

ALAN G. LANCE ELECTED NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate Mr. Alan G. Lance for his election on September 9, 1999, as the National Commander of the American Legion.

Mr. Lance is a twenty year member of the American Legion; and, has served as the Idaho State Commander, National Executive Committeeman, and National Foreign Relations Chairman. After serving in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps Mr. Lance moved to Meridian, Idaho, established a private legal practice, and was subsequently elected to the Idaho House of Representatives. He is currently serving his second term as Attorney General for the State of Idaho and is Chairman of the Conference of Western Attorneys General. Mr. Lance is the first Idahoan to serve in the distinguished position of National Commander for this respected and influential veterans' organization.

For the past eighty years the American Legion has stood tall for the rights and benefits of the men and women who have been willing to offer the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and way of life. The American Legion is a major sponsor of the Boy Scouts of America and is a vital partner in community service with 15,000 posts worldwide.

Mr. Lance brings legal and legislative experience which will serve him well in advocating for the needs of the American Legion's approximately 3 million members. He is a leader and a patriot, and will be a strong leader for veterans' issues, especially health care. Idaho is proud of the new National Commander. I look forward to working with Mr. Lance in helping to keep the promises made by Congress and the nation to our deserving veterans.●

TRIBUTE TO ROSEMARY WAHLBERG

• Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it is an honor to take this opportunity to recognize a community leader who has given so much to the people of Southeastern Massachusetts. Rosemary Wahlberg has been a Director of the Quincy Community Action Programs for twenty-six years. Under her leadership, these programs have helped large numbers of families on issues ranging from education to healthcare to child care to energy conservation. This year Rosemary is retiring, and her loss will be felt deeply by all of those whose lives she has touched.

Rosemary's commitment to public service is extraordinary. Throughout her many years of service, she has helped people to make impressive progress in improving their quality of life. As an advocate and coordinator, she has assisted South Shore communities in the battle to reduce poverty and promote self-sufficiency for low-in-

come families. She has served as a member of the Quincy Housing Authority, on the Quincy College Board of Trustees, and on the Board of Directors for numerous local, state, and regional committees devoted to community service.

Rosemary's accomplishments have earned wide recognition. She has received distinguished awards from the City of Quincy, the University of Massachusetts, the South Shore Coalition for Human Rights, the Atlantic Neighborhood Association, South Shore Day Care Services, and many other grateful organizations, who recognize the boundless energy, ability and commitment she pours into every project.

For all of us who know Rosemary, we are inspired by her dedication to those less fortunate in our society. She has served the people of Quincy and the South Shore with extraordinary distinction, and she is a dear friend to all of us in the Kennedy family. In addition to all of her other activities, she has been devoted to her wonderful family, raising eight children and caring for twenty-one grandchildren.

It is with the greatest respect and admiration that I pay tribute to this remarkable leader. Her public service and generosity are a shining example to us all. I know that I speak for all of the people of Massachusetts when I say that she will be missed greatly.●

MINORITY ARTS RESOURCE COUNCIL AND THE AFRICAN AMERICAN RODEO

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, last year, for the first time in Philadelphia's history, the African American Rodeo came to that great city. It was a memorable occasion with approximately 8,000 school children attending the rodeo at the Apollo Stadium. While these children were entertained by the rodeo and re-enactments of life in the old West, they learned of the many contributions made by African Americans to our nation's history.

On October 8 and 9, of this year, the African American Rodeo is again coming to the City of Brotherly Love to present re-enactments of historical figures of the old West. Such performances are important because our history books and Hollywood have failed to give proper recognition of the great sacrifices and heroic deeds made by African Americans.

Mr. President, more than 200,000 African American soldiers served in the Civil War. After the war, many of these trained soldiers were sent west, forming two infantry and two cavalry units. The term "Buffalo Soldier" was given to them by the Native Americans whom they encountered. Those soldiers, their families, and thousands who were freed from slavery were among our early settlers, cowpunchers, and farmers in a number of the western states.

