

know the importance of finding a way to limit the influence of money in politics, and she has not been reluctant to advance a thoughtful position on that. And she has been a leader on making historic progress in South Africa. She has been the Senate's voice on Africa, and we appreciate that. Furthermore, she has been deeply involved in the issue of health research, particularly on Orphan Drugs. Basic health research is America's particular pride and strength, and she made sure that those with rare diseases are included in our hopeful enterprise. That is a contribution that will change the lives of families through the generations, who otherwise would have suffered without any hope whatsoever. Mr. President, these are all issues that are fundamentally important and nonpartisan. They reflect her judgment and her leadership, and we are privileged to have worked with her on them.

Finally, Mr. President, I must brag on my home city of Charleston. Senator KASSEBAUM has recognized its beauty through her frequent visits, and, coincidentally, it is home to her son, his wife, and their children. I hope we will see more of her there after this Congress is over, but, certainly, she has been a real leader that we will miss in this Senate.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JIM EXON

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to wish my friend, JIM EXON, an enjoyable retirement from this body. It's been a pleasure to serve him for the past 13 years, especially on the Budget Committee; together, we've fought for issues which were important to the average American. When I think of JIM's many accomplishments, I will especially remember his commitment to the Medicare program and his opposition to cutting Medicare to pay for tax breaks for the wealthy.

For the past 2 years, JIM has served as ranking minority member of the Budget Committee. It's been a tumultuous time. But as a businessman who founded a successful company, he brought to the Senate significant business skills and a commitment to fiscal responsibility. That was also evident in JIM's work on the Armed Services Committee, where he was a persistent and effective voice to reduce waste in the Defense Department.

Recognized in the Senate as an authority on agriculture, rural America, commerce, national defense and transportation, JIM was, above all, a voice for Nebraska's interests. Whether fighting for fair international trade agreements for mid-west agriculture, or cosponsoring legislation that made Medicare reimburse rural and urban hospitals at the same rate, or having Nebraska's Niobrara River declared a National Scenic River, JIM always championed the State he had served as Governor.

It's no wonder that the book "Politics in America" notes that JIM EXON,

"makes a real contribution to the Senate as a mirror of public opinion in America's heartland. It is hard to think of anyone else in the chamber who so seems attuned to the questions and concerns of the typical middle-American."

JIM, your presence in the Senate will be sorely missed. Others may fill your seat, but few will be able to fill your shoes. As you begin the next stage of your career and your life, I wish you all the best.

THE IMPACT OF DIFFERENTIAL EXPORT TAX SYSTEMS ON U.S. OILSEED PROCESSORS

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, last month, as we were voting on an extension of the Generalized System of Preferences, I spoke on the floor about a tax system employed by certain countries, including Brazil and Argentina, that operates to confer an unfair competitive advantage on exports of oilseed products from those countries at the expense of United States producers of these products. These unfair tax schemes, commonly known as differential export tax systems, or DETs, have been of great concern to all soybean growing states, including my State of Illinois, one of the leading soybean States in our country.

As I explained last month, these tax schemes, which operate in much the same way as WTO-impermissible export subsidies, make a mockery of the principles of free and fair trade. Until these unfair tax schemes are eliminated in countries throughout the world, U.S. processors will continue to lose ground in world markets for soybean meal and oil.

I was therefore pleased to learn that the Government of Brazil recently passed a law that eliminates these tax schemes in the states that employ them. I want to take this opportunity to commend the Government of Brazil for this major achievement. By this action, the Brazilian Federal Government has greatly contributed to the further liberalization of world trade. I am hopeful that other countries that continue to rely upon these trade-distorting tax schemes will be encouraged to follow the lead of Brazil and take similar steps toward trade liberalization. I will continue to monitor this issue closely, and if we do not see further progress in this regard, the Senate Finance Committee should consider examining this issue in more detail as part of its trade agenda in the next Congress.

LORD & COMPANY, INC.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I am proud today to praise an outstanding Virginian and his Virginia company. Juan G. "Bill" Cabrera is President of Lord & Company, Inc., in Manassas, VA, and last week Mr. Cabrera was named the Minority Small Business Person of the Year for his region of the country.

