

know if I can be of any assistance in the future.

Sincerely,

ROBERT T. SCULLY,
Executive Director.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. PRESIDENT, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on "Reducing Medical Error: A look at the IoM report" during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 26, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN
AFFAIRS

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 26, 2000, to conduct a hearing on the renomination of Alan Greenspan to Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY MONTH

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, shortly before the first session of the 106th Congress adjourned, I introduced, and the Senate passed, a resolution designating January 2000 as "National Biotechnology Month." I rise today to formally recognize National Biotechnology Month here in the Senate.

While back in Minnesota, I had the opportunity to meet with some of my constituents who are in the biotechnology industry. Whether it's agricultural, medical, or environmental applications of biotechnology, Minnesota is a leader in the field.

Here are some characteristics of the biotechnology industry nationally:

Over 200 million people worldwide have been helped by the more than 80 biotechnology drug products and vaccines approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

There are more than 350 biotechnology drug products and vaccines currently in human clinical trials and hundreds more in early development in the United States. These medicines are designed to treat various cancers, Alzheimer's, heart disease, multiple sclerosis, AIDS, obesity and other conditions.

Biotechnology will help us feed the world by developing new and better agriculture commodities that are disease and pest resistant and offer higher yields as well.

Environmental biotechnology products make it possible to more efficiently clean up hazardous waste without the use of caustic chemicals.

Industrial biotechnology applications have led to cleaner processes with lower production of wastes and lower energy consumption, in such industrial sectors as chemicals, pulp and paper, textiles, food and fuels, metals and minerals and energy. For example, much of the denim produced in the United States is finished using biotechnology enzymes.

DNA fingerprinting, a biotech process, has dramatically improved criminal investigation and forensic medicine, as well as afforded significant advances in anthropology and wildlife management.

There are 1,283 biotechnology companies in the United States—many in Minnesota.

Market capitalization, the amount of money invested in the U.S. biotechnology industry, increased 4 percent in 1998, from \$93 billion to \$97 billion.

Approximately one-third of biotech companies employ fewer than 50 employees. More than two-thirds employ fewer than 135 people.

The U.S. biotechnology industry currently employs more than 153,000 people in high-wage, high-value jobs.

Biotechnology is one of the most research-intensive industries in the world. The U.S. biotech industry spent \$9.9 billion in research and development in 1998. The top five biotech companies spent an average of \$121,400 per employee on R&D.

Mr. President, biotechnology plays an extremely important part in my life because a little over a year ago I had an artificial valve implanted in my heart to correct a condition I had for years. Without the research and commitment of this industry, I might not have had that option available to me.

I have always been a believer in biomedical and basic scientific research and the advances we will see in the future will be testimony to the importance and foresight of the investment we make today—and I have no doubt the future holds great promise. •

ELIZABETH GLASER PEDIATRIC AIDS FOUNDATION

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I have spoken in this Chamber before about the exemplary life of Elizabeth Glaser and the work of the Pediatric AIDS Foundation, which bears her name. I rise today to again speak about Elizabeth and her remarkable work and life.

In 1986, Elizabeth and her husband, Paul, discovered that she and her two children were infected with HIV as a result of a blood transfusion following a difficult childbirth. In 1988, following the death of their daughter, Ariel, to AIDS she founded a foundation to raise money for scientific research for pediatric AIDS. At the time there was little coordinated research focused on the

effect of this disease on children or pharmaceutical testing of protocols for pediatric AIDS.

In 1994, Elizabeth succumbed to this terrible disease after a long and courageous battle.

Today, eleven years after its founding, the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation has raised more than \$85 million in support of AIDS research. This has led to a new and greater understanding of HIV/AIDS and its effects on children.

Among the more exciting and promising breakthroughs this research has provided is the drug Nevirapine. Last year, a study in Uganda showed that Nevirapine could prevent almost half of HIV transmissions from mothers to infants—and at a fraction of the cost of other, less effective, treatments.

Mr. President, some 1,800 children are infected with HIV each day. The United Nations reports that 33.6 million people are infected with HIV or have developed AIDS; more than two-thirds of these people live in Sub-Saharan Africa. As the nature and demographics of HIV/AIDS evolves, the work of groups like the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation is a pioneer in its field, richly deserving of the support and attention it receives.

Elizabeth Glaser remains a source of strength and inspiration to all of us. And her good works continue to reap benefits for countless thousands of people. •

TRIBUTE TO MR. BOB EDDLEMAN

• Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to salute the outstanding public service of a conservationist and member of the agriculture community in the state of Indiana.

After 42 years of service, Bob Eddleman, Indiana State Conservationist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, retired at the end of December. In his role as public servant, Bob set an example for everyone with his steadfast concern for conservation and dedication to the preservation of natural resources of his home state.

Mr. Eddleman was born and raised on a farm in Crawford County, Indiana. He was an active member of 4-H and Future Farmers of America and took an interest in activities relating to the conservation of soil and water resources. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture at Purdue University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma.

His career of federal service began in 1957 as a student trainee for the USDA Soil Conservation Service in English, Indiana. After serving as a soil conservationist, a district conservationist and an area conservationist in Indiana, his career path took him to New York as assistant state conservationist and then back to the Midwest as deputy state conservationist in Illinois. In 1980 Bob returned to the Hoosier state as state conservationist.

In his role as state conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Mr. Eddleman has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to conserving Indiana's soil and water resources and has devoted himself to building a strong federal, state, and local partnership to provide services to Indiana citizens. He is also a leading advocate for Indiana's soil and water conservation districts. The individual accomplishments of Mr. Eddleman are many, but his years of service reflect his dedication to building working partnerships. As the result of his guidance and leadership, Indiana's Conservation Partnership is recognized as a model for other states to use to increase soil and water conservation practices on the land.

