branches of government;

Whereas the Senate has reaffirmed that a major national goal of the United States is to provide the resources, processes, and structure that will enable Indian Tribes and tribal members to obtain the quantity and quality of health care services and opportunities that will eliminate the health disparities between American Indians and the general population of the United States;

Whereas Congress recently reaffirmed its trust responsibility to improve the housing conditions and socioeconomic status of American Indians and Alaska Natives by providing affordable homes in a safe and healthy environment;

Whereas, throughout its course of dealing with Indian Tribes, the United States Government has engaged in a government-to-government relationship with Tribes;

Whereas the United States Government owes a trust obligation to Tribes, acknowledged in treaties, statutes, and decisions of the Supreme Court, to protect the interests and welfare of tribal governments and their members;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have consistently served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces of the United States, some as early as the Revolutionary War, and continue to serve in the Armed Forces in greater numbers per capita than any other group in the United States;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives speak and preserve indigenous languages and have contributed hundreds of words to the English language, including the names of people and locations in the United States;

Whereas Congress has recognized Native American code talkers who served with honor and distinction in World War I and World War II, using indigenous languages as an unbreakable military code, saving countless American lives;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives are deeply rooted in tradition and culture, which drives their strength of community; and

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives of all ages celebrate the great achievements of their ancestors and heroes and continue to share their stories with future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month during the month of November 2008;

(2) honors the heritage and culture of American Indians and Alaska Natives and the contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities.

REGARDING HORRIFIC TERRORIST ATTACKS AND SIEGE IN MUMBAI, INDIA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 724 submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 724) expressing the sense of the Senate on the horrific terrorist attacks and siege in Mumbai, India, beginning on November 26, 2008, and concluding on November 29, 2008.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, that there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 724) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 724

Whereas, on the evening of November 26, 2008, evidence strongly suggests that 10 terrorists came ashore into the city of Mumbai, India, from a hijacked fishing trawler in the Arabian Sea, and conducted coordinated attacks on major hotels, restaurants, hospitals, and transportation hubs, and a religious center;

Whereas the attackers entered into a standoff with security forces of the Government of India over the next 60 hours at a number of sites, deliberately holding many hostages while trapping other innocent victims with no means of escape;

Whereas authorities of the Government of India brought the horrific three-day siege of Mumbai to a close on the morning of November 29, 2008;

Whereas the final death toll from the siege exceeded 170 victims, with hundreds more injured;

Whereas those murdered include citizens of India as well as 22 foreigners from 11 different countries, including the following six United States citizens: Aryeh Leibish Teitelbaum, Rabbi Gavriel Noah Holtzberg, Ben Zion Chroman, Sandeep Jeswani, Alan Michael Scherr, and Naomi Leia Scherr.

Whereas the terrorists who attacked Mumbai attacked a symbol of religious pluralism and outreach, a Jewish outreach center at the Nariman House, murdering six residents of the Nariman House, including Rabbi Holtzberg and his five-month pregnant wife, Rivka, orphaning their two-year old son, Moshe, who was heroically rescued by his Indian nanny, Sandra Samuel;

Whereas nine of the attackers were found dead at various sites where they were engaged in a standoff with authorities of the Government of India, with only one surviving attacker taken into custody;

Whereas evidence collected to date suggests the involvement of an Islamic militant group, Lashkar-e-Taiba, that has ties to al Qaeda and operates out of Pakistan;

Whereas India has endured a series of devastating terrorist attacks in recent years, suffering 3,674 deaths from terrorist attacks in a recent three-year period; and

Whereas India, the world's largest democracy, is a strategic partner of the United

States, and this bilateral relationship is built on common values and unity against extremism: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) affirms that the people of the United States stand in unison with the people of India in the aftermath of these horrific terrorist attacks;

(2) condemns strongly the atrocities perpetrated against the people of Mumbai, conveys its deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those killed, and expresses its wishes for the speedy recovery of the hundreds of people injured in these senseless attacks;

(3) notes that these attacks did not only target citizens of India, but represented a collective assault against the international community, with 22 foreigners, including six Americans, among those murdered;

(4) noting that President Bush has offered United States Government assistance, encourages the Government of India to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the attacks and applauds the tone of moderation and restraint exhibited by the Government of India to date in reaction to these horrific attacks;

(5) urges the Government of Pakistan to investigate aggressively the possible connection of groups based in Pakistan, including the Lashkar-e-Taiba, to the Mumbai attacks and take definitive action to apprehend and detain suspects, and is thus encouraged by the raid on an apparent militant camp on December 7, 2008, and the arrest of key suspects;

(6) calls upon the Government of Pakistan to take all necessary steps to root out all extremist groups operating on its territory, halt attacks aimed at Pakistan and any other countries, and ensure that no elements of the Government support such groups;

(7) strongly encourages President-elect Obama to consider ways in which the United States Government can bolster counter-terrorism cooperation with the Government of India to ensure that authorities in that country possess all the requisite equipment and training needed to prevent and respond to future terrorist attacks; and

(8) urges bolstered United States efforts to develop and implement policies and projects to combat all forms of religious extremism, including anti-Semitism, in order to deter the type of targeted attacks like that waged against the Chabad Lubavitch center in Mumbai.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND GOALS OF THE YOUTH IMPACT PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 725.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 725) acknowledging the accomplishments and goals of the Youth Impact Program.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 725) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 725

Whereas many at-risk young men in the inner cities of the United States face a challenging and uncertain future;

Whereas the future success of at-risk young men can be greatly enhanced through sustained mentorship;

Whereas effective working partnerships between and within the public and private sectors can have a lasting and positive impact on the future of at-risk young men;

Whereas participation in organized sports has provided a creative and disciplined outlet and a path to a better life for many at-risk young men;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program combines the disciplines of football, mentoring, and academics in partnerships between local National Football League franchises and universities to promote discipline, learning, and positive values;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program is a community-based program that has proven its value over the past 2 years in raising the outlook and aspirations of at-risk young men and has provided at-risk young men greater exposure to academics, core values, and life skills;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program provides year-round mentoring to its participants, a proven formula for building success;

Whereas the National Football League, the National Football League Players Association, the University of Southern California, and Tulane University have provided critical support to the Youth Impact Program;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program will be expanded to 3 additional cities in partnership with local National Football League franchises and universities;

Whereas the Youth Impact Program seeks to establish a presence in each city with a local National Football League franchise; and

Whereas under the vision and leadership of Mr. Riki Ellison, the founder of the Youth Impact Program, a 10-year veteran of the National Football League, a 3-time Super Bowl champion, and a University of Southern California alumnus, the Youth Impact Program has expanded from a regional program to a program with a growing national presence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the ongoing and significant contributions of those organizations that support the Youth Impact Program; and

(2) encourages the expansion of the Youth Impact Program to inner cities across the United States.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 726.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 726) designating December 13, 2008, as "Wreaths Across America Day."

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 726) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 726

Whereas, more than 15 years ago, the Wreaths Across America project began the tradition of donating, transporting, and placing Maine balsam fir holiday wreaths on the graves of the fallen heroes at Arlington National Cemetery each December;

Whereas, since that tradition began, through the hard work and generosity of the people involved in the Wreaths Across America project, hundreds of thousands of wreaths have been sent to more than 200 national cemeteries and veterans' memorials in all 50 states;

Whereas, in December 2008, the Patriot Guard Riders, a motorcycle and motor vehicle group dedicated to patriotic events, with more than 65,000 members nationally, will continue their tradition of escorting a tractor-trailer full of donated wreaths from Harrington, Maine to Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas hundreds of volunteers participate in the escort each December; and

Whereas Wreaths Across America will continue this proud legacy on December 13, 2008: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 13, 2008, as "Wreaths Across America Day";

(2) honors the Wreaths Across America project, the Patriot Guard Riders, and all other volunteers and donors involved in this worthy tradition; and

(3) recognizes the sacrifices our veterans and service members and their families have made, and continue to make, for our great Nation.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE BOMBING OF PAN AM FLIGHT 103

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 727.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 727) honoring the victims of the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 on the twentieth anniversary of the tragedy.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, that there be no intervening action or debate, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 727) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 727

Whereas, on December 21, 1988, 259 passengers and crew members on board Pan American Airways flight 103, and 11 people

on the ground in Lockerbie, Scotland, were killed by a terrorist's bomb;

Whereas 189 people of the United States and nationals from 20 other countries were victims of this heinous attack;

Whereas the families and friends of the victims of this tragedy have suffered immeasurable losses;

Whereas people around the world actively have worked to diminish the possibility of future terrorist attacks;

Whereas, in 2003, Libya accepted responsibility for Libyan officials' involvement in the bombing of Pan Am flight 103, denounced terrorism, and vowed to abandon its weapons program;

Whereas, on October 31, 2008, almost 20 years after the terrorist attack, Libya completed delivery of long-awaited compensation to the families of the victims of the bombing of Pan Am flight 103; and

Whereas nothing can replace the loved ones lost in the attack, and the United States must never forget the victims of this crime: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 21, 2008, as "Twenty-ninth Anniversary of Remembrance for the Victims of the Bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 Day"; and

(2) conveys the most sincere condolences to the families, friends, and communities of the victims of the attack on Flight 103.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 815; that the nomination be confirmed and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that no further motions be in order; and any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment as the Director, Air National Guard and for appointment to the grade indicated in the Reserve of the Air Force under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 10506:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt, III

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, December 10; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the

morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and that there then be a period for the transaction of morning business for up to 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, and that the Senate then resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 3297.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned until 10:30 a.m. tomorrow under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:30 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, December 10, 2008, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED PERSONS OF THE AGENCIES INDICATED FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED.

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS TWO, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

LASZLO F. SAGI, OF VIRGINIA
DAVID A. THOMANEK, OF VIRGINIA

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS THREE, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

STEVEN BRADLEY BENNETT, JR., OF VIRGINIA
ANDY D. NGUYEN, OF VIRGINIA
FATMA A. ROSE, OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

JOHN F. CORONADO, OF CALIFORNIA
JAMES S. CRAMER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ROBERT W. DUNN, OF VIRGINIA
BRENT E. OMDAHL, OF TEXAS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ALFREDO DAVID BARELA, OF TEXAS
JEHAN SADIA JONES, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CATHERINE HENDERSON SCHWEITZER, OF VIRGINIA

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS FOUR, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

GREGORY HARRIS, OF WASHINGTON
AARON M. HELD, OF CALIFORNIA
FRANKLIN D. JOSEPH, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DAO M. LE, OF CALIFORNIA
DINAH M. MCDUGALL, OF TEXAS
MARK C. O'GRADY, OF MARYLAND
JANEE PIERRE-LOUIS, OF FLORIDA
ELIZABETH M. SHIEH, OF NEW YORK
WILLIAM P. THORN, JR., OF PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMY MARIE MOSER, OF MISSOURI
SADIE MARIE OKOKO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE TO BE CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BRIAN W. CARR, OF VIRGINIA
LAWRENCE D. CORNMAN, OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

KATHRINE L. ALDERMAN, OF VIRGINIA
BOOYEON LEE ALLEN, OF CALIFORNIA
CLAY C. ALLEN, OF MASSACHUSETTS
SHANE MICHEL ANDERSEN, OF VIRGINIA
BEATA ANGELICA, OF VIRGINIA
LA JUNE L. BARNES, OF NEW YORK
NICHOLAS G. BARNETT, OF NEW YORK

CHRISTINA I.M. BISHOP, OF VIRGINIA
JOSEPH E. BURZYNSKI
DANIEL J. CARL, OF COLORADO
ALBERT RAY CEA HENRIQUEZ, OF TEXAS
FREDERICK CHARLES, OF VIRGINIA
JOHN PAUL CHARLES, OF WASHINGTON
DONALD K. CODDING, OF OKLAHOMA
SYDNEY A. CODDING, OF OKLAHOMA
ROBERT PATRICK CONTRERAS, OF MISSOURI
CRAIGORY D. CRANK, OF MARYLAND
ERIC T. CUYLER, OF NEBRASKA
PHILLIP NELSON DE ASSIS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BROOKE HEILNER DEAN, OF MARYLAND
ANTHONY J. DIAZ, OF KENTUCKY
RYAN T. DRISCOLL, OF VIRGINIA
EDMUND FLEETWOOD DUNSTAN III, OF MARYLAND
KARYN MALIA CHOQUETTE ELIOT, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREW L. ELLIS, OF VIRGINIA
TIMOTHY F. FARRELL, OF VIRGINIA
MARISA FERGUSON, OF VIRGINIA
JOSE M. GARZA, JR., OF VIRGINIA
NOAH J. GEESAMAN, OF VIRGINIA
JENNIFER H. GIBBS, OF VIRGINIA
KIMBERLY K. GIUSTI, OF OREGON
PALOMA H. GONZALEZ, OF CALIFORNIA
JACOB DANIEL GRANNELL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

