

citizens the right to travel. The current ban on travel contravenes the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights' statement that "everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country."

Free travel also makes for good policy inside Cuba. Visits from Americans would have the same positive effects as people-to-people exchanges, but on a larger scale. Visiting Europeans and Canadians have already increased the flow of information and hard currency to ordinary Cubans, with a significant impact on the country. Cuba's economic model, for sure, remains profoundly flawed, and human rights conditions remain dismal. But the hard-currency sectors of the Cuban economy have significantly altered workers' dependence on the regime, introduced material incentives that are changing economic culture, and raised expectations, if not demands, for greater improvements in the future. After years of Cuban government propaganda, Americans are even better positioned than Europeans and Canadians to be catalysts of change. We can do more if we let them.

That is one reason why all of Cuba's major pro-democracy groups support free travel. Freedom House, Human Rights Watch, and other groups critical of Cuba's government agree. Studies of change in Eastern and Central Europe show a direct correlation between contact with the outside world and the peacefulness and durability of democratic transitions.

This is a policy whose time has come. Numerous polls of Americans—of Cuban origin and otherwise—show strong support. Non-Cuban-Americans have long supported easing restrictions. But here is what is surprising: one recent poll found that 59 percent of Cuban-Americans—the group most widely thought to oppose a change in policy—actually support allowing all American citizens to travel to Cuba. As the proportion of Cuban Americans who arrived after 1980 increases, support for free travel is only growing. In fact, even many Cuban émigrés 65 years and older, once passionately opposed to it, now favor free travel. This is a sea change in the attitudes of Cuban-Americans, and we should not ignore it.

Change is in the air—in Havana, in Washington, and in major Cuban-American communities. I don't personally hold high hopes that the transfer of power from Fidel to Raúl Castro and to the next generation of hand-picked loyalists portends rapid change, but it is obvious that the Cuba of today is not the Cuba of the 60s or even the 90s, and that our policy should not be stuck in time either. Cubans are searching for models for the future, and our economic system and democratic ideals appeal to them.

In September, when the Colombian rock star Juanes came to Havana, by some estimates as many as a million

people came to hear the concert. From the stage, he looked out at the Cuban people and started a simple chant: *Una Sola Familia Cubana*. The crowd roared approval at the thought of ending the conflict between Cubans across the Florida Straits.

There is a hunger out there among the Cuban people. America should capitalize on it. They want contact with their own families, and they want contact with American people and American ideas.

There is no other country in the world to which we have closed our lives as long as we have to Cuba. The Berlin Wall fell 20 years ago, but the wall separating Americans and Cubans has yet to come down.

We have a choice to ignore change and resist it or to mold it and channel it into a new set of policies. After 50 years of trying to isolate and destroy, it's time to try working with the Cuban people and making a new future together.

REMEMBERING SENATOR PAULA HAWKINS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the passing of Paula Hawkins, a former colleague of mine in the U.S. Senate and a very dear and close personal friend whose service to the Nation and her home State of Florida will endure for generations in the heads and hearts of her posterity, friends and legions of admirers.

In the ranks of those who greatly admire and will dearly miss Paula, I stand front and center today to salute this extraordinary woman for her accomplishments, outstanding public service, wonderful family and exemplary life. As I do so, I am humbled by the magnitude of the task. It is not easy to find the right words to do justice to such a unique and choice individual.

That said, I guess the first thing that comes to mind about Paula Hawkins is that, true to her Utah Mormon heritage, she was a pioneer—a real trailblazer who opened doors and windows of opportunity for others to follow.

Long before there was a KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, DIANNE FEINSTEIN, OLYMPIA SNOWE or MARIA CANTWELL in the U.S. Senate, there was Paula Hawkins. In 1980, she became the first woman elected to that august body for a full term without the benefit of family connections, and she was the first woman from Florida to serve as a Senator.

And to the surprise of no one who knew her, she was no shrinking violet in Washington once she arrived. The media may have dismissively billed her as that "housewife from Maitland," but she quickly showed everyone that this was one tough homemaker who was acclimated to the political kitchen and could weather the heat that goes with it. I mean to tell you she was tough.

