

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority whip, the Senator from Nevada, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. The Chair will shortly announce that we will be in a period of morning business until 12 noon today, under a previous order issued by the Senate. At noon, the Senate will consider the nomination of Dennis Shedd to be a circuit judge. The time on that debate is 6 hours. Upon the use or yielding back of that time, but not before 5:15 p.m., the Senate will vote on or in relation to that nomination.

Following disposition of that nomination, the Senate will resume consideration of the Homeland Security Act.

I don't know if there will be used the full 6 hours on the Shedd nomination. I really doubt it. I would hope that people would have the opportunity, if they choose, to come and talk about this most important vote we will have tomorrow on the amendment pending on H.R. 5005. This is very important. And of course, after the judge is voted on, there will be time this evening. There will be a very limited amount of time in the morning for people to speak.

As the Presiding Officer has educated the entire country, including the Senate, this next series of votes is extremely important.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, as the Democratic whip has already stated, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 12 noon, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, my understanding is that we are now in a pe-

riod of morning business. I wanted to come to the floor to spend a couple of minutes speaking about those Senators who are leaving the Senate at the end of this session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct. The Senate is in morning business, and the Senator is recognized for not to exceed 10 minutes.

TRIBUTE TO DEPARTING SENATORS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, the Senate, for all of the notice it gets in the national press, is nonetheless still a family of sorts. We are 100 men and women who come to this fashion of public service from different points on the compass, from all across the country, and from different backgrounds—Republicans and Democrats, conservatives and liberals. We work together a great part of the year in this Chamber, and we spend a lot of time in our respective States. We have become friends. Republicans and Democrats, liberals and conservatives, nonetheless, are close personal friends in many cases.

We are going to be saying good-bye to a number of Senators this year. I wish to, before we complete our work this week, say a word about a number of those who will be leaving. I actually threatened last week, I say to the Senator from Texas, Mr. GRAMM, for example, to say a word about him. I will do that today in a moment.

I will start with Senator JEAN CARNAHAN, if I may. I went to Missouri to campaign with JEAN CARNAHAN. She was here a relatively short time because she filled a seat that was then filled by a special election in the State of Missouri. But I believe the first moment I met JEAN was at the organizing session. She had suffered a great tragedy. The State of Missouri had suffered a great tragedy. The incumbent Governor of the State of Missouri had died in a plane crash. The Governor, his son, and others perished in that crash relatively close to the election. His name remained on the ballot. The folks from the State of Missouri, nonetheless, voted for his name on the ballot, and the Governor appointed JEAN CARNAHAN, his widow, to come to the Senate.

JEAN stood up at the organizing session—and I am sure she would not mind if I indicated this publicly because she did it in an organizing session—and she said to members of our caucus and to the new Members coming into the Senate:

You come here because of your win. I have arrived here because of my loss.

She, of course, was speaking about the tragedy that had occurred in the State of Missouri, her having lost a husband, then a candidate for the Senate, and her son in that plane crash.

I watched JEAN CARNAHAN as she worked in the Senate. She did a remarkable job. She is someone with

great courage. She is someone who has the capability to stand up in a very significant way and explain quickly what it is she has a passion about in public policy.

I deeply admire JEAN CARNAHAN, not only for aspiring to carry out that mission of public service that was begun by her husband, the Governor of Missouri, but also because she played a significant role and contributed in a significant way in the Senate.

We all will miss JEAN CARNAHAN as she moves on to other challenges and other opportunities.

My colleague, MAX CLELAND from Georgia, will not be with us in the next session. He will be leaving at the end of this session as well. MAX CLELAND is one of those heroes of mine. MAX CLELAND is a brave, remarkable American. He left three of his limbs on a battlefield fighting for this country. He is a person of great personal courage.

I say to anyone who has not yet done so, read his book, "Going to the Max." It is a story of great inspiration. MAX CLELAND has been a terrific legislator, a great representative of the State of Georgia in the Senate. More than that, he has been an inspiration to virtually all America.

Our country owes him a great debt of gratitude for his service. Our colleagues owe him a great debt of gratitude for his companionship and service in the Senate.

We also will not be joined next year by Senator TORRICELLI who indicated his decision not to seek reelection. Let me say about BOB TORRICELLI, I served with him in the U.S. House of Representatives. He is a passionate fighter, articulate, strong, assertive for the issues in which he believes and for the issues he feels are important to his home State of New Jersey and for our country.

On the Republican side, I came here not knowing JESSE HELMS. I only knew of him by reputation. His reputation was he was a hard-edged, tough guy who asked no quarter, gave no quarter, and never stopped fighting for the issues about which he cared. He planted himself sometimes far off the political spectrum and said: Here is where I stand. That was my impression of him as I came to the Senate.

What I discovered in the Senate is he is quite a remarkable gentleman, and I use the term "gentleman" in every respect. He is one of the most courteous, kind people with whom I have had the opportunity to serve. I have on occasion gone over and sat with him in the Chamber of the Senate and talked about the house he will retire to and the front porch on which he will spend some time.

While we might disagree on some issues very strongly, he is a legislator who contributed substantially to the public debate in this country and often with great courage on his part. I certainly thank him for his service to our country.

Senator STROM THURMOND will be leaving the Senate. If you know his personal story, you just are almost out of breath when you understand what he has done over his lifetime. He not only has served with great distinction in public service in many venues—as a judge in his home State, in the Senate, running for President, and so many other positions—he also volunteered for service during wartime at age 42 and volunteered to climb into a glider to crash land at night behind enemy lines.