KERRY J. GROOME, OF MARYLAND
RYAN N. GUILLINGER, OF VIRGINIA
PRISCILLA GUZMAN, OF TEXAS
CHANNONETTE HALL, OF PENNSYLVANIA
GARTH HALL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LAURA J. HAMMOND, OF MINNESOTA
SEAN M. HANIFEN, OF VIRGINIA
NICHOLAS HARRIS, OF VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA HARRIS, OF NEW YORK
APRIL M. HAYNE, OF OHIO
CHERYL A. HIPPE, OF CALIFORNIA
RYNA HOK, OF VIRGINIA

KERRY F.A. HYRE, OF NEW YORK
TIFFANY L. JACKSON, OF FLORIDA
CHRISTOPHER C. JENSEN, OF VIRGINIA
VISHAL JINDAL, OF VIRGINIA
KENNETH J. KANN, OF MARYLAND
SONIA JUNG KIM, OF GEORGIA
RICHARD CHARLES KOLKER, OF VIRGINIA
STEPHAN G. LANGLEY, OF WASHINGTON
JOHN B. LAVIN, OF MARYLAND
MICHAEL E. LEE, OF VIRGINIA
THOMAS J. LEIBY, OF PENNSYLVANIA
WENDY ANN LIGON, OF VIRGINIA
BRIDGET MARY LINES, OF TEXAS
LOREN C. LOCKE, OF GEORGIA
RYAN J. LONG, OF WASHINGTON
JAMES MICHAEL LOWELL, OF TENNESSEE
MUNIR DAWAN MADYUN, OF GEORGIA
SARA V. MARTI, OF FLORIDA
ANNA ARAMBULO MARTZ, OF TEXAS
JOEL SUNIL MATHEW, OF VIRGINIA
WESLEY S. MATHEWS, OF TEXAS
TRISHITA MAULA, OF NEW YORK
JAMES PATRICK MCCORMICK, OF OREGON
CHRISTOPHER H. MCHONE, OF TEXAS
ROLAND DAVID MCKAY, OF MICHIGAN
MARY KATHLEEN MCKNIGHT, OF TENNESSEE
DOERING S. MEYER, OF MINNESOTA
MORGAN DANIEL MILES, OF WASHINGTON
AARON TYRELL MITCHELL, OF MARYLAND
DOUG MORROW, OF ILLINOIS
KATHRINE M. MORTENSEN, OF NEW YORK
STEVEN MARK MOUTON, OF VIRGINIA
NATALYA A. NIKIFOROVA-SMITH, OF FLORIDA
NAROLINE CASEY NOHR, OF CALIFORNIA
FREDERICK NICHOLAS NOYES, OF TEXAS
ILENA C. PATTI, OF VIRGINIA

KARLEE MARIE PAYNE, OF VIRGINIA
CHRIS F. PIERSON, OF CONNECTICUT
SUSAN QUINTANA, OF TEXAS
ERIN ALEXIS RATTAZZI, OF CALIFORNIA
SUNIL KUMAR RAVI, OF ARIZONA
STEPHANIE LAUREN REED, OF VIRGINIA
MARK V. REEDY, OF GEORGIA
NICHOLAS B. REID, OF FLORIDA
REGINE RENE, OF LOUISIANA
ANGELICA RODAS-HUGHES, OF VIRGINIA
THOMAS S. ROOKER, OF VIRGINIA
ALISON E. ROWLES, OF MARYLAND
CHUNNONG SAEGER, OF MARYLAND
MARYUM FATIMA SAIFEE, OF TEXAS
FELIX J. SALAZAR, OF MARYLAND
JANICE T. SCHILL, OF CALIFORNIA
PHILIP SCOT SCHWADA, OF VIRGINIA
BEHRANG FARIAN SERAJ, OF CALIFORNIA
ANDREW MICHAEL SHERNUK, OF VIRGINIA
ARATI SHEROFF, OF ILLINOIS
ALEXANDREA R. SHYBUT, OF VIRGINIA
CLAIRE ELIZABETH SMOLIK, OF CALIFORNIA
LAURENCE J. SOCHA, OF ILLINOIS
NITZA SOLA ROTGER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CORY RAJA STELLING, OF VIRGINIA
MASAMI TANAKA, OF ILLINOIS
MEGAN J. TETRICK, OF INDIANA
SYGA THOMAS, OF CALIFORNIA
ROBBIE J. THOMPSON, OF MARYLAND
WOLFGANG TOLLE, OF VIRGINIA
DIANE K. TOMION, OF VIRGINIA
KEISHA N. TOMS, OF NEW YORK
WILLIAM RANDALL TORRANCE, OF TEXAS
CATHERINE TRUONG, OF ILLINOIS
JUSTIN W. TULL, OF CALIFORNIA
PENNY L. VASQUEZ, OF VIRGINIA
YAYOI VICKOVIC, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN WALLACE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BRIANNE A. WATTS, OF VIRGINIA
OTTO HAAVERSEN WESTHASSEL, OF NEVADA
ERIC S. WEXLER, OF VIRGINIA

December 9, 2008

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

S10839

C. LOGAN WHEELER, OF TENNESSEE
AMANDA FAITH WHITESELL, OF VIRGINIA
HEATHER A. WIGGINS, OF VIRGINIA
DAVID WISNER, OF NEW YORK
HEATHER NICOLE WRIGHT, OF MARYLAND
CHRISTIAN S. YUN, OF CALIFORNIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN AND INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED:

CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF MINISTER COUNSELOR:

DANIEL E. HARRIS, OF MARYLAND

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531(A):

To be lieutenant colonel

GEORGE B. GOSTING

To be major

JOSEPH S. PARK

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

GARY D. GILMORE

CHRISTINE GLOVER
HAROLD B. JONES, JR.
LEE D. SCHNELL

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be captain

MIGUEL GONZALEZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

DAVID M. DROMSKY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 5721:

To be lieutenant commander

CHARLES C. ADKISON
ROBERT J. BARRETT
ALICIA L. BELCHER
SHAN A. BOGART
KENNETH A. BOURASSA
MARK C. BURKE
KEVIN R. CASAGRANDE
THOMAS J. COOPER
JANET H. DAYS
DANIELLE C. DEFANT
ERIC E. ERHARD

ANDREW D. FLEISHER
JENNIFER M. FREE
RAYMOND J. GAMICCHIA
CHRISTOPHER D. HEINZ
JEREMIAH D. JACKSON
ANTHONY G. JARED
ALEXANDER B. KORN
JASON LABOTT
JIWAN A. MACK
ROBERT L. NOWLIN
DOUGLAS V. NYE
RICHARD A. ROBBINS, JR.
DAVID H. RYAN
CHRISTOPHER J. SEVERS
ERIC W. SISCO
TRICIA L. TEAS

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate, Tuesday, December 9, 2008:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE DIRECTOR, AIR NATIONAL GUARD AND FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 10506:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. HARRY M. WYATT III

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
ORRICK HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL
TEAM

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to congratulate the Orrick High School Football Team on winning the Missouri Class 1 Football Championship. The team, led by Coach Pat Richard, won the game in double overtime against Thayer High. The Orrick Bearcats headed into the title game as a perfect 14–0 team ready to play. From a team that had its struggles in the early 2000s, this group has come a long way and has achieved the ultimate State prize. The thrilling win exemplifies the drive and ambition of these young men. I would like to share their success with you, Madam Speaker, and I am confident that my colleagues will echo my praise.

CUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS BUDGET

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, in a thoughtful and well documented article in the Boston Globe for December 3, Joseph Cirincione makes a very persuasive case for putting significant reductions in our nuclear weapons budget at the head of the list of budget savings President-elect Obama intends to make. Mr. Cirincione is the president of Ploughshares, and some of us remember the good work he did as a staff member working on trying to fashion a sensible nuclear weapons policy years ago in the House. He speaks with a great deal of knowledge and I am very pleased that someone as responsible and well informed as Mr. Cirincione has come forward to make this case. As he says in his article, the President “can cut obsolete programs and transfer tens of billions of dollars per year to pressing conventional military and domestic programs.”

Madam Speaker, no rational solution to the problem of an ever-increasing budget deficit can be imagined that does not include significant reductions in the rate of military spending. Joseph Cirincione demonstrates how this can be done in a way that does no damage whatsoever to our national security and I ask that the article be printed here.

[From the Boston Globe, Dec. 3, 2008]

NEED CASH? CUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS BUDGET

(By Joseph Cirincione)

President-Elect Barack Obama needs money, “To make the investments we need,” he said last week, “we’ll have to scour our federal budget, line by line, and make meaningful cuts and sacrifices, as well.”

There is no better place to start than the nuclear weapons budget. He can cut obsolete programs and transfer tens of billions of dollars per year to pressing conventional military and domestic programs.

Transfers to domestic programs will help jumpstart the economy. Military spending provides some economic stimulus but not as much as targeted domestic spending. This is one reason Representative Barney Frank has called for a 25 percent reduction in military budgets that have exploded from 305 billion in fiscal year 2001 to \$716 billion in fiscal year 2009, including the \$12 billion spent every month for wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

We must, of course, spend what we need to defend the country. But a good part of the military budget is still devoted to programs designed for the Cold War, which ended almost 20 years ago. This is particularly true of the \$31 billion spent each year to maintain and secure a nuclear arsenal of almost 5,400 nuclear weapons, with 1,500 still deployed on missiles ready to launch within 15 minutes.

We can safely reduce to 1,000 total weapons, as recommended by Senator JOHN KERRY and other nuclear experts. That reduction would save over \$20 billion a year, according to the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments.

The reductions could be done without any sacrifice to US national security, particularly if the Russians did the same (as they indicated they’d be willing to do) either by a negotiated treaty or the kind of unilateral reductions executed by former presidents George H.W. Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev in 1991.

The arsenal of 1,000 warheads could be deployed on 10 safe and secure Trident submarines, each with enough weapons to devastate any nation. In total, the smaller, cheaper arsenal would still be sufficient to destroy the world several times over. Further reductions would generate further savings over time.

Additional savings are available in the related anti-missile programs created during the Bush administration. Total spending is now \$13 billion a year—up from \$4 billion in 2000. Bush and former secretary of defense Donald Rumsfeld exempted the agency from the normal checks of Pentagon tests and procurement rules in an effort to institutionalize the program, locking in the next president. Obama will inherit half-built facilities in Alaska and California, along with plans to build new sites in Poland and the Czech Republic, but no assurance that the interceptors actually work—and a huge bill to pay. If Obama were to continue the program as is, he would spend an estimated \$62 billion through 2012.

In a congressional review of these programs, Representative John Tierney of Massachusetts concluded, “Since the 1980s, taxpayers have already spent \$120 to \$150 billion—more time and more money than we spent on the Manhattan project or the Apollo program, with no end in sight.” Tierney recommends refocusing the program to concentrate on defenses against the short-range weapons Iran and other nations currently field, and restoring realistic testing and realistic budgeting. Doing so could save \$6 billion or more a year.

Further savings can be found by stopping a planned expansion of nuclear weapons pro-

duction facilities pushed by contractors and some government nuclear laboratories. The facilities would cost tens of billions of dollars and produce hundreds of new nuclear warheads. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates strongly backs the expansion. In a direct challenge to Obama’s plans to reduce nuclear weapons and ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, Gates said in October, “there is absolutely no way we can maintain a credible deterrent and reduce the number of weapons in our stockpile without either resorting to testing our stockpile or pursuing a modernization program.” Obama will have to back him down or pony up billions to pay Gate’s nuclear tab.

