

Still the emails back and forth continued . . . Less than a week before she died, she was answering emails. "How are you?" she would ask. "How was the party?" "What do you think of Michele Bachmann?" From March to her death on August I never once heard her sob. I never once heard her complain. Or question her fate. When her son, asked in a moment of intimacy, if she was afraid, she said "no" and repeated what a wonderful life she'd had. Peter and Angela were with her until the end. Thank heaven, she was never in pain. As she lay in bed, looking frail but beautiful, Peter held one of her hands, Angela the other. She knew they were with her.

I am telling you all this because Casey not only taught us how to live. She taught us how to die.

After her death, they found a secret stash of cigarettes. Those damn cigarettes.

Oh my darling Casey, there isn't one of us in this sacred room whose life you haven't touched, not one who didn't love you. How could we not?●

TRIBUTE TO NORA WALSH HUSSEY

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I would like to take this opportunity to honor Nora Walsh Hussey of Sturgis, SD.

Nora has spent countless hours serving her community through a variety of organizations and activities. Nora has been an active participant in Promoting Educational Opportunities, PEO, an organization where women celebrate advancement through achievements in educational opportunities. She has also spent a significant amount of time volunteering as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, CASA, which supports abused and neglected children. While Nora spends the majority of her time volunteering for various organizations in the community, she also enjoys participating in bridge clubs, golfing, and cruising.

Nora's achievements are not limited to her work on behalf of South Dakotans. In 1981, Nora was confirmed by the U.S. Senate to become the first non-Coloradan to supervise the Denver Mint. While supervising the mint, Nora was acknowledged by many employees for her exemplary service.

I want to join Nora's family and friends in recognizing her more than 50 years of community service and celebrating her 97th birthday on March 26, 2012. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Nora for all she has done for her fellow South Dakotans and wish her continued success in years to come.●

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2186. A bill to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to prohibit the Attorney General from administering or enforcing certain accessibility regulations relating to pools at public accommodations or provided by public entities.

H.R. 3606. An act to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5318. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department of Defense taking essential steps to award multiyear contracts for nine Virginia Class submarines (VCS) in fiscal years 2014 through 2018, no later than December 31, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5319. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department of Defense taking essential steps to award a multiyear contract for 155 CH-47F aircraft, in fiscal years 2013 through 2017, not later than January 31, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5320. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department of Defense taking essential steps to award a Joint Service multiyear contract for 98 V-22 aircraft (91 MV-22 aircraft for the United States Marine Corps and 7 CV-22 aircraft for the United States Air Force) in fiscal years 2013 through 2017, no later than December 31, 2012; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5321. A joint communication from the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the status of the annual report on the plan for the nuclear weapons stockpile, complex, delivery systems, and command and control systems; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5322. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Commercial Determination Approval" ((RIN0750-AH61) (DFARS Case 2011-D041)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 7, 2012; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5323. A communication from the Surgeon General and Commanding General, US Arm Medical Command, Department of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Regional Medical Command Inspectors General report relative to assessing access of recovering service members to adequate outpatient residential facilities; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5324. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Residential Clothes Washers" (RIN1904-AC108) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 8, 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5325. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on the Recovery of Threatened and Endangered Species Fiscal Years 2009-2010"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5326. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of an item not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5327. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a performance report relative to the Animal Drug User Fee Act for fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5328. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a performance report relative to the Animal Drug User Fee Act for fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5329. A communication from the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts and a Member of the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program for fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5330. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Evaluation of the Mentoring Children of Prisoners Program"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5331. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Disease Control, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval Tests and Standards for Closed Circuit Escape Respirators" (RIN0920-AA10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 7, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5332. A communication from the Legal Counsel, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disparate Impact and Reasonable Factors Other Than Age Under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act" (RIN3046-AA76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 8, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5333. A communication from the Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Buy American Act Report for fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5334. A communication from the President of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's annual report for the year ending September 30, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 2188. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a national standard in accordance with which nonresidents of a State may carry concealed firearms in the State; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2189. A bill to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and other laws to clarify appropriate standards for Federal antidiscrimination and antiretaliation claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 2190. A bill to amend the securities laws to provide for registration exemptions for certain crowd-funded securities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. KIRK, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 395. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the NATO summit to be held in Chicago, Illinois from May 20 through 21, 2012; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 339

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 339, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 414

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 414, a bill to protect girls in developing countries through the prevention of child marriage, and for other purposes.

S. 418

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 418, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol.

S. 1335

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1335, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide rights for pilots, and for other purposes.

S. 1770

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1770, a bill to prohibit discrimination in adoption or foster care placements based on the sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status of any prospective adoptive or foster parent, or the sexual orientation or gender identity of the child involved.

S. 1855

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1855, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize various programs under the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act.

S. 1884

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr.

MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1884, a bill to provide States with incentives to require elementary schools and secondary schools to maintain, and permit school personnel to administer, epinephrine at schools.

S. 1925

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1925, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

S. 1973

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1973, a bill to prevent gun trafficking in the United States.

S. 1990

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1990, a bill to require the Transportation Security Administration to comply with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

S. 2076

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2076, a bill to improve security at State and local courthouses.

S. 2123

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2123, a bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to extend funding for family-to-family health information centers to help families of children with disabilities or special health care needs make informed choices about health care for their children.

S. 2145

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2145, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the Secretary of the Treasury to issue prospective guidance clarifying the employment status of individuals for purposes of employment taxes and to prevent retroactive assessments with respect to such clarifications.

S. 2155

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2155, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to promote biobased manufacturing.

S. 2179

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2179, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve oversight of educational assistance provided under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 2184

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2184, a bill to provide exclusive funding to support fisheries and the communities that rely upon them, to clear unnecessary regulatory burdens and streamline Federal fisheries management, and for other purposes.

S. 2186

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2186, a bill to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to prohibit the Attorney General from administering or enforcing certain accessibility regulations relating to pools at public accommodations or provided by public entities.

S. RES. 380

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 380, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate regarding the importance of preventing the Government of Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons capability.

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 380, *supra*.

S. RES. 385

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 385, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran for its continued persecution, imprisonment, and sentencing of Youcef Nadarkhani on the charge of apostasy.

S. RES. 391

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 391, a resolution condemning violence by the Government of Syria against journalists, and expressing the sense of the Senate on freedom of the press in Syria.

AMENDMENT NO. 1617

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1617 proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1661

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1661 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1793

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1793 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1814

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Montana