

to give at least 3 years of your tax returns. Sometimes they ask for more. So my friend Senator GRASSLEY came to the floor and suggested he could be confirmed. Well, not really. The Senator from Iowa conceded my point. Mitt Romney could not be confirmed for Treasury Secretary. He could not be confirmed as Secretary of Health and Human Services. He could not be confirmed as Trade Representative. He could not even be confirmed as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Public Affairs and a number of other positions.

But there is a larger point to be made here. And why they would bring this up again I do not know, but they did. But there is a larger point to be made here. When you are running for the highest office in the land—President of the United States—you are also held to a higher standard of conduct than someone who wants to be a Cabinet officer or sub-Cabinet officer who gives us their tax returns.

The least Mitt Romney owes the American people—the least he owes them—is some honesty and openness. That we do not have.

The Senator from Iowa is correct about one thing—and this is what he said: The contents of a candidate's taxes do speak volumes about his character. That is what Senator GRASSLEY said, and I agree with him.

Let's not forget, Mitt Romney could solve this problem tomorrow—tonight—by releasing his tax returns, which he refuses to do. Why?

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the week of September 17th marks the third annual celebration of Congress Week, sponsored by the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress. The Association is an independent alliance of institutions that preserve the papers of Members of Congress and use those papers to promote the study of Congress.

Congress Week's theme this year is "Congress: Chosen by the People." Congress is the only branch of the Federal Government that is elected by the people. It is important, as Members of Congress, to manage and preserve our own papers for future historical research and study of our democracy.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a letter from the President of the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress and the Chair of the Congressional Papers Roundtable about Congress Week be printed in the RECORD.

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

SEPTEMBER 2012.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: In honor of Congress Week (16-22 September 2012), the

Congressional Papers Roundtable (CPR) and the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress (ACSC) encourage you to remember H. Con. Res. 307 (5 March 2008), "expressing the sense of Congress that Members' Congressional papers should be properly maintained and encouraging Members to take all necessary precautions to manage and preserve these papers."

Established in 1986, the Congressional Papers Roundtable is composed of members of the Society of American Archivists who work with or have an interest in the papers of members of Congress and the records of Congress. CPR provides a forum for discussing developments and developing guidelines in the preservation and management of congressional papers and records.

In 2003, ACSC was founded as an independent alliance of institutions and organizations that support a wide range of programs designed to inform and educate students, scholars, policy-makers, and members of the general public on the history of Congress, legislative process, and current issues facing Congress. ACSC encourages the preservation of material that documents the work of Congress, including the papers of representatives and senators, and supports programs that make those materials available for educational and research use. The association also welcomes the participation of institutions and individuals committed to the goal of promoting a better understanding of Congress.

ACSC has sponsored an annual celebration of "Congress Week" since 2009. The central goal of this national initiative is to foster the study of the U.S. House and Senate, and to promote a wider appreciation for the vital role the legislative branch plays in our representative democracy. This year's theme, "Congress: Chosen by the People," is drawn directly from language in the Constitution and emphasizes that Congress is the only branch directly elected by the people. During Congress Week, ACSC members and participating organizations will feature a range of events including lectures and exhibits to highlight the role of legislative branch and the participatory role of citizens in registering to vote, staying informed on issues, and making one's opinions known to members of Congress.

Every day, the House and Senate make significant contributions to our nation's history. As a Member of Congress, the archival preservation of your papers is a long-lasting form of service to constituents in your state and throughout the nation. We urge you to embrace the tenets of H. Con. Res. 307:

(1) Members' Congressional papers (including papers of Delegates and Resident Commissioners to the Congress) should be properly maintained;

(2) each Member of Congress should take all necessary measures to manage and preserve the Member's own Congressional papers; and

(3) each Member of Congress should be encouraged to arrange for the deposit or donation of the Member's own noncurrent Congressional papers with a research institution that is properly equipped to care for them, and to make these papers available for educational purposes at a time the Member considers appropriate.

Documenting our democracy through the preservation of the record created by Congress is the work of many. In addition to the efforts of the National Archives, the endeavor involves the efforts of libraries, archival repositories, historical societies, and congressional and public policy centers in every state across the nation. We cannot succeed without you. Please take steps to preserve the historical legacy of your state and na-

tion as represented in the records generated by your congressional office.

