

In 2004, she returned to public service and became an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Texas, where she prosecuted a variety of criminal cases. She also served as the deputy criminal chief in charge of the district's major fraud and public corruption section.

In 2011, Ms. Saldaña was nominated and confirmed to become the first Latina United States attorney in the history of Texas and only the second woman to hold that position in the 135-year history of Texas' Northern District—a region that includes the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and spans 100 counties and stretches across 95,000 square miles.

In 2014, Ms. Saldaña was confirmed to lead the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. As ICE's Director, she helped to oversee the largest investigative agency within the Department of Homeland Security and to protect the safety and security of the United States.

Throughout her career, she has served with integrity and character. Ms. Saldaña has served the people of Texas and the United States with honor—fighting illegal immigration, public corruption, organized crime, sexual predators, and other dangerous criminals.

Her legacy will continue to benefit the American people and I join with her family, friends, and coworkers in saying that her experience and dedication to public service will be missed.

I offer my appreciation to Sarah R. Saldaña for her service to our Nation and send my best wishes for the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BETH BELL

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize an exceptional public servant, Dr. Beth Bell, who is retiring from the directorship of the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, NCEZID, at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC.

Dr. Bell began her career with the CDC in 1992, in my home State, as an epidemic intelligence service, EIS, officer assigned to the Washington State Department of Health, where she led a seminal investigation into E. coli infections. After completing her EIS training, she moved to CDC Atlanta to join the hepatitis branch in the division of viral and rickettsial diseases, later serving as chief of the epidemiology branch in the division of viral hepatitis. During her 13 years working on viral hepatitis, she led important efforts to better understand the epidemiology of hepatitis A in the United States, applying this knowledge to the development and implementation of hepatitis A vaccination policy. These extraordinary efforts contributed to reductions in national hepatitis A incidence of more than 95 percent. She also worked on implementation of global infant hepatitis A and B vaccination

programs during the early days of the Global Alliance for Vaccines Initiative. She later served as the acting deputy director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases during the H1N1 influenza pandemic before being appointed director of the newly formed Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, NCEZID, in 2010.

In that role, Dr. Bell has been at the forefront of the agency's critical and complex emergency response efforts. In 2014-2015, Dr. Bell was called upon to lead the center through the largest Ebola epidemic in history. After reaching a near breaking point where, according to CDC Director Dr. Tom Frieden, it was "spiraling out of control" in late 2014, the epidemic was contained through the aggressive use of proven outbreak-control measures such as patient isolation and contact tracing.

In 2016, Dr. Bell found herself leading the response to yet another pandemic as Zika exploded in South and Central America, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, and Florida. The impact of Zika on women and children through microcephaly, a life-threatening condition in which children are born with unusually small heads, was heartbreaking and historically significant—never before has a mosquito-borne infection caused such devastating birth defects. CDC's early alert—under Dr. Bell's leadership—to people traveling to countries with Zika likely prevented an untold number of infections among women of child-bearing age; and, continuing through her very last day of Federal service, Dr. Bell was critical in CDC's support for U.S. territories, cities, and States—as well as other impacted countries.

In addition, Dr. Bell oversaw the Center's response to chikungunya spreading throughout the Americas in 2013-14, the second-largest outbreak of West Nile virus disease in the United States in 2012, and hundreds of outbreaks of foodborne disease. Her leadership of the Center during each of these outbreaks has been remarkable, and all Americans have benefited from her steady hand and commitment to service. Dr. Bell also held leadership roles during CDC responses to the 2001 anthrax attacks and Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Her outstanding leadership, scientific judgment, and expertise have been critical to the success of the Center in these endeavors.

In 2012, she was called upon to lead the Center's response to the fungal meningitis outbreak associated with contaminated steroid products—America's largest healthcare related outbreak ever. The New York Times called it "one of the most shocking outbreaks in the annals of American medicine." Following her testimony before the Senate HELP committee, Dr. Bell was lauded for CDC's prompt and decisive role in the response, which likely prevented many hundreds of infections and deaths among patients who would

otherwise have received injections of fungus-contaminated medication.

She also directed two new cross-cutting infectious disease initiatives that have already shown benefits to the field of public health: the Advanced Molecular Detection, AMD, and the Antibiotic Resistance Solutions Initiatives. Together, these initiatives are helping scientists better understand how infections spread and transforming our national capacity to detect, respond, contain, and prevent drug-resistant infections. Because of Dr. Bell's leadership, our Nation will be better equipped to address the growing threat of antibiotic resistance, as well as a myriad of other public health threats.

Dr. Bell exemplifies steadfastness and courage in protecting the Nation's health. She has demonstrated an unwavering level of dedication and passion for public health at all levels, recognizing the important roles of State, local, county, tribal, and Federal partners.

Dr. Bell has been a true public servant. I ask that we honor Dr. Bell today for her invaluable leadership to the CDC and America's public health efforts.

TRIBUTE TO RAY MABUS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Secretary Ray Mabus on his retirement as the 75th Secretary of the Navy. It has been a great pleasure to work with Secretary Mabus during his impressive and storied tenure as the longest serving Secretary of the Navy since World War I.

Since his confirmation in 2009, Secretary Mabus has continually reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring America's naval forces are second to none. During his more than 7 years of service, Secretary Mabus has also demonstrated an unwavering commitment to building our naval fleet and supporting America's shipbuilding industrial base. He has put 84 ships under contract across the country, more than the last three Navy secretaries combined, and invested significantly in our aging shipbuilding infrastructure.