It is with pleasure that I salute the Minority Arts Resource Council, its

founder and Executive Director, Mr. Curtis E. Brown, its board members, and its volunteers for once again bringing this great event to the city of Philadelphia. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting the invaluable services and contributions of African Americans and the role that they have played and continue to play in American history.●

ON THE RETIREMENT OF ALEXANDRIA CITY MANAGER VOLA LAWSON

• Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to honor an outstanding public servant. Recently, Vola Lawson, the city manager of the City of Alexandria, announced her retirement. During her fourteen years as city manager, Ms. Lawson provided the City with solid leadership and opened the doors of City Hall to all Alexandrians. I'm proud to add my name to the long list of those who are praising Vola Lawson. Her distinguished career offers the ideal model for public officials, and inspires confidence in our public institutions. I ask that yesterday's article from The Washington Post on Vola Lawson's retirement be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 14, 1999]
AFTER 14 YEARS, 4 MAYORS, ALEXANDRIA LEADER TO RETIRE—FIERY CITY MANAGER LAWSON IN OFFICE SINCE 1985

[By Ann O'Hanlon]

Vola Lawson, the tough veteran city manager of Alexandria, announced yesterday that she will retire in March, marking a major transition for the city she helped define during the 28 years she worked for it.

"I think this city is one of the greatest cities in America," said Lawson, standing in the City Hall lobby that was named for her this year. "This is a very bittersweet day for me."

Lawson, who turns 65 today, has been city manager since 1985, a tenure more than twice the national average. During that time, the city has lured or endured major new development, including the planned U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and a planned 300-acre residential and commercial complex on an abandoned railroad yard. Under Lawson, Alexandria also turned away a bid from then-Gov. L. Douglas Wilder and then-Redskins owner Jack Kent Cooke to build a football stadium there.

In her 14 years, Lawson served under four mayors, all of whom stood with her yesterday, singing her praises.

"Vola has never met a stranger," said state Sen. Patricia S. Ticer (D-Alexandria), one of the former mayors. "She is a shining example of what a public servant should be."

Although her retirement was expected, a murmur still ran through the city of 122,000 yesterday.

"Boy, that's going to change the city more than anything I can imagine," said Katherine Morrison, executive director of the Campagna Center, a prominent local charity. "I don't know anyone who knows Alexandria better or has devoted more of their life to Alexandria."

Lawson worked her way up in Alexandria, blazing a path for women and minorities that some say is her prime legacy. As city manager, she has transformed City Hall from

a largely white bureaucracy to an institution that better reflects the city's 40 percent minority population.

"I think her legacy in the city and in the minority communities will be absolutely enduring," said J. Glenn Hopkins, executive director of Hopkins House, an agency for children and families. "Her ability to be compassionate and to create a compassionate government, her ability to manage and her ability to be accessible to black people, to Hispanic people, to old people, to everybody, regardless of their background or their history or their race, is exceptional among people of her level."

Among today's city and county administrators, Lawson's professional pedigree is unusual. She attended George Washington University part time but dropped out when she had her first child. She plunged into community activism, and as a campaign organizer helped elect the city's first black council member in 1970.

Her entry to City Hall was with the anti-poverty program, and she later worked in the housing office. She quickly rose to assistant city manager and found time to initiate the Head Start program and after-school child care at every elementary school.

Lawson said she became an Alexandrian by accident. She and her husband, David, a psychiatrist, had planned to move back to Chevy Chase, but she got hooked on the community.

"We'll live the rest of our lives here," she said. "We never planned to live here. We fell in love with Alexandria."

Praise gushed from all corners yesterday, but there were criticisms, too: of an overbearing management style and a temper.

"She's very controlling, and that probably is her downside," said Jack Sullivan, who heads the city's civic federation. Nonetheless, said Sullivan, she has "a marvelous personality" and is "one of the ablest public administrators I have ever met."

Lawson's wrath is "legendary," said a close friend, Rep. James P. Moran Jr. (D-Va.), who as mayor hired Lawson. But the source of the anger, he said, is unselfish.

"If you have acted in a way that hurt the city and you should or did know better, then you're dead meat with Vola," he said.

William H. Hansell Jr., who heads the International City/County Management Association, said her 14-year tenure is "remarkable," especially in a community as "diverse and challenging as Alexandria."

She accomplished it by reflecting the values of the city, he said, laughing that "there are not too many city managers who tell a billionaire and a governor where to stick their stadium."

Lawson put the city on firm financial footing, twice achieving the Aaa bond rating and significantly lowering real estate taxes.

Her retirement will take effect March 1, after which she plans to see more of her two grandchildren, enhance her reputation as a movie buff and read the three stacks of books she bought at yard sales.

