

predecessor, Lisa Monaco, went to the White House last year to be President Obama's top advisor for counterterrorism and homeland security.

Before his position as Acting Assistant Attorney General, Mr. Carlin was the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General and chief of staff for the National Security Division. From 2007 to 2011, he served in leadership roles at the FBI, including as chief of staff to FBI Director Robert Mueller.

Mr. Carlin also served in a variety of positions in the Department between 1999 and 2007, including as a career Federal prosecutor, where Mr. Carlin served as National Coordinator of DOJ's Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property, CHIP, program. Before that, he was an assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, where he prosecuted cases ranging from homicide and sex crimes to cyber, fraud, and public corruption matters.

In one noteworthy case, he obtained a guilty verdict against Modou Camara on charges of conspiracy, fraud, and money laundering, in connection with real estate transactions in which Camara persuaded unqualified buyers to submit fraudulent loan applications through a first-time homebuyer program run by the Department of Housing and Urban Development's, HUD, Federal Housing Administration, FHA. Through this scheme, Camara bought properties at low prices and sold them—usually on the same day that he purchased them—at an artificially inflated price for a large profit. When Camara's recruited purchasers failed to repay their loans, HUD was forced to reimburse the lender. HUD lost over \$1 million due to Camara's scheme.

As a prosecutor, he also obtained convictions in cases against a defendant who tortured and murdered a baby girl, a defendant who bribed former Congressman "Duke" Cunningham, and a defendant who was charged with first-degree murder.

Mr. Carlin was approved by the Intelligence Committee on March 4, 2014, and by the Judiciary Committee on February 6, 2014. Both committees received several letters in support of Mr. Carlin from senior officials and colleagues from both sides of the aisle.

I fully support Mr. Carlin's confirmation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, this is a special week. The Week of the Young Child, launched by the National Association for the Education of Young Children in 1971 and carried out in communities across the country, is a time to raise public awareness about the importance of high-quality early childhood education and to recognize the millions of people who care for and teach young children every day.

The theme of this year's Week of the Young Child is "early years are learn-

ing years." Research is compelling that children are ready to learn from birth—what they need are the positive conditions and opportunities to learn and thrive not only to be prepared for school but to prepare to be productive adults.

Early childhood education is about development and learning, but it is also an economic driver. Nobel laureate James Heckman and others note that when we invest in high-quality early childhood education, starting with infants, the taxpayer benefits from lower expenditures for special and remedial education, reduced juvenile crime rates, and higher graduation rates.

Even though we know about the importance of early childhood education, for many families the costs are too much for the family budget, especially high-quality programs. The child care and development block grant, helping families afford childcare and helping states raise the quality of care, serves only one in six eligible children. In fact, roughly 260,000 fewer children received assistance in 2012 than in 2006. I am glad we ended the cuts to Head Start in fiscal year 2014, but even so, we help less than half of the eligible preschoolers and only 4 percent of eligible Early Head Start infants and toddlers. State pre-K is growing, but it is uneven quality among our States and doesn't reach all the eligible children whose families would want to enroll them. Early intervention services—a significant intervention for children's early school readiness—is woefully underfunded as well.

The educators who work with these young children in childcare, Head Start and other program settings are very underpaid. A childcare provider makes about \$20,000 a year. The turnover rate is high. When teachers get a degree, they can move to better jobs to support their own families, but it means inconsistency of relationships for children and difficulty sustaining quality for providers. We must do more to ensure early childhood educators get the specialized degrees and credentials they need and then compensate them on par with their school-based colleagues.

In my State of Alaska, one snowy night over a year ago in Anchorage, I met with about 50 strongly committed Alaska educators to talk about how to improve our schools and prepare our students for the competitive 21st-century economy.

From that conversation, the idea for three bills evolved. I then introduced a package of legislation, the Keep Investing in Developmental Success, KIDS, Act. These three early childhood bills will address access, quality, and affordability in early education programs.

First, we will amend the Tax Code to provide a tax credit for early childhood educators. The Tax Relief for Early Educators Act will expand the deductions for certain expenses for early childhood education and increase the childcare tax credit so more parents

can afford to put their children in quality early child development programs.

Second, we will create a new student loan forgiveness program for graduates of associate's or bachelor's programs in early education. The Preparing and Reinvesting in Early Education Act—or PRE ED—will provide needed relief for early educators and encourage more to work with kids through age 5. Well-trained educators providing quality early education makes all the difference in a child's success.

Third, we need to reward companies offering onsite or near-site childcare with a company cost-share. We know it works for the company and for the employee—just look around our State. In Alaska BP, Credit Union One and Fairbanks Memorial Hospital are great examples. They all offer quality onsite centers. They know it makes more productive employees.

The Child Care Public-Private Partnership Act will establish a program to provide childcare through partnerships. Through new grant incentives for small and medium companies, we can help more Alaska companies do the same.

These bills recognize the importance of childcare in the lives of working families. They will make it easier for early childhood educators to provide stimulating and effective instruction in safe environments.

As we recognize and celebrate this week of the young child, we need to be perfectly clear in our commitment to continue to support and expand the education of children. I believe all of my colleagues in the Senate should join together to make this a priority because, as this year's theme says so well, the early years are indeed the learning years.●

REMEMBERING ALLEN MAXWELL

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, recently, we tragically lost Monticello, AR Mayor Allen Maxwell very suddenly and unexpectedly. He did a tremendous job as mayor. No one valued his family and community more than Mayor Maxwell.

After a successful career in the private sector, Allen embarked on a second career in public service that included a stint as U.S. Representative Jay Dickey's chief of staff in the 1990's. Six years later, he was motivated to run for an elected office of his own. It was an excellent decision that ended with a successful election to the Arkansas House of Representatives where he represented district 10 for 3 terms and focused on creating jobs in Arkansas's manufacturing sector before being term-limited out.

Committed to making Arkansas a better place to live and do business, Allen knew he could still contribute and decided to run for mayor of Monticello. He won with 70 percent of the vote, focused his energies on infrastructure and capital improvements, and left his mark on Monticello before his sudden and untimely passing.