

able to be considered because of the procedural situation on the floor in September. The managers of the bill, Senator LEVIN and Senator WARNER, stated that they had prepared a set of over 90 cleared amendments in a managers' package for which they believed they had unanimous consent to include in the bill. It is my understanding that one of those amendments was the provision I had filed to expand the existing pilot authority in section 2881a of title 10, to authorize the Army to carry out a pilot program using the private sector for the acquisition or construction of military unaccompanied housing for all ranks in an arrangement similar to what we have carried successfully with the privatization of family housing and senior unaccompanied soldiers. While I was very disappointed that the amendment could not be adopted because of the procedural situation, I want to thank Senator LEVIN and the other members of the committee for their willingness to support inclusion of the public-private sector partnership approach for ensuring improved housing for all ranks of our single soldiers.

The Army already has five similar privatization projects underway for senior unaccompanied enlisted personnel or officers. The business case for these projects shows that they are not only less costly than traditional government-funded construction and sustainment, but more importantly, the living conditions are vastly improved as soldiers have access to larger, modern apartments on post. The living conditions for these soldiers and officers will be enhanced to the same level as that of military members with families.

Given our Nation's current financial crisis, defense spending is likely to come under great stress over the next few years. Historically the Army and the other services have had great challenges in maintaining even minimum levels of housing sustainment and revitalization funding to keep our barracks fit for our soldiers. I can speak from personal experience about the serious deficiencies in the barracks at Fort Polk in Leesville. Despite the recent increase in Army funding for barracks revitalization there, I worry that needed long-term funding will be difficult to secure under the traditional model to prevent deterioration in the longer run. Improved quality of life, including housing, is critical to the retention of our enlisted soldiers, and critical to keeping our All Volunteer force strong. Partnerships between the Army and the private sector for this segment of our military housing will be needed as a fundamental long-term solution to providing the best housing for our soldiers.

Despite the procedural setback in September, I appreciate the support we received for our amendment and am committed to continue working with the Armed Services Committee to advance this issue in 2009. We are also hopeful that the Army will use its ex-

isting authorities to begin extending the successful privatization model to construction and revitalization of Barracks for all of our soldiers.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. XIAOMING TIAN

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the outstanding achievements of Dr. Xiaoming Tian. For many years, Dr. Tian has been recognized as a leading practitioner of Chinese medicine, acupuncture and alternative medicine in the United States. I am very pleased that Dr. Tian's recognition was extended worldwide when he received the prestigious World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies, WFCMS, world award for distinguished physician earlier this year.

This award is the highest honor the WFCMS can bestow, and it is only presented to a handful of physicians each year. This year, only 10 clinical physicians worldwide were honored and Dr. Tian received the distinction of the only recipient in the United States.

The World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies was founded in 2003 and is headquartered in Beijing. Currently, the federation is chaired by Dr. She Jing, Vice-Minister of Health and Director of the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine of the People's Republic of China. The WFCMS includes 174 Chinese medical associations from 55 countries and is the highest global organization of Chinese medicine.

In honoring Dr. Tian, the WFCMS reports, "Dr. Xiaoming Tian's great contributions include many different areas such as clinical medicine, research, new Chinese herbal medicine development, education and health care policy. Dr. Tian is highly respected by medical professionals and patients in the United States."

As the WFCMS noted, in May of 1991 Dr. Tian established the first Chinese acupuncture clinic at the National Institute of Health, NIH, Clinical Center. This clinic represented the first time that the NIH had formally recognized acupuncture as a routine treatment and had developed a procedure code for it. Dr. Tian became the first clinical consultant on acupuncture within NIH's medical staff.

In addition to his work at NIH, Dr. Tian has taken part in a variety of different research endeavors including an intramural study on the efforts of using acupuncture to treat cancer patients from 1992-1993 and an appointment by President Clinton as one of 20 members of the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy set up to report on policy changes that would ensure the potential benefits of complementary and alternative medicine from 2000-2002.