This is a man of great personal courage and a man who served this country with great distinction in many ways. I have had the opportunity over the years I have been in the Senate to serve with him as well and visit with him about his public service. I deeply admire what Senator STROM THURMOND has given to this country, and we wish him well.

Senator MURKOWSKI is someone with whom I have worked on the Energy Committee, both as a chairman of the Energy Committee and ranking member. He is now off to become Governor of the State of Alaska. He is someone with great passion for his State. Almost every amendment coming from Senator MURKOWSKI has something to do with Alaska.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to get to know Senator MURKOWSKI. He is a man of good humor, but also someone who feels very strongly and passionately about issues.

Senator HUTCHINSON I have not known quite as well, but Senator HUTCHINSON and his brother Asa, who served in the House of Representatives while TIM served in the Senate—their family, obviously, has a great passion for public service. I have enjoyed the opportunity to know him, although not quite as well as others.

Senator SMITH from New Hampshire is one with whom I had the opportunity to serve on the Ethics Committee. I have grown very fond of BOB SMITH. He is a big, tall man with a great passion to serve his State and country. One of the qualities I discovered about him on issues that are very important, such as the issues we confronted on the Ethics Committee, is there was not a partisan bone in his body. But BOB SMITH was about fairness and doing things the right way.

I have become a friend of BOB SMITH's. I like him a great deal. I wish him very well as he moves on from the Senate.

Finally, Senator GRAMM from Texas. I mentioned the other day he is someone who, if you are going to be in a big fight—a really big fight—you want with you. He not only is smart and shrewd, but he does not ever quit, no matter what the time is on the clock.

While we have had our differences from time to time with regard to public policy, I have never had a difference with him on personal issues. He is someone I deeply admire. His service to our country through the Senate and

the House is substantial. In fact, early on in our career, I sat next to him on the Veterans Affairs Committee in the U.S. House. That is when he was a Democrat, as a matter of fact. That is eons ago.

Senator GRAMM is one of those people who makes a significant contribution in this Chamber because he is determined to make that contribution and he knows the rules, he is shrewd, and he is tough. If you are in a fight, you want someone like Senator GRAMM with you in a fight.

Mr. President, having said all that about those who are leaving, let me say again the reason I came today to speak is because I care very deeply about this institution. I still pinch myself every day after 10 years serving in the Senate. When I drive to this Capitol Building, I pinch myself that a man from a town of 400 people and a high school class of 9 had the opportunity to be elected to the Senate.

This is an extraordinary honor. This body of 100 men and women who come with different passions and different visions for our country offer America the patchwork quilt of what America is about in its deliberations and the development of ideas and the approaches by which we try to move America forward.

I know from time to time, as do all of my colleagues, I leave this Chamber perhaps despondent about what happened that day, despondent that we did not get something done which I thought we should have done, or despondent that we did something I thought we should not have done. But over a long time, I remain enormously proud of the opportunities to serve in the Senate.

It is a remarkable, unusual, distinct privilege to serve in the Senate. This institution is still the greatest deliberative body in the world, and my colleague, Senator BYRD, the Presiding Officer, the President pro tempore, reminds us always of the place in history this Senate occupies.

I wish to say to all of those who are leaving this institution: It has been a great privilege to serve with each and every single one of them. Their presence has contributed to this institution in a very significant way.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

PHIL GRAMM

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend and distinguished colleague, the senior Senator from Texas, Senator PHIL GRAMM. Senator GRAMM was first elected to public office in 1978. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives as a Democrat for 4 years. After becoming disenchanted with the Democratic party, he resigned his seat in January of 1983 and ran again in a special election as a Republican. He won back his seat and earned a new found respect for the honorable way in which he changed parties. In 1984, Senator GRAMM was elected to the United States Senate.

An economist by training, Senator GRAMM has spent his entire public career fighting for the principles of freedom, particularly economic freedom, individual choice and limited government. We all know well of his "Dickey Flatt" test. Dickey Flatt is a small businessman in Texas who has served as Senator GRAMM's bell-weather on the Federal Government's tax and regulatory policies. It is for the Dickey Flatts of this country that Senator GRAMM has fought to cut Federal tax rates, repeal the death tax and reduce the government's regulatory burden on small businesses. We also have heard often of Senator GRAMM's "momma." It is for her and the other senior citizens of our country that Senator GRAMM has worked hard to strengthen and modernize the Medicare and Social Security programs. Perhaps Senator GRAMM's most important legislative accomplishments are the 1981 "Gramm-Latta" tax cut, the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings balanced budget bill and the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Financial Services Act.

Equally as important as the legislation he has supported is the legislation that Senator GRAMM has chosen to fight over the years. If a bill did not pass the Dickey Flatt test, you could be assured that Senator GRAMM would oppose it. He is probably most famous for successfully leading the opposition in 1994 to then-President Clinton's proposal for a Federal takeover of the Nation's health care system.

I have had the privilege of serving with the Senator from Texas on the Senate Finance Committee for the past 4 years. I have learned much from him and enjoyed listening to him debate the important issues before the Committee. Senator GRAMM has a plain-spoken, common sense way of explaining issues that will be sorely missed in this body.

