

in semiconductors. As Kurt Marko, a coworker at Micron, poignantly described him, “Appleton personified Micron’s can-do spirit. He, and it, defied the odds.”

Steve leaves behind a legacy of hard work, focus, integrity and generosity. He was driven to reach remarkable achievements and was generous in sharing the rewards of that hard work to better our State and future generations of Idahoans. For example, he gave his time and financial resources to help Boise State University develop its College of Engineering; raised funds for scholarships, programs, buildings and projects, including the Appleton Tennis Complex; and established the Micron Foundation. Due to his efforts, our State and Nation will be better equipped to compete globally.

We were honored to have many opportunities to work with Steve over the years. His pragmatic approach was instrumental in achieving remedies needed to better ensure a level playing field for U.S. semiconductor products and address unfair trading practices. No matter the challenges, Steve faced them with optimism and sensibility.

Steve’s adventurous spirit was widely known and well documented. His passion for sports and competition contributed to him excelling in tennis, including winning the doubles title at the Big Sky Tennis Championship in 1982. Besides his love of aviation, he also was involved in a number of adventure sports including, off-road car racing, scuba diving, wakeboarding, motocross and more.

Steve Appleton’s energy and commitment to Idaho will not be forgotten. He has set an extraordinary example of what hard work and initiative in a free enterprise system can achieve. He helped create thousands of jobs and cemented Idaho’s standing in the high-tech field. His innovation, drive and forward-thinking approach, as well as his wonderful friendship, will be greatly missed.●

#### RECOGNIZING ARKANSAS HOSPITALS

● Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, it is my distinct privilege to recognize the work of five Arkansas hospitals that were honored by U.S. News and World Report as among the Nation’s best hospitals and classified as “high-performing” in a variety of specialties for their outstanding care. These hospitals were judged against almost 5,000 nationwide hospitals and met rigorous standards of medical care, including patient survival and safety, hospital reputation, and care-related factors such as nursing and patient services. The “high-performing” designation is reserved for hospitals that rank in the top 25 percent of each category after further standards are applied. These five hospitals are tremendous assets to my State, and I am pleased to be able to praise their hard work and world-class medical care on the Senate floor.

The U.S. News 2011–2012 Best Hospitals rankings recognized three hospitals in the Little Rock metropolitan area, which includes Little Rock, North Little Rock, and Conway. The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, UAMS, was recognized as a high-performing hospital in four specialty areas: cancer; obstetrics/gynecology; ear/nose/throat, ENT; and nephrology, kidney. Baptist Health Medical Center was named high-performing in the ENT and nephrology specialties, and St. Vincent Infirmary was recognized as high-performing in the ENT and orthopedics specialties.

The 2011–2012 Best Hospitals list included two additional Arkansas facilities providing outstanding care outside of major metro areas: Sparks Regional Medical Center, in Fort Smith, and Washington Regional Medical Center, in Fayetteville. They were two of only 247 hospitals across the Nation recognized for their exceptional care as regional hospitals. Sparks was listed as “high-performing” in the pulmonology specialty and Washington Regional in geriatrics.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of UAMS, Baptist Health, St. Vincent, Sparks Regional, and Washington Regional. I am thankful for the men and women of these five facilities and all the health care professionals across my State. They are constantly striving to provide Arkansans with the best medical care possible, and I am proud of all their hard work.●

#### REMEMBERING WILMA J. WEBB

● Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I want to recognize a friend and a great Coloradan the Honorable Wilma J. Webb. Wilma is a transformative leader who has left her indelible mark on the State of Colorado and the character of our country.

On February 16, 2012, the Anti-Defamation League’s Mountain States Office will present Wilma with the prestigious 2012 Civil Rights Award. Given all of her work on behalf of the African-American community, it is especially appropriate that Wilma will receive her award during Black History Month. I congratulate her on being the recipient of such an esteemed honor and I applaud her for her remarkable achievements in the struggle for civil rights. Wilma’s award presents me with an opportunity to tell the U.S. Senate about her remarkable life and work.

Wilma is a native of the Centennial State, born in Denver and raised in the city’s Five Points Neighborhood. She later attended the University of Colorado at Denver, and is an alumna of Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. As a testament to her dedication to public service in Colorado, Wilma also has received honorary doctoral degrees from the University of Northern Colorado and the Art Institute of Colorado.

By 1980, Wilma had become a state representative in the Colorado General

Assembly, where she served for 13 years, distinguishing herself as a trail-blazing leader in the State Capitol. Among her achievements, Wilma spearheaded legislation to prevent discrimination in its many forms. For example, Wilma successfully secured the ability of the Colorado Civil Rights Commission and Division to use the power of subpoena in cases of discrimination. The first woman to represent House District 8, she was also a champion for the rights of women and led legislation to make it unlawful to discriminate against women in the workplace or in the pursuit of an education. Wilma fought to help women and minority professionals lead successful businesses in Colorado. Additionally, Wilma served as an advocate to end discrimination on the basis of a person’s sexual orientation or physical disability.

In the 1980s, the United States was considering a policy of divestment in South Africa because of its abhorrent system known as apartheid. At this time, early in her career as a State Representative, Wilma had the foresight and determination to lead the divestment effort in Colorado. To do so, she carried bills to discourage investment in South Africa until Nelson Mandela was freed from imprisonment on Robben Island and justice was restored to the country’s political system. It’s a stance that many of us think is common sense now, but we must remember that it took brave leaders like Wilma to be on the forefront of the fight several decades ago.

Wilma’s leadership to expand civil rights is laudable, and includes many successful initiatives that make Coloradans proud. She is perhaps most widely known and celebrated for her effort to establish Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a State holiday in Colorado. Founding the Martin Luther King, Jr. Colorado Holiday Commission along with Mrs. Coretta Scott King and Governor Richard D. Lamm, Wilma committed 18 years to serving as its President and Chairman. The commission, helmed by Wilma, was responsible for organizing the annual “Marade” in the heart of Denver and has served to unite and educate communities across Colorado on the spirit and contributions of Dr. King. The Marade, uniquely named for being both a march and a parade, is one of the largest celebrations of its kind across the country. I have had the distinct privilege of participating in it over the years. In fact, just last month I was in Denver to mark the occasion, and it is among the most important ways we have to celebrate our diverse communities and honor the values to which Dr. King devoted his life. To me, Wilma’s visionary leadership in honoring Dr. King’s legacy symbolizes our nation’s inexorable march toward greater equality and justice for all Americans.

There are many other notable achievements of Wilma Webb. I would like to discuss a few more.

She has been a pioneer on education issues, fighting for a level playing field