More recently, as a co-investigator, Dr. Tian participated in a Georgetown

University Medical Center study of using acupuncture to treat fibromyalgia. The study, conducted under the auspices of an NIH grant, was a pioneer study in rheumatism research. Dr. Tian has also served as an adjunct professor in the Department of Internal Medicine and Rheumatology at Georgetown University Medical School. He has been the Director of the Wildwood Acupuncture Center and Academy of Acupuncture and Clinical Medicine since 1986 and, with Professor Shangaing Chen, Dr. Tian established an osteoporosis and osteoarthritis research center at Beijing Medical University in China. Finally, in 2006, Dr. Tian was appointed to a four-year term on the Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine Editorial Board of the National Cancer Institute's Physician Data Query, PDQ, system, the comprehensive cancer database.

It is fitting that we pay tribute to the achievements of Dr. Xiaoming Tian, who has done so much to help patients with his groundbreaking research and treatment in the emerging field of complementary and alternative medicine. I congratulate Dr. Tian on his distinguished award and ask that he continue his fine work.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES TEGNELIA

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Dr. James Tegnalia who will be retiring from his position as the Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, DTRA, in February 2009 and returning to New Mexico.

The DTRA is charged with safeguarding the United States and its allies from the threat of weapons of mass destruction, WMD, and consists of a 2,000 member team. Dr. Tegnalia has been the Director of this prestigious Agency since February of 2005 and has been an integral part of its many accomplishments.

Prior to his appointment as the Director of the DTRA, Dr. Tegnalia was the vice president, Department of Defense Programs, at Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, NM, starting in 1998. He has been involved in defense-related fields since 1971 and has a long and distinguished career in championing innovative causes. From increasing the DTRA's efforts in science and technology investment in nuclear detection, nuclear forensics and advanced energetic capabilities, to working on the global stage in the international effort to counter WMD—in part through the establishment of regional and global nonproliferation partnerships—Dr. Tegnalia has been a true leader in protecting our great Nation.

In addition to his leadership in securing our country and its allies from the threat of WMD, Dr. Tegnalia has worked to strengthen the capabilities of the DTRA, transforming the Agency into a combat support-focused, technically agile and operationally relevant organization.

Dr. Tegnalia has been a great asset to the DTRA and to the protection of our Nation. My wife Nancy and I wish Dr. Tegnalia and his family the best in his retirement and subsequent return to our great State of New Mexico.●

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, in Iowa and across the United States, a new school year is well underway. As you know, Iowa public schools have an excellent reputation nationwide, and Iowa students' test scores are among the highest in the Nation.

I would like to take just a few minutes today to salute several dedicated public servants at the Iowa Department of Education, and to report on their successful involvement in a unique Federal partnership to repair and modernize school facilities.

This fall marks the 10th year of the Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program. That is its formal name, but it is better known among educators in Iowa as the program of Harkin grants for Iowa public schools. Since 1998, I have been fortunate to secure a total of \$121 million for the Iowa Department of Education, which selects worthy school districts to receive these grants for a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools or renovating existing facilities. In many cases, this Federal funding is used to leverage public and/or private local funding, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect in a local school district.

The Federal funding has made a real difference for the 304 Iowa school districts that have received Harkin grants over the past decade. The grants have helped school districts from Waukon to Glenwood and from Keokuk to Rock Rapids build new schools, add new classrooms, renovate facilities and bring buildings up to fire codes.

The progress we have witnessed is due, in large part, to the hard work and leadership of the Iowa Department of Education. When this program began, the department did not have experience in administering a grant program of this kind, but key personnel stepped up to plate to create and implement the successful program we have today.

In the last 10 years, department staff have received, reviewed, processed and scored 1,370 grant applications which resulted in 820 grant awards and completion of 773 projects. The department processed thousands of payment requests for project costs, conducted more than 300 site visits to monitor the program and provided the professional administration that taxpayers deserve.