What will the new president do? He comes to office with a comprehensive nuclear policy that could save billions. Obama will now have to show that this new security team will implement the change he promised, not their own parochial agendas.

HONORING ASSISTANT DEAN EVE
KLOTHEN, RECIPIENT OF THE
2009 FATHER ROBERT DRINAN
AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Assistant Dean Eve Klothen for receiving the 2009 Father Robert Drinan Award. This prestigious award is given by the American Association of Law Schools in recognition of outstanding contributions to pro bono activities and public service.

Assistant Dean Klothen’s distinguished career has included service as a legal services lawyer in Georgia, director of the Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program, and director of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation. During Assistant Dean Klothen’s service in these positions, she has successfully created programs to help the less fortunate while also mentoring students and young professionals. Assistant Dean Klothen has worked tirelessly over the course of her career to instill the values of public service and expand opportunities for students to participate in pro bono activities. During Assistant Dean Klothen’s tenure at Rutgers Law School, she has been central to efforts to create a number of programs, including the Pro Bono Research Project, new pro bono projects in areas such as tax assistance and immigration, and leadership training for students at nearby law schools.

Assistant Dean Klothen’s record of serving low income clients in south Jersey and Philadelphia is exceptional. This reputation, along with her remarkable leadership in advising the next generation of outstanding legal minds, clearly demonstrates why Assistant Dean Klothen is very deserving of the 2009 Father Robert Drinan award.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Assistant Dean Klothen on this achievement and wish her the best of luck in future endeavors.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

ASIAN AMERICAN MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION 32ND ANNUAL GALA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I recognize the Asian American Medical Association, which will be hosting its 32nd Annual Gala on Saturday, November 8, 2008, at the Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana. Each year, the Asian American Medical Association pays tribute to prominent, outstanding citizens and organizations for their contributions to the community. In recognition of their efforts, these honorees are awarded the prestigious Crystal Globe Award each year at this annual banquet.

The Asian American Medical Association has always been a great asset to Northwest Indiana. Its members have selflessly dedicated themselves to providing quality medical service to the residents of Indiana's First Congressional District, and they have always demonstrated exemplary service through their many cultural, scholastic, and charitable endeavors.

At this year's charity ball, the Asian American Medical Association will present the Crystal Globe Award to one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Mr. James Gagan. Born in Chicago, Illinois on May 6, 1930, James Lawrence Gagan learned the importance of serving his community from a young age. This would become evident in his two separate stints in the United States Army between 1948 and 1954. Following his military service, Jim, as he is known by those closest to him, relocated to Northwest Indiana in 1956 and worked as a finance company manager until 1958. At that time, he founded a collection and prorating business now owned and operated by his brother, Larry. An astute businessman, Mr. Gagan later moved on to the oil industry when, in 1963, he founded United Penn Oil and Gas Company. Focusing on the leasing, drilling, and production of oil and gas wells, the company expanded to serve an area covering nine states. Remarkably, Jim's entrepreneurial success did not end there. In 1971, he conceived a new company that incorporated with United Consumers Club, Inc. Now known as Direct Buy, this company is now the most successful private buying club in the world, with more than one million members and 163 locations throughout the United States and Canada. Beginning with the vision of Jim Gagan, Direct Buy has become the gold standard in the merchandising industry. Mr. Gagan's impressive contributions to his industry are truly a source of pride for the First Congressional District. In addition, Jim has also been a partner in the development of one of California's premier golf clubs, Big Horn Country Club in Palm Desert, California, which has gained national recognition, and he has been an active participant in the restoration of Innsbrook Country Club, one of Indiana's oldest golf courses.

While his résumé is already impressive in and of itself, it is his service to those in need throughout the Nation that is most astonishing. Entirely funded by profits from Direct Buy, Jim formed the Friendship Foundation in May of 1985. This outstanding foundation, like Jim, is solely focused on improving the quality of life

for those who are in need. Since its inception, the Friendship Foundation has contributed, both locally and nationally, to many people through organizations such as: Habitat for Humanity, the Salvation Army, Christian Haven Homes, Shults-Lewis Homes, Ronald McDonald House, The Caring Place, Baptist Children's Homes, Visiting Nurses Association, Meals on Wheels, Hebrew Association for the Deaf, Greater Hammond Community Center, Special Olympics, Opportunity Enterprises, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Respite Care Services, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Boy Scouts of America, Lake County Child Abuse Center, Hospice Home Care, Children's Memorial Hospitals of Indianapolis and Chicago, as well as many local food pantries, churches, and civic charities. Also, through Direct Buy, local nursing homes have annually received more than 1,500 Christmas gifts, consisting of much needed goods, and more than 1,000 children have had a brighter Christmas thanks to their efforts through the local Angel Tree project. For his efforts on behalf of his community, Jim has received many honors, including the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash, presented by the governor of the State of Indiana, in 1981.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending the Asian American Medical Association, as well as this year's Crystal Globe Award recipient, Mr. James Gagan, for their outstanding contributions to their communities and beyond. Their unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana and throughout the United States is truly inspirational. For these reasons, the Asian American Medical Association, its members, and Mr. Gagan are to be recognized, and I am proud to serve as their representative in Washington, DC.

IN RECOGNITION OF E. & J. GALLO
WINERY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I along with Congressman COSTA rise today to commemorate the 75th anniversary of E. & J. Gallo Winery, a historic company that embodies California's agricultural prestige. Over the last 75 years, E. & J. Gallo Winery has transformed the winemaking industry in the United States and has made significant contributions to the economic strength and vitality of California.

Following the Prohibition era in 1933, two brothers, Ernest and Julio Gallo, decided to start their own winery. After discovering an old University of California pamphlet on winemaking in the basement of the Modesto Library, they began their business with only \$5,900 on hand, a keen business sense, and an entrepreneurial spirit. Over time, they grew their small, family-owned business into one of the largest wineries in the world.

The Gallo brothers recognized the fertile soil of the San Joaquin Valley as an ideal location for starting a winery. Competing against hundreds of startup wineries across California following Prohibition, they quickly rose to the top by making wine affordable to everyday people

instead of marketing solely to the upper echelons of society. Their business model caught on and E. & J. Gallo Winery quickly became one of the most respected in the business.

Decades later, E. & J. Gallo Winery has become one of the most influential wineries worldwide, with over 60 unique wines from a wide variety of locales. They have made a commitment to environmentally sustainable farming and have become a model for the rest of the industry. The Gallo Winery employs 4,600 people in the state of California, providing critical highly skilled employment opportunities in the San Joaquin Valley.

E. & J. Gallo Winery has been honored with countless awards for achievement in winemaking, including the American Society of Enologists Merit Award—the wine industry's highest honor—in 1964 for outstanding leadership in the wine industry, the Gold Vine Award from the Brotherhood of the Knights of the Vine wine fraternity, the 1983 Distinguished Service Award from The Wine Spectator, and the Winery of the Year Award in both 1996 and 1998 by the San Francisco International Wine Competition.

Few companies rival the generous spirit of E. & J. Gallo Winery. Throughout the state of California, they invested in local communities, including an endowment for the Gallo Center for the Arts in Modesto, and the establishment of the Ernest Gallo Clinic and Research Center at the University of California at San Francisco for research into genetic, biochemical and neurobiological aspects of alcohol abuse.

Madam Speaker, it is our great honor and privilege to recognize E. & J. Gallo Winery on the advent of their 75th anniversary. Their contributions to the wine industry, to agriculture, and to the San Joaquin Valley are an inspiration to us all and we continue to wish them great success for many years to come.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE
RETIREMENT OF DIANA HART

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. REGULA. Madam Speaker, as you know, I will be retiring from this House at the conclusion of this Congress, but today I rise to pay tribute to a member of my staff, Diana Hart, who will also be retiring from service in this House.

A native of New Orleans, Diana lived in Germany for many years but decided to make the Washington area her home in the 1980s. Diana holds an associates degree in paralegal studies and joined my staff in 1986. As our office manager, Diana is also usually the first person a visitor to my office meets or a caller speaks with. Over these nearly 22 years of serving constituents and assisting guests, Diana has provided a warm welcome and a helpful demeanor with a continued focus on our office motto of "Constituents First."

Over the years, we have come to know Diana as a cat lover who is extremely devoted to her two cats. However, recently a new passion has inched its way into Diana's heart. That passion is her new grandson and her soon-to-arrive granddaughter. In her retirement, Diana is looking forward to being able to spend more time with both her grandchildren

and her cats, and we all wish her well as she will have more time to pursue these passions. We are grateful to Diana for her service.

IN HONOR OF JACK AND GENEVIEVE CHAPMAN, THE REAL SPIRIT OF THE SEASON

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise to share a story of two true public servants, Jack and Genevieve Chapman of Minnesota. As we enter a season when people's hearts and minds are turned to the spirit of giving, these two people have lived a life of selflessness and charity.

Jack Chapman of St. Paul was recognized by the Army as a Shot Expert Rifleman as an ROTC high school student. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, he was an electrical engineering student at the University of Minnesota. One year later, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and was sent to the prestigious Bellevue Radio Materiel School at the U.S. Naval Research Lab. His lifelong love of Ham radio made him a perfect candidate for the new science of radar. He was assigned to the Marine Night Fighters in the South Pacific, the very first to use radar at night. He earned two Bronze Service Stars on the Asiatic-Pacific campaign ribbon. Jack also earned the American Theater Campaign Bar before being honorably discharged to return home and complete his college education.

Genevieve Christgau of Minneapolis pursued a nursing degree and became a registered nurse working in the operating room at Asbury Hospital. Her status as essential personnel kept her from joining the Army Nurse Corps. But, as soon as her status changed, she enlisted and was assigned to the 77th Field Hospital in December 1944. Her tour took her to France where she worked with soldiers preparing to return home. Many had come from POW camps and were suffering severe malnutrition. Before her honorable discharge and return to the States, Genevieve was stationed in Nuremburg, Germany. When she returned home, she resumed nursing; this time in the Veterans Hospital in Minneapolis. During the Cuban Refugee Crisis, she worked at Fort McCoy, WI, and she earned certification as a Public Health Nurse, helping provide early childhood screenings and school nursing services.

Genevieve and Jack married on February 18, 1949 and continued to live a life of service. Both are active volunteers at Pax Christi Catholic Church. They also have been members of "Friday Friends," a group that visits Presbyterian Homes, formerly the Eagle Nursing Home, and of Bridging, an organization that provides household furniture and goods to those who need them most. Always putting their family at the center of their generous spirits, they have raised seven children, giving them 16 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

These two fine people have lived a life of service to their country, their community, and their family. They are two of the many unsung heroes that make America work, and today I rise to sing their praises and to thank them for their selflessness.

HONORING GEORGE BARANOWSKI

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before you today to recognize one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Mr. George Baranowski, of Schererville, Indiana. George has always been a dedicated, distinguished, and honorable citizen, and I can say without hesitation that he is one of the most involved individuals I have ever known. As a businessman, entrepreneur, public official, and an avid volunteer, George has served the community in Northwest Indiana for many years. Through his service, he has brought honor to Americans of Polish heritage, and for his efforts, he will be honored with the Polish American Congress Meritorious Service Award at a banquet taking place at The Patio Restaurant in Merrillville, Indiana on Sunday, November 2, 2008.

George Baranowski was born on August 30, 1957 at Saint Catherine Hospital in East Chicago, Indiana. He was the third child born to immigrant parents, Mieczyslaw (Matt) and Janina Baranowski. A lifelong resident of Northwest Indiana, George attended Saint Casmir Elementary School in Hammond before moving on to George Rogers Clark High School. Following his graduation from high school in 1975, George went on to study Electrical Engineering Technology at Purdue University, where he earned both his associate and bachelor degrees.

After receiving his associate degree, George began working at the Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO), where he remained until the completion of his bachelor degree. At that time, he accepted a position in management with Acme Steel in Riverdale, Illinois. Following seven successful years at Acme, George moved on in 1995, when he accepted a management position at BP Amoco in Chicago, Illinois. Recognized for his professionalism and leadership abilities, in 1999, George was awarded a position as Vice President at Prometheus Network Solution, Inc., thus allowing him to obtain one of his lifelong goals.

