

imagination, the actual work that went into the litigation and, for that matter, into the legislation itself.

I am not certain this is a totally perfect proposal of this nature, but I think it is highly reasonable. I think it is highly generous. I think it meets the views of people in the United States as a whole who do not think the lawyers in this case should become billionaires out of it. And it will husband the actual recoveries, whatever those recoveries may be and however they are derived, far more for the purposes of the litigation and the legislation itself than relatively unlimited contingent fees would do.

That is a brief explanation and a justification of something that I hope meets with the support of those who have felt that there ought to be limits on those attorneys' fees, but that they should be somewhat lower and those on the other side, who, like I, have voted against these previous limitations on the grounds that they weren't sensitive enough and for at least some people were not high enough. I would like to bring people together on this so that at least this particular element of this debate can be brought to a successful conclusion.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER GARY MAYES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Naval Officer, Lieutenant Commander Gary Mayes, who has served with distinction for the past two years in the Navy's Senate Liaison Office. It is a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and to commend him for the superb service he has provided this legislative body, the Navy and our great Nation.

Lieutenant Commander Mayes is a graduate of Purdue University and was commissioned an Ensign upon graduation from Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, in May 1988. He proceeded to flight training where he received his "Wings of Gold" and was designated a Naval Aviator in October 1989.

Lieutenant Commander Mayes' first assignment in the Navy was as a pilot flying the UH-1N and C-12B at Naval Air Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, from July 1990 to May 1991. Following training in the SH-60B Seahawk helicopter, he reported to Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron, Light Four Eight (HSL-48) as the Detachment Five Assistant Maintenance Officer. He qualified as an Aircraft Commander and deployed aboard USS Boone (FFG-28) to the Mediterranean. He was next assigned to Detachment One as the Maintenance Officer during Operation Support Democracy to Haiti while embarked on USS Spruance (DD-963). He also was deployed on USS Comte de Grasse in 1995, flying missions in support of exercise UNITAS around South America.

Lieutenant Commander Mayes joined the Navy's Senate Liaison team in January 1996. During his service as a Navy Liaison Officer, he provided members of the Senate Armed Services Committee, personal staffs, as well as Senators from both sides of the aisle, with timely support regarding Navy plans, programs and constituent casework. His valuable contributions have enabled Congress and the Department of the Navy to work close together to preserve the well-trained and well-equipped naval forces upon which our country has come to depend.

Mr. President, Gary Mayes, his wife Stephanie and their daughter Gabrielle have made many sacrifices during his 10-year Navy career. He has served proudly with a dedication and enthusiasm that only comes from our Nation's best and brightest. Lieutenant Commander Mayes is a great credit to both our Navy and our country. As he now departs to attend the Marine Corps Command and Staff War College, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him fair winds and following seas.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I would like to express my support and admiration of small business owners and entrepreneurs as we reflect on another successful National Small Business Week. It is appropriate that we recognize the contributions and achievements entrepreneurs have made to strengthen our communities and our national economy.

Small businesses account for 99.7% all the employers in the country and employ 53.7 percent of the private work force. Senate Democrats have demonstrated their support of small business by advocating increased funding for the reauthorization of the Small Business Administration, supporting targeted tax relief, ensuring responsible regulatory relief, and increasing procurement opportunities for small businesses.

Small businesses are changing the face of the economy by creating jobs and bringing prosperity to small towns and cities across the country. One such small business is the Roundup Building Center, owned by Doug and Julie Kapsch in Belle Fourche, South Dakota. As part of National Small Business week, Doug and Julie have been awarded special recognition from the Small Business Administration as the South Dakota Small Business Owners of the Year.

Doug and Julie became business owners under a rather unique set of circumstances. In 1990, a fire destroyed much of the Belle Fourche Building Center, which Doug managed at the time. Faced with adversity, Doug and Julie saw an opportunity. After the fire, Doug contacted the former owner of the Belle Fourche Building Center, and the Kapschs began building their

business. Today, Doug and Julie's business, the Roundup Building Center, serves the tri-state area of South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana by providing local contractors and do-it-yourself builders with a variety of building supplies. The business has grown by approximately 10 percent a year under Doug and Julie's management.

As successful small business owners, Doug and Julie have shown that hard work, initiative, and a bit of risk-taking can produce big dividends. I congratulate them on their success and wish them many more profitable years of business.

I would also like to commend another woman who has made significant contributions to South Dakota's small business community. Sandra Christenson, President of Heartland Paper Council, has been appointed by the Small Business Administrator to serve on the National Women's Business Council. The Council advises the President and the Administrator on small business issues especially important to women.

After serving as President of Triangle School Service in Sioux Falls, Sandra was named President of Heartland Paper Company in 1989. In this capacity, she oversees 170 employees and the company's seven thousand customers. Heartland Paper has been a vibrant member of the Sioux Falls business community under Sandra's leadership, and I am confident that with her leadership and experience, Sandra is uniquely qualified to represent the views of women business leaders and rural America before the Council.

Small businesses are vitally important to South Dakota's economy, and I truly appreciate the contributions that Sandra, Doug and Julie have made to our state's small business community. They join countless other small business owners across the country who have helped make America's vibrant economy the envy of the world.

RETIREMENT OF CARL STOKES

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has rendered a great service to the State of South Carolina through his efforts as a professional law enforcement officer, Carl B. Stokes.

Just like his father, who was the Sheriff of Darlington County, Carl Stokes has literally dedicated his life to crime fighting. As a matter of fact, I am told that he is supposed to be the longest serving lawman in the Palmetto State, and his distinguished career began in the 1950's while he was still attending the University of South Carolina and joined the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division (SLED). In just a few weeks, he will bring that career to a close when he retires from his position as System Vice President for Law Enforcement and Safety for the University of South Carolina.

For more than 25-years, Carl Stokes held a number of positions within