

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I understand our time would start in about 10 minutes. I am going to yield time to Senator BYRD, the time up to 4 o'clock, and then we will reclaim our time because we have speakers coming at 4. So such time as he may consume, until 4, I yield to Senator BYRD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator from Texas yield time from the Republican side to Senator BYRD until the hour of 4 p.m.?

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I yield up until 4 o'clock to Senator BYRD, but I would not want it to come from the Republican time if others come and want to speak on the Republican time.

Mr. BYRD. If the distinguished Senator from Texas will yield, may I suggest that I only take—I think we have 5, 6 or 8 minutes—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. It is 7½ minutes.

Mr. BYRD. May I suggest that I take that amount of time now and make a few remarks about Bob Schieffer. Then I will wait until 4:30. I could have more time at that point, as I understand it.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Yes, that is correct.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the Senator for her efforts to accommodate me.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia is recognized.

#### BOB SCHIEFFER'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY AT "FACE THE NATION"

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, this evening, politicians, celebrities, and newscasters alike will gather to honor one of the most trusted reporters in Washington; namely, Bob Schieffer of CBS News. Bob Schieffer has gained a reputation as a man of integrity, an honest man, a man who holds fairness and the truth in the highest regard.

Nothing better can be said about a politician, and certainly nothing better can be said about a news reporter. I will say that again about Bob Schieffer. Mr. Schieffer has gained the reputation as a man of integrity, an honest man, a man who holds fairness and the truth in the highest regard. We will remember that Plato, while visiting with Hiero, was asked, "Why have you come here?" Plato said, "I am looking for an honest man." So we have one here—a man of integrity, an honest man, a man who holds fairness and the truth in the highest regard. Now that is saying something in today's world. That is saying something about a news man.

Bob Schieffer is a Texan who started in journalism as a reporter for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. He moved on to a local television station and then to CBS. For 20 years, Bob was the network's Saturday evening news anchor. For the past decade, he has hosted "Face The Nation" on Sunday mornings. He has called Sunday mornings the smartest time period on television, saying, "It is the last place on television where people can lay out their

ideas about things and discuss them at length."

Well, if Sunday morning is the smartest time period on television—that is what Bob Schieffer says it is—I say another reason for that would be that it is Bob Schieffer's time when he is reporting to the Nation. He decries—as do I—the 30-second sound bite that has replaced the true interaction between voters and public officials. One reason I decry it, of course, is I am not very good at it. A 30-second sound bite—it takes me about that long to say hello or good morning.

Sitting in the anchor chair at CBS is a high responsibility, a high responsibility, an important responsibility. It was the chair from which Roger Mudd and Walter Cronkite would report every night. It was the chair in which Edward R. Murrow—perhaps the grandfather of in-depth, thorough television reporting—hosted "CBS Reports" and "Person to Person" and "See It Now." Edward R. Murrow set the standard. Bob Schieffer excels at meeting that standard.

There is no obstacle that cannot be overcome by the vigorous mind determined to follow truth. That seems to be the philosophy that guides the work of Bob Schieffer. He follows the truth. He has a vigorous mind, and he follows the truth, he keeps after it. He does not invent the truth. There is a difference in following and pursuing the truth and attempting to invent it. Bob Schieffer does not invent the truth, he asks the questions. He asks the questions, but he does not assume the answers. He listens and, from the answers he receives, we all then learn.

Bob Schieffer once told an audience, "Your trust is the greatest honor I can receive." Now that says it all. I am not a news man, but if I were a news reporter, it would seem to me that that would be the pith, the crux, the milk in the coconut. "Your trust is the greatest honor I can receive." We know that, as a general rule, the people of America do not trust news people. They do not trust news reporters. They do not trust the news media. They do not trust politicians. So Bob Schieffer said it well when he said, "Your trust is the greatest honor I can receive." He can speak for me as a politician on that line also. The trust of the people, he says, is the greatest honor he can receive. That trust is well earned.

I congratulate Mr. Schieffer on his decade of service at "Face the Nation," and I look forward to watching him for many years to come. He is a man I trust.

Mr. President, I yield the floor. I, again, thank the Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from West Virginia. I so appreciate the remarks he made about my friend, Bob Schieffer, and "Face the Nation." I, too, have known Bob Schieffer for a long time. He grew up in Fort Worth, TX. His brother and I served together in the Texas Legislature. I have known him and his family for a long time.

There is not a more principled, fair person in the entire news media than Bob Schieffer. I certainly appreciate the kind remarks made by the Senator from West Virginia. I know Bob Schieffer is very happy tonight, celebrating the anniversary of "Face the Nation." He has taken it to new heights just by being a person who is trusted and respected by the American people. Both Presidential candidates choosing Bob Schieffer to be the moderator of a debate shows he is well regarded by Republicans, Democrats, and Independents throughout our country.

#### BETTER EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I want to talk about the education bill that is so important to all of us. We are hopefully very close to agreement on bringing the bill before the Senate.

We are all a little frustrated because we have been waiting for the bill for about 10 days. There have been a lot of negotiations.

There are some very key issues that need to be discussed, and I hope they will be discussed in the open. I hope they will not be negotiated away. Reform is the key to success in education.

We are going to spend more money on education. In fact, President Bush has put forward a budget that provides an 11.4-percent increase in spending in education. That is warranted because we do need to add emphasis to certain areas of public education.

What is going to determine success or failure is whether we reform our system, whether we make it accountable, whether we give parents the ability to know what their children are doing and how they are doing. If a child comes home with A's or B's and is promoted to the next grade, and you, as a parent, find out 5 years later the child did not read at grade level, that is a failure in the system.

If a parent does not have the tools to find out if there is a weakness in the child's education, the parent is at a significant disadvantage, and the child is doomed forever.

We need to make sure parents have the knowledge of how a school is doing. A lot of people say we should not have tests. If we do not have tests, how will we have a benchmark? How will we know where the weaknesses are?

If we have tests, even if the test is not perfect, it will show a red flag and we will see the weakness. We can determine if the test is not right, if the failure is not real. At least we will check on it to make sure, but most of the time the failure is real.

If we catch the failure at third grade instead of eighth grade, we will save that child's future. We will save that child's productive life because we can make sure that every child can read at grade level in the third grade. If we do that, then every child will have the chance to absorb the rest of his or her