Having accomplished a goal he set forth for himself in business, George decided to move on, and after working for IBM for a period of time, he and his wife went into business for themselves. On October 1, 2004, George and his wife, Debra, opened their first Allstate Insurance Agency in Dyer, Indiana. Since then they have achieved great success, having been awarded Allstate's prestigious Honor Ring, Regional Champion, and Chairman's Club Member distinctions. In 2007, they were among the elite at Allstate as part of the top five percent. It is no surprise the couple opened their second branch in 2008.

Undoubtedly, George Baranowski has been extremely successful as a businessman and entrepreneur throughout his career. However, his efforts on behalf of his community have truly set him apart from his peers. As a public official, George is currently the Commissioner of the Dyer Redevelopment Commission and a Trustee for the Lake Central School Board. He has also served as Chairman of the Saint John Township Board as well as a Legislative Committee Member for the Indiana School

Board Association, serving all of Jasper, Lake, Newton, and Porter Counties. He has also served as a member of the Chambers of Commerce for the communities of Schererville and Dyer, for which he is currently the Director. In addition to his many civic responsibilities, George has also been extremely active in various charitable and community-based organizations, including: Christmas in April, the Lions Club, Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite, and the Polish American Congress.

A devout family man, George spends much of his spare time with not only his business partner, but his loving wife of 28 years, Debra. George and Debra have two sons, Brett and Bryan, and one daughter, Kristy.

Madam Speaker, George Baranowski has given his time and efforts selflessly to the people of his community, and he has served as a source of pride for the Polish American community. His efforts have touched the hearts of many people throughout the years, and at this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending him for his lifetime of service and dedication.

HONORING THE REVEREND
GEORGE M. DOCHERTY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of the Reverend George M. Docherty, whose influential sermon in 1954 led to the insertion of the phrase "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverend Docherty passed away on Thanksgiving Day in his home in Alexandria, PA at the age of 97.

Reverend Docherty came to the United States from Glasgow, Scotland to become the pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, which was attended by President Lincoln in the 1860s and later became known as "Lincoln's church." It is tradition for the President to attend a special service at the church on the Sunday closest to Lincoln's birthday. It was during this special service on February 7, 1954, that Reverend Docherty gave a sermon before President Dwight D. Eisenhower calling for the Pledge of Allegiance to be amended to acknowledge God. Reverend Docherty took the phrase "under God" from the Gettysburg Address, in which Lincoln said, "this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom."

Reverend Docherty first heard the Pledge of Allegiance from his then 7-year-old son, Garth, and was surprised that it made no reference to God. He argued in his sermon to the President that "To omit the words 'under God' in the Pledge of Allegiance is to omit the definitive factor in the American way of life." Without any acknowledgement of God, Reverend Docherty said the pledge could apply to nearly any nation, including the communist Soviet Union. The sermon had an immediate effect on President Eisenhower, and several bills were introduced in Congress that week to amend the Pledge. The bill to add "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance was signed into law by President Eisenhower just 4 months later on Flag Day 1954.

The Pledge of Allegiance is a national symbol of unity and a reflection of our shared

ideals upon which this country was founded, and it is with great honor and respect that we honor the life and service of Reverend George Docherty. Our great thanks go to this remarkable individual, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

RECOGNIZING BILL DOUGLASS
CONVENIENCE STORE HALL OF
FAME INDUCTEE

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to honor an outstanding citizen in the Fourth District of Texas and my longtime friend, Bill Douglass of Sherman, as a 2008 Convenience Store Hall of Fame Inductee.

This year's Convenience Store News Hall of Fame induction ceremony in October honored Bill as much for his strong character, integrity and community service as for his business achievements. Bill was honored for his tireless efforts on behalf of the convenience and petroleum retailing industry and for the level of integrity that he has upheld over the years. The W. Douglass Distributing Company, which Bill founded in 1981 and which he serves as CEO, is a full-line distributorship and operator of the 15-unit Lone Star Food Stores chain servicing the region of north Texas and southern Oklahoma. The company, which began with just six employees, has grown to more than 280 employees.

Throughout his career, Bill has been a tireless and effective advocate for the convenience and petroleum retailing industry. He has served as chairman of the General Committee of State Relations for the American Petroleum Institute, chairman of the National Association of Convenience Stores and director of the Texas Petroleum and Convenience Store Association, and he has testified on several occasions before Congress about issues important to his industry.

Bill is also a widely recognized and respected member of the north Texas community, providing financial support and volunteer efforts to various local organizations each year. In 2002 he and his wife, Joan, were named as the Outstanding Employer of Older Workers for their strong belief in the value of older workers by maintaining an age-balanced group of employees. Their winning combination of younger workers and their older counterparts has created a work environment where age and experience can assist in training, advice and counseling. The company has no mandatory retirement age and provides flexibility in scheduling of employees' hours.

Madam Speaker, Bill Douglass is the kind of employer who leads by example. These are some of the words that his employees used to describe him and his family in a full-page newspaper ad: "wonderful, inspirational, brilliant, graceful, generous, charitable, tireless, encouraging, selfless, devoted, integrity." Bill Douglass embodies all of those qualities—and I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing this wonderful man and outstanding American, Bill Douglass.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL
EMILIO ALBERT DE LA GARZA, JR.

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take this time to recognize Ivy Tech Community College as it dedicates its East Chicago, Indiana campus and to join the institute in paying tribute to its namesake, Vietnam War hero Lance Corporal Emilio Albert De La Garza, Jr. After completing the first phase of a new modernization project, Ivy Tech will be holding a dedication ceremony on Sunday, December 7, 2008 at the campus in East Chicago, Indiana. The event will serve not only as an opportunity to showcase the improvements to the campus and to reaffirm its commitment to excellence in higher learning, but it will also serve as a chance to reflect on the bravery and heroism of one of East Chicago's own.

Ivy Tech Community College's East Chicago campus has served students from Northwest Indiana and beyond since 1994. Always committed to improving the learning environment for its students, the De La Garza campus, which began with 376 students and now serves an impressive enrollment of 1,122 students, recently completed the first phase of a modernization project. This project, which began in July 2006, features improvements to general maintenance and enhanced safety measures, as well as new and improved conference rooms and student common areas. Phase II of this project, set to begin in January 2009, will focus on improvements to the classrooms and computer labs.

These renovations are the result of the continuous outpouring of support from the community, offered as a living memory of one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens and greatest heroes, Lance Corporal Emilio A. De La Garza, Jr. Lance Corporal De La Garza was born in East Chicago, Indiana on June 23, 1949. Following his graduation from East Chicago Washington High School in 1968, the patriotic and devoted De La Garza decided to serve his country and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. While serving as a machine gunner with Company E, Second Battalion, First Marines, First Marine Division in the Republic of Vietnam on April 11, 1970, Lance Corporal De La Garza paid the ultimate sacrifice. Demonstrating the most selfless act imaginable, Lance Corporal De La Garza placed himself between two of his fellow Marines and a live grenade. While Lance Corporal De La Garza's life was lost, his courageous act spared the lives of the other Marines.

Lance Corporal Emilio De La Garza, Jr. performed the ultimate act of heroism, setting aside personal safety for the safety of others. For his bravery, Lance Corporal De La Garza was posthumously honored by President Richard Nixon with the nation's highest honor, the Medal of Honor.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Ivy Tech Community College's administrators, faculty, staff, students and members of the community who, over the years, have contributed to its success in achieving its standard of excellence, as well as in honoring

the school's namesake, Lance Corporal Emilio Albert De La Garza, Jr. The efforts of those involved have made the De La Garza campus a tremendous source of pride of Indiana's First Congressional District, and they have made the campus a constant reminder of one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens.

HONORING AL AUSTIN ON THE
OCCASION OF HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of one of Tampa Bay's finest citizens, Al Austin, on the occasion of his upcoming 80th birthday.

A lifelong Floridian, Al grew up on his family's egg farm in St. Petersburg. After his high school graduation and college at the University of Tampa, Al joined the Coast Guard, where he performed admirably in service to our Nation.

Following his military service, Al partnered with his family to start a real estate development business in the Tampa Bay region. Since then his family-owned company has continued to grow and helped build the greater Tampa community. Without his influence the Tampa St. Pete region would not be the economic growth engine for the State that it is today.

In addition to his success in real estate, Al and his wife Beverly share a passion for education. After founding the Tampa Preparatory School in the 1970s, they went on to lead fundraising campaigns for the refurbishment and growth of the University of Tampa campus. Their commitment to local charitable organizations has truly benefitted thousands of people throughout the region.

In his spare time, Al loves to collect and drive classic sports cars. He has also earned a reputation as one of the leading Republicans in Florida, having worked with State and national leaders for the past 40 years to help grow and expand the party. Al has also served various Florida Governors throughout his career as the head of the Florida Racing Commission, a member of the Hillsborough Aviation Authority as well as serving on the Military Base Closure Advisory Committee.

Madam Speaker, I know that Al's upcoming birthday celebration will commemorate a lifetime of hard work and service to others. He has a proven track record of giving back and helping to make Florida and our Nation better and more prosperous places. I know that the House will join me in wishing Al a happy 80th birthday, with many more to come in the future.

HONORING M. PAUL REDD

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize M. Paul Redd and the 80th anniversary of the Westchester County Press and

its contributions to the community. The Westchester County Press has published news about politics, religion, and social events in our district.

While the Westchester County Press targeted a broad audience when it was founded in 1928, it eventually focused more exclusively on religious and social news in the African-American community. In 1950, Dr. Alger L. Adams bought the newspaper and transformed it into a publication for black audiences to give voice to their contributions to the fabric of our society. Decades later, the Press is still thriving.

In 1961, Paul Redd was hired as a columnist for the Westchester County Press. In 1986, Mr. Redd purchased the paper, for which he now serves as president and publisher. For 47 years, Redd has written a column, "M. Paul Tells All," which informs his readers about politics and opportunities to get involved in the political process.

As a life-long advocate, Paul Redd's interests have included employment training for the disenfranchised, voter registration, education, and civic participation. Redd served as president and chief operating officer of the Westchester-Putnam Affirmative Action Program, Inc., for over 25 years. The agency's employment and training activities have resulted in over 5,000 job placements for local residents.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize my good friend M. Paul Redd for his unparalleled contributions to the community through the Westchester County Press and other organizations, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his tremendous accomplishments on the 80th anniversary of the Westchester County Press.

TRIBUTE TO ROBBIE FLOYD

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness and great respect that I take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Ms. Robbie Floyd of Gary, Indiana. Ms. Floyd's many contributions to the Northwest Indiana community, as a businesswoman, as a civil servant, and as a leader within her church, are worthy of our deepest admiration. Robbie passed away on Sunday, September 28, 2008, but the impact and influence she has had on her community will surely live on for generations to come.

Robbie Lorraine Floyd was born in Gunnison, Mississippi to Joseph and Julia Floyd. At the age of 8, Robbie relocated to Gary, Indiana. She attended Froebel High School, one of only two schools in the City of Gary with integrated classes, where African-American students could attend with other children and receive the same education. The type of person who always sought to deepen her understanding of different areas, Robbie later enrolled in real estate school and became a licensed realtor.

Known for her focus and determination, Robbie Floyd took on the many challenges life brought her, and in spite of the shortage of advantages for African-Americans, sought to improve the quality of her life and the lives of her other family members. In the 1940s, she

and her father became owner-operators of a grocery store, as well as apartment rental units in Gary.

Ms. Floyd, a true activist in the Northwest Indiana area, also recognized that having a voice at City Hall was essential to social progress. Recognizing the respect Robbie had in her community, and seeing just how dedicated an individual she was, then Mayor Peter Mandich encouraged her to enter politics. Thus she became a Precinct Committee-woman twice, first in District 4 and later in District 3. These positions enabled Robbie to serve her constituents by giving them a voice and allowing them to acquire the services they needed. Later, continuing her service in the public sector, Robbie worked as the Administrative Assistant/Secretary to two city controllers, George Chacharis and my father, John Visclosky, both of whom later became mayors of the City of Gary. It is in the City Controller's office that I first met Ms. Floyd as a child. Robbie kept an eye on me there, and until the day of her passing, to make sure I stayed on the straight and narrow.