Senator GRAMM has served his State of Texas and this country with great distinction. He is a skilled debater and legislator, who has held true to his conservative principles over the years. I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to work with him during my tenure in the Senate, and to call him my friend. I wish him and his lovely wife Wendy the best in their future endeavors.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to my friend and colleague PHIL GRAMM, who retires from the Senate, but will not soon fade from the memories of all those who worked with him in this body. Very simply, Senator GRAMM is a straight shooter, a man who has a strong grasp of the issues, and who never fails to speak his mind. While we disagreed a good deal on the issues, I have always had the utmost respect for Senator GRAMM's opinion, and for the way that he has conducted himself throughout his service in the Senate.

There have also been many times when we have seen eye to eye, and when we have it has been a pleasure to

work with the Senator from Texas. Together we have fought to reform our budget process and cut wasteful spending. Now as my colleagues know, cutting spending or reforming the way that the government spends Federal tax dollars is never easy. But Senator GRAMM and I share the belief that only by reforming our budget process will we ensure the kind of fiscal discipline in Congress that the American people deserve.

While we were never able to bring our budget process reform bill to introduction, we stood shoulder-to-shoulder on many votes to cut pork-barrel spending and apply fiscal discipline. I thank Senator GRAMM for his tremendous leadership on these critical issues, and I wish him all the best as he ends his distinguished career in the U.S. Senate.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JESSE HELMS

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, with the end of the 107th Congress, we wish the best to Senator JESSE HELMS, who retires after serving five terms here in the U.S. Senate. Senator HELMS will be long remembered, by his colleagues and by history, for his legendary service to the people of North Carolina.

From the day I arrived in the Senate, and throughout our service together on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator HELMS has been unfailingly cordial to me, and that is something I have always greatly appreciated. While Senator HELMS and I more often than not disagreed on the issues of the day, I appreciated the chance to work with him on issues where we were able to find common ground. Together we fought against unnecessary fast-track procedures that bind Congress's hands on trade legislation. I also joined with Senator HELMS to try to ensure that the export laws took national security sufficiently into account, rather than merely bend to the largest business interests. Finally, I have been proud to work with Senator HELMS to call attention to human rights abuses in China.

So as he leaves the Senate, I thank Senator HELMS for the chance to work together on these important issues. I join my colleagues in paying tribute to him, and in wishing him all the best for his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR FRED THOMPSON

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I would like to pay tribute to FRED THOMPSON, a colleague and friend who has left a lasting legacy here in the Senate. Senator THOMPSON has served the people of Tennessee well, standing on principle time and time again. He has been a champion of campaign finance reform since he first came to the Senate in 1994. He was among the original co-sponsors of the first McCain-Feingold legislation, and he has been an invaluable ally ever since.

I am deeply grateful to him for his longstanding and steadfast support for reform. FRED THOMPSON was a central part of our effort, from the first days, when gaining the support of such a

fair-minded and well-respected member gave a tremendous boost to our efforts, through to some of our most critical moments, as when he skillfully negotiated an agreement on hard money limits that the vast majority of this body could support. Without that agreement, we simply could not have moved the McCain-Feingold bill through the Senate. I also want to pay special tribute to Senator THOMPSON for the work he did investigating the 1996 campaign finance scandals. Senator THOMPSON cut his political teeth on another great scandal in our Nation's history, but his work in 1997 showed the nation that the campaign finance is truly a bipartisan problem with a bipartisan solution. I will greatly miss his leadership on these issues.

I also joined with Senator THOMPSON to try to ensure that the export laws took national security sufficiently into account, rather than merely bend to the largest business interests. And finally, I want to thank FRED THOMPSON for his leadership on States' rights. Senator THOMPSON has consistently spoken out against Federal mandates that hinder, rather than help, States and localities as they work to serve America's communities.

These are just a few of the many reasons that FRED THOMPSON's presence in this body will be missed. He has been a true champion on many important issues, and a champion for the people of his state. I thank him for his leadership and his friendship, and I wish him all the best as he ends this chapter of his career.

TIM HUTCHINSON

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the election campaign in Arkansas this year which involved TIM HUTCHINSON and Mark Pryor put me in an awkward position. Former Senator David Pryor was one of my best friends when he was in the Senate.

TIM HUTCHINSON has been a hard working, successful Senator who deserved to be reelected. The voters of Arkansas made their decision and TIM HUTCHINSON was not reelected.

During his 6 years in the Senate, TIM was a forceful, articulate, and effective spokesman for the interests of his State. I observed him at close range, as a fellow member of the Agriculture Committee, speak out for the farmers of his State. He made sure the best programs possible were included in the farm bill last year for the rice, cotton, and soybean producers of his State.

He gave particular attention to the interests of the aquaculture industry and the unfair efforts of the Vietnamese basa fish exporters to undermine years of catfish promotion efforts and market development success.

In every instance when TIM HUTCHINSON argued for the interest of the citizens of his State, he did so with conviction and a seriousness of purpose that was very impressive to me.

Another example which I recall that made me sit up and take notice was in a nationally televised debate of the

William Buckley show which was broadcast from the law school at the University of Mississippi. The subject was the United States-China relationship. The panel included Henry Kissinger, Jim Barksdale, my colleague TRENT LOTT, and the new Senator from Arkansas, TIM HUTCHINSON.

I was surprised that the young Arkansas Senator not only held his own during this program, but he was the star. He made compelling arguments for his points of view; he knew the facts; and he expressed them in an articulate and persuasive manner.

TIM HUTCHINSON has been a very fine Senator for the State of Arkansas. He has upheld the finest traditions of this body, and we will miss him.

I wish him much success in the years ahead.

MAX CLELAND

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend and departing colleague Senator MAX CLELAND.

Thomas Jefferson once said that "a nation that rests on the will of the people must also depend on individuals to support its institutions if it is to flourish. Persons qualified for public office should feel an obligation to make that contribution."

