

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

## MARVEL NOMINATION

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I would like to say a few words of congratulations to these nominees and particularly to Judge Paige Marvel, a great Marylander, on her reappointment to the Tax Court.

As we know, the Tax Court serves a crucial role in this country's tax system. It is a highly specialized court that provides an important forum in which taxpayers can dispute determinations by the IRS. Tax Court judges have the difficult task of ably and fairly analyzing the highly technical legal issues that arise under our complex tax code.

At the close of Judge Marvel's first term on the U.S. Tax Court, I was a strong supporter of her reappointment, and I am an equally strong supporter of her confirmation. Judge Marvel has served on the court with distinction, and it is in the best interests of this country to keep someone with her integrity and expertise on the Tax Court bench. This integrity and expertise was also apparent prior to Judge Marvel's assumption of her current office. I worked extensively with her on a variety of issues when I served in the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis.

My colleagues on the Finance Committee, including Chairman WYDEN and Ranking Member HATCH, have worked hard and in a bipartisan manner to bring these nominations forward, for which I am grateful. And, I am extremely proud that a fellow Marylander has been nominated to continue the important work of fairly interpreting and applying our tax laws, which affect the lives of every American citizen and resident.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.  
The Senator from New Jersey.

REPRESENTING OUR COUNTRY  
ABROAD

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, very briefly, I appreciate working on both sides to be able to have what is a distinguished set of career ambassadors go to their posts and represent our country abroad, and I hope we can continue on this march as we move toward the end of the session.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

HONORING GOVERNOR DAVE  
HEINEMAN

Mr. JOHANNIS. Madam President, I rise today to honor the service of a

dedicated leader in my home State of Nebraska.

Governor Dave Heineman has guided our State during the past 10 years with vision and with laser-like focus on efficient government, economic vibrancy, education, and protecting our families.

Under his leadership and careful management, our State held strong through the economic downturn. During that time, the national spotlight shown very brightly on Nebraska as one of the healthiest States, guided by Dave Heineman's very steady hand, to ensure we remain debt-free and fiscally sound. But the Governor did far more than hold the line on spending and balancing the books of our great State. He provided historic tax relief, bolstered education in our State, and he sent a signal worldwide that Nebraska welcomes new business through enhanced economic development incentives. It is not surprising that Nebraskans' enthusiastically elected and then reelected Dave Heineman to the post, giving him the proud distinction of being our longest serving Governor in the history of our State.

I had the privilege of working side by side with Dave Heineman back in my days as Governor of Nebraska. I was so proud to have him as my Lieutenant Governor in my second term, and I was always grateful for the job he did directing the State's homeland security efforts.

We would have to flip the history books back to 1990, nearly 25 years ago, to see when he was first elected to public office as a member of the Fremont, NE, city council. Four years later, he was elected to his first statewide office to serve as our State treasurer. I was mayor of the city of Lincoln at the time, and I enjoyed watching Dave step onto the statewide stage with enthusiasm and determination. He wanted to get things done.

Nebraskans would nod their head in agreement with the assertion that he remains as determined today, in the last days of his time in office, as the very first day he walked in.

I should note he first served the public as a member of our Armed Forces, having spent 5 years in the U.S. Army after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. As anyone can tell you, it is easy to spot those West Point influences even today. All of those experiences prepared him so well to serve as our Governor. I had absolutely no doubt about his ability to step into the role when I was confirmed as the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. I passed the baton to Dave with immense confidence, and indeed he took the helm and never missed a beat. It is difficult to believe that was 10 years ago. I think both of us have a lot more gray hair to show for it, but we also have something more valuable than gold: the honor of having been entrusted to lead and to serve the best State of the United States. I know Governor Heineman has worked each day to prove worthy of that trust, as I have

also. His nearly 25 years of distinguished service required strength of character and fortitude.

Throughout that service and long before it began, Dave has had a wonderful partner in his life, Sally Ganem. Our First Lady is impressive and accomplished. She is a woman in her own right, having served as principal of an elementary school and now leading numerous volunteer and literacy efforts. She has supported Dave every step of the way on a public service journey that offers a shining example for others to follow. Thus, it is fitting that we have never before had a Governor whose service spans 10 years, and we may never have that again.

On behalf of a grateful State and a grateful nation, I offer my sincerest gratitude for the dedicated leadership Governor Heineman has provided to our great State of Nebraska.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. INHOFE. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

## IMMIGRATION

Mr. INHOFE. Tonight there will be a speech. I think everyone is aware of that. I think we all know pretty much what the President of the United States is going to say.

I would like to read the oath of office that any President of the United States has to take, and this President has taken this oath in an affirmative way for—I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

Mr. INHOFE. Tonight we have the President's speech, and I would like to recite one more time what every President has to say and has to affirm before he becomes President.

I do solemnly swear or affirm that I will faithfully execute the Office of the President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

I think people are overlooking this because they know what to expect tonight. They know what is going to happen. They know the President is going to do something that in the eyes of most people—and I have to say that most of the people I talk to are from my State of Oklahoma. They have a lot of common sense and ask the question: Is this illegal, what we are about to witness?

The President is bound by the Constitution to ensure the laws on the books are being carried out in a manner that is true to the law that is written and passed by Congress. It is his duty, his obligation. That was envisioned by our Founding Fathers.