When people walk into the lobby that bears her name and wonder who Vola Lawson was, Moran said, they should be told, "She was a woman who chose to devote her mind and her heart to all the citizens of this community."•

PILT AMENDMENT TO THE INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS BILL

• Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I support the PILT amendment to the Interior Appropriations bill, which increases payments to counties in lieu of taxes. I have worked closely with my good

friend and colleague, Senator ABRAHAM, in crafting this amendment, and I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Senator from Michigan for his efforts in this regard. Senator ABRAHAM has consistently shown a sensitivity to and an understanding of the needs of rural Americans, especially those living in communities surrounded by public lands.

Most of my colleagues understand, by now, that 70 percent of my home state is either owned or controlled by the federal government. I believe that Utah's public lands stand out for their grandeur and unique beauty. Many of our Senate colleagues and staff members have visited these areas to hike, fish, ski, or mountain bike.

No one loves these public lands more than the citizens who live among them. But, for the local citizens, these lands can be both a blessing and a curse. For a number of Utah counties, as much as 90 percent of their lands are federally owned, which means they cannot generate tax revenue from these lands.

Where once public lands were a source of jobs and opportunity for rural America, these lands have increasingly been restricted to single-use activities, such as hiking, biking, or river running. Utah certainly provides excellent opportunities for these types of activities, and we welcome visitors from all over the world.

But, we shouldn't forget, Mr. President, that these visitors come with needs: they need roads to travel on, someone to put out their fires, law enforcement to keep them safe, someone to collect their trash, someone to come find them when they are lost, and someone to transport them to safety when they are hurt. Mr. President, the obligation to fulfill these needs falls on local county governments. With every new wilderness area, monument, or recreation area, county revenues shrink along with taxable economic activity; yet the influx of needy visitors increases.

The services counties provide are not money makers. To the contrary, they exact a tremendous cost on rural governments. The puny revenue local governments raise with their stunted tax base will never cover the costs of providing primary services to visitors over the entire area of their county. For this reason, Congress implemented the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program—known as PILT—which compensates rural counties for some of these services.

The problem is that this program has been funded at less than half the authorized level, and this has caused serious hardship for our counties. This amendment, we hope, will be the first installment in an overall plan to bring the PILT program to full funding. With small increases to PILT every year, our counties will eventually be made whole. We are not talking about a huge amount of money. We are talking \$15 million in FY 2000. Last year Senator ABRAHAM and I were able to raise fund-

ing for PILT to \$124 million, but this amount was cut back to \$120 million in Conference. I hope that this year, we can maintain a strong increase in PILT funding.

If your child gets lost in Arches National Park, it will be a Grand County search and rescue team that will mobilize to find him. If you fall and break your ankle on the trail in Dixie National Forest, it will be a Garfield County helicopter and paramedics who will get you off the mountain and to the hospital. When you leave Zion National Park, it will be a Washington county solid waste truck that picks up your garbage. If someone should start a fire while camping in the Wasatch National Forest, the Wasatch County firefighters will be there to put it out.

Our rural governments do all this whether we pay them or not. But it is obviously unfair not to compensate them for it. Mr. President, I believe we should stop treating our rural governments as though they were unpaid chambermaids to the rest of the nation. Our rural areas don't mind providing services to tourists who come to enjoy public lands, but they deserve to be justly compensated by the owners of the land, the taxpayers, for the basic services they provide.

I urge my colleagues to support the PILT amendment.●

TRIBUTE TO BRUCE E. SCOTT

• Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I speak today in honor of Mr. Bruce E. Scott, R.Ph., MS, FASHP., a constituent of mine from Minnesota. Mr. Scott has recently been elected to serve as the president of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists ASHP. His leadership will be valuable as ASHP pursues its primary mission—the safe and effective use of medications. Mr. Scott, as president of ASHP, will represent pharmacists practicing in hospitals, health maintenance organizations, long-term care facilities, home care, hospice and other health-care settings.

Mr. Scott is currently Vice President of Pharmacy Operations for Allina Health Systems headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota. Allina is a non-profit health care system serving residents of Minnesota, Wisconsin and North and South Dakota. As Vice President of Pharmacy Operations, Mr. Scott is responsible for providing pharmacy services in four metropolitan hospitals with 1700 beds and for developing pharmacy services for Allina Medical Group, with 500 health care providers and 65 clinics.

Exercising his commitment to the future of pharmacy leadership, Mr. Scott continues to serve as Clinical Assistant Professor and Associate Member of the Graduate Program in Hospital Pharmacy at the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy in Minneapolis, a non-salaried position he has held for more than 10 years. As a member of the graduate faculty, Mr. Scott assists and