MAX CLELAND heard that centuries old call to duty and answered with a lifetime of service.

Senator CLELAND's dedication to his country stretches from the battlefields of Vietnam to the floor of this Senate. And the families of Georgia, and our entire Nation, are better for his leadership.

Senator CLELAND nearly lost his life serving his country in Vietnam. He returned home with injuries so grave that he spent a year and a half in various Veterans Administration Hospitals recovering.

But Senator CLELAND then battled and beat a depression so deep that it would have broken the spirit of many others and embarked on a remarkable 30-year career of public service.

He began by speaking out for better treatment for veterans, a cause he would champion throughout his career.

Then at the age of 28, he was elected to become Georgia's youngest State Senator.

In 1977, Senator CLELAND was appointed head of the Veterans Administration by President Carter, mailing him the youngest Administrator in the agency's history.

In 1982, Georgia voters elected him Secretary of State, again, the youngest ever.

And in 1996, Senator CLELAND was elected to the United States Senate where he became a champion on issues like veteran affairs, health care and protecting our Nation's parks and natural treasures.

I think Jefferson would be proud to see that our Nation still produces such leaders as Senator CLELAND whose entire life embodies the spirit of patriotism, civic duty and self-sacrifice that

has shaped our Nation since its very founding.

I hope Senator CLELAND will continue to speak out on the issues he cares about so deeply because his voice is still needed.

JEAN CARNAHAN

Mr. President, I rise to express my admiration and respect for my departing colleague, Senator JEAN CARNAHAN.

Senator CARNAHAN and I entered the Senate in the same freshman class and we served together on the Special Committee on Aging.

I quickly came to appreciate Senator CARNAHAN's hard work on behalf of the people of Missouri and our Nation.

Senator CARNAHAN was a leader in the fight to make prescription drugs more affordable.

Senator CARNAHAN authored the "Classroom Quality" provision of the "Leave No Child Behind Act", which will give our local schools the ability to offer qualified teaching specialists to all students who need them.

Senator CARNAHAN worked to save thousands of airline jobs in Missouri and across the Nation also provide relief for those workers who lost their jobs in the wake of the travel slowdown after 9-11.

Senator CARNAHAN was one of the first legislators to go to Afghanistan to see for herself that our troops had all they needed in the fight against terrorism.

And Senator CARNAHAN fought tirelessly to make sure Social Security and Medicare remain strong for our present seniors and the generations to come.

While her tenure was brief, her legacy will be long.

But, beyond admiring her skills as a legislator, I came to appreciate Senator CARNAHAN's sincere warmth, quiet humor and inner strength.

We are all too keenly aware that Senator CARNAHAN came to the Senate in the wake of the tragic plane crash that killed her husband, Governor Mel Carnahan, and her oldest son Randy.

But Senator CARNAHAN turned the grief over her family's loss into a legacy of gains for families in Missouri and our Nation.

Senator CARNAHAN was truly a fitting heir to the Senate seat once held by Harry Truman and I hope she will continue to speak out on the issues she cared about so deeply.

Her voice will still be needed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise for the purpose of paying tribute to our colleagues who are leaving the Senate. There are some 10 of our colleagues who are leaving under various circumstances. I would like to speak about them and to express my deep appreciation for their friendship, for the years we have worked together, or opposed each other, as the case may be, on various matters that have come before this body.

Mr. President, of course, we all have great affection for Senator THURMOND,

who has served here for 54 years and is on the brink of celebrating his 100th birthday—a remarkable achievement in and of itself. As someone once said, if they had known they would have lived that long, they would have taken better care of themselves. And STROM THURMOND took very good care of himself over the years.

Senator MAX CLELAND, a remarkable person, has served here for only 6 years, representing the State of Georgia. He has done a remarkable job during his years here. But he has had a distinguished record, of course, that has accumulated prior to his arrival in the Senate.

Senator JESSE HELMS, with whom I have served on the Foreign Relations Committee for my entire service, my 22 years in the Senate. He has served for 30 years here. We have been the best of colleagues serving together.

Senator BOB TORRICELLI of New Jersey; Senator PHIL GRAMM of Texas, with whom I have served on the Banking Committee; Senator JEAN CARNAHAN, who has had a brief service here but has done a wonderful job representing the State of Missouri; Senator FRANK MURKOWSKI, with whom I was elected to the Senate 22 years ago; Senator FRED THOMPSON from the State of Tennessee; Senator BOB SMITH; Senator TIM HUTCHINSON—these are the 10 Members who are leaving.

STROM THURMOND

Mr. President, regarding Senator THURMOND, I spoke back a number of weeks ago about Senator THURMOND in our wonderful tribute to him. He is truly an institution within this institution.

I have known Senator THURMOND since I was very young. My father and he served together here for 12 years. I have served with him for 22 years. So for 34 years Senator THURMOND has had to serve with a Dodd in the U.S. Senate of his 54 years.

I know of no one who has had as varied and as distinguished a career in public service. When you think of his contribution as an educator, as a Governor, as a combat war veteran—and not young at the time of D-Day, I might add, but nonetheless showed great heroism—and serving, as I mentioned, as a Governor of his State, and, of course, in the Senate for so many years, and as a judge—truly a remarkable individual—and elected to the Senate under various banners over the years—as a Democrat, as a Dixiecrat, as a Republican, as a write-in candidate—truly a remarkable achievement.