I salute the entire staff, administration, and governance of the Iowa Department of Education for their excellent work. In particular, I would like to recognize C. Milton Wilson, Leland Tack, Ann McCarthy and Ted Stilwill for their leadership in helping create

the program in 1998. They provided a strong foundation that was built on by their highly capable successors—Gary Schwartz, Janice Evans, Jeff Berger, Jim Addy and Judy Jeffrey.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the individuals who have served on the School Budget Review Committee—Cynthia Eisenhower, Michael Tramontina, Charlie Krogmeier, Clark Yeager, Wayne Drexler, Marilyn Perkins, Connie Cook, Su McCurdy, Don Hansen, and Jane Babcock—for their skilled oversight of the program and to the Iowa State Board of Education for their leadership and support.

As we mark the 10th anniversary of the Harkin school grant program in Iowa, I am obliged to point out that many thousands of school buildings and facilities across the United States are in dire need of renovation or replacement. In my State of Iowa alone, according to a recent study, some 79 percent of public schools need to be upgraded or repaired. The harsh reality is that the average age of school buildings in the United States is nearly 50 years.

Too often, our children visit ultra modern shopping malls and gleaming sports arenas on weekends, but during the week go to school in rundown or antiquated facilities. This sends exactly the wrong message to our young people about our priorities. We have to do better.

That is why I am deeply grateful to the professionals at the Iowa Department of Education. There is no question that a quality public education for every child is a top priority in our state. I salute them and wish them well.●

CONGRATULATING THE WASHINGTON PAVILION OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I honor the board of directors and dedicated staff at the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science in Sioux Falls, SD, on their accreditation by the American Association of Museums. Since its creation in 1999, the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science has provided education and inspiration to those of all ages in the Sioux Falls region.

The Washington Pavilion has three main program areas, all designed to make art and science a part of everyday life. The Kirby Science Discovery Center introduces visitors to things like hands-on archeology, weather, and space shuttles. The Wells Fargo CineDome Theatre allows viewers to travel the universe or witness nature in vivid detail. Lastly, the Visual Arts Center brings art to all generations with its six galleries and changing exhibits.

I wish to congratulate the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science on reaching this milestone in their mission, and for their service to the community. Once again, I commend the individuals involved in this enterprise

and am pleased to see them publicly honored with accreditation by the American Association of Museums.●

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM D. WAGONER

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to commend William D. Wagoner of Royal Oak, MI, who last week retired from a long and distinguished career in public service. For the past 35 years, Dr. Wagoner dedicated his career to the public good, working to establish innovative and sustainable practices in urban planning, emergency management, and teaching the next generation of planners and emergency responders. His extraordinary career spanned the entire spectrum of government service, from the local level to the Federal level.

Dr. Wagoner began his career in service by teaching history and political science at a public high school in Clarkston, MI. He went on to earn his master's degree in urban planning and his doctorate in public administration.

For 18 productive years, he served as assistant city manager in Berkley, MI, a large suburb of Detroit, and for the past 16 years has been director of planning and community development for Livingston County, the fastest growing county in Michigan. Dr. Wagoner has written several books on urban planning and emergency response, and has served for decades as an instructor for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

President Kennedy asked a generation of Americans to give of themselves for our country and for its future. Dr. Wagoner answered President Kennedy's call and has inspired countless others, who have worked with him or who have been his students, to do the same. I congratulate Dr. Wagoner for his remarkable public service, and I wish him a long and healthy and happy retirement. He has served America well.●

TRIBUTE TO STANLEY E. REED

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and recognize over 25 years of service by Stanley E. Reed to our great State of Arkansas. A third-generation cotton farmer from Marianna, AR, Stanley has served the Arkansas agriculture community with steady leadership for over 20 years as a member of the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation board, including the last five as president. At the upcoming Farm Bureau State Convention on December 4, Stanley will hand over the gavel as president, and I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize his many contributions to our State.

Born in Marianna in 1951, Stanley attended the University of Arkansas where he graduated in 1973 with a degree in Agricultural Engineering and was awarded Highest Honors. Although Stanley was a tremendous student, he also displayed his leadership skills