A true renaissance woman, Robbie Floyd was also the first African-American woman to serve as a police officer for the Lake County Sheriff. As her peers would recall, in breaking this glass ceiling, she did so with distinction, dignity, honor, and dedication. For her efforts, she was honored with the highest accolade bestowed upon an individual by the governor of the State of Indiana, the Sagamore of the Wabash.

While she was fully committed to the people of Gary and Northwest Indiana, Robbie's commitment to her faith was equally impressive. After confessing Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior with First Baptist Church in Gary, she later became a charter member of Christ Baptist Church. Prior to her passing, Ms. Floyd was a key member of her church. For 16 years, Robbie served as its Financial Secretary. As her congregation would attest, she loved serving others and never failed to aid "the stranger," "the friend," or "the child" in any way that she could. Robbie was known for her ability to help those who needed it most, leading to her participation in various church ministries, including: the Willing Workers, Church School, the Church School Fellowship Committee, for which she served as its chair, Male Chorus Boosters, and the Pearce Prayer and Study Group.

While Robbie Floyd was always active in her community and her church, she cherished her time with her family the most. She leaves to cherish her memory two daughters, Dr. Doris Keys Ward and Debra Floyd; grandnieces, LaTanya Obgiofor, Desnee Flakes, and Donna Floyd; grandnephews, Cordell (Millicent) Olive and Joseph Floyd, and numerous great-grandnieces and nephews. She will also be greatly missed by her many friends, her Pastor, Reverend Dr. Maurice White, Jr., and all of the members of Christ Baptist Church.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Robbie Lorraine Floyd for her outstanding devotion to her community in Northwest Indiana. Her unselfish and lifelong dedication to those in need is worthy of the highest commendation. Robbie's selflessness was an inspiration to us all, and I am proud to have represented her in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL H. SNIDER

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Paul H. Snider. Paul is a loyal American and a fine man.

Paul grew up in Denair, CA and graduated from Turlock High School. After high school he entered the U.S. Maritime Service as a radio operator. Following his Maritime service, he enrolled in Modesto Junior College. While attending Modesto Junior College, Paul and his father started Snider Honey, a business in which they marketed and distributed honey to retailers. One of those retailers was Tom Raley, who at that time had only one store in Placerville, but went on to establish the well-known chain of Raley's grocery stores.

After graduating from Modesto Junior College, Paul joined the National Guard. He was sent to Okinawa for 6 months and was honorably discharged in January 1953. Upon returning to California, Paul began working for his uncle, Stewart Snider, selling Buicks. As was the custom in the early 1950s, Paul went door-to-door after dinner contacting people who had visited the dealership in order to sell them a car.

In 1956, Paul bought his own Chevy dealership in Patterson, CA. In 1966, he bought a Volkswagen dealership in Sacramento. Paul's success continued, and at one time he owned about one dozen dealerships, including Ford, Toyota, Nissan, Volkswagen, Chevy, Pontiac, Isuzu, Hyundai, and Infiniti. Paul has managed to succeed in business without compromising his character; he has remained humble and has cared about his many employees. In fact, Paul hated it when he was forced to fire someone and agonized over the decision each time it needed to be made.

Paul has three children: Shelby, Marcus, and Blake. He is an avid hunter and has been a member of the Safari Club International, Ducks Unlimited, the Lions Club, and the Rotary Club. He has contributed generously and repeatedly to the Red Cross, the Shriners, the River Oak Center for Children Foundation (for children with developmental disabilities), and to Ducks Unlimited and the Safari Club International. Paul is a man who puts his energy behind his beliefs, and he has been a faithful supporter of many conservative causes. I am grateful for his support and friendship and wish him well in the years to come.

OSCAR ELIAS BISCET

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, this last December 6 was the 9th anniversary of the imprisonment—the cruel and unjust imprisonment in a cold and damp cell in the most inhuman of conditions—of the great Cuban leader in the fight for democracy and human rights in that imprisoned island, Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet. Dr. Biscet is prohibited even from walking in the prison's yard, and he is incarcerated along with common criminals.

Dr. Biscet was released from prison early in 2003, for a few weeks only, before being re-arrested and subsequently sentenced to 25 years in the Communist gulag due to his peaceful pro-democracy activities.

A few days ago, I was honored to receive a congratulatory letter from Ms. Elsa Morejon, Dr. Biscet's courageous and admirable wife.

Oscar Elias Biscet personifies the opposition to the brutal totalitarian regime of Fidel Castro and his brother, who the dictator has given some additional titles to because of the ailing tyrant's failing health. Dr. Biscet is an admirer of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.

A physician by training, he began his opposition to the totalitarian regime by speaking out against the regime's "forced abortion when there is any indication whatsoever that the pregnancy may have an abnormality" policy. Biscet described that policy as inhuman. He was immediately fired from his job at the hospital, prohibited from practicing his profession as a physician, and his wife was also fired from her job as a practicing nurse. Within hours, the couple and their son were summarily evicted from their apartment and their physical possessions thrown into the street.

Fortunately, an elderly patient of Elsa's allowed the family to move into her house. Dr. Biscet continued peacefully denouncing the totalitarian regime's absolute denial of human rights to the Cuban people—and because of that he has been unjustly and cruelly imprisoned for 9 years, and counting.

Hundreds of other brave human rights activists are also suffering in the political prisons of the Cuban totalitarian dictatorship for the "crime" of supporting democracy and liberty and opposing tyranny, including 23 known journalists, thrown into dungeons because of articles they wrote that bothered the dictator. No regime in the world has more journalists in prison, with the possible exception of another totalitarian dictatorship in an obviously much larger nation, communist China.

Just last week the respected international organization, "Reporters Without Borders" gave one of the Cuban journalists in the gulag, Ricardo Gonzalez Alfonso, sentenced by the Cuban tyrant to 20 years in prison in the year 2003 and currently in very poor health, the "Reporters Without Borders" Journalist of the Year Award. "Reporters Without Borders" is to be commended.

Three other Cuban prisoners of conscience, Adolfo Fernandez Sainz, Pedro Arguelles Moran, and Antonio Diaz Sanchez, are known to have begun a hunger strike due to the brutal conditions they are subjected to.

Where is the outrage? Where is the solidarity in the international community?

The reality is that for too many in the world today, Cubans are supposed to be content with their lot, to be quiet, to . . . "move on", in the words of one of our pro-Cuban dictatorship colleagues here in the U.S. Congress. The regime that enslaves a nation and imprisons hundreds of heroes simply for their beliefs deserves unilateral rewards and concessions, many maintain.

But Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet, and the many other heroes imprisoned in the Castro brothers' gulag will not be able to be ignored forever. They must be freed. And political parties be legalized, as well as independent press agencies, and labor unions. And free and fair elections must take place in Cuba.

Many of those imprisoned today will be democratically elected leaders tomorrow. That is what is going to occur in Cuba tomorrow. Today, as they suffer the most unjust of cruel imprisonments, we here remember and honor them—and once again demand their immediate release.

HONORING JOHN EVANS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and sincerity that I take this time to honor one of Northwest Indiana's most accomplished citizens, Mr. John Evans of Miller Beach. On Sunday, November 2, 2008, John was honored by the Indiana Division of the Polish American Congress for his many years of service as a dedicated member of his community, as well as a proud representative of the Polish American heritage in Northwest Indiana. This extraordinary event took place at The Patio restaurant in Merrillville, Indiana.

John Evans, a lifelong resident of Northwest Indiana and the son of Russell Glenn and Eleanor Evans of New Chicago, Indiana, has been recognized by the Polish American Congress, Indiana Division, as the recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Service Award. From his career in the insurance industry to his service with several of Northwest Indiana's churches to his commitment to preserving the Polish heritage, John is truly deserving of this prestigious accolade. Always one to try to improve the lives of his fellow citizens in any way possible, John has spent the last twenty-four years working with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois. After spending many years building relationships between hospitals and providers as a Provider Network Consultant, John moved into a management position in 2000 and was recently promoted to Director of Provider Network Relations. In his current position, John is responsible for overseeing relations with all hospitals, physicians, and ancillary providers for the State of Illinois. As a member of the Blue Cross Blue Shield team, John has been active with the company's Diversity Workforce Committee, serving as Master of Ceremonies for their 2007 Polish Heritage Day.

Mr. Evans, widely known as a truly gifted musician, has been a fixture in the Northwest Indiana for, in all sincerity, most of his life. As a child of only ten years of age, John began formally studying the organ with Mrs. Joanne Sparks of Gary, Indiana. Only a few short years later, John began playing dinner music at Wilson's Restaurant and Lounge in Miller Beach, entertaining diners every Friday and Saturday night. During this time, he also began playing at wedding receptions and other banquets, as well as serving as the organist at Sunday masses at Assumption B.V.M. Church in New Chicago. From there, at a mere fifteen years of age, John took over as the director of the church's choir in 1973. During the twenty-three years he spent at Assumption, John's leadership meant not only an increase in choir membership, but in popularity as well. During this time, the choir was asked to perform at many dances, ordinations, anniversaries, and other special occasions. In fact, they even recorded an album entitled "Christ-

mas in New Chicago" which featured Polish and English Christmas carols.

Fully committed to his faith and his heritage, John also has organized and choreographed dance selections for Polish Women's Alliance Saint Anne's Group 778, directed the choir at events for the Polish Women's Alliance Group 132, and directed the choir for the Polish mass at Saint Stanislaus in Michigan City, Indiana. In 1996, Mr. Evans took over as the organist and choir director for the Saint Cecilia Choir at Saint Stanislaus Parish in East Chicago, Indiana. Since taking over at Saint Stan's, the membership of the choir has nearly doubled, and John has been successful in bringing young people into the choir. Not to be outdone, the choir at Saint Stanislaus has also produced a professional CD of Polish and English hymns and religious selections entitled "Spirit," which has sold over 500 copies, profits from it contributing to various church renovations.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Mr. John Evans as he is honored for his lifetime of service and dedication to the Northwest Indiana community. His years of service have touched and improved the lives of all whom he has served. His unselfish and lifelong dedication is worthy of the highest commendation, and I am proud to represent him in Congress.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL RAYMOND ANTHONY CELESTE, JR.

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Raymond Anthony Celeste, Jr., who is retiring from the United States Marine Corps after more than 26 years of faithful service.

Colonel Celeste attended Officers Candidate School in October 1982 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in December 1982. In 1983, he graduated first from The Basic School and later from the Field Artillery Officer Basic School. His first fleet assignment was at Marine Corps Base, 29 Palms, California in January 1984, where he served first with 4th Battalion 11th Marines and then with 5th Battalion 11th Marines as a platoon commander in 8 inch self-propelled Howitzer Batteries. During his time as a platoon commander, he participated in numerous Combined Arms Exercises, learning the great capabilities of the Marine Air Ground Task Force.

In May of 1985, then-First Lieutenant Celeste transferred to Camp Pendleton, California, where he served in the Tactical Exercise Control Group and assisted in organizing field and staff exercises worldwide. In September of 1986, First Lieutenant Celeste reported as the first Operations Officer of the 1st Remotely Piloted Vehicle Company, where he became one of the first members of the newly established unit. In this assignment, he assisted in integrating Unmanned Aerial Vehicles into the Marine Air Ground Task Force and received an award for his meritorious service. Because of his expertise in this area, an article he wrote on the subject was published in the Marine Corps Gazette.

In September of 1988, then-Captain Celeste transferred to the Marine Corps Reserves. In January of the following year, he joined 3rd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company where he deployed and participated in numerous bi-lateral exercises in Korea and Japan. During the first Gulf War, Captain Celeste was a commander in charge of training more than 200 Marines for deployment to the Middle East and received an award for his meritorious service. In January of 1992, Captain Celeste transferred to Hotel Battery (155 mm Howitzers), 3rd Battalion, 14th Marines where he acted as Platoon Commander and Forward Observer. In June of that same year, he was selected to be the Executive Officer of Delta Company, 4th Light Armored Infantry Company. In 1993, he became the Commanding Officer of Delta Company and served in that capacity for over two years. Concurrent to his assignment as Delta Company's Commanding officer, Captain Celeste served as the Headquarters Marine Corps counterdrug officer where he monitored Marine Corps counterdrug operations.