I've heard it suggested that they might have to rename the State of South Carolina; there have been so many monuments to his public service. There are schools, roads, bridges, parks all through the State of South Carolina that bear the name of STROM THURMOND. That is because, of course, he is held with such incredible affection by the people of that State.

We have had our differences on substantive matters, but he has always

been a tremendous gentleman and a wonderful friend. He is a good friend to my family as well. I wanted to take a couple minutes to say thank you to a remarkable individual, a remarkable American. I know that he has great affection for this institution and its Members. I wish him the very best of health and, I want him to know we will all miss him very much.

MAX CLELAND

I also want to pay tribute to our colleague from Georgia, MAX CLELAND. I know very few people who have as many heroic qualities as MAX CLELAND does. It is not by pure circumstance that I mention STROM THURMOND and MAX CLELAND next to each other. I mentioned the fact that STROM THURMOND served his country with great distinction in military service during World War II. MAX CLELAND, of course, served his Nation with great distinction during the Vietnam conflict and, of course, paid a terrible price for that service. Just a month shy of completing his tour of duty, he suffered the terrible loss of both legs and an arm.

Yet despite those physical injuries, and the obstacles they presented, MAX CLELAND has made a remarkable contribution to this institution, to the people of his home state of Georgia. MAX CLELAND is truly an American hero, not just because he wore the uniform of the United States and served in combat and suffered a terrible loss. He is an American hero because of his willingness and desire to serve the people of his country in a continuing fashion beyond that of a military uniform. He has done so in the State of Georgia, holding office there as well as here in the Senate. I don't know of anyone who is held in such a high regard and with such respect by all of us as MAX CLELAND.

One of Senator CLELAND's favorite poets, William Butler Yeats, once wrote: "Too long a sacrifice can make a stone of the heart."

In the case of MAX CLELAND, his enormous sacrifice to his country only emboldened his golden nature, and increased his desire to dedicate himself to improving the lives of others.

I will miss him very much. When the 108th Congress convenes, it just won't seem quite right that MAX CLELAND is not among us—he has a wonderful sense of humor, a great sense of history, a great love of his country. I deeply regret the people of Georgia didn't see fit to send him back to serve with us. I don't know his successor. I am sure he is a fine person. I am sure he won't mind if I say I am going to miss Max very much, but I know I have a lifelong friend in MAX CLELAND.

Just prior to coming back to Washington, it was announced that MAX and Nancy are going to be wed. My wife Jackie and I wish both of them the best in the years ahead.

JESSE HELMS

I also want to pay tribute to my friend and colleague from North Carolina, Senator Jesse Helms. I don't

know of anyone here I probably disagreed with more over the past 22 years than Jesse Helms. But I also don't know of anyone with whom I have had a better relationship over the last 22 years. I know that sounds somewhat of a contradiction to people who watch this institution, that people with whom you can have profound and significant disagreements can also be people you hold in high regard and respect.

Senator JESSE HELMS and I have fought tooth and nail on almost every issue I can think of. But I don't know of a finer gentleman, a more decent human being than Jesse Helms. And we have disagreed on policy matters over and over again—he is a passionate conservative, his voting record has scored a 100 percent rating from American Conservative Union throughout his 30 years here, and he is deeply proud of the fact that during those years he has one of the highest voting records of loyalty to the Republican Party, in excess of 95 percent.

It is that passion which I admire. We don't have enough of it in politics today, in my view. And while I wish we had more of on it our side, I respect it when I see it in anyone. JESSE HELMS certainly brings it to his public service. I will miss his service here. I will miss working with him. There were many occasions when we actually did find common ground, as we do so frequently here, on matters that don't achieve the high profile status as matters of disagreement do. He served his State of North Carolina well. He served and represented a point of view embraced by many.

I will miss him on a personal level as a kind and thoughtful individual. Jackie and I wish he and Dot the very best in the years to come.

BOB TORRICELLI

Mr. President, ROBERT TORRICELLI is leaving the Senate. He made the decision this fall not to seek reelection in the midst of his election. A lot of attention has been focused on that decision, but for those us of who have known BOB TORRICELLI over his 20 years of public service—14 years in the House, 6 years in the Senate—BOB TORRICELLI is a lot more than an individual who decided to pull out of a race in New Jersey this year. He is a passionate fighter for things he believes and he has compiled a wonderful record of public service.

I want the RECORD to reflect that BOB TORRICELLI was a fine Senator, a fine Member of Congress. He fought very hard on behalf of his constituents, fought very hard on the issues he cared deeply about. We had our disagreements over Cuban policy frequently. I always used to say, when BOB TORRICELLI came to the floor to take the other side, he was a formidable opponent.

He was an excellent debater, one who embraced his views with a great deal of knowledge and a great deal of passion and feeling. He became active in Democratic Party politics at an early age.

His passion for politics is something all of us came to appreciate in the Senate during his years. He was elected to the House at age 31 in 1982. He did a tremendous job there, serving on the House International Relations Committee, and rose to prominence as a House member, as a leading voice for advancing and expanding democracy and human rights worldwide.

In 1996, he came to the Senate. His efforts on behalf of tax, employment, environmental, education, and health issues are things we are all well aware of. He has wonderful legislative skills and was a great battler on behalf of the Democratic Party.

He led the Senate Democratic campaign committee during his first term in a cycle during which he raised a lot of money to support Democratic candidates across the country. It is a thankless job. But for those of us who stand for election or reelection, you have to have someone who will head up these committees and do so with a great deal of energy. BOB TORRICELLI certainly did that for a lot of people whose careers might have been terminated more briefly had it not been for his dedication to seeing to it that Democratic candidates would have a good chance to be heard.

