loyalty and hard work in helping to make the Senate a more efficient, compatible working environment.

I thank Lula Davis, and I wish her the best in her retirement. I hope she doesn’t get too far away from the Senate and that she comes back to see us once in a while to help us untangle that ball of string, as I am sure it is bound to become tangled again sometime.

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 707) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

Whereas Lula Davis, the Secretary for the Majority, will be retiring at the end of the 111th Congress, after a long and distinguished career;

Whereas Lula Davis was first elected as Assistant Democratic Secretary in 1997, and she was the first woman ever to hold that position;

Whereas Lula Davis was elected to be the Secretary for the Majority at the beginning of the 111th Congress, the first African American to serve in this position, and during the last two years she has expertly tackled one of the toughest jobs in politics;

Whereas throughout her time in the Senate, Lula Davis has played a major role in managing the debate and passage of many significant pieces of legislation;

Whereas many legislative accomplishments over the years would not have happened without the leadership of Lula Davis;

Whereas Lula Davis lived in rural Louisiana, and worked as a teacher and guidance counselor;

Whereas Lula Davis remains committed to children in our community, founding and continuing to run a nonprofit mentoring and charitable organization called “Leadership Cares,” which provides holiday meals to more than 650 families annually;

Whereas Lula Davis has encouraged many of her fellow Senate staff to volunteer alongside her family and friends to make a difference for those in need;

Whereas Lula Davis started her Senate career as a legislative aide to her home-state Senator Russell Long, and went on to serve in almost every position on the floor staff, including office assistant, floor assistant, chief floor assistant, Assistant Secretary, and Secretary;

Whereas Lula Davis is a master of the complex formal and informal rules under which the Senate operates;

Whereas Lula Davis has consistently provided thoughtful and reliable advice to both Democratic and Republican leadership and all members of the Senate;

Whereas Lula Davis is loyal to the Senate and to Senators, and respects the traditions that make this body great;

Whereas the Senate has tremendous respect for Lula Davis and her hard work, and deeply appreciates her enormous contributions to the Senate and to the United States:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate expresses its deepest thanks to Lula Davis for her many years of outstanding service to the United States Senate and to the United States of America.

STAR PRINT—S. 583

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Calendar No. 706, S. 583, reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on December 17, 2010, be star printed with the changes at the desk. An incorrect version of the committee substitute amendment was reported to the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator BAYH be authorized to sign any duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Wednesday, December 22, and that Senator LINCOLN be authorized to sign any duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Thursday, December 23, and Friday, December 24.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Republican leader, in consultation with the chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, pursuant to Public Law 111–211, appoints the following individuals to be members of the Indian Law and Order Commission: Troy Eid of Colorado and Jefferson Keel of Oklahoma.

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE 111TH CONGRESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, when we convened this Congress in January 2009, 750,000 Americans were losing their homes every month. Soon after this Congress began, an auto industry nearly imploded, and within a year an oil well exploded. It was a tough 2 years for our Nation and for so many families. It was also a time of remarkable progress.

When this Congress began, insurance companies were free to deny health care to the sick for any excuse they could come up with. The doughnut hole that sent seniors’ prescription drug costs through the roof was wide open. Wall Street firms that had crashed our economy, but they were still free to rip off investors while the Nation smoldered. Cigarette companies could prey on children, credit card companies could prey on consumers, and con artists could prey on families’ mortgages.

Employers were free to pay women less than men, the safety of our food supply was dangerously inadequate, and the definition of a hate crime was shamefully insufficient. Gay men and women who volunteered to defend and die for our country were asked to fight and die for values and principles they didn’t have for themselves in America.

More than a year has passed since American inspectors were on the ground to monitor the Russian nuclear weapons arsenal.

We have turned each of these around. Because of what we did in this Congress, we brought the economy back from the brink of collapse, we cut taxes for 95 percent of Americans, we invested in important job-creating projects, and we will keep working until everyone who wants to work can find a job.

Because of what we did, families are safer from health insurance companies. Our economy and its investors are safer from big banks. Consumers are safer from credit card companies, homeowners are safer from mortgage fraud, and all of us are safer from corporate fraud.

Parents can know their children are safer from cigarette companies, thanks to legislation we passed that will save
lives. Our food safety protections will save countless more lives.

We also made historic strides for equality and justice. With a hate crimes bill that bears Emmett Till’s name, we stood up for those who are victims of violence because of their race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. With a fair pay bill in Lilly Ledbetter’s name, I wish I had the ability to commit what is in my heart—and I certainly don’t have the ability to do that—but I want everyone here to know that I am very grateful for everything here working in such a wonderful manner for our country.

I say to each one of you—I went through a long list of things we have been able to accomplish—we couldn’t have done any of this without you. As much as I know about the rules, and I know quite a bit about the rules, I have found that the President trusts me to tell me—really—to get the real scoop. I admire what they do. They are very fine lawyers. This area of the law they know better than anyone else in the world.

Madam President, I haven’t mentioned the police officers, the doorkeepers. These police officers, they are here right now as we speak. The office, of course, without uniform. We have people every day without any exception wanting to do bad things to this beautiful Capitol Complex. These wonderful police officers keep this building and its inhabitants, the people who work in this building—it is not inhabitants, although I feel I live here sometimes—they keep the thousands of people who work in these Capitol buildings safe. They do such a wonderful job of taking care of us. Chief Gainer, who was our point person at Arm. He’s responsible for the police force. He does a wonderful job on this side of the Capitol.

Madam President, I wish you, the Presiding Officer, my dear friend, and everyone here a very happy holiday season. I wish it could have been a little longer, but it is better than a lot thought it would be.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BAYH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 1052, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1189, 1190, 1191, 1192, 1196, 1197, 1198, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1209, 1210, 1210, 1212, 1213, 1216, 1216, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, to and including 1267, and all nominations at the Secretary’s desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Department of the Navy, and the Service; that the nominations be confirmed, en bloc, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; that no further motions be in order; that any statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Jonathan Woodson, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.