In 1995, then-Major Celeste was assigned as the Officer-in-Charge of the Department of the Navy Gulf War Declassification Project where he was responsible for the declassification of tens of thousands of pages of Gulf War I operational records. He subsequently received an award for meeting the mandated declassification deadline as established by the Deputy Secretary of Defense. Due to his expertise in the area, in May of 1997, Major Celeste was assigned as an investigator to the Office of the Special Assistant for Gulf War Illnesses. At this assignment, he assisted in the investigation of the causal factors for Gulf War Illnesses using the documents that he and his team helped to previously declassify. In order to widely disseminate the findings of the investigation, they were published on the World Wide Web which, at the time, was a novel medium for this purpose.

In August of 1999, then-Lieutenant Colonel Celeste was assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps (Office of Legislative Affairs) where he served as a Congressional Affairs Officer. In this capacity, he assisted in the answering of high level congressional inquiries, led the Marine Corps Congressional Fellowship Program, and assisted in the organizing of congressional outreach programs to include the following: The Congressional Marines Group, The Capitol Hill Running Club, Congressional Marine Day, and programs for Veterans Service Organizations and Defense Industry representatives.

Colonel Celeste served in Iraq from February to August of 2007 as the Marine liaison between the Commanding General, Multi-National Forces West and the Commanding General Civilian Police Assistance Training Team. During this period, Colonel Celeste was a member of the Green Zone Council, which supports the Boys and Girls Scouting programs in Iraq. He was also involved in supporting a local orphanage in Baghdad by coordinating and soliciting donations from family and friends.

For more than 26 years, Colonel Celeste's great sense of duty and exceptional work ethic have benefitted his fellow Marines and his nation. We thank him for his steadfast dedication and wish him fair winds and following seas as he starts the next chapter of his life.

TRIBUTE TO THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES FOR A PRESIDENTIAL ORDER ON PRISONER TREATMENT, TORTURE, AND CRUELTY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Declaration of Principles for a Presidential Executive Order on Prisoner Treatment, Torture and Cruelty which is supported by a number of organizations and individuals, including the Council of Churches of Santa Clara County, California, in my Congressional District. I believe these principles will protect our country and the U.S. servicemen abroad by banning the use of cruel and inhumane interrogation methods.

I fully support the core goals of this Declaration of Principles which include implementing a national standard for all U.S. personnel and agencies for the interrogation and treatment of prisoners and banning the use of any methods of interrogation that we would not find acceptable if used against Americans. Many of these issues were addressed in a bill I introduced this year to ban waterboarding as an interrogation technique.

Waterboarding is torture and is recognized as such by the Geneva Convention. Its continued use by representatives of our nation contradicts what so many of our soldiers are fighting for overseas. The United States of America has long accepted that water torture is beneath the standards of a civil nation. In 1947, the United States prosecuted a Japanese military officer for carrying out a form of water torture on a U.S. civilian during the Second World War, securing a conviction and a sentence of 15 years of hard labor. The military has frequently prosecuted American military personnel for subjecting prisoners to water torture, including sentencing a U.S. Army major to 10 years of hard labor for subjecting an insurgent to water torture in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War.

Our nation was able to win two world wars and defeat a rising tide of communism with this prohibition in place. I'm confident we can defeat our current enemies without undermining our moral dignity.

As we move forward with a new Congress and a new Administration, we have the opportunity to change course and restore the rule of law. The Bush Administration has relied heavily on illegal and inhumane interrogation techniques, and by doing so has damaged our country's reputation in the process. We can restore the moral standards that guided us successfully for so many generations and the Declaration of Principles provides a framework for the United States to do just that. Congress and the Obama Administration must work to ensure that torture has no place in the battle against terrorism.

HONORING GRANT GATES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the outstanding achieve-

ment of Grant Gates of Kansas City, Missouri. Grant has earned a perfect 36 ACT composite score. Grant is one of only three students from the state of Missouri and one of only fifty-two in the country to earn the perfect score.

Madam Speaker, Grant has dedicated himself to his studies and extracurricular activities. As a junior at North Kansas City High School, Grant has participated in the Missouri Scholars Academy at the University of Missouri, the Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee, member of the high school swim team, member of the choir and Harmonaires show choir, and is a part of the school's state championship Scholar Bowl. Grant is currently working toward an International Baccalaureate diploma, Gold Medallion Honors diploma, and A+ Schools eligibility. Grant is also active in Boy Scout Troop 9 in North Kansas City.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me, Gary and Elinor Gates, the North Kansas City Schools, and North Kansas City High School in applauding Grant Gates' outstanding achievement. We wish Grant many more years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF EUGENE PERRIN ELEBASH, JR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eugene Elebash, Jr., a veritable northwest Florida community leader who passed away on November 24, 2008. Mr. Elebash spent his entire life serving others, and I am proud to honor his life of dedication and service.

Mr. Elebash was born in Pensacola, FL, in May of 1920 and made his home there. He graduated from Pensacola High School in 1938 and from the University of Florida in 1942. Upon graduating college, Mr. Elebash immediately joined the United States Army Air Forces where he served honorably until the end of World War II, achieving the rank of major. He then returned to Pensacola to take over the family business and remained ever since. Mr. Elebash married his high school sweetheart, Jane, his wife of 66 years.

After returning to Pensacola, Mr. Elebash began a life of dedicated service to the community. Over the years, he was active in innumerable organizations including the Saint Christopher's Episcopal Church, the City Civil Service Board, the YMCA, and the West Florida Children's Home Society. He was a member of the Downtown Rotary Board for 61 years. Mr. Elebash was elected to three terms as a Pensacola city councilman and served as the mayor of Pensacola from 1971 and 1973. His family continues to play an active role in the community.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I am privileged to honor Mr. Eugene Elebash, Jr. for his life of public service to his country and to northwest Florida. Mr. Elebash will be remembered by all as a loving husband and father, as well as a genuine community leader and a true friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF HAL SHELTON
AND THE WASHINGTON METRO-
POLITAN AREA SCORE FOR WIN-
NING THE 2008 SMALL BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION DISTRICT DI-
RECTOR'S AWARD

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, congratulations to Hal Shelton and the Board of the Washington Metropolitan Area SCORE for receiving the 2008 Small Business Administration District Director's Award for their contribution to the training, counseling and mentoring of small businesses.

Hal Shelton and the more than 50 Washington Metro Area SCORE volunteers were recognized for substantially assisting the SBA DC district office in providing business counseling to military service members at Walter Reed Hospital; organizing workshops for local 8(a) businesses; and for exceeding all goals for the number of DC-area clients who received business mentoring and advice.

Since 1964, SCORE "Counselors to America's Businesses," have helped 8 million aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners through counseling and business workshops. More than 10,500 volunteer business counselors in 389 chapters serve their communities through entrepreneur education dedicated to the formation, growth and success of small businesses.

For their commitment to preserving the reputation of American small businesses as among the most productive in the world and for their years of dedicated public service, I commend Hal Shelton and the members of Washington Metropolitan Area SCORE for receiving this important honor.

HONORING CONNOR WAYNE CHOICE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Connor Wayne Choice of Liberty, Missouri. Connor is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Connor has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Connor has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Connor Wayne Choice for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is December 9, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today Madam Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 13,105 days since the tragedy called Roe v. Wade was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So Madam Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 13,105 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children

in America is enough; and that it is time that we stood up together again, and remembered that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust; and we are still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

Madam Speaker, as we consider the plight of unborn America tonight, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is December 9, 2008, 13,105 days since Roe versus Wade first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children; this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

REMARKS ON INAUGURAL BILL

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. CLEAVER. Madame Speaker, on January 20, this Nation will lay witness to a Presidential Inauguration like no other in our country's history. As my fellow Americans travel to the District of Columbia, in some cases without a place to stay, just to be part of this historic occasion, we must bear in mind that this event stands as a symbol of democracy, and that tickets should not be bought and sold to the highest bidder. It is egregious that tickets that are given out freely would then be sold for thousands of dollars. Even worse, are false promises of tickets that are made to individuals and families, who are then left with empty pockets and tales of disillusion.

For these reasons, I have introduced a bill that will make it a crime to knowingly sell tickets to the Presidential Inaugural ceremony. This bill will also make it a criminal act to produce counterfeit tickets for the Inaugural ceremony. I am hopeful that this bill will work to stop the unscrupulous, yet devastating actions of the few, and preserve the dignity of this historic and celebratory occasion for the many.

HONORING RYAN RUSSELL DONALDSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan Russell Donaldson of Liberty, Missouri. Ryan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest

qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Ryan has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan Russell Donaldson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT F. NOLAN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert F. Nolan, a man who has made service to our community his pride and his life's work. In his capacity as an advisor to three Bronx Borough presidents during some of the most turbulent times our city has ever witnessed, time and again Bob was confronted with singular challenges that would have reduced a lesser figure to despair and resignation. Instead Bob rose to the occasion, time and time again. He took part in some of the most momentous decisions that could confront a public official, and he did so with poise, clarity of purpose, and unusual dedication. Bob has been one of the truest and finest examples of a public servant who never gave up on the Bronx, but instead continued to serve through the hardest of times. He committed himself at a young age to improving his beloved community, and has had the endurance and strength of character to spend a lifetime in pursuit of this goal. While many have come and gone, Bob has never left the Bronx—and the Bronx cannot possibly forget that fact.

Born in Westchester Square Hospital, Bob Nolan was educated at Our Lady of Solace School in Morris Park and then Fordham University. A community and political activist since the early 1970s, he began his career as an instructor at Borough of Manhattan Community College. Later, he moved on to the mayor's office of economic development, where he was in charge of the business action center. In January 1979, Bob joined the office of the Bronx Borough president as director of economic development. He quickly set in motion the plan which led to the creation of the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation in 1980.

The 1980s were a critical period for the Bronx. The previous two decades saw the quality of life in the Bronx dramatically diminish. A widespread deterioration was underway, as the city suffered the aftermath of a painful fiscal collapse. Some neighborhoods felt the hurt more than others, but few felt it worse than the South Bronx. This was the climate in which Bob began his journey to restore our borough's greatness.

This was no easy task. At the time, private and public disinvestment had taken a huge toll on many Bronx neighborhoods. But these circumstances neither deterred nor discouraged

Bob. Perhaps his work is best judged by the vitality we have witnessed in our borough in recent years. Across the board, the Bronx has undergone a remarkable transformation—and credit should rightly be given to the sound fiscal and public investment policies first championed by Bob and his colleagues at the very dawn of our borough's resurgence. His thoughtful planning and careful stewardship helped pave the way for innumerable capital projects and a wholesale restoration of confidence in the borough on the part of the city's business community. Bob helped demonstrate that the Bronx was once again a fertile place for investment.

In the 1990s, Bob was appointed budget director for the borough, a position he held until the day he retired—November 14, 2008. His role as budget director required Bob to recommend capital projects to the borough president and help shape budgets and establish spending priorities that forwarded past efforts and blazed new paths toward economic revival. We will undoubtedly continue to see the fruits of Bob's labor for many years to come.

Looking back at this extraordinary life of service, what is unique about Bob Nolan's story is the completeness of it. Three decades ago, Bob set out to make the Bronx a better place, working tirelessly from within the halls of government. These many years later, he retires with that goal now very much in his sights. He has had many different responsibilities over the years, but the same motivating factor: a love for his borough and its people. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Robert F. Nolan, a man who loves his hometown fiercely and whose whole life is a unique testament to civic duty.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF FRED STERN

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the heroic and distinguished actions of Fred Stern of Aberdeen, South Dakota, who will be honored with several long-overdue medals, including the Bronze Star Medal, for his service during World War II.

Fred was born near Webster, South Dakota, on October 21, 1908. He was inducted into the U.S. Army at Ft. Snelling, Minnesota, on June 10, 1942, and received his basic training at Camp Rucker, Alabama. Fred served in World War II's Pacific Theater from 1942 to 1945. He was a member of the 322nd Regiment Combat Team of the 81st Infantry, Wildcats, Division in the battle for the Palau Islands.