Secretary Mabus's focus on increasing shipbuilding has allowed the men and women at Bath Iron Works, BIW, to continue building high-quality destroyers, which are the workhorses of our Navy. To allow the Navy to operate these ships to their fullest potential while remaining mindful of the budget constraints faced by our military, Secretary Mabus supported energy initiatives to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. His focus on power-saving technologies, like diesel-electric plants in new ships, has reduced the Navy and Marine Corps' fuel expenses by 30 percent.

In Maine, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, PNSY, has received approximately \$100 million in modernization funds since 2009, enabling it to maintain its status as the gold standard for public naval shipyards and further

hone its efficiency and effectiveness in submarine repair.

While advancing these reforms, Secretary Mabus visited Navy and Marine Corps installations across the globe, traveling over 1.3 million miles to over 150 countries and territories and all 50 States. When measured in distance, Secretary Mabus has travelled to the moon and back almost three times. In 2009, he and I visited the hard-working men and women at BIW and PNSY together. Since that first visit, Secretary Mabus has worked tirelessly to support our shipbuilding industrial base and ensure our Navy and Marine Corps have the tools they need to succeed.

In addition, Secretary Mabus's leadership in 2010 on the Gulf Coast's long-term recovery plan following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill was exemplary. His work securing the future of the Gulf Coast made Americans and certainly his home State of Mississippi proud.

Finally, his emphasis on platforms, power, and partnerships allowed our Navy to grow in strength, but Secretary Mabus never forgot those who make the system work: the people.

Secretary Mabus was instrumental in advancing the repeal of don't ask, don't tell in 2011, a harmful policy that barred Americans from serving their country simply because of their sexual orientation. His efforts helped to ensure that all patriots who willingly answer the call to arms may proudly serve their Nation.

Similarly, as discussions on military integration have evolved with a new focus on women in combat, Secretary Mabus again stepped up to become a leader on gender equality in the military. His support for integration of women into the Navy and Marine Corps, in all occupations and specialties, and his expansion of maternity leave have ensured that women can serve in the military jobs they love.

Secretary Mabus has also taken steps to support career flexibility, continuing education, and family well-being for all members of the Navy and Marine Corps. He worked to ensure that all those who serve in uniform are provided the mental health care they need and deserve. By supporting and empowering a dedicated, intelligent, and committed personnel base, Secretary Mabus has enabled our Navy to remain the powerful fighting force that it is today.

With his retirement, we lose a true patriot who served his country as a civilian, as well as in uniform, and we lose a visionary leader who saw how our Armed Forces could be better—and did everything in his power to make it happen. It has been a personal and professional pleasure to work with Secretary Mabus, and I wish him fair winds and following seas.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JOHN AND STEPHANIE HEKKEL

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I have the honor of recognizing John and Stephanie Hekkel of Anaconda in celebration of the rebuilding of Club Moderne.

The bar had been considered an area landmark since its founding in 1937 and was truly a sight to behold. With its rounded front facade and Carrara glass panels, it reflected the Art Deco style of the time of its founding. It was designed by Bozeman-based architect Fred Willson and built by local carpenters and craftspeople under the direction of the first owner, John "Skinny" Francisco.

Until recently, the Club Moderne had changed very little since its opening day, and in 1986, it was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1997, the Francisco family sold the bar to a close friend, longtime bartender, and Anaconda native John Hekkel who continued its legacy as a flagship watering hole, especially for area law enforcement and firefighters, while maintaining its retro atmosphere.

A recent Yelp review described taking a step inside "like walking inside a time capsule!"

Last April, it also won the top award in The Big Tap: 2016 Historic Bars Tournament Championship, an online contest sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Unfortunately, Club Moderne was destroyed in a fire in October, a tragic loss to the Anaconda community.

The night the fire happened, I understand John Hekkel stayed at the bar until 4:00 in the morning and, after the fire was extinguished, grabbed a shovel and physically helped with the cleanup.

Just this week, I was thrilled to hear the Hekkel's announce plans to rebuild the bar and restore this historic establishment.

This is a true Montana story. Montanans pull themselves up by their bootstraps, even in times of hardship or loss.

I invite fellow Montanans to stop by to try whatever's on tap or a Moscow Mule, which is an Anaconda specialty.

The Hekkel's, through Club Moderne, have welcomed those just passing through our State and native Montanans alike for generations. As small business owners, they have brought their community together. I wish them all my best as they restore Club Moderne and renew it as a bright spot in the Anaconda community. I look forward to visiting with John and Stephanie there when they reopen.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:29 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 21. An act to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for en bloc consideration in resolutions of disapproval for "midnight rules", and for other purposes.

H.R. 69. An act to authorize 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. 70. An act to amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to increase the transparency of Federal advisory committees, and for other purposes.

H.R. 71. An act to provide taxpayers with an annual report disclosing the cost and performance of Government programs and areas of duplication among them, and for other purposes.

H.R. 72. An act to ensure the Government Accountability Office has adequate access to information.

H.R. 73. An act to amend title 44, United States Code, to require information on contributors to Presidential library fundraising organizations, and for other purposes.

H. J. Res. 3. Joint resolution approving the location of a memorial to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces who served on active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 21. An act to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for en bloc consideration in resolutions of disapproval for "midnight rules", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 69. 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; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 70. An act to amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to increase the transparency of Federal advisory committees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 71. An act to provide taxpayers with an annual report disclosing the cost and performance of Government programs and areas of duplication among them, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 72. An act to ensure the Government Accountability Office has adequate access to