

Typically, 100 or more Pease Greeters will be on hand for a ceremony, forming a celebratory gauntlet to cheer and welcome servicemembers as they disembark from a troop transport plane. In addition to refreshments and gifts, each servicemember is given a cut-out embroidered star from a retired American flag. On one occasion, the group was informed at 10 p.m. that a Marine unit bound for Afghanistan would be flying out of Pease just six hours later, at 4 a.m. The Greeters scrambled to meet the challenge and were present with refreshments and a cheering crowd for the pre-dawn send-off.

In addition to meeting flights, the Pease Greeters organize efforts to support veterans, Active-Duty servicemembers, and their families. They also send care packages to servicemembers on duty overseas. Since 2008, the Greeters have sent more than 75,000 pounds of care package items to those serving in conflict zones.

I salute the Pease Greeters for their dedication to supporting and thanking our brave men and women in uniform, one flight at a time. Across 1,000 flights, they have delivered to our servicemembers an important message, eloquently expressed by Mr. Cove: "The road to freedom is a toll road. We thank you for paying our way."

We join with the Greeters in thanking the men and women of our Armed Forces. In addition, I want to express my deep appreciation to the Pease Greeters for their own generous service to our Nation.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT E. WITT

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. Robert E. Witt, chancellor of the University of Alabama system, who is retiring in August of this year. Dr. Witt will be long remembered for his remarkable career, his extraordinary leadership, and for his role in restoring the University of Alabama to its rightful place as the capstone of higher education.

A native of Bridgeport, CT, Dr. Witt received his bachelor's degree in economics from Bates College. He received his M.B.A. from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College and his Ph.D. from the Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Witt began his 35-year career in higher education in 1968 when he joined the business school faculty at the University of Texas at Austin. He eventually became department chair, associate dean, and in 1985, he was named dean of the UT business school. In 1995, Dr. Witt was named president of the University of Texas at Arlington, where he served until 2003 before moving to Tuscaloosa, AL.

Prior to his election as chancellor of Alabama's largest education enterprise, Dr. Witt served as president of the University of Alabama from 2003 to 2012. Throughout his tenure, I was impressed by his vision and commitment to growing the capstone into one of the

leading institutions for higher education in the South.

During his 9 years as president of the university, he led an ambitious campaign for academic growth and achievement that positioned the University of Alabama as one of America's fastest growing public universities. Because of his efforts, the university has achieved a higher position academically, which continues to bring positive growth to the University of Alabama and our State as a whole.

In addition to serving as president of the University of Alabama system, Dr. Witt is chairman of the Council of the Presidents of Alabama's public colleges and universities. He is a member of the Governor's College & Career Ready Task Force, the American Cast Iron Pipe Company Board of Directors, the Alexis deTocqueville Executive Committee, the Advisory Board, and the Elizabeth Project Care Board. Dr. Witt is past chairman of the chamber of commerce of West Alabama, a past member of the Tuscaloosa County IDA Board, and the Black Warrior Council Boy Scouts of America.

In 2011, Dr. Witt was inducted into the Alabama Academy of Honor, which is comprised of 100 living Alabamians elected for their noteworthy service to the State.

Dr. Witt's many accomplishments, as well as his contributions to the University of Alabama, city of Tuscaloosa, and the State of Alabama, will not be soon forgotten. Our State and community have been fortunate to have a leader like Dr. Robert Witt, and I wish Dr. Witt and his wife, Sandee, the very best in their next chapter.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 9:32 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:

S. 337. An act to improve the Freedom of Information Act.

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

At 1:38 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 2133. An act to improve Federal agency financial and administrative controls and procedures to assess and mitigate fraud risks, and to improve Federal agencies' development and use of data analytics for the purpose of identifying, preventing, and responding to fraud, including improper payments.

S. 2487. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to identify mental health care and suicide prevention programs and metrics that are effective in treating women veterans as part of the evaluation of such programs by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following

bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2395. An act to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to strengthen the independence of the Inspectors General, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2607. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7802 37th Avenue in Jackson Heights, New York, as the "Jeanne and Jules Manford Post Office Building".

H.R. 3936. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program under which the Secretary carries out Veteran Engagement Team events where veterans can complete claims for disability compensation and pension under the laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4010. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 522 North Central Avenue in Phoenix, Arizona, as the "Ed Pastor Post Office".

H.R. 4372. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15 Rochester Street, Bergen, New York, as the Barry G. Miller Post Office.

H.R. 4590. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out certain major medical facility projects for which appropriations are being made for fiscal year 2016, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4639. An act to reauthorize the Office of Special Counsel, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide modifications to authorities relating to the Office of Special Counsel, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4777. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1301 Alabama Avenue in Selma, Alabama as the "Amelia Boynton Robinson Post Office Building".

H.R. 4902. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to expand law enforcement availability pay to employees of U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations.

H.R. 4925. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 West Main Cross Street, in Findlay, Ohio, as the "Michael Garver Oxley Memorial Post Office Building".

H.R. 4960. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 525 N Broadway in Aurora, Illinois, as the "Kenneth M. Christy Post Office Building".

H.R. 5028. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10721 E Jefferson Ave in Detroit, Michigan, as the "Mary E. McCoy Post Office Building".

H.R. 5170. An act to encourage and support partnerships between the public and private sectors to improve our Nation's social programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5317. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs health care center in Center Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the "Abie Abraham VA Clinic".

H.R. 5388. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for innovative research and development, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5389. An act to encourage engagement between the Department of Homeland Security and technology innovators, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5447. An act to provide an exception from certain group health plan requirements for qualified small employer health reimbursement arrangements.

H.R. 5452. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit individuals eligible for Indian Health Service assistance to qualify for health savings accounts.

H.R. 5456. An act to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to invest in funding prevention and family services to help keep children safe and supported