

Nation's patent eligibility laws, Erica has been an innovator and go-getter. There were countless times throughout this Congress when the subcommittee's work would get tough and it appeared we were at an insurmountable impasse. Each time, Erica found a way forward and kept us moving towards our shared goals: a stronger intellectual property system.

While I am sad that the Senate and the subcommittee will be losing a staffer as valuable as Erica, I am grateful for her public service these past 4 years. Erica has shown that she will excel at whatever she commits to, whether graduating from Harvard Law School or making partner at one of the largest law firms in the world or serving as the chief counsel to my good friend CHRIS COONS—and I am excited for her as she steps into a new role and begins a new adventure.●

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 182, on the nomination of Franklin Ulyses Valderrama, of Illinois, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Mr. President, I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 183, on the nomination of Iain D. Johnston, of Illinois, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Mr. President, I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 184, motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Edward Meyers to be a Judge for the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Disabled American Veterans—DAV—organization for its commitment to serving wartime-disabled veterans since its formation 100 years ago. As a member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I am grateful for the positive impact of the DAV on disabled veterans in South Dakota and across the Nation.

Founded on September 25, 1920, the DAV has grown to become the largest wartime veterans service organization in the United States, with more than 1 million members in 1,344 chapters around the country.

The DAV helps disabled veterans and their families work through the bureaucracy of the Federal and local governments to make sure they receive the benefits they deserve. Additionally, the organization operates a nationwide transportation network, providing free transportation for disabled veterans to Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals and clinics.

We are truly blessed to have the DAV organization in South Dakota and in

the United States. They give their time, talent, knowledge, and friendship to disabled veterans who need it most. We are thankful for their 100 years of service to the veteran community.

May God continue to bless the DAV and everyone they serve.

Thank you.

#### REMEMBERING DR. ROLF H. EPPINGER

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to an extraordinary constituent, Dr. Rolf H. Eppinger, who passed away on August 14, 2020. Dr. Eppinger's outstanding work has saved the lives of many Americans and will save many more in the years to come.

Dr. Eppinger had a distinguished 34-year career with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA. There, he performed and led fundamental biomechanics research that resulted in the development of crash test dummies, the interpretation of their measurements, the advancement of the prevention of crash injuries, and the reduction of the severity of crash injuries.

His work has helped save hundreds of thousands of lives and many more injuries worldwide. NHTSA has estimated that in the United States, as of 2017, more than 50,000 lives have been saved by airbags, 374,000 by safety belts, and 11,000 by child restraints. Many times more serious injuries were prevented or ameliorated.

The work of Dr. Eppinger and his team formed the basis for the New Car Assessment Programs now in use worldwide.

Over the course of his career, Dr. Eppinger published more than 120 technical papers dealing with automotive safety and was the holder of two U.S. patents. In addition, he enjoyed sailboat racing and was an accomplished watercolorist, pen and ink artist, woodworker, boat builder, and general handyman.

Dr. Eppinger is remembered for his rigorous scientific medical and engineering research, integrity, decency, and humility.

I ask my colleagues to join me in sending our gratitude for Dr. Eppinger's outstanding contributions and our deepest condolences to his wife Karen, his children Justin and Dwight, his daughter-in-law Kelly, and his grandchildren Alice and Hugo.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO LILIANE COUCKE SMITH

● Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize Mrs. Liliane Coucke Smith, a remarkable woman who served as a nurse during World War II and turns 100 on October 3.

Born in Belgium, Mrs. Smith joined the Belgian Resistance at age 20. As a wartime nurse, she entered Germany alongside the advancing Allied Forces.

Her outstanding commitment to serving others continued afterward, when she worked as part of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and the International Refugee Organization to help resettle over 10 million people displaced by the Second World War, including former slave laborers and concentration camp survivors. Mrs. Smith also oversaw the establishment of six refugee camps in the American occupation zone.

While working as a French-English translator in Naples, she met her beloved husband, Dudley C. Smith, a U.S. Naval officer. The two split their time between Europe and the United States, before settling permanently in Groton Long Point, CT.

Her tireless dedication to helping others in even the most arduous times is a credit to her generous spirit. A deeply considerate and unfailingly driven person, Mrs. Smith sets an inspiring model for all of us through her readiness to embrace new challenges and serve those in need. Her incredible legacy will be enduring.

I applaud her many accomplishments and hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Mrs. Liliane Coucke Smith on this milestone of her 100th birthday.●

##### TRIBUTE TO KRISTINA FOLCIK

● Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am proud to recognize Kristina Folcik of Tamworth as September's Granite Stater of the Month. As a survivor of domestic violence, Kristina transformed her own healing process into a way to support other survivors by hiking 100 miles nonstop across some of New Hampshire's steepest peaks. She was the first person to ever finish that portion of the Appalachian Trail in one single trek.

Kristina is an endurance athlete who has held multiple Fastest Known Times, which is a title given to individuals who have clocked the fastest time on a particular route, including hiking trails. She even raced professionally for a while, but stopped when her now-former husband started becoming abusive after she would win a race.

For the last 2 years, Kristina worked with Starting Point, a nonprofit organization in New Hampshire that helps survivors of domestic and sexual violence, to successfully separate from her abusive husband. In an effort to heal from this harrowing and traumatic experience, Kristina decided to attempt a 100-mile, nonstop hike.