Sincerely,

LEIGH MCWHITE, CHAIR,
Congressional Papers Roundtable, Society Association of American Archivists and Political Papers Archivist, University of Mississippi.

SHERYL B. VOGT,
PRESIDENT,
Association of Centers for the Study of Congress and Director, Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies.

U.S. SENATE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, DC, September 13, 2012.

Hon. HARRY REID,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR REID: The week of September 17, 2012 marks the third annual celebration of Congress Week, sponsored by the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress (ACSC). The ACSC was founded in 2003 as an independent alliance of institutions that preserve the papers of members of Congress and promote the study of Congress through the educational use of these collections.

This year's celebration builds on successful Congress Weeks in 2010 and 2011, observed by 35 member institutions around the country through lectures, film series, exhibits, and appearances by members of Congress. For Congress Week 2012, the ACSC and the Congressional Papers Roundtable would like to call attention to H. Con. Res. 307 (2008) by asking you to insert the attached letter into the Congressional Record.

As Chair of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, I support this request because it encourages members of Congress to preserve their records and history.

Sincerely,

NANCY ERICKSON,
Secretary of the Senate.

TRIBUTE TO PHIL AND JENNIFER SATRE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise to honor Phil and Jennifer Satre, who have spent more than 35 years as dedicated stewards of their community and champions for education. These college sweethearts are model parents, grandparents, philanthropists, and business and community leaders in northern Nevada. I am pleased that KNBP Public Broadcasting is recognizing the Satres with a special honor at the 15th Annual Aged to Perfection Tribute Dinner.

Phil Satre's work in Nevada began in 1975 with the local law firm Vargas & Barlett in Reno. Five years later, Phil started his career with Harrah's Entertainment, where he held various positions, including chairman and CEO, until his retirement in 2005. Phil was named Best Chief Executive in the Casino and Hotel Industries by the Wall Street Journal and was inducted into the Gaming Hall of Fame by the American Gaming Association, just two of his many outstanding honors and

awards. Although Phil is retired, he remains active in the community, serving on boards such as the National World War II Museum and the National Center for Responsible Gaming, NCRG.

Jennifer Satre was the cofounder of the Satre Family Fund at the Community Foundation of Western Nevada. She has served the State on multiple boards, including the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation, where she was a board trustee from 2001 to 2006, board chair in 2006, and became a trustee emerita in 2007. Jennifer, a tireless advocate for education, taught at Peavine Elementary School in Reno for seven years, nourishing, developing, and enhancing young minds to continue her legacy of great service to the community.

Due to their tremendous personal and professional success, together, Mr. and Mrs. Satre have generously supported the University of Nevada, Reno, and Stanford University, their alma mater. They continue their philanthropic legacy to the State of Nevada through the Satre Family Fund, the Phil and Jennifer Satre Harrah's Employee Scholarship Award, and other initiatives focused on community empowerment and the quality of education.

I am pleased to stand here today to recognize their remarkable contributions to the Nevada family. I am grateful to Phil and Jennifer for their exceptional service, community engagement, and love for the Silver State. You will forever be recognized as great champions for the State of Nevada.

TRIBUTE TO BILL CLINE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I stand before you to recognize and honor Mr. Bill Cline for his dedication to the development and expansion of businesses in Nevada, across the United States, and throughout the world.

Bill's leadership was essential to the establishment and growth of two U.S. Commercial Service offices: the first, in Las Vegas in 2001, and the second in Reno in 2004. The offices have assisted and continue to assist small- and medium-sized business in northern and southern Nevada expand their international exports of products and services. Bill has led international initiatives to develop strong, sustainable growth and improve international trade advocacy with the United States. These initiatives have endorsed green building, renewable energy, energy efficiency, water conservation and recycling, all of which hold great potential for U.S. exporters.

Bill's dedication to his community is demonstrated by his 36-year commitment to public service, business development, and training. Though Bill retires on October 1, 2012, as director of the U.S. Commercial Service in Reno, I look forward to his continued contributions to the Silver State.

REMEMBERING OFFICER MARK A. TAULBEE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I come to the floor to report to my colleagues some sad news. A brave Kentucky law-enforcement officer has fallen in the line of duty. Officer Mark A. Taulbee of the Hodgenville, KY, police department was killed on Sunday, September 16, when his police vehicle crashed during the pursuit of a suspect.

Officer Taulbee had been with the Hodgenville Police Department for 13 months. Prior to that, he had been a deputy with the Butler County Sheriff's Department for 3 years. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth and two children, Audra and Austin.

