

at El Pueblo Historic Monument, a museum dedicated to showcasing and preserving the history of Mexicans and Mexican-Americans in Los Angeles; the Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River Master Plans, both of which serve as blueprints for “greening” local rivers and their tributaries; and the construction of more than 1,100 new affordable housing units in the First District.

I have known Gloria for many years, and I am honored to salute her as she prepares to retire from elective office. I am pleased to join Gloria’s many friends, family members, associates, admirers, and grateful constituents in wishing her health, happiness, and all the best as she embarks on the next phase of her life.●

#### RECOGNIZING ONCOLOGY NURSES

● Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate the Columbus Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society, or CCONS, on a legacy of excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care. CCONS’ 25th Annual Spring Conference, “Kaleidoscope of Oncology Care,” will be held on April 3, and in May, during Oncology Nursing Month, the society will celebrate its 30th anniversary. I would like to take a moment to reflect on the work and achievements of this valued organization and to especially recognize CCONS’ president, Bertie Ford, for her leadership.

Since 1984, CCONS has worked to lead the transformation of cancer care. Its members are leaders in their communities and represent the most effective cancer care advocates in their workplaces. These oncology nurses are vital supports of patient-centered interventions, leveraging clinical knowledge and technology every day to provide the highest quality cancer care to patients not only in Columbus but across Ohio.

We are making progress in the fight against cancer. The 5-year survival rate for all cancers among adults is 68 percent—a marked improvement over the mid-1970s when it was 50 percent. But as cancer treatment becomes more complex, the health care system demands higher quality and more efficient care. As Congress works to increase patient access to quality health care, I praise the commitment of CCONS in fostering excellence in oncology nursing and in the care of cancer patients.

My mother passed away in 2009 while in hospice care. I will never forget the nurses who took care of her in such a loving way when they didn’t know her personally until those last few weeks. It made all the difference in the world to her and our family. For that, I always thank nurses and others who care for those in need.

Congratulations to CCONS on its 30th anniversary and for the important work its members do in Ohio’s communities every day.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SHAUN CAREY

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the service of Sparks City Manager Shaun Carey on the occasion of his retirement. I commend Mr. Carey’s career and offer my sincerest thanks for his years of service to the city of Sparks.

Mr. Carey grew up in Sparks and graduated from Sparks High School in 1975. He started his professional career in 1981 as a civil engineer, working in Arizona, Colorado, and California before returning home to Sparks. In 1992, Mr. Carey was named public works director for the city of Sparks. He was later named assistant city manager in 1999 and then city manager in 2000.

Under Mr. Carey’s stewardship, Sparks has experienced continued growth through the economic challenges of recent years. He has streamlined city services and kept debt the lowest in the region despite economic challenges. Through his management, Sparks remains a full service city and continues to be responsive to its citizens.

Mr. Carey’s leadership was instrumental in the development of the Sparks Marina, and his guidance has been vital in coordinating the local area’s continuing development. Under Mr. Carey’s tenure, Sparks now boasts a whitewater recreation center, a new community center, and one of the largest artificial turf sports complexes in the world. Thanks to Mr. Carey, Sparks has become known as the premier event center for the region and is the fifth largest city in the State.

I offer Mr. Carey my warmest congratulations and hope he enjoys a rich and rewarding retirement, knowing that his years of service will not be forgotten by the grateful residents of Sparks.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DAVID RATCLIFFE

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. David Ratcliffe, the former chairman, president, and CEO of Southern Company Energy Solutions, LLC, until his retirement in 2010. He is the very definition of a leader.

On May 2, 2014, Senior Connections, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide essential home and community-based care that maximizes independence, will award David Ratcliffe with its 2014 Community Connections Award. The Community Connection Award was established in 2009 and recognizes older adults who have been and continue to be outstanding business and community leaders and who have given back significantly to the communities in which they live and work. I congratulate David for this award and thank Senior Connections for recognizing his outstanding achievements.

