I am pleased to have the opportunity to publicly thank Renee and to note my appreciation for her dedicated and dignified efforts. We will miss your insight and experience, and your commitment to pursuing the right policies to protect our Nation.

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the record the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry Subcommittee assignments.

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

UNITED STATES, SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION & FORESTRY

Subcommittee on Commodities, Markets, Trade and Risk Management

Subcommittee on Jobs, Rural Economic Growth and Energy Innovation

Subcommittee on Conservation, Forestry and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Food and Agricultural Research

Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Marketing and Agriculture Security

Senator Stabenow and Senator Cochrane serve as ex officio members of all subcommittees.

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN FROM GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, no family should be forced to endure the loss of a child. In his memoir, President Dwight Eisenhower wrote that the loss of his 5-year-old son in early 1921 was "the greatest disappointment and disaster in my life, the one that I have never been able to forget completely."

That is why one of the fundamental expectations that Americans have of their government is also one of the most simple: to protect America’s children; to keep our children safe; to protect our communities, our streets, and our families are safe.

But sadly, Congress has done little to combat the gun violence that continues to devastate American children and families. Many have characterized horrific shootings affecting children in our Nation, such as the one which occurred in Newtown, CT, as somehow separate from mainstream American society. But recent tragedies show that such incidents cannot be viewed in a vacuum. Instead, as a recent Yale University study has established, they are part of a wider, disturbing trend of gun violence wounding and killing American children.

This study found that every day in the United States, around 20 children sustain firearm injuries serious enough to require hospitalization. In 6 percent of those cases, the wounds prove to be fatal. Three quarters of child hospitalizations examined by the study were the result of unintentional or accidental injuries, often cases of children playing with an unsecured firearm.

The study’s rigorous clinical framework, combined with the reality that it is discussing children, makes for jarring reading. The researchers found, for example, that the most common firearm-inflicted injuries on children are open wounds, fractures, and internal injuries to the thorax, abdomen, or pelvis. Injuries to the nervous system and to the spinal cord are also frequent. Traumatic brain injury resulting from gun violence is most often found in children younger than 5. These are not statistics of soldiers on a battlefield who volunteered for combat. These are children, in our communities, right here at home.

This cycle of violence touches families around our Nation. Like in Detroit, where a recent Detroit News investigation showed that nearly 500 Detroit children have died in homicides since 2000, mostly as the result of gun violence. That investigation cited, as an example, the story of 12-year-old Kenis Green Jr. Last August, he was killed in his Detroit home during his uncle’s birthday party. In Texas, last October a 5-year-old boy shot himself with a .40 caliber pistol that his babysitter left unattended when she went to take a nap. In South Carolina, last December a 15-year-old boy accidentally shot and killed a 12-year-old while loading a magazine into a firearm.

If almost anything in the world was responsible for sending 20 American children to the hospital every day, or was frequently involved in teenage suicides, or was inflicting traumatic brain injuries on toddlers, Congress would spring into action to address what can only be described as a public health crisis. We would enact comprehensive safety standards to stop the bloodshed. But when firearms are responsible for these horrific effects, inexplicably, we do nothing.

I urge my colleagues to recognize the crisis and to protect our children from gun violence. I urge my colleagues to take up and pass gun safety measures already pending in this Congress to keep firearms out of
the wrong hands and to make our soci-
ety safer. We owe our children nothing
less.

BROWN UNIVERSITY
Mr. REED. Madam President, today I
want to recognize an extraordinary
university, deeply rooted in the history
of Rhode Island, Brown University. Brown
is celebrating its 250th anniversary.
University’s founding in 1764 makes it the
seventh oldest institution of higher edu-
cation in the United States, predating even
the American Revolution. The university
originally began as a small school lo-
cated in Wartan, RI, known as the Col-
lege of Rhode Island. As Brown grew, it
moved to College Hill in Providence in
1770, where it has thrived to this day
and was renamed a few years later to
acknowledge a $5,000 gift from Nicholas
Brown, a member of the class of 1786.
Since its founding, Brown University has
played an important role in Rhode
Island and our Nation’s history. In-
deed, it was the first Ivy League insti-
tution to admit students of all reli-
gions. Brown remains committed to di-
erity and access. Over 20 years ago,
Brown established the Leadership Alli-
ance, a national academic consortium of
leading research universities and mi-
nority-serving institutions with
the mission to develop underrepresented
students into outstanding leaders and
role models in academia, business, and
the public sector. Brown stands out for
its willingness to openly delve into its
past in Wartan, RI, focused on the fu-
ture, and it has made a vital commit-
tment to college access through its
need-blind admissions policy, ensuring
that no student admitted to Brown will
be turned away for financial reasons.
Brown is a truly student-driven cur-
riculum—in 1970 to allow students to
personalize their course of study. In an
effort to continue its edge in innova-
tion, Brown launched its Plan for Acad-
emic Enrichment in 2002 to help
transform the fields of research, edu-
cation, and public leadership. Fiscal
year 2013 saw the University conduct
more than $170 million in sponsored re-
search, helping the Rhode Island econ-
omy and making new discoveries that
can improve lives.