Anyone who knows Paula also knows that she was always impeccably

dressed. Indeed, her appearance was so picture-perfect that she probably made many a Hollywood starlet feel shabby by comparison. To say she was dressed to the nines is like saying Jack Nicklaus was a fair golfer or that Shakespeare sort of had a way with words.

But Paula was more than a pretty face. Sure, she had perfectly coiffed hair and wore designer clothes and jewelry, but she had a razor-sharp mind to go with her smart appearance, and she quickly showed she was nobody's pushover. She could stand toe to toe and verbally slug it out with some of the most powerful and even most obnoxious Senators. In other words, she gave more than she got—and her opponents, more often than not, got more than they bargained for.

She was a great debater, a human dynamo who brought unrivaled energy and unbridled enthusiasm to the Senate. She was extremely intelligent and tremendously interested in politics—and she was very good at it. A quick look at her successful Senate campaign in 1980 attests to just how good she was.

By today's big-bucks standards, Paula's campaign was strictly bargain-basement. Fox News pundit Dick Morris, her pollster at the time, recalls the campaign being too cash-strapped to afford a teleprompter. Aides made do by writing scripts on paper towels and unrolling them as Paula spoke. In the end, her powers of persuasion and command of the facts carried the day with voters.

After stirring voters' hearts in Florida, Paula stirred things up in the Nation's Capital. Change was in the wind when she blew into wintry Washington in January 1981. For starters, she became the first Senator to bring her husband to Washington, which resulted in the Senate wives' club being renamed the Senate spouses' club. She helped spearhead legislation to help widows and women divorcees get back into the job market. She supported efforts to improve pensions for women and make them more equal to that of men. She further fought to get daycare for the children of Senate employees. Even the all-male Senate gym was no sweat for Paula, who forced her fellow Senators to wear swimming suits so that she could swim there as well.

To me, Paula was a ray of Florida sunshine that brightened my days during the years we served together in the Senate. She was a true blue conservative who was warm, witty and cracked wise. We shared many a joke and a laugh along with our commonly held moral, ethical and religious beliefs. And we became political allies and fast friends. In fact, Paula became and always remained one of my closest friends.

Both on and off Capitol Hill, she always could be counted on through good times and bad. I quickly learned that her word was her bond. Whenever I needed help, she was always there. And

I certainly hope the reverse was true—that I was there whenever she needed help.

Women, minorities, as well as the elderly with disabilities also learned they could count on Paula. She was a tireless advocate in their behalf—and they loved her for it. She also showed great political courage in 1984, when she disclosed during a hearing that she had been molested as a child. I am sure that horrific childhood experience, in part, informed her efforts to champion children's causes.

While her legislative accomplishments are too numerous to mention here, I would like to make mention of one in particular. Paula spearheaded the Missing Children's Act of 1982, the bill that instituted the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. Thanks to that landmark legislation, the names of thousands of missing children are now part of the FBI's national crime database.

To secure the bill's passage, Paula personally lobbied President Reagan. As great a communicator as he was, the "Great Communicator" knew he had met his match in Paula and lent his support. Of course the President knew that Paula could always be relied on to help deliver a legislative win for "the Gipper" in the Senate—which she did many times.

As a staunch conservative, she found common cause with the President and other conservatives, including myself, on numerous issues. She was, for example, an ardent anti-communist who supported the President's hard line against Soviet expansionism. She also despised overly big government—and, there is certainly a lot to despise in Washington, especially these days.

Paula was an unwavering friend for those who shared her values and commitment, but she was an implacable foe of political corruption and to those who peddled illegal drugs on our streets and in our schools. She fought for legislation to cut foreign aid to nations that refused to reduce their export of harmful drugs. She further assisted in creating the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control and helped initiate the South Florida Drug Task Force.

I would be remiss if I didn't say something about Paula's stamina. She could endure as well as endear—often when she was in great pain. In 1982, she was knocked unconscious when a TV studio partition fell on her during an interview in Florida.