David’s long career is impressive in itself. Prior to his final leadership positions at Southern Company, he served

as president and chief executive officer of Georgia Power Company from June 1999 to January 2004 and also as its chairman and chief executive officer from January 2004 to April 2004. He served as an executive vice president of Southern Company, a subsidiary of Gulf Power Co., from 1999 until 2004. He served as an executive vice president, treasurer, and chief financial officer of Georgia Power Co. from 1998 to 1999. He served as senior vice president, external affairs of Southern Company for 3 years and served as chairman of Georgia Power Co. and director since June 1999. He served as the chairman of the board of Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and chairman of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. He also served as the chairman of the board and director at Edison Electric Institute, Inc., and previously served as its vice chairman. Additionally, David has been a director of CSX Corp. since 2003 and SunTrust Banks, Inc., since 2011. He has been a director at CSX Transportation, Inc., for more than 11 years. He serves as a director of GRA Venture Fund, LLC.

David Ratcliffe is a trusted friend and one upon whom I call regularly. A native of Tifton, GA, he continues to support his community, our State, and the world in his retirement through his work on the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce Board, as well as the boards of the National Center for Civil and Human Rights and the Centers for Disease Control Foundation. He serves as a trustee of Georgia Research Alliance, Inc., and Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, Inc.

David and his wife Cecilia Chandler and their two grown children, Andrew and Elizabeth, deserve our great thanks for their generosity in so many areas.●

#### REMEMBERING FIRST LIEUTENANT DONALD K. SCHWAB

● Mr. JOHANNIS. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the life and service of a brave and patriotic Nebraskan. First Lieutenant Donald K. Schwab was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for going above and beyond the call of duty during his service in World War II. First Lieutenant Schwab was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Bronze Star, and three Purple Hearts for his valor, and I applaud the upgrading of his Distinguished Service Cross to the Medal of Honor, our Nation’s highest military honor.

Schwab was born in Hooper, NE, in 1918 and enlisted in the U.S. Army upon graduating from high school. In World War II, his tour of duty included posts in North Africa, Italy, and France. On September 17, 1944, near Lure, France, First Lieutenant Schwab showed tremendous bravery and valor though his actions in combat. Ordered to overwhelm the enemy line, Schwab led his men twice toward the Germans amidst heavy gunfire. He rallied his decimated force for a third charge on the hostile

strong-point, working their way to within 50 yards of the Germans. He then stormed a line of German foxholes alone, reaching a key machine pistol nest which had caused heavy casualties among his men. After ripping off the cover of the firing pit, Schwab forced the German soldier inside to accompany him back behind friendly lines, surviving a barrage of gunfire. His actions so disorganized the hostile infantry resistance that the enemy withdrew. This episode of selfless heroism dismantled a strong German position, aiding the Allied front.

First Lieutenant Schwab was wounded three times in Active Duty but continued to serve in the U.S. Army until October 26, 1945. Schwab returned to the family farm in Hooper and later worked as a rural mail carrier. His service continued in civilian life through his involvement in his church council, the Hooper and Logan View school boards, and other organizations. Schwab's commitment and connection remained strong in part through his membership in the Cornelius Tillman American Legion Post 18 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10535 in Hooper.

First Lieutenant Schwab died at age 86 in 2005. Although the Medal of Honor comes 9 years after his death, the bravery and heroism he showed in 1944 is now rightly recognized. I congratulate his wife Maralee, his children, and his grandchildren, who accepted this award in his memory. Nebraskans have a long and proud tradition of military service. Schwab's actions exemplify selflessness and courage, setting a worthy example for many others who would follow.

First Lieutenant Schwab's commitment to community and country is truly inspiring. I ask my colleagues, my fellow Nebraskans, and all Americans to join me in honoring his service, recognizing the valor for which the Medal of Honor was awarded.●

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO CONGRESS RELATIVE TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR'S CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 8 OF THE FISHERMAN'S PROTECTIVE ACT OF 1967, AS AMENDED (THE "PELLE AMENDMENT") (22 U.S.C. 1978) THAT NATIONALS OF ICELAND HAVE CONDUCTED WHALING ACTIVITIES THAT DIMINISH THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES)—PM 37**

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

On January 31, 2014, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell certified under

section 8 of the Fisherman's Protective Act of 1967 (the "Pelly Amendment") (22 U.S.C. 1978), that nationals of Iceland are conducting trade in whale meat and products that diminishes the effectiveness of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). This message constitutes my notification to the Congress consistent with subsection (b) of the Pelly Amendment.

