

promote American prosperity and contributed to our national security.

Since 1967, research conducted at Idaho National Laboratory's, INL, Advanced Test Reactor has powered and modernized the U.S. Nuclear Navy.

Fifty years ago, the Navy had to refuel its nuclear fleet frequently, an expensive and time-consuming process.

Today, as a result of experiments conducted at the Advanced Test Reactor, ATR, the Navy's nuclear fleet can run the lifetime of the ship—more than three decades—without refueling. That saves American taxpayers millions of dollars and ensures that our fleet is actively defending U.S. national security instead of sitting in port waiting to be refueled.

Roughly a decade and a half ago, Congress designated INL as the Nation's lead nuclear energy research and development laboratory. This is fitting because on December 20, 1951, INL first demonstrated nuclear fission could be used to generate power to light our homes and cities. Throughout its history, INL has built and operated 52 original nuclear reactors and helped establish an American industry that today produces approximately 19 percent of our Nation's electricity and more than half of our carbon-free electricity. INL has become a world leader in cyber security research and works actively with government and industry to protect and make the Nation's most critical infrastructure more resilient. INL has advanced broader clean energy research, informing electric vehicle deployment and developing bioenergy solutions that benefit the environment and our Nation's farmers. Even as we celebrate INL's 70 years, the lab's leadership and staff are looking ahead. Those seven decades of service provide a foundation upon which today's INL will help this Nation build a brighter future. INL leads the effort to maintain and extend the lives of America's nuclear reactor fleet, while helping industry develop advanced reactor designs, including small modular reactors and microreactors. INL's vital national and homeland security work grows more important every day as our systems become increasingly automated and interdependent.

As we eye the energy systems that will power U.S. prosperity into the future, INL's clean energy research is developing breakthroughs that will help integrate renewables into the power grid and allow our manufacturing and transportation systems to operate more efficiently and with less environmental impact.

It is our great honor to congratulate INL and DOE on this important anniversary, and to wish its employees well as they work to resolve our nation's pressing clean energy and national security challenges.

TRIBUTE TO BRENDAN MACKIE

Mr. COONS, Madam President, I rise to recognize with gratitude the dedi-

cated service of Jeffrey Brendan Mackie to Delawareans as a member of my constituent services staff. Brendan is smart, funny, kind, and creative, with a deep respect for our Nation's history and institution and a genuine, intense passion for public service.

Over the past 5½ years, Brendan has put the needs and challenges of people from across Delaware first. Brendan worked on my constituent outreach and communication teams, serving as veterans advocate, staff photographer, and press assistant. In total, Brendan resolved more than 1,500 cases for constituents and in his last year alone produced more than 350 documents and postings for our communications team.

Brendan has also served with distinction in the U.S. Army, Delaware National Guard, Hawaii National Guard, twice overseas in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, as a first responder following Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Maria, and served as an AmeriCorps volunteer with the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Brendan's ability to balance his workload while focusing on his own professional development was equally admirable. While on my team, he graduated from Wilmington University in 2014, Officer Candidate School in 2015, Military Intelligence School in 2016, and Air Assault School in 2017. These milestones have strengthened Brendan's capacity as a leader and have increased his knowledge of defense and intelligence matters.

Tomorrow, Brendan will finish his service with my Senate office and soon after will join the staff of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, where I know he will be a zealous advocate for members of the military and veteran community. His colleagues—now friends—who enjoy his wit and wisdom will miss him. While we will miss his regular anecdotes laced with historical references, we know we will continue to enjoy his “on this day” Facebook posts and updates as he continues to read biographies on every American president.

In sum, Brendan stood out amongst my staff and demonstrated a level of intelligence, analytical ability, character, and a devotion that will serve him well in the future. I will miss his insights and his constant focus on making things better for the constituents we serve, and I look forward to hearing about his successes to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN

• Mr. CASEY, Madam President, today I wish to honor Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown, a notable public servant in Pennsylvania, as she concludes 20 years of service within the Philadelphia City Council. Throughout her career, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown

has worked to improve the lives of Philadelphians as an educator, community activist, and political leader.

The oldest of seven children, Blondell Reynolds Brown was born in Sumter, SC, to Sadie Reynolds, a schoolteacher, and the late Whittimore Reynolds, who worked in construction. At the age 5, Reynolds Brown and her family moved to Philadelphia, where she would go on to graduate from the Philadelphia High School for Girls.

Councilwoman Reynolds Brown demonstrated an early proclivity for public service. Following her graduation from Pennsylvania State University, she was on track to join the Peace Corps, but instead decided to start her service in Philadelphia and teach in the city's public schools.

In 1999, Reynolds Brown was elected to one of seven at-large city council seats. It was her time as a legislative aide for a State senator that inspired her initial decision to run for city council. During this time, Reynolds Brown noticed a lack of Black women in leadership roles and led her own efforts to promote equity and diversity in public office.

During her time in office, Reynolds Brown has championed meaningful legislation in service of children, women, arts and culture, education, small business development, and the environment and sustainability. Councilwoman Reynolds Brown's major legislative accomplishments include the creation of the Fund for Children, the establishment of requirements for menu labeling within Philadelphia, the implementation of sexual harassment training for city of Philadelphia employees, the overhaul of the parks and recreation system, and the expansion of domestic partner benefits within city contractors. She also did a great deal to advocate for the appointment of woman to board positions and helped leverage funding for mentorship, early childhood education, the arts, and Philadelphia tourism.

Beyond her work on city council, Reynolds Brown is an active member of the Philadelphia community. She is a board member of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the Marian Anderson Award, Philadelphia Young Playwrights, the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, and Wynnefield Residents Association. Reynolds Brown is also an ex-officio member of the board of the Philadelphia Dance Company, and a general member of the Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

I wish to thank Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown for her long service to Philadelphia on its city council. I wish her success in all her future endeavors to serve the people of Pennsylvania.●

TRIBUTE TO SETH BEAL

• Mr. CRAPO, Madam President, along with my colleague Senator JAMES E. RISCH, I congratulate Seth Beal, who is