

wife. Vaughn has been married to his wife, Candace, for more than 40 years. Together, they reside in Tulsa, OK, and they have two adult children, Hayden and Vaughn, Jr., and five grandchildren. Graham is also active in his community with charitable and civic organizations. He is a member of Leadership Tulsa, the Rotary Club of Tulsa, and is a volunteer mentor to students of Celia Clinton Elementary School.

The State of Oklahoma is proud of Vaughn Graham and wishes him and Candace well following his successful year as chairman of the Big "I."●

RECOGNIZING MAINE EMPLOYERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

● Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to honor and recognize the Maine Employers' Mutual Insurance Company, MEMIC, a workers' compensation company based in Portland, ME. MEMIC was recently recognized as the best workers' compensation company in the country according to a New York nonprofit that analyzes health insurance companies. A cause for celebration in itself, MEMIC also celebrates its 25th anniversary this year.

One of the greatest success stories in Maine's history, MEMIC revolutionized workplace safety by focusing directly on case management and results. Prior to its incorporation, the workers compensation system was in peril, negatively affecting Maine's economy and workplace environment. Insurance companies that offered workers' compensation were steadily bailing, as costs of writing policies increased. Liability costs climbed as work-related injuries reached peak in the early 1990s. MEMIC's mission was founded on a need for change; both employees and employers need to feel protected from mishap and accidents.

By prioritizing fair and equal treatment of all stakeholders, MEMIC helped Maine's economy avert a crisis. In 1993, Governor John McKernan, Jr., signed legislation that reformed worker safety and appointed a board of directors to set attainable goals and accountability. By its third year, workplace injuries in Maine had dropped to the lowest level in over 16 years, leading to a significant drop in premiums. By its fifth year, MEMIC was able to partially return investment capital to its policyholders with a promise to return the rest within the next 5 years. In addition to lowering costs, reducing fraud, and boosting the economy, MEMIC reinforced transparency, social accountability, and market stability for business leaders. That trend continues to this day when, in November 2017, MEMIC announced that approximately 18,000 employers who purchased insurance through MEMIC would share in a \$21 million dividend, the highest shareholder return in history, and a true reward for improving workplace safety and helping injured workers get well and back to work as soon as possible. That is money going directly

back into Maine's economy through private, public, and nonprofit sectors in all 16 counties. Since 1998, MEMIC has returned more than \$240 million to Maine policyholders, a truly remarkable track record and testament to its integral role and value in strengthening Maine's workforce and economy.

With a 25-year foundation of success, MEMIC's current management and leadership team continue this strong commitment to a work environment conducive to innovation, as well as workplace safety and fair claims management. I commend MEMIC for its groundbreaking history, stabilizing Maine's economy and revolutionizing the workers' compensation industry.●

CENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

● Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, today I wish to pay special tribute to the American Legion Department of Michigan, which this year is celebrating its 100th convention.

When the American Legion was chartered by Congress 1919, its members were veterans of what was termed the War to End All Wars: World War I. They served alongside people like John F. Roehl, a former major in the Air Service and chief inspector for the Detroit Department of Health, first commander of American Legion Post 1 in Warren; Captain James Wilson, who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and received a citation for bravery in action from General John Pershing, first commander of Post 36 in Kalamazoo; and Lilly Larson of Ishpeming, who served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and today is the namesake of American Legion Post 114 in Greenwood.

Today's American Legion members have served on many fronts and in many capacities. However, they share a few key attributes with the American Legion's very first members. They all have a deep and profound love for this country. They all have served in uniform with honor, and they all are dedicated to continuing to serve their communities, their country, and their fellow veterans.

They do this in as many ways as there are American Legion posts in big cities, small towns, and rural areas across Michigan and across this country.

Post 44 in Marquette sponsors a youth hockey team, which gives area young people a chance to stay active and involved during those months when the snow is a bit too deep in the Upper Peninsula to play American Legion baseball.

Post 459 in Grand Rapids teams up with organizations including the Children's Advocacy Center of Kent County to raise funds to support children who are victims of abuse and to build communities where all young people are respected and safe.

Post 202 in Detroit has a strong focus on connecting young people in south-

east Michigan with educational and service opportunities, including Boys State, Student Trooper, JROTC, and college scholarships.

Post 68 in Paw Paw hosts an "All Gave Some . . . Some Gave All" golf outing to raise money for items like Trackchairs, so that wounded Michigan warriors can continue to enjoy the active, offroad life so many people in our State enjoy.

Whether they are finding housing for homeless veterans, connecting separating servicemembers with employment opportunities, supporting military families, or inspiring the next generation of patriots, every day, American Legion members are doing all they can to build stronger communities and a stronger country.

Their hard work and dedication is a testament to their organization and to the values that have been the foundation of the American Legion from the beginning: love of country, respect for continued service, promotion of a strong national defense, and devotion to their fellow servicemembers and veterans.

For a century, the American Legion has made sure that the voices of our veterans are heard and their service and sacrifice have not been forgotten. On its 100th anniversary, it is my honor to do the same for them.

Thank you.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgeway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 9:50 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 204. An act to authorize the use of unapproved medical products by patients diagnosed with a terminal illness in accordance with State law, and for other purposes.

S. 2155. An act to promote economic growth, provide tailored regulatory relief, and enhance consumer protections, and for other purposes.

S. 2372. An act to establish a permanent community care program for veterans, to establish a commission for the purpose of making recommendations regarding the modernization or realignment of facilities of the Veterans Health Administration, to improve construction of the Department of Veterans