I would not want this session to end without expressing my gratitude to BOB TORRICELLI for his service in this body and his service to the people of New Jersey.

PHIL GRAMM

Mr. President, PHIL GRAMM is also leaving the Senate, going to work for UBS Warburg. Their offices are in Connecticut, so I will be looking forward, very carefully, at what PHIL GRAMM does as a new part-time constituent of mine. I say that somewhat facetiously of course.

PHIL GRAMM has had a very distinguished career in public life. We have served together on the Banking Committee during his entire time in the Senate. We have worked together very closely on matters affecting the securities industry. We coauthored a number of bills together during our joint service. We were elected to the House together. PHIL was a Democrat in those days, then became a Republican, was elected to the Senate as a Republican. He has authored major pieces of legislation during his career.

In fact, the Brookings Institution listed three of the bills that PHIL GRAMM authored or coauthored as among a handful of the most significant pieces of legislation in the 20th century, including the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings balanced budget proposal which attracted a wide degree of attention during the 1980s. He made a mark here as a tenacious fighter for what he believes in. One of the most difficult opponents you could have on an issue is PHIL GRAMM. He doesn't take many prisoners, and he fights very hard for the matters in which he believes. I thank him for his service and wish him well in the years ahead.

JEAN CARNAHAN

Mr. President, I want to mention JEAN CARNAHAN, who had a short service in this body. All of us have a deep appreciation for the circumstances under which she arrived—one of the most tragic set of circumstances any of us can imagine. She did a remarkable job, coming in under difficult circumstances, and we owe her a debt of gratitude for the courageous and selfless service that she provided to the people of Missouri, the American public, and the sense of silent grace with which she handled those personal difficulties.

She didn't just simply show up in the Senate—she thrived here. All of our colleagues would agree when I say that learning to navigate the ways of the Senate can be difficult for anybody, but for somebody who never served in public office, having, of course, been the first lady of her State of Missouri for 8 years, JEAN CARNAHAN did a remarkable job during her time here. She made a difference on numerous pieces of legislation in which she helped to forge compromises. While her tenure may have been brief, she left a mark worthy of those with much longer service. All of us express nothing but our very best wishes to JEAN CARNAHAN and to her family in the coming years. She has become a good friend to us here. I thank her for her service, and I am sure she will find other ways to contribute and provide services for the people of this country.

FRANK MURKOWSKI

FRANK MURKOWSKI and I were elected to the Senate together in 1980. He has now been elected Governor to the State of Alaska. He is moving on to other areas of public service. He has done a very fine job here and has made a significant contribution representing the people of Alaska. He had a successful career as a businessman in Alaska before coming to the Senate. He was President of the Alaska National Bank from 1970 to 1980.

Since his arrival here, he has kept Alaska first and foremost in his mind. He has been an extraordinary defender of Alaska's interests. But he made many contributions, as well, to the national agenda.

In fact, many of his biggest fights have greatly benefitted our Nation as a whole. In 1996, for example, FRANK MURKOWSKI led the congressional effort to pass the omnibus parks bill, which created or improved more than 100 national parks, forests, preserves and historic sites nationwide, including two in Alaska.

And, for more than 25 years, FRANK and his wife, Nancy, have been leaders in the fight against breast cancer in rural Alaska, and other areas where access to early testing is severely lacking. He also led a national effort against breast cancer here in Washington, and has been an integral part of securing increased Federal funding for breast cancer research and treatment nationwide.

He has been a passionate advocate of oil and gas exploration in Alaska—one of the major debates in this body. I disagreed with FRANK MURKOWSKI about allowing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, but he certainly fought very hard on behalf of his beliefs, showing up with charts and graphs and pictures of wildlife and the like, day after day during that debate.

The people of Alaska have now elected him as their Governor. I know all of us wish he and his wife Nancy well as they assume new responsibilities in Juneau, Alaska.

FRED THOMPSON

Mr. President, I pay tribute to and express my gratitude to Senator FRED THOMPSON of Tennessee, as well, for his service here. He has made a significant contribution to public life during his years here in the Senate, as well as prior to arriving here. FRED's career in politics has truly been one of life imitating art imitating life.

How else can you describe a man who can be seen on the Senate floor debating, only to see him later that evening playing a district attorney on the television show "Law and Order"? On just about any given Sunday, you can catch FRED THOMPSON on cable in a rerun of "Die Hard II," or "The Hunt for Red October." So he has had a distinguished career in film and television, also.

But to suggest that was the sum total of FRED THOMPSON's life would be a tragic mistake. There is a lot more to it. He has made significant contributions in real life for over 30 years. He did serve as an assistant U.S. attorney at one point in his life. He has been a prominent public figure during some of the most critical moments in our Nation's history—not only as chairman of the Governmental Relations Committee, but also during the Watergate crisis in the early 1970s.

FRED THOMPSON was just a few years out of Vanderbilt Law School when he was named minority counsel to the Senate Watergate Committee in 1973. He has been commended on many occasions for his role in the public disclosure of the Oval Office audio tapes, and that deserves mention here again today.

FRED THOMPSON's early impact on the American political scene foreshadowed his later career and success in the Senate, and his ever-growing popularity in Tennessee. In 1994, he was elected by the people of that State to fill the seat left vacant by the election of Senator Al Gore as Vice-President. When he was voted in for a full Senate term in 1996, he received the highest number of votes cast for any candidate for any office in Tennessee history.

FRED THOMPSON has compiled a distinguished career over the years, as I mentioned earlier, as an assistant U.S. attorney, as Watergate counsel and, of course, during his years in the Senate. We are going to miss him here. He and his wife Geri, I am sure, are going to have a bright future, and I have a feel-

ing we will be hearing more about FRED THOMPSON in the years to come.

ROBERT SMITH

Mr. President, BOB SMITH from New Hampshire is also leaving the Senate. While, again, we have been on not only different sides of the aisle but on the different sides of many, if not most, issues that come before the Senate, I thank BOB SMITH for his service to his State of New Hampshire and to the causes which he embraced very firmly.

BOB SMITH is a very conservative Member of this body. He has also become a leading advocate, during his latter years of service, on environmental questions affecting not only the State of New Hampshire, but also environmental issues across the country, including his work on helping to clean up and restore the Florida Everglades. He opposed drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge despite strong support from the Bush administration and Senator FRANK MURKOWSKI.

So BOB SMITH was more diverse in his views than some might have otherwise believed. Again, I thank him for his service. We didn't agree on many substantive issues that came before this body, but he was a passionate fighter for views he held. My wife Jackie and I wish him and his wife Jo Ann all the best in the future.

TIM HUTCHINSON

Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and colleague, Senator TIM HUTCHINSON, who will be leaving the United States Senate at the conclusion of the 107th Congress.

Although Senator HUTCHINSON and I have not agreed on every issue that has come before us, I have always considered him a friend, and I have always respected his convictions. He has certainly served as a capable and loyal advocate for the people of his home state of Arkansas.

Mr. President, I had the good fortune of getting to know TIM HUTCHINSON very well during his six years in the Senate. We served together on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. And, in 2000, Senator HUTCHINSON and I co-founded the Senate Biotechnology Caucus, which has played an important role in educating Members of Congress and the public about recent developments in medical and genetic research.

Throughout his 10 years in Washington—4 years in the House of Representatives and 6 here in the Senate—TIM HUTCHINSON has shown a deep commitment to improving the education of America's children, strengthening our national security, increasing access to healthcare, and safeguarding the often overlooked interests of rural America.

Given his background, these priorities are not surprising. TIM HUTCHINSON himself was born on a small farm in rural Gravette, Arkansas. And he was educated as a minister at Bob Jones University in South Carolina.

After graduating from college, he returned to Gravette, where he opened a Christian day school and taught his-

tory at nearby John Brown University. I have always believed that his background as an educator made Senator HUTCHINSON one of the most thoughtful and well-spoken members of this body.

TIM HUTCHINSON's election to the Senate in 1996 was the culmination of a 10-year political evolution, which began with his election to the Arkansas Statehouse in 1985. While there, he gained a state-wide reputation as a tireless advocate of law enforcement.

TIM HUTCHINSON was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1993, and in 1996 he became the first Republican in Arkansas history to win a popular election to the Senate.

As a Senator TIM HUTCHINSON remained a committed advocate for conservative causes—consistently scoring over 90 percent for his voting record by the American Conservative Union.

However, there were also several instances when Senator HUTCHINSON took the lead on important issues that crossed party lines. For example, he has always had an interest in improving public education in America, and was an integral part of the effort to create tax free education savings accounts.

And, during the 107th Congress, Senator HUTCHINSON introduced the Nurse Employment and Education Development Act—a landmark piece of bipartisan legislation to address the critical nursing shortage affecting rural Arkansas and the country as a whole.

This year, the NEED Act was incorporated into the Nurse Reinvestment Act, which President Bush recently signed into law. This legislation stands as a fitting coda to TIM HUTCHINSON's tenure in the U.S. Senate—its positive impact will be felt across America for years to come.

Mr. President, I will miss having TIM HUTCHINSON as a colleague. My wife Jackie and I wish him and his wife Randy, all the best in future year.

I thank all 10 of these Members for their friendship. I look forward to seeing them in the years ahead, and I wish them and their families the very best in the years that come down the road.

FRED THOMPSON

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise to recognize my friend the Senior Senator from Tennessee. FRED THOMPSON will retire this year after eight distinguished years in the Senate. He has packed a great deal in those eight years. He has been a forceful leader who has made significant contributions to our country in a short amount time.

Senator THOMPSON was born and raised in Lawrenceburg, TN, a little town sited by the great frontiersman and Congressman Davy Crockett. Like Crockett, Senator THOMPSON charted a path in life that has allowed him to use his character and great abilities for interests larger than himself. He received his undergraduate degree from Memphis State University and completed his law degree at Vanderbilt University

in 1967. In 1973 and '74, Senator THOMPSON served as minority counsel to the vice chairman of the Senate Watergate Committee, his mentor, Senator, now Ambassador, Howard Baker. He served as Special Counsel to both the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Senator THOMPSON is among the most junior Senators in the history of the Senate to have ever served as Chairman of a Standing Senate Committee.

But Senator THOMPSON's skills and talents go far beyond his contributions to the Senate. He is also a very fine actor, not withstanding Senator MCCAIN's critiques of his performances. He has an expansive list of movie and television roles that highlight his commanding presence and impressive style. We will continue to enjoy seeing him shine in his renewed acting career. He's had excellent real life practice in the Senate.

We will miss FRED THOMPSON. We will miss his common sense, sharp wit and decency. All of his friends in the Senate wish FRED and his new bride, Jeri, all the best in their new lives together. I am proud to have served with him.

PHIL GRAMM

Mr. President, I rise to recognize the Senior Senator from Texas. Senator PHIL GRAMM will retire this year after 24 distinguished years in the U.S. Congress, three terms in the House and three terms in the Senate. He will be missed.

Thirty-five years ago Senator GRAMM received his Ph.D in Economics from the University of Georgia. After his time in Georgia, Senator GRAMM began his college teaching career at Texas A & M University as an Assistant Professor of Economics in 1967. By 1973, he became the youngest Full Professor in the history of the Texas A&M Economics Department. His grasp and understanding of economics have been important factors in our Congressional debate and government policy over the last twenty-four years.

I have had the privilege to serve with Senator GRAMM on both the Senate Banking and Budget Committees. I have seen first hand the power of his intellect and grasp of the issues that have advanced free trade and strengthened our economy and the foundation of our democracy. His contributions to our country are many. He authored numerous major pieces of legislation during his career—and none more important than the Gramm/Rudman/Hollings Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act and the Gramm/Leach/Bliley Financial Services Modernization Act.

All of his friends in the Senate wish Wendy and PHIL much success as he takes on new responsibilities. He will now have more time to help R.C. Slocum coach the A&M Aggies. The Congress and America are stronger today for Senator GRAMM having served in Congress. I am proud to have served with him.

MAX CLELAND

Mr. President, I rise to recognize my longtime friend the Senior Senator from Georgia. MAX CLELAND and I arrived in the Senate together in 1997. He quickly became a respected U.S. Senator. MAX CLELAND has been a role model for many people over the years. And, his years of selfless public service have made America a better and stronger nation.

Senator CLELAND joined the Army ROTC program at Stetson University in Florida and went on to earn a Masters Degree in American History from Emory University as a commissioned Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. In 1967 he volunteered for service in Vietnam. The next year he was promoted to the rank of Captain and soon after he was seriously wounded losing both his legs and his right arm. Senator CLELAND's determination and spirit it turned his experience in Vietnam into a continuing passion for interests greater than his own. His service in Vietnam further motivated him to continue to help shape America.

At the age of 28, he won a seat in the Georgia State Senate making him the youngest member and the only Vietnam veteran in that legislative body at that time. Seven years later, President Jimmy Carter appointed him Administrator of the U.S. Veterans Administration. He was the youngest VA Administrator ever and the first veteran of Vietnam in that post. In 1982, he became the youngest Georgia Secretary of State and held that position for three terms until he began his campaign for the United States Senate in 1995.

Senator CLELAND is an inspiration to all of us. We will miss his honesty, integrity, spirit and leadership in this body. We wish him well and thank him for his service and contributions to our country. I am privileged and proud to have served in the Senate with my friend and colleague MAX CLELAND. I salute you, Captain. You will be missed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JEFFORDS). Who seeks recognition? The Senator from Missouri, Mrs. CARNAHAN.

Mrs. CARNAHAN. Mr. President, I thank my colleague for his kind and generous remarks.

FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mrs. CARNAHAN. Mr. President, today I am reminded that 2 years ago when I came to the Senate, it was with a heavy heart. Life had not turned out the way it was supposed to. My husband, not I, was supposed to have been sworn in to the Senate, and I was to be seated in the gallery, beaming with delight at the shared victory we had won.

As someone has pointed out, life is not the way it is supposed to be. Life is the way it is, and it is the way we cope with it that makes a difference. I had some difficult lessons to learn in that regard.

It was not by chance when I stepped down from the dais, after being sworn in, that the first to welcome me was Senator JOE BIDEN. He had come to this Chamber many years ago after a tragic loss in his own life. He told me the story of having been greeted by Senator McClellan of Arkansas, who looked him in the eye and said: Work, hard work, it is the sure path to healing.

Senator BIDEN said: I thought at the time how callous that advice was; he just does not understand the hurt I am feeling. He later found out Senator McClellan spoke from having experienced a family tragedy of overwhelming proportion. JOE BIDEN took the advice to heart and he passed it on to me. You were right, JOE, and I thank you for that wisdom.

There has been much work to throw ourselves into during the 107th Congress. It has been a monumental period in our Nation's history, a time marred by unprecedented national tragedy, deep political divisions, economic upheavals, corporate corruption, continued threats to our national security, and now the gathering clouds of war. Through all of these disasters, we have seen the triumph of the American spirit. Yes, Americans have taken to heart the advice Louis Pasteur once gave to a group of young people. He said: Do not let yourselves be discouraged by the sadness of certain hours which passes over nations.

Thankfully, the Congress has refused to be discouraged. We have endured anthrax attacks, dismantled offices, tighter security measures, major alterations to the Capitol complex, not to mention three shifts in legislative leadership. Through it all, we have managed to address a number of important issues. We passed a historic tax cut, reformed education, overhauled campaign finance laws, called corporate America to a higher standard, and prepared our Nation to respond to global terrorism. We have found that being the guardian of freedom is a relentless and consuming work. The immensity of our task would cripple a lesser people. Rather than be covered by events, America and her institutions have always been emboldened during times of crisis. I am convinced the Author of Liberty, who has blessed and protected our Nation in the past, will enable us to meet the stern responsibilities of the present.

As the 108th Congress takes on this new burden, I will not be among them but my prayers will be with them. I leave realizing that to have served in the Senate for even a short while is an honor afforded very few in their lifetime. I am forever grateful to the people of Missouri who have allowed me and my family to serve them for three generations. Reporters often ask me to reflect on those years. Most recently, I was asked what impressed me most during my time in the Senate. And I