

quickly come to love and consider home.

I first met him in 1982 while he was serving as the newly elected National Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was then, and remains today, a quiet but powerful force—a man whose soft-spoken words resonate among those around him. Despite his humble, modest demeanor, his talent for leadership and dedication to our Nation's veterans is immediately evident.

In 1984, Bob was invited by the State Department to join a U.S. delegation as an observer of El Salvador's first election in 50 years. I was also on that trip, and remember a long discussion we had about veterans and politics, two of Bob's interests. In 1986, I asked him to join my Arizona staff. Ever in demand, he departed for a period to serve as an executive in the VFW in Washington, DC, where I kept tabs on him. In 1996, Bob was ready to return to Arizona and I leapt at the chance to have him back on my staff.

From that time until just recently, he devoted himself to helping me work on behalf of veterans. On my many trips back home, as I checked in with Fort Huachuca, Davis Monthan, and our veterans communities, I always heard the same message, "You are lucky to have a man like Bob Currie on your team." I wholeheartedly agree.

In the nearly 20 years that Bob served in my office, he opened more than 8,000 cases. That is 8,000 service-members, veterans, military spouses and families who called out for help—calls that I am proud were answered on my behalf by a man as capable and caring as Bob. I thank him for his contributions to my team, his wise counsel, and his unwavering friendship.

As the late Coach Abe Lemons once said, "The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off." I know that my friend Bob won't face that dilemma—that he will remain active with the VFW and in his community as he embarks on the next exciting chapter of his life. I wish Bob and his wife Cecilia a long and happy retirement—filled with many joyful days and beautiful Tucson sunsets together.

RESTORING THE 10TH AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, today I wish to express my support for the Restoring the 10th Amendment Act—S. 1643. This legislation, which I have introduced with nine of my colleagues, represents an effort to ensure that States' rights are protected against further Federal encroachment.

Ratified and signed into law on December 15, 1791, the 10th Amendment is integral to the system of checks and balances that our Founding Fathers conceived. The Founders were right to be concerned that the Federal Government would seek to usurp powers belonging to the States. They understood that limitless Federal power was a threat to the future of our democracy.

In *The Federalist* No. 45, James Madison notes the difference between Federal and State power. He describes the powers that the Constitution grants to the Federal government as "few and defined." He calls the powers left to the States as "numerous and indefinite."

Today, we can plainly see how wise our Founders were. As we enter into the second term of the Obama administration, Federal regulatory overreach has become an intrusive part of everyday life in the United States. From the President's sweeping health-care law to the extreme rulemaking of the Environmental Protection Agency, there is virtually no aspect of Americans' lives that escapes the creeping reach of Federal regulators.

The Restoring the 10th Amendment Act seeks to reverse this trend and to level the playing field by giving States a new tool to challenge Federal overreach. Specifically, it provides special standing in court for State government officials to dispute inordinately sweeping regulations issued by Federal agencies. Any rule proposed by a Federal agency would be subject to constitutional challenges if certain State officials determine that the rule infringes powers reserved to the States under the 10th Amendment. In this way, the bill would reinforce the safeguards in our existing system of constitutional checks and balances.

Americans have the right to expect the members they elect to Congress to uphold the Constitution's founding principles. It is our responsibility to ensure that the executive branch is held accountable for any overreach of its constitutionally defined powers.

This bill recognizes that the 10th Amendment is as important today as it was on the date of its ratification. It would keep the executive branch accountable and preserve the integrity of our constitutional system of checks and balances. Senators COCHRAN, GRASSLEY, ISAKSON, SESSIONS, ROBERTS, THUNE, INHOFE, CRAPO, RISCH, ENZI, and CORNYN have joined me as co-sponsors.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the prompt passage of the Restoring the 10th Amendment Act.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LEW W. CRAMER

• Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a dedicated business man, public servant and friend for his exemplary service in my home State of Utah. Lew Cramer will retire after a distinguished career building international trade in Utah and supporting exports for the United States.

Mr. Cramer began his career earning a bachelor's and law degree from Brigham Young University in Provo, UT. It was many years later that he returned to co-found World Trade Center Utah, an organization which has been

instrumental in Utah's economic success. Through the World Trade Center, Mr. Cramer connects Utah firms with new business opportunities around the world. It is thanks to the efforts of hardworking men like Mr. Cramer that, in this time of economic hardship, Utah is the only State in the Nation showing positive export growth year over year for the past decade. With the pioneering spirit of a true Utahn, Mr. Cramer has helped our companies take advantage of export opportunities creating quality, stable jobs in Utah.

Before his time in Utah, Mr. Cramer spent many years in public service. He served as Director General of the U.S. Commercial Service during President George H.W. Bush's administration, directing the activities of 1,400 commercial officers at more than 150 embassies worldwide, as well as in 65 offices throughout the United States. During the Reagan administration, he served as a White House fellow, a Deputy Assistant Commerce Secretary and as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for International Trade.

Mr. Cramer has worked extensively in the global telecommunications and broadband sectors, including serving as vice president for MediaOne International and US WEST, where he was responsible for their international government and multilateral financial institution relations and public policy for numerous wireless and broadband investments in more than 30 countries. Mr. Cramer shares his vast experience through education. He has taught international business at Georgetown University and the University of Southern California.

I would like to wish my friend the very best in his retirement and to profoundly thank him for his exemplary record of service to Utah and to our Nation.●

RECOGNITION OF PROFESSORS OF THE YEAR

• Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate the four national winners of the U.S. Professors of the Year Award. Since 1981 this program has recognized outstanding undergraduate instructors throughout the country. In addition to the national winners, a State Professor of the Year was also recognized in 36 States. This year, I am very proud to say that Colorado has the exceptional distinction of being home to two of the four national winners: Ann Williams at the Metropolitan State University of Denver and Steven Pollock at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

While the prestigious Professor of the Year Awards recognizes professors from diverse institutions and fields of study, this year's honorees all share a strong commitment to the art of teaching and to their students. Recipients are proven innovators who drive their fields and their colleagues forward, through both their energy and their enthusiasm. These educators are shaping