Those of us who worked closely with her know that the years that followed were often filled with crippling pain. Between votes on the Senate floor, she would often go to a room lent to her by Senator Strom Thurmond in the Capitol and lie in traction in a hospital bed.

Despite the immense pain stemming from her debilitating injury, Paula soldiered on during her 1986 bid for reelection. On campaign trips across Florida Paula would sometimes lay in

the back seat moaning between appearances, according to Congressman John Mica, her aide at the time. While she lost that race to Bob Graham, it is amazing that she did so well and a testament to her courage and determination.

Paula's service did not end with her Senate term. Her contributions to her State, community, family and church over the past 23 years have been truly significant. She also didn't lose her sense of humor. When a Florida State senator told Paula several years ago that she was trying to do a good job, Paula smiled, grasped her hand firmly and said simply: "Try harder, dear."

As great a public servant she was, Paula was just as remarkable in her private life—as a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She had a fierce love for each member of her immediate and extended family. And her husband Gene is no less remarkable. He is one of the kindest, most friendly, decent and honorable men I have ever known—and his love for Paula has always been uplifting to behold.

In every aspect of their lives, they have been an exemplary couple. They have been just as exemplary as parents. As members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Gene and Paula took to heart the Mormon teaching that families are forever. They were determined to ensure that every family member worked hard toward achieving the goal of being able to be together in the hereafter. They have a great family and are well on their way toward achieving that lofty goal.

In the Old Testament book of Proverbs, we read:

Who can find a virtuous woman, for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil . . . She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy . . . Strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in the time to come . . . She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her . . . Favour is deceitful and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates (Proverbs 31:10-31).

Today, I am honored to have the privilege of adding my voice to the chorus of praise for my dear friend, Paula Hawkins. I feel deeply that a loving Father in heaven and Jesus Christ have already embraced Paula and taken her into their care and treatment as one of truly great women who graced this Earth.

I truly loved Paula Hawkins. We were best friends. Like Gene and the Hawkins' three children—Genean, Kevin and Kelly—11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, my wife Elaine and I look forward to a joyous reunion one day with Paula on the other side of the veil.

In the meantime, it is my hope that all of us here in this chamber will re-

flect on her service and follow her advice to that State Senator: Try Harder!

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ROY OBREITER

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the Office of Rural Development within the United States Department of Agriculture will soon say goodbye to Roy Obreiter, a longtime trusted adviser, friend, and colleague to all who have worked with him. I am delighted to have this opportunity to pay tribute to Roy, a staff appraiser with the agency in Michigan, who will retire after 38 years of dedicated service. I join many within the USDA, as well as the many who have benefitted from his work over the years, in celebrating this impressive milestone.

Roy has an encyclopedic knowledge of agency programs and appraisal guidelines. Through his hard work, focus, and passion, Roy has endeared himself to those who have had the pleasure of working with him.

Roy has been a role model and mentor to his peers and coworkers. His kind and gentle demeanor, combined with his ability to connect on a personal level, have helped him earn the respect and admiration of his colleagues within the agency. Roy is an incredibly decent human being, devoted to family and work, and loyal to those around him.

Beyond his personal qualities, Roy has distinguished himself with a remarkable record of contributions to the agency. The assistance he has provided to Rural Development programs during his career has been invaluable. Roy can be proud of his contributions to Michigan and to rural America. He will be missed by his colleagues and by those throughout Michigan who have been touched by his work.

I congratulate Roy Obreiter on a job well done and wish him the best as he embarks on the next phase of his life.●

TRIBUTE TO TERRY SHERWOOD

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I join many of my fellow Arkansans in recognizing and thanking Terry Sherwood with the Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District for his 40 years of work with this agency and to wish him all the best in his retirement.

Since the Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District was organized and began operation in 1967, it has served local governments by working as an indispensable partner to identify and implement State and Federal programs. Through Terry's hard work and leadership with the Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District, communities throughout southwest Arkansas have been positively impacted and their lasting results are a testament to his dedication and vision and will be felt for decades to come.