Government contracts are crucial to our country in so many ways. First, they are an essential part of Virginia's economy, especially in the Northern Virginia area. Second, through minority contracting programs, our government provides invaluable opportunities to minority-owned businesses to get a necessary foothold in the marketplace. Third, our taxpayers deserve and demand that they receive the maximum value for their money.

Mr. Cabrera and his company are a perfect example of this important combination. He moved the fledgling company from Alabama to Virginia in 1984 where it began to acquire more contracts in the fields of instrumentation, controls, and monitoring systems. In 1991, the Small Business Administration certified the firm for the section 8(a) program, and Lord & Company took off.

The company has received numerous quality awards from the Departments of the Navy and Army, Fairfax County Public Schools, and numerous private companies. Moreover, Mr. Cabrera has made special efforts to diversify his workplace by hiring single parents, minorities, and others in need of employment. The company has also started its own contracting program by adopting a small minority-owned business and assisting it with technical and managerial support.

Mr. Cabrera has been recognized for his talents before, having served as a delegate to the White House Conference on Small Business and attending the Amos Tuck School of Minority Business Executive Program at Dartmouth College.

In sum, Mr. Cabrera has shown remarkable energy in providing solid work product to the taxpayers and his other clients, community involvement to his area, and jobs to his growing number of employees. I am proud to salute him for his recent award and look forward to hearing about Lord & Company's continued success.

S. 1986, UMATILLA BASIN PROJECT COMPLETION ACT

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, for two decades, I have worked to resolve the fishery and irrigation conflicts in the Umatilla River Basin in the north-eastern region of my State of Oregon. In 1988, with the passage of the Umatilla Basin Project Act, we brought all interests together behind a project which advanced the goal of restoring anadromous fish runs in the Umatilla River. The act authorized pumping facilities to allow three irrigation districts, which previously withdrew their water from the Umatilla River, to receive an equal volume of water from the adjacent Columbia River to irrigate their crops and, in return, leave their water in the river for fish. The project, which has had no negative impact on the Columbia River, enabled the reintroduction of salmon stocks in the Umatilla River

that had been lost since the 1960's. Benefits of the project have been felt by both the fish and the irrigators in the basin, whose water supply is much more stable today than it was in the 1980's.

The Umatilla Basin Project has been a product of years of debate and grassroots consensus building. I had hoped to build on that spirit this year and reach an agreement which would have allowed the fourth, and final, Umatilla Basin irrigation district, the Westland Irrigation District, to also exchange Umatilla River for Columbia River water. The potential for such an agreement to finally solve a number of remaining and long-standing water issues in the basin was very promising, and, last July, I introduced a bill to complete the project, address the Federal Government's treaty fishery obligations to the Umatilla Tribes, adjust the boundaries of the four irrigation districts to formally incorporate lands that had long been irrigated with project water, and resolve water supply concerns jointly held by the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the City of Pendleton, OR.

I commend the Umatilla Tribes, Umatilla Basin Irrigation Districts, the State of Oregon, Water Watch of Oregon and the City of Pendleton for their diligent efforts to attempt to resolve this complex and difficult array of issues. Since last April, my staff has worked virtually nonstop with all of these local interests, Congressman COOLEY, the House Resources Committee staff, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee staff, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Clinton administration in an effort to forge a consensus agreement. Unfortunately, the consensus I had hoped for was not achieved. While the parties agreed on the need to construct facilities to allow the final Columbia River exchange, referred to as Phase III, and other efforts to improve the Umatilla fishery, they could not agree on the terms and timing of the irrigation district boundary adjustment.

The four irrigation districts agreed to an environmental review of their boundary adjustment proposal. They also agreed to provide significant mitigation water for fish until the year 2003, or until a substantial portion of the Phase III exchange was on line, whichever came first. They could not agree, however, to give the Secretary of the Interior the authority to act on the information obtained in connection with a National Environmental Policy Act review, which was a condition of the boundary adjustment decision. Unfortunately, this discretion was, in the eyes of the Clinton administration, an essential element of any agreement. In addition, the irrigation districts insisted that the authorization of the Columbia River exchange facilities and other facilities intended to improve the fishery be conditioned upon the satisfaction of their boundary adjustment request. At this late date in the con-

gressional session, these differences of opinion proved to be insurmountable.