In the lead-up to announcing her decision to attempt this extraordinary feat, Kristina revealed publicly on social media that she had recently divorced from her abusive husband and that she was going to complete this 100-mile trek and dedicate it to women who have been in abusive relationships.

Much to her surprise, following her announcement, many women began to share their stories of abuse with Kristina, and some even publicly shared their experiences.

Kristina turned her hike into a fundraiser, asking people to donate to the organization that had helped her leave her abusive marriage. It was not until Kristina had successfully completed the hike 36 hours later that she realized the fundraiser had raised more than \$1,000 for Starting Point.

Apart from breaking records, Kristina also owns Rockhopper Races LLC, which hosts races in the White Mountains and raises money for organizations that maintain and preserve New Hampshire's beautiful natural resources.

Kristina not only achieved an incredible athletic feat, but also made a difference in the lives of others by having the courage to speak out about her past trauma. Kristina's strength is an inspiration and reflects the kind of determination to build strength through outreach and mutual support that the Granite State is known for. I am proud to recognize her efforts.●

#### RECOGNIZING BECKWITH ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize a small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit at the heart of our country. It is my privilege to recognize a family-owned small business with an outstanding record of innovation and industry leadership. This week, it is my pleasure to honor Beckwith Electric Company, Inc., of Largo, FL, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1967, Robert W. Beckwith established Beckwith Electric in Illinois to provide equipment and services for electric utility providers. Robert, an electric engineer, was a prolific inventor who held more than 30 patents during his lifetime. Under his leadership, Beckwith Electric developed several products integral to electric utilities, including the first solid state tapchanger control in 1968 and microprocessor protective relay in 1981. As the company grew, Robert relocated Beckwith Electric to Largo, FL, in 1974. Like many Floridian small businesses, Beckwith Electric's facilities were completely destroyed by Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Through careful planning, innovation, and an emphasis on customer service, Beckwith Electric rebuilt its facilities and continued to grow.

Today, Beckwith Electric Company is one of the largest manufacturing companies in the Tampa area. Richard's son, Thomas Beckwith, serves as chief executive officer and led the company to a 33-percent increase in growth last year. Beckwith Electric designs and manufactures all of its products, including components for electrical power grids, generators, and protective relays for transformers at its Largo, FL, facility. These items protect, strengthen, and increase the efficiency of electric utility networks. As part of

the U.S. critical industrial base, Beckwith Electric's products are found in military installations, hospitals, and schools. They work with electric utilities, manufacturers, and producers of alternative sources of energy worldwide. They also contributed to rebuilding Iraq's power grid during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Over the years, Beckwith Electric has been recognized for excellence in their industrial field and for their educational programs. Partnering with St. Petersburg College and Pinellas County Schools, Beckwith Electric regularly hosts educational workshops and technical training programs. In 2012, they earned the Florida Sterling Council Challenger Award. Beckwith has also earned several local and national awards from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers—IEEE—the industry's professional society. They partner with IEEE in hosting continuing education workshops for industry professionals.

Like many other Floridian small businesses, Beckwith Electric Company was impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. An essential business, they managed to stay open, keep their employees safe, and play a key role in keeping our nation's electrical utilities running smoothly. In April 2020, the U.S. Small Business Administration launched the Paycheck Protection Program, a small business relief program that I was proud to author. The PPP provides forgivable loans to impacted small businesses and nonprofits who maintain their payroll during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to their PPP loan, Beckwith Electric saved 20 jobs, while paying all of their 185 employees.

Beckwith Electric Company demonstrates the key role that small businesses play in our Nation's critical infrastructure and industrial manufacturing base. I commend their innovation, resilience, and high-quality work. Congratulations to Thomas and the entire team at Beckwith Electric Company. I look forward to watching your continued innovation and growth in Florida and beyond.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, 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.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:15 p.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, without amendment:

S. 209. An act to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian Tribes, and for other purposes.

S. 227. An act to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 294. An act to establish a business incubators program within the Department of the Interior to promote economic development in Indian reservation communities.

S. 490. An act to designate a mountain ridge in the State of Montana as "B-47 Ridge".

S. 832. An act to nullify the Supplemental Treaty Between the United States of America and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Indians of Middle Oregon, concluded on November 15, 1865.

S. 982. An act to increase intergovernmental coordination to identify and combat violent crime within Indian lands and of Indians.

S. 1321. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interference with voting systems under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act.

S. 1380. An act to amend the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure to remind prosecutors of their obligations under Supreme Court case law.

S. 2661. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to designate 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system operating through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and through the Veterans Crisis Line, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 139. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the site associated with the 1908 Springfield Race Riot in the State of Illinois.

H.R. 895. An act to allow tribal grant schools to participate in the Federal Employee Health Benefits program.

H.R. 1418. An act to restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers.

H.R. 1646. An act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues among public safety officers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1702. An act to waive the application fee for any special use permit for veterans' special events at war memorials on land administered by the National Park Service in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2271. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health of children and help better understand and enhance awareness about unexpected sudden death in early life.

H.R. 3160. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land located in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3349. An act to authorize the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to establish the