

leadership to move the bill expeditiously to the floor following the Committee's action.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to send to the President a bill that will respond to our constituents' overwhelming calls for Congress to make a substantial and reliable investment in the conservation of our Nation's wildlife, coastal resources, and open spaces. The momentum is with us, and we should not miss this rare opportunity to create a conservation legacy for generations to come.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, July 13, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,666,740,403,750.26 (Five trillion, six hundred sixty-six billion, seven hundred forty million, four hundred three thousand, seven hundred fifty dollars and twenty-six cents).

One year ago, July 13, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,625,005,000,000 (Five trillion, six hundred twenty-five billion, five million).

Five years ago, July 13, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,933,342,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred thirty-three billion, three hundred forty-two million).

Ten years ago, July 13, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,152,611,000,000 (Three trillion, one hundred fifty-two billion, six hundred eleven million) which reflects almost a doubling of the debt—an increase of over \$2.5 trillion—\$2,514,129,403,750.26 (Two trillion, five hundred fourteen billion, one hundred twenty-nine million, four hundred three thousand, seven hundred fifty dollars and twenty-six cents) during the past 10 years.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### HONORING JANET R. STEWART

• Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to an outstanding representative of Washington State, Jan Stewart. Ms. Stewart will soon complete her year as national president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). I am very pleased that one of Washington State's own was tapped as the 1999-2000 president of this prestigious national organization.

The AANA is the professional association that represents over 27,000 practicing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). Founded in 1931, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists is the professional association representing CRNAs nationwide. As you may know, CRNAs administer more than 65 percent of the anesthetics given to patients each year in the United States. CRNAs provide anesthesia for all types of surgical cases and are the sole anesthesia provider in over 65 percent of rural hospitals, affording these medical facilities obstetrical, surgical and trauma stabilization

capabilities. They work in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered, including hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms, ambulatory surgical centers, and the offices of dentists, podiatrists, and plastic surgeons.

Jan has been a nurse anesthetist since 1982. She received her extensive anesthesia training at the Mayo School in Rochester, Minnesota. She is currently self-employed with an independent practice that encompassed several States and is based in Seattle. Jan has held various leadership positions within the field of nursing generally since 1985, and within the field of nurse anesthesia served on the Finance Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee and as a member of the AANA Board of Directors representing Region 5. She was elected Vice President of AANA in 1997 and is furnishing her service as the organization's President.

In addition to her service to the AANA, I would like to thank Jan for her input as a member of my local advisory committee. I have always appreciated her advice and interest in the health issues before the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Ms. Jan Stewart for her notable career and outstanding achievements.●

#### WILLIAM J. BECKHAM, JR. MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I want to pay tribute to the life of one of Michigan's great civic leaders, William J. Beckham, Jr. After living a remarkably accomplished life, sadly, Bill passed away April 27th while on vacation with his beloved wife, Mattie Maynard Beckham. This week, Bill's friends and colleagues and members of the Senate and the House will come together in our Nation's capital to celebrate his memory and his legacy.

Bill loved life and all the important things in it—his family, his friends, school kids, and his African American heritage. Bill loved the difference that he was making in Michigan through his work on school reform—enhancing and expanding the quality of education for all students in the Detroit public school system. Behind Bill's dignified, gentle yet deliberate manner was a fierce determination to help improve the everyday lives of families. Multitudes were beneficiaries of his visionary efforts. He showed that character and the principles of hard work, integrity and perseverance can transform one's dreams into reality. He has left a mark of great achievement in civil rights, education, economic and political reform.

Bill had a distinguished career of public service in Michigan, which included positions as Vice Chair of the School Board for the Detroit Public Schools, Chairman of the Schools of the 21st Century Corporation, President and Trustee of The Skillman Foundation, the first Deputy Mayor of

Detroit, and President of New Detroit, Inc. His successful career in the private sector included key leadership positions at Burroughs/Unisys Corporation, Envirotec Systems Corporation in Phoenix and the Ford Motor Company.

Bill also enjoyed a long and noteworthy career in federal service from 1967 through the early 1980s. Over a period of eight years, he served Senator Phil Hart in several capacities including Policy Adviser in his Washington office for 4 years, Chief of Staff of the Senator's office in Detroit for three years, and Campaign Assistant for one year. Bill subsequently served as Staff Director to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Equal Opportunity, chaired by Representative Gus Hawkins. Sought out by President Jimmy Carter, Bill was nominated and confirmed first as Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Treasury and later as Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

During his tenure on Capitol Hill, Bill joined with several of his staff colleagues to establish the first minority congressional staff group to study and act on the political and legislative demands of minority communities nationwide. The group's pioneering efforts in Quitman and Cohoma Counties in Mississippi, along with civil rights leader John Lewis and, my brother, Sander Levin (both of whom now serve in the House) helped to mark a new and powerful political and participatory direction for the people of the Mississippi Delta. Wise and loyal colleagues—Gordon Alexander, Jackie Parker, Judy Jackson, Willa Rawls Dumas, Alan Boyd, Dora Jean Malachi, Mattie Barrow and Bob Parker—declared Bill their leader. The group moved ahead and soon designed the legendary mission to the Mississippi Delta; and, under the direction of Julian Bond of the then-Southern Elections Fund, pursued other worthy political initiatives.

Mr. President, I would like to include in the RECORD the names of the members of the William J. Beckham, Jr. Memorial Committee, all of whom were former staff colleagues of Bill's during his tenure of Federal service, including my current Deputy Legislative Director, Jackie Parker. These devoted friends and former colleagues organized this week's great tribute to Bill and will be attesting, along with others, to the truly incredible life that Bill led and the impact he had on their lives. I ask their names be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

#### WILLIAM J. BECKHAM, JR., MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Gordon Alexander, Legislative Assistant, former Senator Birch Bayh, \*President, 40+ Parenting, Inc.

Robert Bates, former Special Assistant, Senator EDWARD KENNEDY.

Alan Boyd, Senior Aide, former Senator Clifford Case, \*Charitable Games Control Board.

George Dalley, former Chief of Staff, Rep. CHARLES RANGEL.

Winifred Donaldson, Chief of Staff, former Rep. Andy Jacobs.