Though my desire to complete the Umatilla Basin Project is great, I could not allow myself or others to forget the overriding objective of the 1988 Umatilla Basin Project Act. That act states that the decision to adjust the irrigation districts' boundaries "shall be considered as secondary to the purpose of providing water for fishery purposes." While it is understood that the Umatilla Basin Project should not necessarily disadvantage irrigation districts, restoration of the anadromous fish runs must continue to be its predominant mission.

I regret that the parties failed to reach consensus on this most important issue, and I hope that the Oregon Delegation will work together with the affected parties in the 105th Congress to reach consensus on the issues that remain.

RETIRING SENATORS

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I have spoken on the Senate floor in a personal tribute to Senator CLAIBORNE PELL of my neighboring State of Rhode Island, and I wish him well in his retirement, but this year we in the U.S. Senate are losing 12 other colleagues, all of whom have left a unique mark on this institution and have served their states and the American people with dignity and integrity. All have been committed to the concerns of their constituents and have fought for issues that have moved this Nation forward and kept us strong, safe, and powerful. We shall miss each of them, and we shall miss their friendship, camaraderie, and counsel.

SENATOR JAMES EXON

I want to pay tribute to the Senior Senator from Nebraska, Senator JIM EXON. The institution of the U.S. Senate is the hallmark of American democracy. Few Members with whom I have served have more skillfully represented national concerns and constituent interests during the long and arduous deliberations and debates in committee and on the floor of the U.S. Senate than JIM EXON.

As Senator EXON leaves this body, he leaves a long and distinguished public service record, a legacy of independence, dependability, and a tough, common sense approach to policy as well as politics which will not be forgotten. As ranking minority member of the Budget Committee during the challenging early days of the 104th Congress, Senator EXON, knowing full well the shortcomings of the Republican budget, withstood the early onslaught of positive publicity for the new majority, and tirelessly devoted his efforts to leading the charge in committee not only to point out, line by line, what was wrong, but to convince the American people that he was right.

Senator EXON has been an anchor of reasoned debate and bi-partisanship on defense, transportation, and business

issues as well as on budget issues; and with his characteristic firmness, perseverance, and drive, he has always reflected the best of the pioneer tradition of his beloved Nebraska. With his retirement, we will have lost a skilled and committed colleague who cares about public service and whose career is a symbol of institutional pride and personal responsibility to the common good.

SENATOR MARK HATFIELD

I want to pay tribute to the senior Senator from Oregon, MARK HATFIELD, who has been a beacon of bi-partisanship in this Chamber. Senator HATFIELD has always been, above all, a statesman dedicated to the Senate tradition of reasoned debate and responsible bipartisan solutions. In seeking common ground, whether on the budget or on issues of arms control and peace or on issues affecting the day to day lives of his constituents and families across America, Senator HATFIELD has never been afraid to exercise his legendary independence, even if it meant risking the wrath of his party.

Another word that aptly describes the long and distinguished public service career of Senator HATFIELD, is "independence." In every one of his votes he has shown extraordinary integrity, and I have been especially inspired by his work on arms control and his commitment to common sense in national and international affairs.

At a time in this institution when we hear partisan politics in a shrill crescendo, we shall miss his quiet, steady voice of reason and his humanity, for he has been, in many ways, the conscience of the Senate. MARK HATFIELD has left a mark on this place. I am hopeful we all will remember the standard he has set.

SENATOR BILL BRADLEY

I want to pay tribute to Senator Bill BRADLEY of New Jersey whose intellect and passion for ideas tempered by a common sense perspective have made him a calm voice for bipartisanship and logic. Senator BRADLEY has never been bound by the way things have always been done. He has always found a way to break new ground, find a better way, reach higher, and strive harder to help redefine and restructure our response to children in the inner city, to race relations in America, to tax reform and campaign finance reform.

He led the 1986 tax reform bill and led the effort to delink human rights in China from the need to extend most-favored-nation status. I worked with him in that effort and recognized the keen, sharp historical perspective that he brings to human rights, international economics, and international relations.

We have shared a commitment to Campaign Finance Reform and, again, his extraordinary ability to find a new way, try a different idea, and devise a better solution to our common problems has been inspiring as has been his commitment. We have learned to respect his judgment and analysis.

Mr. President, the quality of leadership and service embodied in the life