Mr. Eddleman served on many statewide natural resource work groups that have directed conservation actions in Indiana including: the Indiana Lakes Management Group; the Great Lakes Watershed Management Group; the Maumee River Basin Study; the Indiana Water Committee; and the Indiana Natural Resources Land Use work group. Bob has been a 4-H leader for 27 years, has served on the Marion County Extension Board for 9 years, was recognized as a fellow of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS), and currently serves on the SWCS Board of Directors. In 1995 he received the Distinguished Agricultural Alumni Award from Purdue University in recognition of his professional achievements and dedicated service to agriculture and society.

Finally, Bob Eddleman served as a mentor and role model to others in federal service. There are a great number of leaders within the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service who have gained skills in leadership and partnership building by working for and with Bob.

Mr. President, I regret that the State of Indiana and all conservationists will be losing Bob Eddleman. With special thanks, I salute him for his service and wish him well as he embarks upon new endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM SUMAS

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to William Sumas, a New Jersey resident and distinguished member of the business community, who will be inducted as Chairman of the New Jersey Food Council on January 27, 2000.

Bill is a native of New Jersey, having grown up in South Orange. After attending Columbia High School, he continued his education at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Bill Sumas currently serves as a Vice President of the International Association of Corporate Real Estate Executives New Jersey Chapter, and as an Executive Vice President of Village Supermarkets, the 49th largest corporation in the State of New Jersey. Village Supermarkets was founded in 1937

by Bill's father and uncle, Perry and Nicholas Sumas. Since then, the company has grown to become one of New Jersey's most important food retailers.

The New Jersey Food Council (NJFC) was formed to promote, foster, aid, advance and protect the mutual interests of the food retailers and their suppliers. The council represents the multi-billion dollar food industry, including over 1,200 retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers, and service companies involved in every aspect of the industry. The NJFC is recognized nationally for its effective leadership and achievements in all aspects of public affairs, and has always maintained a reputation of excellence and integrity.

It is my firm belief that William Sumas will continue this fine tradition, and serve with distinction as an advocate on behalf of the NJFC's members. He will clearly promote the short and long term goals of the food industry in a timely and prescient manner, and will enhance the image and standing in the community of the entire industry.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating William Sumas on his induction as Chairman of the New Jersey Food Council. Under his leadership I am confident that the industry will continue to grow, and I look forward to its successful future.●

HAROLD VARMUS, M.D.

● Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, for 6 years I had the pleasure of working closely with Dr. Harold Varmus, the distinguished Director of the National Institutes of Health. During his tenure as Director, great strides were made in medical research—the continued mapping of the human genome; new generations of AIDS drugs' gene therapy; the remarkable growth of information technology in health research; a strong effort to combat the global spread of infectious diseases; and exciting new scientific opportunities, such as stem cell research, that may one day lead to cures for Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, heart disease, and diabetes.

When I first met Dr. Varmus, I recall being impressed by the force and eloquence with which he advanced the cause of medical research. When he informed me of his intention to leave his post as Director, I could not help but think that NIH would lose one of its most valuable assets. His commitment to raise the level of scientific achievement at the NIH, and the enthusiasm and vigor that he brought to the job will certainly be missed.

I have no doubt that in his new position as head of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, Dr. Varmus will stimulate the same high level of excitement and energy as he did at NIH. And while Sloan-Kettering will benefit from his vast knowledge of the biology of cancer, cancer patients there will feel the warmth of his deep compassion.

During his tenure as NIH Director, the agency has seen unprecedented funding increases. In 1993, when he assumed the position of Director funding for NIH was \$8.9 billion. Under his leadership, the NIH budget has more than doubled to the \$17.9 billion.

Dr. Varmus was the first Nobel Laureate to serve as NIH Director. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 1989 for his work in demonstrating that cancer genes can arise from normal cellular genes. He is an international authority on retro-viruses and the genetic basis for cancer. Prior to coming to NIH, Dr. Varmus was a Professor at the University of California at San Francisco.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Varmus on his new position and to salute his contribution to the Nation and the cause of medical research. His wise counsel and responsible leadership helped lay the foundation for a research agenda that will have a lasting effect on the lives of millions of people throughout the United States and the world.●

A TRIBUTE TO ANDY MORAN

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, no matter what our party affiliation, no matter what our beliefs, no matter whether we are Members or staff, we are all here for one purpose—that is, we believe in the nobility of public service. And while the enormity of the issues before this body bring it, and us, much notoriety, it is to the many thousands of dedicated public servants at the State and local level that we owe a debt of gratitude.

San Francisco has been fortunate for the last 25 years to have had the services of a public servant of great ability and dedication, Andy Moran. Andy's talents first came to my attention when I was Mayor. He has risen through the ranks of municipal government and has, for the last six years, served as the General Manager of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. For those who do not know, our PUC includes the Hetch Hetchy Water and Power Division, the Water Department and San Francisco's Clean Water Program.

As one might imagine, the challenges of this job are many, and they are varied. Andy has met those challenges with practice, intelligence, good humor, and a sense of fairness. His accomplishments are too numerous to mention here, but I would be remiss if I don't pay special tribute to his expertise on the all-important issue of California water. Water is our lifeblood in California, and the demands on our water supply and our water supply system have increased dramatically in the last generation.

Andy has been a part of that evolution. He has an institutional memory and an understanding of those issues which are born of first hand experience. He has played pivotal roles in such landmark agreements as the Bay-Delta