

portal through which individuals can submit a request to any Agency.

On top of that, that legislation required Agencies to proactively disclose documents that are likely to be of public interest in order to increase access to government documents outside the often bureaucratic and onerous FOIA request process. In other words, we built upon the work of our Founding Fathers and what they recognized hundreds of years ago: A truly self-governing people depends upon an informed citizenry to hold their elected leaders accountable.

While that was a big step in improving government accountability, our work, of course, is not done. I continue to look for new opportunities to improve the Freedom of Information Act process and to ensure that it remains robust and workable for all of our citizens.

I will continue to advocate for policies in the Senate that build on a more transparent government and bring more of that Texas sunshine to Washington, DC. I hope this Sunshine Week we can all grow even more committed to the mission of open and honest government that serves its people and not itself.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRUZ). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to complete the full duration of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO SAM MAMET

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize a great citizen of the State of Colorado and a dear friend of mine, Sam Mamet. Sam is retiring at the end of March after 40 years of working with the Colorado Municipal League. CML is an organization that is dedicated to representing the best interests of cities and towns throughout the State of Colorado.

In 1979, shortly after receiving a master's in public administration from the University of Colorado at Boulder, Sam began his tenure at CML. For 26 years, he worked diligently to make sure that local communities had the proper tools to better serve themselves.

In 2005 he was appointed executive director of the organization. From this unique position, Sam was at the forefront of developing the organization's policies and executing vital programs with the overarching purpose of helping those who oversee communities become more effective leaders. It is clear to the people of Colorado that Sam has excelled in this position from day one.

It is unlikely you will find someone in Colorado government or politics who doesn't know Sam or hasn't worked with Sam, and there is no shortage of recognition for the incredible work he has done. If you need proof, you can look through the abundance of awards he has received, including a lifetime achievement award from the Colorado City & County Management Association earlier this year. It is also not surprising that Sam has his own day, Sam Mamet Day, on February 4, which was dedicated by the city of Greenwood Village as a thank-you for his years of sincere dedication to them. These are just a few of the many examples of appreciation that showcase the passion and zeal Sam has for the cities and communities across our great State.

I can't stress enough how Colorado communities have benefited and how the State of Colorado has benefited from the work of Sam Mamet. His years of persistence and dedication in his work have had a tremendous and monumental impact. His work transcends beyond partisanship, and I think that is the most important thing to talk about. When you see Sam Mamet, you don't think of left or right or red or blue. You see nonpartisanship in the work he does.

He cautions leaders to avoid demeaning an issue or individual on the other side, something so important in today's political environment, and to focus more on cultivating policies that will simply benefit each and every community based on the specific needs and requirements of the people. We need more leaders like Sam.

Sam has long believed public service is the highest calling. He recognizes the gravity the position holds and why it is so important that public servants are given the tools necessary to better the streets and neighborhoods and communities they belong to. This is what each and every citizen expects of their leaders and what he has dedicated his life to accomplish.

"Empowered Cities and Towns, United for a Strong Colorado," is CML's vision statement, and Sam is the embodiment of these words. Each and every day he worked to give the cities and towns around him the tools and knowledge to empower them, and for 40 years he helped to unite a stronger Colorado. While CML and the local municipalities they serve will be losing an exceptional, talented, and impassioned civil servant, I have every confidence Sam will continue to better the lives of the people of Colorado in his work going forward.

On a personal note, there are many times when Sam and I were on the same side of an issue and were able to work together and accomplish great things. There were also times when Sam and I were on opposite sides of an issue, and some of my most glorious defeats were at the hands of Sam Mamet. As legislation went down in flames of glory, thanks to work he was able to lead, I never took it personally

because Sam Mamet never took it personally. I remember meeting Sam through my father and his work on the city council years ago. When a leader like Sam steps down, he will be missed. He has big shoes to fill, but I know Kevin Bommer, the next executive director, will do an outstanding job.

I know we all wish for Sam to stay involved in his next endeavors that will continue to benefit our great people of Colorado. Thank you.

With that, I yield the floor.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:33 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m., and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. CAPITO).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Matey nomination?

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 42 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Alexander	Fischer	Paul
Barraso	Gardner	Perdue
Blackburn	Graham	Portman
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Roberts
Braun	Hoeben	Romney
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Inhofe	Rubio
Cassidy	Isakson	Sasse
Collins	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Manchin	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	McSally	Toomey
Enzi	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Young

NAYS—45

Baldwin	Harris	Rosen
Bennet	Hassan	Sanders
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Schatz
Booker	Hirono	Schumer
Brown	Jones	Shaheen
Cantwell	Kaine	Sinema
Cardin	King	Smith
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Peters	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Reed	Wyden