

hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

12. A determination has been made that New Zealand can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

13. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of New Zealand.

NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I rise today to bring attention to a critical and often hidden issue facing our Nation. Each year, nearly 18,000 foster children across our country age out of the system with no permanent place to call home. Right now, over 125,000 foster children are eligible for adoption and waiting for their forever family. Over 1,600 of those children live in Nevada. Every single child deserves a safe, loving, and permanent family.

November is National Adoption Month, a time to recognize and celebrate the many ways that families are created, including through adoption. There are children in our communities, waiting to belong, to be loved, and to be a part of what so many of us take for granted. Sitting down to a meal with a parent, knowing you have a family member in the audience at a school event or knowing that someone is, indeed, waiting up to make sure you get home safe and by curfew. The very idea that someone cares enough to make sure homework is done, and to listen when your day doesn't go so well does immeasurable good for children.

Our Nation's foster children are in a situation that is no fault of their own. Most are there due to severe neglect or abuse. They have experienced trauma. They have been suddenly taken away from all they know, bringing few possessions, stored in a garbage bag, with them as they move from home to home. The goal is always to reunite foster children with their biological families if it can be done safely, but unfortunately, that isn't always an option. For the children who remain in our foster system, we can and must do better.

Absolutely no child is unadoptable. By working together, we can achieve a future where every child in our Nation knows without a doubt they belong and they have a family. I encourage anyone interested in learning more about adoption to visit www.adoptuskids.org or reach out to local community organizations to find out more about how to get involved with mentoring or supporting foster children in other ways.

As I hear from constituents about the work they do to help raise awareness and improve outcomes for foster youth, I am so encouraged. I remain

committed to working with my colleagues in the Senate to create a brighter future for our most vulnerable children.

TRIBUTE TO ELLIS MCKENNIE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize an inspiring young man, Ellis McKennie. I had the good fortune of getting to know Ellis when he was an intern in my office, first in the summer of 2018 in my State office and then again this past summer in Washington. He was a diligent worker, always searching for ways to help. He was keen to take advantage of every opportunity to learn. One thing that became obvious right away is that Ellis is an empathetic young man; in one instance, as a youngster, he asked his mother to make lunches for less fortunate fellow students. I am very grateful to Ellis for his service to the people of Maryland during his internships and for his service to the University of Maryland as the epitome of a student athlete. Ellis has been an offensive lineman on the Terrapins' football team for the last 4 years. Perhaps more important than his leadership on the field, though, has been his leadership off the field, where he has advocated fiercely for meaningful athletic reform in the wake of his boyhood friend and teammate Jordan McNair's tragic death from heatstroke last year. Ellis has worked hard to mobilize his teammates and the entire campus to become more engaged politically. In recognition of his ability to bring people together for positive change, the student body elected Ellis to the university senate this year.

Somehow, among Ellis's football career, activism, and student governance, he has also found time to set an exemplary academic record, twice earning All-Big Ten academic honors and completing his undergraduate degree in just 3 years. Now, while he plays his final season for the Terrapins, he is busy earning a graduate degree in public policy. Next, Ellis plans to attend law school and hopes to serve as an elected official 1 day, perhaps here in the Senate.

I have been so impressed by everything that Ellis has been able to accomplish at such a young age and by everything that he aspires to achieve in the future. Most of all, I am proud of his enduring commitment to building community, helping those in need, and fighting for what's right. Young people like Ellis should reassure all of us that the future of our country is in capable hands.

On November 20, the Baltimore Sun ran an article by Don Markus entitled "Maryland's Ellis McKennie found his voice when Jordan McNair died. Now he looks to finish his career strong." The article captures the qualities that make Ellis such a special young man. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

MARYLAND'S ELLIS MCKENNIE FOUND HIS VOICE WHEN JORDAN MCNAIR DIED. NOW HE LOOKS TO FINISH HIS CAREER STRONG.

(By Don Markus)

Ellis McKennie spent his first three years at Maryland as a nondescript reserve offensive lineman, redshirting his first season after graduating from McDonogh and serving as a little-used backup the next two.

It took the death of Jordan McNair—a fellow offensive lineman who had been more like a little brother since they grew up on the same street in Randallstown—for McKennie to find his voice.

It then took McKennie getting a role this season, briefly as a versatile reserve and then as a starter in seven games at four positions, to have the platform to use it.

"As someone who's a leader on this team. I feel confident to express the feelings and attitude of the team," McKennie said last week, sitting in the auditorium of the Gossett Team House. "I'm that way to Coach [Mike Locksley], too.

"I'm on the leadership council and I'm one of the guys coach is asking, 'Where do you think the team's at?' I'm that voice for him and when the media comes asking the same questions. I'm confident that I can represent the team in a good way in the public light."

Going into Saturday's senior day matchup with Nebraska (4-6, 2-5 Big Ten), McKennie is hoping that he can help Maryland (3-7, 1-5) end a five-game losing streak.

"I can't stress how important it is for us to beat Nebraska," McKennie said. "I can still remember singing the alma mater after the Syracuse game [a 63-20 win on Sept 7] thinking, 'I can't wait to do this some more this season.' If that's the last time I get to sing the alma mater at Maryland Stadium, that'll be tough for me to handle. I'm going to do whatever I can to get this win."

McKennie's role as a leader for the Terps began to evolve in the weeks and months after the 19-year-old McNair's death from heatstroke in June 2018.

It was McKennie and then-sophomore center Johnny Jordan who were designated to speak when the still-grieving team met with the media for the first time in late August.

It was McKennie who carried the flag with McNair's jersey number—79—out for the 2018 season opener at FedEx Field and waved it after the Terps upset than-No. 23 Texas, 34-29.

It was also McKennie who walked out with a couple of his teammates from a team meeting after former coach DJ Durkin, who had been put on administrative leave in the aftermath of McNair's death, had briefly been reinstated in late October. Durkin was fired by university President Wallace D. Loh the following day.

"They say in the face of tragedy that people get closer together, and that's what happened on this team," McKennie said. "We lost a brother, but at the same time, when you go through something like that with a group of people and you come out the other side, you have a different kind of relationship with them. That role during that whole time period just kind of fluidly turned into a leadership role on the field this season."

Jodi McKennie wasn't surprised that her middle child became the de facto team spokesman among the Maryland players.

"From the time he was a little boy, he was the most empathetic child you could meet," she said last week. "He could not stand to see anyone he thought was suffering in any way."

It meant asking his mother to make extra lunches for other kids who didn't have food