

marched on behalf of women and children who needed a "hand-up", rather than a donation or handout.

When I served as Nevada's Lt. Governor, I began working closely with Jan when she was chosen to run the Southern Nevada office of then Governor Mike O'Callahan. Savvy and determined, she made an impression on everyone she worked with throughout those six years. Much of her success on the job came from her staunch work ethic and strong ties to both her family and the community.

The people of Nevada were truly fortunate to have Judge Smith come out of semi retirement to accept an appointment as a Justice of the Peace for the Jean-Good Springs district. She single-handedly reorganized the court so that it eventually became a model of fairness and efficiency. She has subsequently been reelected with overwhelming community support.

Judge Smith is one of the unsung heroes of the American justice system. Like many of our nation's Justice of the Peace Officers, she does not typically preside over big dollar, high drama cases. However, those like Judge Smith are the representatives of our legal system most likely to come in contact with everyday Americans. Professionals like Jan do more to preside over basic public safety issues because they handle the difficult events that are all too common in communities across the country—drunk driving and domestic violence. Essentially, Jan's career has required her to exercise judgement and make tough decisions that have lasting impact.

Judge Jan Smith truly believes in the law, as a fellow officer of the court and United States Senator, I have relied upon on Judge Smith's trademark intelligence and honesty, as well as her ability to astutely assess the character and behavior of the many Nevadans who visit her court.

Much of my admiration for Judge Smith stems from her enduring commitment to people of the Silver State. Her values are reflected not only in the way she lives her life, but in the many organizations she has served over the past thirty years. Judge Smith's lifetime of achievement is truly an inspiration, and she serves as an incredible role model for judicial prudence, legal acumen, and personal integrity.●

#### REAUTHORIZATION OF THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT

● Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, on Friday, October 10th, I became a co-sponsor of legislation introduced by Senator McCAIN that would reauthorize the Older Americans Act. This Act, established in 1965, established a series of programs to benefit older Americans. Services provided include nutrition, transportation, nursing home ombudsmanship, and other senior's rights programs. Needless to say, Arkansas, which has over 200,000 senior citizens, has benefitted greatly from

the services provided through the Older Americans Act. In addition, the organizations in Arkansas that have received funding through the Act have done an incredible job in reaching out to our seniors.

While the Older Americans Act expired in 1995, its programs have widespread support, which has resulted in continued funding. Nonetheless, authorization is critical for the long-term stability of these programs and for the peace of mind of senior citizens. The McCain bill renews the act, without any changes, for a period of 3 years. Let me say that, as with any reauthorization, I strongly believe in the need for congressional hearings to examine the programs contained within the act to ensure that they are working well, efficiently serving the needs of seniors, and that any appropriate adjustments in funding are made. Regrettably, the Senate Labor and Human Resource Committee, on which I serve, has not taken action on any reauthorization legislation this year. Until the committee does so, and as an indication of my very strong support for the programs contained in the Older American Act, I am cosponsoring the McCain bill.

The Older American Act has improved the quality of life for so many of our Nation's elderly, and it will continue to provide vital services as the aging population grows. I sincerely hope that the Senate will act on legislation to reauthorize this important act soon.●

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION NOMINATIONS

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to congratulate two nominees, Mr. Hal Creel and Mr. John Moran, upon their confirmation to be Federal Maritime Commissioners.

Hal Creel, a native of South Carolina and my former Senior Counsel on the Maritime Subcommittee, has been a Federal Maritime Commissioner for four years. He has served the last two and a half years as the agency's Chairman. As Chairman, he has demonstrated a wide-ranging knowledge of the maritime industry and an outstanding ability to oversee industry activities. Our Nation is extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated individual at the helm of this important government body.

Mr. Creel and the Federal Maritime Commission are responsible for overseeing all international liner shipping in the U.S.—over \$500 billion in trade. His efforts in the controversy surrounding Japan's restrictive port practices come immediately to mind.

The Government of Japan for many years has orchestrated a system that impedes open trade, unjustly favors Japanese companies, and results in tremendous inefficiencies for anyone serv-

ing Japan's ports. The FMC, under Mr. Creel's guidance, met these problems head-on and he was instrumental in bringing the two governments to the bargaining table. The bilateral agreement that resulted paves the way for far-reaching changes that can remove these unfair barriers to trade. The progress made to date has occurred in large measure due to the Commission's firm, results-oriented approach. I urge him to continue to keep the Japanese honest, and to perform their agreed upon obligations.

Hal Creel also has led the Commission in its efforts to resolve unfavorable trading conditions with the Peoples Republic of China and Brazil. These trades pose differing problems, but circumstances that nonetheless restrict U.S. companies or render their business dealings unnecessarily difficult or simply inefficient.

Hal Creel is widely respected by all sectors of the industry as an involved, knowledgeable Chairman who can be trusted to make impartial decisions based on all relevant factors. This has been evidenced by the objective, informed decisions he renders in formal proceedings, his voting record on important agency matters, and the evenhanded enforcement program administered by the Commission. As Chairman of the FMC, Hal Creel has worked hard to curb harmful practices and create equitable trading conditions for the entire industry. He takes a personal stake in these matters and works hard to obtain compliance with the laws passed by this Congress. But those who willfully violate the law or intentionally disregard the Nation's ocean shipping policies as contained in the Shipping Act are dealt with appropriately.

These are turbulent times in the liner shipping industry, times that call for effective and respected leadership from our Nation's regulatory body. Mr. Creel provides that leadership now, and I am certain will continue to do so as the industry enters the new environment that will result from the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998 passed by this body last week.

I am proud of the accomplishments and fine work Hal has done at the FMC. I am also proud that he is a native South Carolinian. He certainly has continued the fine tradition and excellence he has established as a staffer and senior counsel for the Senate Commerce Committee. His reappointment is well deserved.

I also wish to convey my support for John Moran to become a Commissioner at the FMC. John also is a former Commerce Committee counsel who served all members of that Committee with distinction. John and Hal worked together at the Committee on a bipartisan basis, slugging through tough issues and serving all of the Members well.

For my Senate colleagues who do not know Mr. Moran, his only fault is that he is not from South Carolina. He has