This is the third certification by United States Government agencies of Iceland for their continued whaling activities. In 2004, Secretary of Commerce Donald L. Evans made a certification regarding Iceland under the Pelly Amendment because its scientific whaling program diminished the effectiveness of the International Whaling Commission (IWC). When Iceland resumed commercial whaling in 2006, Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Gutierrez continued Iceland's certification. In 2011, Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke increased actions to be taken by members of the Cabinet, Federal departments and agencies, and U.S. delegations by again certifying Iceland for diminishing the effectiveness of the IWC.

A single Icelandic company, Hvalur hf, conducts fin whaling. Iceland does not consume most of these fin whales; rather, they are exported, mainly to Japan. Iceland's commercial harvest of fin whales escalated dramatically in 2009 and 2010, was suspended in 2011 and 2012 due to difficulties in the Japanese market after the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, and resumed in 2013. Between 1987 and 2008, Iceland hunted a total of 7 fin whales. In 2009, Iceland hunted 125 fin whales, followed by 148 in 2010, zero in the years 2011–2012, and 134 fin whales in 2013. On December 16, 2013, Iceland set its 2014–2019 fin whale quota at 154 fin whales per year, an increase in its previous yearly whaling quota. According to the IWC, a harvest of 46 fin whales in the North Atlantic is biologically sustainable.

Iceland's actions jeopardize the survival of the fin whale, which is listed in CITES among the species most threatened with extinction, and they undermine multilateral efforts to ensure greater worldwide protection for whales. Specifically, Iceland's continued commercial whaling and recent trade in whale products diminish the effectiveness of CITES because: (1) Iceland's commercial harvest of fin whales undermines the goal of CITES to ensure that international trade in species of animals and plants does not threaten their survival in the wild; and (2) Iceland's current fin whale harvest and quota exceeds catch levels that the IWC's scientific body advised were sustainable.

In her letter of January 31, 2014, Secretary Jewell expressed her concern for Iceland's actions, and I share these concerns. Just as the United States made the transition from a commercial whaling nation to a whale watching na-

tion, we must enhance our engagement to facilitate this change by Iceland.

To ensure that this issue continues to receive the highest level of attention, I have directed: (1) relevant U.S. agencies to raise concerns with Iceland's trade in whale parts and products in appropriate CITES fora and processes, and, in consultation with other international actors, to seek additional measures to reduce such trade and enhance the effectiveness of CITES; (2) relevant senior Administration officials and U.S. delegations meeting with Icelandic officials to raise U.S. objections to commercial whaling and Iceland's ongoing trade in fin whale parts and products and to urge a halt to such action, including immediate notification of this position to the Government of Iceland; (3) the Department of State and other relevant agencies to encourage Iceland to develop and expand measures that increase economic opportunities for the nonlethal uses of whales in Iceland, such as responsible whale watching activities and educational and scientific research activities that contribute to the conservation of whales; (4) the Department of State to re-examine bilateral cooperation projects, and where appropriate, to base U.S. cooperation with Iceland on the Icelandic government changing its whaling policy, abiding by the IWC moratorium on commercial whaling, and not engaging in trade in whale parts and products in a manner that diminishes the effectiveness of CITES; (5) the Department of State to inform the Government of Iceland that the United States will continue to monitor the activities of Icelandic companies that engage in commercial whaling and international trade in whale parts and products; (6) Cabinet secretaries and other senior Administration officials to evaluate the appropriateness of visits to Iceland in light of Iceland's resumption of fin whaling and ongoing trade in fin whale parts and products; (7) relevant departments and agencies to examine other options for responding to continued whaling by Iceland; and (8) all relevant departments and agencies to report on their actions, within 6 months of certification, and any updates as needed beyond, through the Departments of State and the Interior. In addition, previous Pelly certifications of Iceland, and the direction to take actions pursuant to those certifications, remain in effect. I concur with the recommendation, as presented by the Secretary of the Interior, to pursue the use of non-trade measures and that the actions outlined above are the appropriate course of action to address this issue. Accordingly, I am not directing the Secretary of the Treasury to impose trade measures on Icelandic products for the whaling activities that led to the certification by the Secretary of the Interior.

The Departments of State, Commerce, and the Interior will continue to monitor and encourage Iceland to