The 322nd participated in the famed assault on the small island of Anguar—a hard-fought battle against the island's Japanese occupants. For his dedicated service, Fred received the Good Conduct Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Service Star, and the Combat Infantry Badge. After the war, he returned to South Dakota where he farmed, worked for the Brown County Improvement, and as a painter before retiring.

Madam Speaker, I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my gratitude to Mr. Fred

Stern and congratulate his receipt of the Bronze Star Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two Bronze Service Stars and one Bronze Arrowhead, and the Army of Occupation Medal with Japan Clasp.

We are all proud and thankful for all that he has done in the service of the United States of America. The lives of countless people have been enormously enhanced by his compassion and service. Fred represents the best of the United States, South Dakota, and the Army. He continues to inspire all those who know him and hear his story of sacrifice. Our Nation and the State of South Dakota are far better places because of his service, and the best way to honor him is to emulate his devotion to our country.

I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my appreciation to Fred. His commitment to and sacrifice for our Nation will never be forgotten.

HONORING SPENCER JOSEPH FISH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Spencer Joseph Fish of Liberty, Missouri. Spencer is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Spencer has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Spencer has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Spencer Joseph Fish for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO RICK STAATS

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Rick Staats, a man whose passion and energy for conservative principles in northern California have made a great contribution to the region.

Rick was born on August 1, 1943, in Berkeley, CA, where he grew up. After graduating from Berkeley High School, Rick left California to attend the University of Oregon.

After college, Rick returned to California and became active in politics. While living in the Bay Area, Rick served as the Alameda County chairman for the U.S. Senate campaign of then-State Senator H.L. Richardson. Rick was also an alternate delegate for the 1976 Republican National Convention in Kansas City. Rick's political activism eventually led him to Sacramento in 1978. At that time, Rick and I served together on the staff of Senator Richardson, and 2 years later Rick was an integral

part of my successful campaign for the California State Senate.

Rick worked for me in many capacities throughout my tenure in the state Senate, including as my district director. When I was elected to U.S. Congress in 1990, Rick chose to remain active in California politics. He served as chief of staff to Assemblyman David Knowles and as a consultant for the Republican caucus in the assembly.

While working in the California State Legislature, Rick remained active in volunteer organizations in California. He served as the statewide president of the California Republican Assembly, chairman of the Placer County Republican Party, credentials chairman for the California Republican Party, and in other important roles for groups that were advocating the conservative principles to which Rick has always been committed.

In 2004, Rick left California to retire in Idaho. Though he is retired, Rick remains active in politics and in public service. He currently sits on the board of directors for the Cabinet Mountains Water District and is still an important figure in California politics. I am pleased to have known Rick for many years as a colleague, a member of my staff, and a friend. I would like to express my gratitude to him for his work over the years for me and for the many causes he has championed, and I wish him all the very best in the future.

“KEVIN STOKESBURY—FRIEND OF THE FISHERMEN”

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, on the last weekend of September of this year, I was supposed to be at the Fishermen's Festival in New Bedford, an event I always enjoy and which I look forward to attending. Instead, as you know, I was here in Washington, D.C. as we were working to try and put the \$700 billion credit system rescue plan into final form.

Among the events I missed at that festival was the awarding of the 2008 Friend of the Fishermen Award to Kevin Stokesbury. Dr. Stokesbury chairs the Department of Fisheries Oceanography at SMAST—the extremely important and valuable part of the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, which studies the fishing industry.

He received this award from the people in the fishing industry of New Bedford because of the high quality of the work he has done to provide the kind of first-rate scientific information that is so essential to the continued survival of the fishing industry. One of the great successes—probably the greatest success—we have seen in regulation of the fishing industry in New England is with the scallop fishery, and no one is more responsible for this success than Kevin Stokesbury.

Madam Speaker, because Kevin Stokesbury's work shows that it is possible to support a thriving fishery in an environmentally responsible way, it is particularly noteworthy that he received this award from the fishing industry of New Bedford—the most important fishing port in America. I ask that the explanation by the fishing industry of this award to Kevin Stokesbury be printed here.

INTRODUCTION OF 2008'S “FRIEND OF THE FISHERMEN”

This year's recipient of “The Friend of the Fishing Industry Award” needs no introduction to most of the NB fishing industry, particularly the scallop fishermen. It took him a while to find his way here to us as he seems to have taken a long way around, but he now lives in Westport with his wife Shawna, & four children; Kasey, Tyrez, Taysia, & Henry.

Starting with his B.Sc. & M.Sc. both of which he earned at Acadia University in Nova Scotia, he then received his PhD in Marine Ecology from Universite Laval, Quebec City, Quebec in 1994.

He worked as a Research Assistant 1994–1996 at the Center for Marine Science Research at the U. of NC at Wilmington before moving to the U of Alaska Fairbanks, as a Research Assistant from September 1996–1998.

Ten years ago in September 1998 he finally found his way here when he joined SMAST at U MASS, Dartmouth as an Associate Fellow. In September 2000 he became an Associate Professor. In September 2005 he became the Chair of the Department of Fisheries Oceanography. Do you sense a trend here?

In 1999 Kevin conceived a plan to videotape & map the seafloor; the resulting survey would actually count scallops with the intention of determining the size of the biomass. He got together with a few scallop vessel owners & others from the industry, & as they say, “the rest is history”.

Kevin & his associates from his lab at SMAST have probably logged more sea-time than a lot of fishermen over these past 9 or 10 years. They have completed more than 100 video cruises surveying Georges Bank & the Mid-Atlantic fishing grounds; this is more than 600 DAS. Their video library consisting of footage from more than 200,000 video samples has been used in every scallop fisheries management plan since 1999.

Today this work has become much more detailed & expansive & it now must be acclaimed as some of the leading environmental work regarding sea floor habitat, & the marine benthic community.

Not surprisingly, Kevin's work has not received the same acclaim from many of his peers that it has from the fishing industry & his associates. This unique cooperative research that has existed between the fishing industry, Kevin & SMAST since its inception, has turned much of the “Old Science” on its ear, & some did not take kindly to that. Without this “New Science”, it's possible that we still would not be scalloping in the Closed Areas!

As Chair of the Department of Fisheries & Oceanography, Kevin's oversight now includes along with scallops; groundfish, lobster & marine environments. Perhaps even more importantly, he is now fostering a new generation of marine scientists & researchers who, if the fishing industry is lucky, will follow the path that Kevin has so brightly blazed!

It gives me great pleasure to present “The Friend of the Fishermen's Award” to someone I'm proud to call my friend; Dr. Kevin D.E. Stokesbury.

HONORING DRU RYAN JORDAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dru Ryan Jordan of Platte City, Missouri. Dru is a very special young

man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dru has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Dru has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dru Ryan Jordan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Sixty years since its inception, the Declaration of Human Rights continues to be a foundation for the protection of rights and a statement to the world that human rights abuse is an abomination of the human race.

On December 10, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The declaration was established from the horrific religious and racial bigotry of World War II. The declaration represented the first global expression of rights to which all human beings are inherently entitled. This declaration expresses to the world that human rights are not just a principle for the few, the wealthy, or for those who live in economically developed nations—human rights are universal and for all humankind.

Today, we still live in a world where people murder their neighbors over religion, the color of their skin, and national ideologies. This is unacceptable. It is my hope that we as a world of nations can settle our differences through dialogue and treat our fellow man with dignity and respect.

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL DELILAH R. WORKS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today on the occasion of her promotion to the rank of Brigadier General to honor and congratulate Delilah R. Works for her many years of dedicated service to the State of Tennessee, the Tennessee Air National Guard, and to our Nation.

General Works earned her commission through Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, in April 1980. In the years that followed, she distinguished herself in assignments in the Air Force and the Air National Guard that took her from Alaska to

California and finally back to Memphis, Tennessee. At the 164th Airlift Wing in Memphis, General Works served as Maintenance Squadron Commander and Wing Chief of Staff among other assignments. Most recently, General Works was appointed the Director of Staff for the Tennessee Air National Guard in Nashville.

General Works has been a leader not just in our Armed Forces, but in our community as well. She is a member of Leadership Memphis, Women in Aviation, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and strongly supports the Adopt-A-School program.

Again, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering sincere congratulations to BG Rita Works, her husband Lavon, and their family. We can all take pride in her example of leadership, service, and selflessness.

HONORING TIMOTHY WILLIAM LEININGER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Timothy William Leininger of Riverside, Missouri. Timothy is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Timothy has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Timothy has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Timothy William Leininger for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF BROMMA PEMBERTON-LINVILLE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate 99 extraordinary years in the life of Bromma Pemberton-Linville. Born to a large family in the coal-mining community of Oliver Springs, Tennessee, Bromma from an early age set an example for all who believe in the values of family, church and a strong community. Bromma cared for her six younger siblings through elementary and high school, and made certain to attend Sunday church services in addition to Sunday night youth fellowship, a Wednesday night prayer meeting, church play rehearsals and choir practice.

After graduating from Oliver Springs High School, Bromma went on to Knoxville Business College and set out to build a career. Following a period of odd jobs to make ends meet, Bromma finally put her business skills to

work as a secretary and bookkeeper at the First National Bank in Oneida, Tennessee. Throughout what would become a lifetime of service to the bank, Bromma worked nearly every possible position before becoming the first female officer and director, as well as the first senior vice president.

But Bromma's success at the First National Bank in Oneida never interfered with her commitment to family. When her father became ill and unable to work, Bromma proudly accepted her role as a breadwinner and caretaker for the family. After she had seen to the success of her six younger siblings, who married and moved out of their home, Bromma continued to live with her parents whom she cared for until they passed away years later. Only then did she marry her twenty year suitor, Roy Johnson.

Bromma's commitment to her community continued throughout her life and in to today. From her presidency over the Oneida Business and Professional Women's Club to representing Scott County at the Conference on Consumer Affairs, Bromma was actively involved in making the world around her better for future generations. With the help of her husband, Bromma even went on to establish the Grover Pemberton Agricultural Endowment Fund for the University of Tennessee Agricultural Institute.

Our great country cannot do enough to thank the men and women who devote their lives to the betterment of their communities. In these difficult times of international and economic turmoil, it is the efforts of extraordinary women like Bromma Pemberton-Linville that will always help us to move this great country forward.

HONORING ROBERT C. FABER

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a minute and pay tribute to an old friend and former staffer, Robert C. Faber. Bob is a man of strong ideals and integrity.

I first met Bob when we were in our first year of law school at McGeorge Law School in California. Our friendship began then and has been strong ever since. After law school, Bob and I went our separate ways. Bob worked first at the State Lands Commission and then had a private law practice. I went to work in the California State Senate in Sacramento. Ten years later I was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, and when I became Chairman of the Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power, I encouraged Bob to become the staff director of the committee. He graciously accepted the position, and he and his lovely wife, Joyce, moved to the Washington area. In the six years he served as staff director he assisted in moving a number of difficult pieces of legislation and helped the subcommittee conduct many critical oversight hearings and more than a dozen General Accounting Office investigations.

Bob was born in Kansas City, Missouri and grew up in Oregon, Michigan, Indiana and California. He attended high school in La Sierra, California. Bob has the gift of being able to teach people in both personal and profes-

sional situations. As early as high school, Bob showed his talent for teaching. He would often help tutor his fellow students at his home, and eventually the group got so large that one of the students asked the teacher if Bob could teach the class, since he was able to better relate to his peers. The teacher allowed Bob to teach the class for about 2 weeks under his supervision.

After high school, Bob attended Andrews University in Southwestern Michigan where he majored in journalism. He earned his undergraduate degree in three years after successfully testing out of one year of classes. While at Andrews, he met Joyce in the communications department, and the two have been married for 35 years now. They have one son, Robert Jr., who is 14 years old.

After law school, Bob frequently volunteered in support of community activities in the Sacramento area. He volunteered as an international moot court justice at the McGeorge law school. He taught bible classes at his local church. He co-founded the local neighborhood association where he lived. And he helped organize a group of fellow bank customers to recover their savings after the financial institution where they had deposits failed.

Although he remains active professionally as an attorney, Bob still enjoys teaching as the opportunities present themselves. He has recently started writing a series of articles combining history, religion, and science.

I am very grateful for Bob's friendship, and I look forward to the many years ahead we have as friends. I wish him and his family much happiness and success.