The commitment of Brown’s alumni to
public service is also particularly
noteworthy and admirable. According
to a 2013 article by Washington Monthly,
Brown ranks fifth among national
universities and first in the Ivy League
for the number of alumni working in
public service. Some of the Brown
alumni currently playing important
roles in the public sphere include Fed-
eral Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, U.S.
Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez, and
World Bank President Dr. Jim Yong
Kim. Through this commitment to
service, members of the Brown commu-
nity continue to find ways to improve
the quality of life for people across
Rhode Island, the Nation, and the
world.

I am proud of the talented men and
women who have contributed to the
success of Brown University over these
past 250 years. I congratulate Christina
Paxson, Brown’s 19th president, the
students, the Brown Corporation, and
the entire Brown community on this
significant milestone.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JEFF TEAGUE
• Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I
wish to recognize Jeff Teague, presi-
dent of Teague Auto Group in El Do-
rado, AR, who was named the 2014 Time
Magazine Dealer of the Year.
Awarded annually, the Time Maga-
azine Dealer of the Year Award recog-
nizes the auto dealer who demonstrates
exceptional business performance and
distinguished community service. Jeff
was recognized for the positive impact
he is making on the El Dorado commu-

In 1981, Jeff and his father opened
their first dealership as partners, a
Chevrolet-Oldsmobile dealership, in
Walmart Ridge, AR. He opened his cur-
current dealership in El Dorado in 1990,
and through hard work and determina-
tion, Jeff built his dealership into a
thriving business. His story is an Ar-
kanza success story which I am proud
to acknowledge.

In addition to his business success,
Jeff has been a licensed pilot for 26
years and frequently uses this skill to
serve his community, including flying
church members to charitable initia-
tives and serving as a standby pilot for
a local liver transplant patient. He is
a member of Rotary International, the
El Dorado Chamber of Commerce, the
El Dorado Economic Development
Board, the Batesville Chamber of Com-
merce, and since 2007, has served as
chairman of the South Arkansas Re-
gional Airport Commission. Jeff also
currently serves on the board of direc-
tors for Citizens Bank of Batesville.

Jeff and his wife, Sarah, are well
known for their community involve-
ment in El Dorado. They both are ac-
tively involved with the Boys & Girls
Clubs of El Dorado, the South Arkan-
sas Arts Center, the South Arkansas
Symphony Orchestra, MusicFest El Do-
rado, the Salvation Army, Union Coun-
ty 4-H, the South Arkansas Historical
Foundation, and Arkansas Baptist
Children’s Homes and Family Min-
istries.

I want to offer my congratulations
to Jeff Teague on this well-deserved honor
and thank him for his dedication and
commitment to the community of El
Dorado and to Arkansas.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the
United States were communicated to
the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his sec-
daries.

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 messages received
today are printed at the end of the Senate
proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:29 a.m., a message from the
House of Representatives, delivered by
Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, an-
nounced that the House has passed the
following bills, in which it requests the
concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3038. An act to require a Federal agen-
cy to include language in certain edu-
cational and advertising materials indi-
cating that such materials are produced
and disseminated at taxpayer expense.
H.R. 3865. An act to require the Internal
Revenue Service from modifying the stan-
dard for determining whether an organiza-
tion is operated exclusively for the promo-
tion of social welfare for purposes of section
501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of
1986.

The message also announced that
pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2761, and the order
of the House of January 3, 2013, the
Speaker appoints the following
Members of the House of Representa-
tives to the Board of Trustees of Gal-
laudet University: Mr. YODER of Kansas
and Mr. BUTTERFIELD of North Caro-
la.

The message further announced that
pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, and the order
of the House of January 3, 2013, the
Speaker appoints the following Member of
the House of Representatives to the Brit-
ish-American Interparliamentary Group:
Mr. ROE of Tennessee.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:47 p.m., a message from the
House of Representatives, delivered by
Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, an-
nounced that the Speaker had signed the
following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2531. An act to reauthorize the Na-
tional Integrated Drought Information Sys-
tem.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed
by the President pro tempore
(Mr. LEAHY).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first
and the second times by unanimous
consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1423. An act to provide taxpayers
with an annual report disclosing the cost and per-
formance of Government programs and areas of
duplication among them, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Se-
curity and Governmental Affairs.
H.R. 1944. An act to protect private prop-
erty rights; to the Committee on the Judici-
ary.
H.R. 2530. An act to improve transparency
and efficiency with respect to audits and
communications between taxpayers and the
Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee
on Finance.