Officer Taulbee upheld a great tradition of service and sacrifice that is observed by the many men and women in local, State, and national law enforcement across America. Our country owes them a debt of gratitude for putting their lives on the line to protect us and our communities.

Tragically, Officer Taulbee is the first and only Hodgenville police officer ever lost in the performance of his duty. Across America, 84 law enforcement officers have fallen in the line of duty in 2012. That includes two from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, out of a total of approximately 7,800 sworn law enforcement officers statewide.

I know my Senate colleagues will join me in sending my deepest sympathies to Officer Taulbee's family and his colleagues at the Hodgenville Police Department. We have the deepest admiration and respect for police officers in every community across America.

We recognize theirs is both an honorable job and a dangerous one. They bravely risk their lives for ours, and America appreciates everything they do. We cannot be grateful enough for them and their families.

Mr. President, a recent article appeared on the Web site of television news station WAVE-3 of Louisville paying tribute to Officer Taulbee and noting the loss felt by his fellow officers. I ask unanimous consent that said article be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From WAVE3.com, Sept. 18, 2012]

HODGENVILLE POLICE CHIEF REMEMBERS FALLEN OFFICER

HODGENVILLE, KY (WAVE).—Services have been set for a Hodgenville police officer who died in the line of duty.

Officer Mark Taulbee, 44, had been a long-time law-enforcement officer in eastern Kentucky before moving to Hodgenville a little more than a year ago.

Despite being at the department a short time, the chief said Officer Taulbee had a lasting impact on the police force.

"Just like family. It's really hard," said Hodgenville Police Chief Steve Johnson. "We're very tight, and it's been a shock to all of us."

The police department of five now prepares to say goodbye to one of its own.

"I am thinking this is the only officer we've ever lost in the line of duty," Johnson said.

A makeshift memorial of crosses can be found where the crash happened.

Taulbee was chasing a suspect around 3:00 Saturday morning.

In the midst of the case, another call came into 911. "A lady said a police car had wrecked in front of her house and the officer was laying outside the vehicle," Johnson said.

Taulbee was rushed to a hospital. "His wife was working at Hardin Memorial Hospital when he arrived. She's an X-ray technician," Johnson said.

It's believed that's the last time she saw him. He was then rushed to University of Louisville Hospital.

"My understanding was that he was on his way to surgery or to X-rays and his heart stopped. They did CPR but were unable to bring him back," Johnson said.

Johnson said his phone has been ringing non-stop with calls from across the country, offering support.

"Hopkinsville and Elizabethtown are going to send officers over to work the city so all my units can go to his funeral. I guess that's what's hitting us so hard. It's the suddenness of it. It's just hard," Johnson said.

Services for Officer Taulbee will be held at the Hodgenville Civic Center. Visitation is set for Thursday from 3 to 8 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to noon. The funeral will begin at noon on Friday.

The officer leaves behind a wife, a 20-year-old daughter and a 16-year-old son.

REMEMBERING GEORGE WASHINGTON 'G.W.' GRIFFIN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to mourn the loss of a good man, an honored Kentuckian, and a dear friend. Mr. George Washington Griffin passed away on December 19, 2011, from complications of pneumonia at the age of 85. He is deeply missed by all those who knew and loved him.

George—known to his friends as G.W.—was a fixture of the Laurel County community and a leader in the region and the Commonwealth. A co-owner and former chairman emeritus of the Laurel Grocery Company, G.W. served on the National American Wholesale Grocers Board of Governors for two terms beginning in 1967. He was elected president of the Kentucky Wholesale Grocers Association in 1979, and the Kentucky Grocers Association/Kentucky Association of Convenience Stores honored Mr. Griffin as Kentucky Grocer of the Year in 1986.

When George retired from the grocery industry in 1997, he left the Laurel Grocery Company well positioned for success in the 21st century. Fellow members of the grocers industry across Kentucky honored G.W. as one of the original three inductees into the Kentucky Grocers Hall of Fame in 2005.

G.W. was born in East Bernstadt, KY, in 1926. He attended the Kentucky Military Institute, Wake Forest University, and the University of Kentucky. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was decorated with the Victory Medal, the American Area Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal, and the Philippine Liberations Ribbon.

G.W. was also very involved with the Cumberland Valley National Bank, Institutional Distributors, and played a