HONORING BRYCE MATTHEW McDONALD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryce Matthew McDonald of Liberty, Missouri. Bryce is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bryce has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bryce has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bryce Matthew McDonald for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE RETIREMENT OF SYLVIA SNYDER

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. REGULA. Madam Speaker, as you know, I will be retiring from this House at the

conclusion of this Congress, but today I rise to pay tribute to a member of my staff, Sylvia Snyder, who will also be retiring from service in this House.

Sylvia was born in Grenada, Mississippi but moved to Canton, Ohio, when she was 10. She attended school in Canton and graduated from Timken High School. After raising her family Sylvia went back to school and obtained an associate degree in applied business with an executive secretarial major from Stark State College of Technology, one of our outstanding institutions in Stark County.

It was on completion of her degree at Stark State that I interviewed Sylvia for the scheduler position in my office. I had contacted the school to let them know I was interested in interviewing their students for this position and told them I wanted the best they had. Sylvia became my scheduler in June 1980, and over these more than 28 years, she has indeed proven to be one of the best. I know that my colleagues will agree that one of the most challenging and stressful positions on Capitol Hill is that of scheduler, and with her terrific organizational skills and professional demeanor, Sylvia excelled at this position. During my tenure as chairman of two different Appropriations Subcommittees, the number of requests that Sylvia received for meetings with me would have nearly overwhelmed most people, but Sylvia methodically and efficiently organized and scheduled them in order for us to carry out our mission of constituent service every day.

On behalf of our entire staff, I would like to thank Sylvia for her service to Ohio's 16th Congressional District and to this House and wish her much health and happiness in her retirement. I know that she is very much looking forward to traveling and also taking in the wonderful cultural resources in our Nation's Capital. We wish her all the best.

REMEMBERING THOSE LOST AND HURT IN THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN MUMBAI

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, in response to the unspeakably terrible acts of murder perpetrated on innocent people by a handful of vicious, hate-filled fanatics in Mumbai, the Asian American Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts convened a candlelight vigil on December 4 at 6 p.m. in Boston and provided an opportunity for people of good will to express their horror at these terrible events and their determination to work together to prevent them from happening again.

The Commission composed a moving, eloquent statement in response to these terrible acts and because its message is so necessary at this time, I ask that it be printed here.

A CANDLELIGHT VIGIL—REMEMBERING FRIENDS, FAMILY AND ALL THOSE LOST AND HURT IN THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN MUMBAI, INDIA NOVEMBER 26–29, 2008

The Asian American Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts invites Americans of all faiths to join in a Candlelight Vigil on December 4, 6 p.m. at City Hall Plaza, Boston, Massachusetts.

We are saddened by the loss of so many in Mumbai, India this past week because of the actions of a few terrorists. We offer our deepest condolences to their families and pray for the speedy recovery of those who were hurt. We applaud the heroic actions of the police, firefighters, armed forces and the staff of the hotels, restaurants, train stations and hospitals and all concerned citizens who helped to stop the terrorists and rescue and guide people to safety.

In this global village, like the United States, India is a democracy with rights for every man, woman and child, regardless of religious or ethnic origin; a secular country with tolerance for many faiths; and a strong tradition of cooperation among its many ethnic, religious, and linguistic communities. India also serves as a positive influence for many people here and in countries around the world through its strong traditions, contributions to culture, political leadership, trade and world economic development.

As the world's largest democracy, India's represents a religious cross-section of Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jews, Buddhists and people of every faith that have traditionally lived in harmony. Unfortunately, there are a few who seek to sow divisions and cause harm to its people, its economy, to all those who visit or wish to do business with India. We believe that terrorism affects us all and we must all unite and act to defeat this common enemy.

As Asians and Americans we are all part of a global village and strongly condemn these heinous acts. No matter where terror raises its ugly head, it impacts all the citizens of the world. We believe that by coming together as a community to show support to the bereaved and by fostering greater bonds between all peoples and faiths here at home and across the globe that we will be able to stop such hate.

HONORING BRIAN LLOYD OTTE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brian Lloyd Otte of Liberty, Missouri. Brian is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brian has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Brian has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brian Lloyd Otte for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN MEMORY OF DR. CHARLES LEA

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is with grief that I inform the House of the death of

Dr. Charles Lea, Lt. Col., United States Army (ret.) of Lexington, Missouri.

Dr. Lea was born and raised in Brunswick, Missouri, and graduated from Brookfield High School in 1952. Dr. Lea then spent a year at Rolla School of Mines before he entered West Point where he graduated in 1957. Upon graduation he spent 3½ years in Germany before taking paratrooper training at Fort Benning. Choosing to attend University of Missouri Medical School over Ivy League offers, he graduated in 1965 to intern at Fitzsimmons in Denver, Colorado.

Following his education path, Dr. Lea went directly to Vietnam. Serving in the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne, Dr. Lea was awarded several medals and citations, including: Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Soldier's Medal, four Air Medals, Army Commendation Medal, Viet Cross of Gallantry, Combat Medical Badge, and Parachute Badge.

After his service in Vietnam, Dr. Lea choose to become a general practice family physician in Oklahoma and Lafayette County, Missouri. Dr. Lea served as the chief of staff at Stillwater Regional Health Center, Stillwater, Oklahoma; Lafayette Regional Medical Center, Lexington, Missouri; and I-70 Medical Center, Sweet Springs, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Lea was a respected father, physician, and soldier. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife, Kay Lea; his children, DeJean, George, Elisabeth, Darren, Nikki, and Scott; and his grandchildren, Jacqueline, William, Emily, Chelsea, Hunter, Gabriel, Elizabeth, Dylan, Maxwell, Regan, and Hayden.

HONORING CODY WILLIAM CASH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cody William Cash of Liberty, Missouri. Cody is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cody has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Cody has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Cody William Cash for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR. WALTER HOWARD MAYO, III

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today so that my colleagues in the House of

Representatives can join me in honoring an esteemed member of the legal profession, dedicated community activist, and a constituent of mine, Mr. Walter Howard Mayo, III.

For nearly 30 years, Howard has led a distinguished career as Managing Partner of Casner & Edwards, LLP, bringing his invaluable expertise in civil litigation, estate planning, and telecommunications law to the greater Boston area. Prior to joining the firm, Howard served as an appellate attorney with the Federal Maritime Commission here in Washington, followed by a position as Chief of the Administrative Division within the Massachusetts Attorney General's office. No matter the challenge, Howard has risen to the occasion. His astute knowledge, wisdom, and high work ethic have earned him the respect and praise of colleagues and clients alike.

As a resident of Orleans, Howard has donated admirable time and effort to enriching the civic and cultural fabric of our Commonwealth. Most notably, he has served as both Secretary and Vice President of the Board of Governors of the Handel & Haydn Society, a

nationally acclaimed orchestral and choral performing arts organization based out of Boston. Howard has also been active in numerous historical societies, genealogical associations, and charitable organizations—a testament of his strong commitment to improving his community.

On behalf of all those whose lives Howard has touched over the years, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank him for his hard work and service. As he closes out this chapter of his career, I have every confidence that he will meet success in all his future endeavors.

HONORING DYLAN RENO

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dylan Reno, a very special

young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 87, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dylan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Dylan has shown an extraordinary commitment to scouting as evidenced by earning 41 merit badges and holding several leadership positions in the troop. In July of 2005, Dylan earned the World Conservation Award.

Dylan's Eagle Scout service project consisted of constructing several bird feeders and landscaping around the "sitting room" of the Missouri Veterans Home in Cameron, Missouri. This project continued the tradition of community service established by the Boy Scouts of America.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dylan Reno for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S10821–S10839

Measures Introduced: Four resolutions were submitted, as follows: S. Res. 724–727. **Page S10834**

Measures Passed:

Drive Safer Sunday: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 718, designating November 30, 2008, as “Drive Safer Sunday”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S10835**

Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 720, supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S10835–36**

National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month: Committee on Indian Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 719, recognizing National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of American Indians and Alaska Natives and the contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S10836**

Terrorist Attacks and Siege in Mumbai, India: Senate agreed to S. Res. 724, expressing the sense of the Senate on the horrific terrorist attacks and siege in Mumbai, India, beginning on November 26, 2008, and concluding on November 29, 2008. **Pages S10836–37**

Youth Impact Program: Senate agreed to S. Res. 725, acknowledging the accomplishments and goals of the Youth Impact Program. **Page S10837**

Wreaths Across America Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 726, designating December 13, 2008, as “Wreaths Across America Day”. **Page S10837**

Bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 20th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 727, honoring the victims of the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 on the twentieth anniversary of the tragedy. **Pages S10837–38**

Advancing America’s Priorities Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 11:30 a.m., on Wednesday, December 10, 2008, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3297, to advance America’s priorities. **Page S10838**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general. **Pages S10838, S10839**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Navy. **Pages S10838–39**

Messages from the House: **Pages S10833–34**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S10821, S10834**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S10834**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S10834–35**

Additional Statements: **Page S10833**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:30 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2008. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S10838.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 11 public bills, H.R. 7308–7318; 2 private bills, H.R. 7319–7320; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 1532 were introduced.

Pages H10866–67

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H10867

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 6871, to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to provide a 1-time adjustment in certain dollar amounts to account for inflation over the 21 years since the enactment of such Act and to provide for future adjustments of such amounts on a regular basis (H. Rept. 110–917) and

H. Res. 1533, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 110–918).

Page H10866

Notification of Reassembly: Read the text of the formal notification sent to Members on Friday, December 5, 2008, of the reassembling of the House.

Page H10859

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Davis (VA), wherein he resigned as Representative for the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, effective November 24, 2008.

Pages H10859–60

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Tom Davis, the whole number of the House is adjusted to 434.

Page H10860

Congressional Oversight Panel—Appointment: The Chair announced a joint appointment by the Speaker and the Majority Leader of the Senate and an appointment by the Speaker on the part of the House to the Congressional Oversight Panel pursuant to section 125(c)(1) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (P.L. 110–343): Joint Appointment: Mr. Damon Silvers of Maryland; Speaker's Appointment: Mr. Richard H. Neiman of New York.

Page H10860

Recess: The House recessed at 11:08 a.m. and reconvened at 8 p.m.

Page H10860

Recess: The House recessed at 8:01 p.m. and reconvened at 9 p.m.

Page H10860

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on page H10859.

Senate Referrals: S. 3663 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce; S. 3681 was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform; S. 3711 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; and S. 3712 was referred to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, and Ways and Means.

Page H10860

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no yea-and-nay votes, and there were no recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FINANCIAL CRISIS—ROLE OF FANNIE MAE AND FREDDIE MAC; COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee on Oversight and Government: Held a hearing on the Role of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in the Financial Crisis. Testimony was heard from the following CEOs of Freddie Mac: Richard Syron, 2003–2008; and Leland C. Brendsel, 1987–2003; the following CEOs of Fannie Mae: Daniel H. Mudd, 2005–2008; and Franklin Raines, 1999–2004; Edward Pinto, former Chief Credit Officer, Fannie Mae, 1987–1989; Arnold King, former member, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, 1980–1986; and public witnesses.

The Committee approved the Committee Report regarding President Bush's assertion of executive privilege in response to the Committee subpoena to Attorney General Michael Mukasey.

AUTO BAILOUT PROPOSAL—ENERGY INDEPENDENCE IMPLICATIONS

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming: Held a hearing entitled "The Energy Independence Implications of the Auto Bailout Proposal." Testimony was heard from Joan Claybrook, former Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a rule waiving clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against certain resolutions reported from the Rules Committee. The rule applies the waiver to any resolution reported through the legislative day of December 13, 2008

relating to consideration or disposition of a measure to authorize financial assistance to eligible automobile manufacturers, and for other purposes. The resolution tables House resolutions 1516 and 1526.

resources projects and programs to create jobs and stimulate the economy, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine prevention and public health, 10 a.m., SD-192.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 10, 2008**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine investment in clean energy and natural

House

Committee on Financial Services, hearing entitled “Oversight Concerns Regarding Treasury Department Conduct of the Troubled Assets Relief Program,” 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 10

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, December 10

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 11:30 a.m.), Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3297, Advancing America's Priorities Act.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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