

THE RETIREMENT OF GREG
HARNESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the distinguished and respected career of Senate Librarian Greg Harness, who retires today.

Librarians serve as bridges, connecting information and resources with those who need it. They are charged not only as the keepers of knowledge but also as the distributors of it, and it is a duty that Greg has upheld in the most respectful, prompt, and accurate manner. Members of the Senate and their staff have come to rely on the vast resources that Greg oversees and know that each request for information, no matter how small it may seem, will be treated with the same courtesy and professionalism.

Greg came to the Senate Library as a reference librarian in 1975, intending to stay only 2 years. Instead, Greg found his niche in the Senate Library, where he has worked for 32 years. He served in a variety of capacities over his tenure, transitioning to an assistant librarian position in 1995 and finally to Senate Librarian in 1997. One of his most important contributions was moving the Senate Library from the Capitol Building to the Russell Senate Office Building in 1999. Greg not only helped facilitate the move, but he also oversaw the design of the new library.

It is also worth noting that over the course of Greg's career, the field of librarianship has been transformed by new technology. In 1975, the Senate Library was the first Secretary of the Senate office to receive computers, allowing researchers to access information more quickly. For the Senate Library, this necessitated the need for research librarians who are not only knowledgeable of traditional paper-based resources but are also masters of electronic resources. Greg understands this balance and has assembled a qualified staff to fulfill this need.

From personal experience I can attest that Greg's tenure has been a welcome addition to the Senate Library's distinguished tradition of providing legislative, historic, and general knowledge to all that it serves. The Senate has been privileged to have Greg's expansive wealth of intellect and wisdom. I thank him for all the services he has provided to me, to other Members of the Senate, and to Senate staff. His service will be truly missed, and I wish him the best in his new endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR TRENT
LOTT

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to say a few words about my friend and colleague, Senator Lott.

Senator Lott has compiled a long and distinguished career in public service on behalf of the people of Mississippi and our Nation. He has been a tireless advocate on behalf of the needs of his

State and its people, particularly in light of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina. Senator Lott also fought for our men and women in military uniform to ensure they have the best training, equipment, and technology available. Throughout his career, he believed that the American people should be able to keep more of their own money instead of sending it to Washington. Finally, Senator Lott understood and appreciated the fact we need judges on the Federal bench who will uphold the law, not make the law.

During his time in the Congress, he has been an active participant in many important legislative battles. The votes he has cast and the policies he supported have made the State of Mississippi and our Nation a better place.

Senator Lott is in a select group of individuals who have held leadership positions in both the House of Representatives and Senate. He has served as House minority whip, Senate majority leader, Senate minority leader and Senate minority whip. His election to these important leadership positions in both bodies show a high level of trust and respect from his colleagues.

With his departure the Senate will lose one of its most effective Senators and the people of Mississippi will lose a powerful advocate. I truly appreciate his leadership, service in the Senate, and service in the House of Representatives, wit, wisdom, and friendship.

I wish him the best of luck in all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MARTY PAONE

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to offer a few words of appreciation and to say "Farewell" to one of the Senate's finest public servants, Marty Paone.

For our visitors in the gallery, and for our viewers on C-SPAN, it may look like Senators are running this place. Mr. President, we know better. We trust dedicated, professional staff like Marty Paone to make sure things get done.

As all of my colleagues know, Marty is the secretary for the majority, and when we were fewer Democrats around here, he was our secretary for the minority. He has held this position for the past 13 years. Before that, he served as the assistant secretary, worked as floor staff and in the cloakroom, going back nearly three decades. In short, Marty has spent close to his entire adult life here on the Senate floor, getting Senators where they need to be, when they are supposed to be there.

To do his job, Marty has to be a combination of traffic cop, diplomat, and parliamentarian—and he has to have the trust of the Senators who follow his direction. Marty has that trust, because he has earned that trust, and because he has all those other skills, too.

I have been here 35 years; it is hard for me to remember a time when Marty wasn't here. And I don't just mean year

in and year out. I mean any hour of the day and night. Whenever this place is open for business, Marty has been here, helping to maintain order and to get things done. We are indebted to his many personal sacrifices, when he was here instead of home with his family.

Indeed, it has been hard to get much done around here without relying on Marty's expertise on Senate process. I don't know how he has managed to juggle all the demands on him. He is the "go to guy" for help on moving amendments, overcoming objections, getting a place in line for debate, complying with Senate rules, strategizing passing or defeating a measure. If you want to know what is happening "behind the scenes," Marty is the person to look to. There isn't a vote that happens, there isn't a negotiation that takes place, there isn't a unanimous consent agreement—which is what makes this place function—that Marty hasn't helped to piece together or made sure it's done correctly.

And Marty works for each of us. While, technically, he works for the Democrats, I know that many of my Republican colleagues have turned to Marty for guidance. He is known for always being candid and straightforward. He has served us all with his honest counsel—you could always count on him for a straight answer. And, remarkably, he has never lost patience with any of us—no matter what we ask or how often we call.

It is hard to describe to those who haven't spent much time in the Senate how very important Marty Paone has been to the Senate, day-to-day life and historic moments. Mr. President, this is the end of an era. We all hope it will be the beginning of a new one for Marty, away from the heavy responsibilities he has met so well for so long. We wish him well. He will be missed very much.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2007—
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent, for myself as chairman of the Select Committee on Ethics and for Senator CORNYN as vice chairman of the committee, that the following "Annual Report for 2007—Select Committee on Ethics" be printing in the RECORD. The committee issues this report today as required by the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2007—SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ETHICS

The Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007 (the "Act") calls for the Select Committee on Ethics of the United States Senate to issue an annual report no later than January 31 of each year providing information in certain categories describing its activities for the preceding year. Reported below is the information describing the Committee's activities in 2007 in the categories set forth in the Act: