

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I join my colleagues today in recognizing the distinguished Senator from South Carolina and his years of service in the U.S. Senate.

STROM THURMOND has lived almost one century—his 100th birthday will be December 5th—and he has been a Senator for almost half of that time. He is now finishing his eighth full term, making him the longest serving Senator and the oldest Member of Congress. But Senator THURMOND is known—and will long be remembered—for much more than his longevity.

He has had a remarkable life and career of service to South Carolina and the United States, having served as a school superintendent, State Senator, judge, and as the Palmetto State's Governor.

He entered the Nation's military when he was 21 years old and almost 20 years later volunteered to serve in World War II. He was among the brave American troops who landed in Normandy on D-day with the 82nd Airborne Division, and he received numerous awards for his military service including the Bronze Star for Valor and a Purple Heart.

Senator THURMOND has fought no less fiercely in the political arena. He has used his gifts, experience, the power and respect he has earned and knowledge of Senate rules and procedures to advocate on behalf of his causes.

Although he has switched political parties during his career, serving first as a Democrat, running for President as a "States Rights" third-party candidate in 1948, and becoming a Republican in 1964, he has consistently adhered to his political ideology.

I am glad that we have an opportunity to acknowledge his contributions and to reflect on the considerable impact he has had on this body, his party, and the Nation.

Senator THURMOND is a living monument but just to make sure his service is recognized, the people of South Carolina, whom he has represented for so long, have honored him by erecting a monument for him and naming dozens of facilities for him.

Senator THURMOND will certainly be missed around here. I bid him farewell and extend my best wishes to him and his family.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 having arrived and passed, the Senate will now stand in recess until the hour of 2 p.m.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent morning business be extended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from South Carolina.

THANKING THE SENATE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I am surely honored by the generous re-

marks of my colleagues, Senator DASCHLE, Senator LOTT, Senator HOLLINGS, Senator BYRD, Senator STEVENS, Senator HUTCHISON, Senator ALLARD, Senator SPECTER, Senator ALLEN, Senator MCCONNELL, and all others.

It is hard for me to believe that it was about 80 years ago that I began my professional career. Beginning as a school teacher and coach, I have enjoyed public service as a County Superintendent of Education, attorney, State Senator, State Circuit Judge, military officer, Governor, and Senator. While I have enjoyed each and every job I have held over the years, there is no job I have treasured more than serving as a U.S. Senator. I am proud to be a member of this remarkable legislative body and have been blessed to observe nearly a half-century of our Nation's history from within this chamber. I still recall the cold Christmas Eve, December 24, 1954, when I was sworn in by then Vice-President Richard Nixon, with my late wife, Jean, by my side.

I came to Washington with one priority—to serve this Nation and my fellow South Carolinians with integrity and to the best of my ability. As I now enter the final days of my Senate career, with nearly 48 years of Senate service, I trust I have accomplished that objective.

The U.S. Senate is a special institution in many respects. The six-year term assures that there is the stability within this chamber which allows the Senate to be a deliberative body. The great history of this body reflects the great issues of American History. Here we have debated fundamental questions regarding the status of our Union, national territorial expansion, matters of war and peace, social and economic policies affecting every individual, and many other important matters of national interest as well as local issues.

Given the esteemed stature of this legislative body, it was with no small amount of humility that I moved from South Carolina to Washington so many years ago. Like every other man and woman who serves in the Senate, regardless of party affiliation or ideology, I desired to perform my duties with honor, to the best of my ability, and with a goal of making a difference in the lives of my fellow citizens.

As Senators, we have many roles to perform in the discharge of our duties. There is no other job in the world that allows us to have a more direct impact on improving the lives of individuals and strengthening our Nation. Through legislation, oversight, and old-fashioned constituent service, each of us is able to help the citizens of our respective States, as well as build a Nation which is stronger and better for all who live here. The work we do here benefits millions of Americans. One cannot help but take great satisfaction and pride in such important service.

As legislators we are called upon to vote on matters of local concern and national interest. I have cast over

16,300 rollcall votes as a U.S. Senator. Each vote is cast considering the concerns of my constituents and what is right for our Nation. While I have missed a few votes, I am pleased that I have been present for over 95 percent of all rollcall votes called by the Senate during my time in office.

It is the floor debate and the rollcall votes that citizens most closely associate with the work of the U.S. Senate. When visitors come to the Capitol, the overwhelming majority of them visit the Senate and House Galleries to watch their Congress in action. I suspect that most Americans are less familiar with the Committee system, but as we all know, that is where a significant amount of the work of this institution is accomplished.

During my Senate career, I have been privileged to serve on a number of Committees in the U.S. Senate. As a member and Chairman of the Armed Services Committee I worked hard to help build the finest military force that history has seen. On the Judiciary Committee, which I also chaired, my priorities were to safeguard the Constitution, keep the judicial branch independent and staffed with well qualified men and women, and enact sound policies to help make our communities safe. As a founding member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee I have always fought to ensure that the men and women of our Armed Forces receive the health care and benefits they deserve. On each of the Committees I served, I associated with Senators who were expert in their areas of oversight, who took their duties as Committee Members seriously, and who were exceptional legislators.

One of the primary duties of a Senator is to represent and assist constituents. I consider constituent service to be the most significant aspect of my Senate career. I am pleased that my Senate office has helped hundreds of thousands of South Carolinians interact with a government bureaucracy that can sometimes be confusing, unyielding, and intimidating.

As the calendar draws closer to the day that I walk out of the door of Room 217 of the Russell Senate Office Building, I know that pundits and historians will examine my career and study my service and achievements. I pray that such an examination will determine that I was a man who rendered a worthy service to the Nation and to my State. I hope I am known, above all, as a man who tried to help others. I also acknowledge that whatever I have been able to achieve, through my years of Senate service, it was largely through working closely with my colleagues.

No single individual can accomplish what has to be done here without recognizing the contribution of those who served before we arrived. When I think of the South Carolinians who occupied this seat before me, I am humbled. To follow in the footsteps of such distinguished men as Pierce Butler, Charles

Pinckney, Thomas Sumter, John C. Calhoun, Benjamin Tillman and many others, is indeed an honor.

Likewise, much of our own success is due to the colleagues with whom we serve. This is perhaps the greatest aspect of being a Senator—to associate with such fine individuals. I have been so fortunate that in my tenure here I have had the distinction of serving with so many fine men and women. I regret that it is simply impossible to identify each and every single Senator with whom I have had the pleasure of serving. As an historical note, 1,864 men and women have served as U.S. Senators. I have had the privilege to serve with 410 of these great men and women. I have had the distinct opportunity to serve, in some instances, with more than one generation from some great families. I note there are Senators serving today whose fathers were my colleagues some years ago. I am hesitant to recognize individual colleagues, for I have enjoyed my association with every Senator, but a few stand out in my mind.

My long-time colleague, Senator HOLLINGS, has served with me for nearly 36 years. I greatly appreciate his friendship and extend my best wishes to him and his lovely wife, Peatsy.

Having served on both sides of the aisle, and having presided over the Senate as President pro tempore for a number of years, I am privileged to have friends in both parties. I enjoyed my association with distinguished Senators such as Richard Russell and Herman Talmadge. Bobby Kennedy was a special Senator, whose office was across the hall from mine. I have enjoyed a long and warmhearted association with ROBERT BYRD and TED STEVENS. Similarly, I have a great respect for JOE BIDEN, with whom I serve on the Judiciary Committee. My neighbor, JESSE HELMS, is a great American and a great friend. Our current Republican leader, TRENT LOTT, always has a kind word and a friendly greeting. I admire the many genuine heroes who have served in the Senate—men like DAN INOUE.

In addition, much of the success of individual Senators and of the Senate is due to the leadership of the Senate. Distinguished statesmen like Mike Mansfield, Everett Dirksen, Hugh Scott, Howard Baker, Bob Dole, were great men who served this institution with dedication and concern for the well-being of the Senate and the Nation.

As a Senator I have served with ten Presidents, from Dwight D. Eisenhower to our current capable and dedicated leader, George W. Bush. Three of those—John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Richard Nixon—were Senate colleagues. In the Supreme Court, 108 Justices have served since the formation of the Court in 1790. I am proud to have participated in the advice and consent in the confirmation of 20 of these outstanding men and women, as well as hundreds of judges in the lower courts.

Mr. President, today's Senate is much different than when I first arrived. At that time there were four fewer Senators, for neither Alaska nor Hawaii had been admitted to the Union. Our friends from the "Aloha" and "Last Frontier" states did not join us until 1959.

Not only were there fewer Senators, but the Senate support staff was much smaller. When I began my Senate service, I was assisted by just four attorneys and three typists. Today, I have over 35 hard-working, dedicated staff members. At the end of my first term there were about 6000 staff serving Members and Committees in the House and Senate. Today there are over 18,000 staff in personal and committee offices. An additional 13,000 staff support the Congress in various Congressional support agencies.

This growth in the Senate staff, as well as the increase in the length of the Senate calendar, is a reflection of the growth of the Federal government. Both in size and in scope, the Federal government has enlarged its involvement in the life of Americans. I am not convinced, however, that this has always been in the best interest of our Nation.

There have been significant physical changes to the Capitol complex. When I first arrived in Washington, the Russell Senate Office Building housed all Senators, staff, committees, and other support personnel and functions. In 1958 the Dirksen Office Building was completed, and in 1982 the Hart Office Building was finished. The Capitol building itself was enlarged during my tenure with the east front extension. That extension provided additional rooms when it was completed in 1962. As I depart, a great addition is underway with the construction of the Capitol Visitor Center. I am proud of my contribution to this effort which began in earnest just a few years ago as I served as President pro tempore and Co-Chairman of the Capitol Preservation Commission.

Despite all the changes that have occurred in this institution and in our Nation, there is one constant—that has been the closeness of the Senate family. There are literally thousands of people who work quietly, outside the spotlight, to ensure this institution runs smoothly. I express my appreciation to all in the Senate who contribute to the success of every Senator and make this institution a community. This family includes the Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant-at-Arms, the staff of those Officers, the Clerks, Doorkeepers, Capitol Hill Police, the staff of the Senate restaurants, the Attending Physician and staff, the cloakroom staff, the Chaplain's office, the Parliamentarian, the Architect of the Capitol and staff, the Librarians, staff of the Congressional Research Service and the General Accounting Office, and many others, too numerous to mention.

I must also pay tribute to my own staff. A strong, competent, and capable

staff is absolutely necessary to any Senator. We could not keep up with all our duties, maintain contacts with constituents, or accomplish our legislative goals without our staff. Throughout my career, I have made it a point to hire the best people I could to work in my personal office and on my committees. I have enjoyed my association with literally hundreds of bright, talented and hard-working individuals. I have enjoyed watching them mature in their personal lives and grow in their professional careers. I am proud of my staff. I ask unanimous consent that a list of my current staff be inserted in the RECORD following my remarks.

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

(See Exhibit 1.)

Mr. THURMOND. Finally, I express my deepest appreciation to my entire family for their love and support, especially my children. Strom, Julie, Paul, and my beloved daughter, the late Nancy Moore, have been the joy of my life. I thank them for their sacrifices and devotion.

Mr. President, no matter which side of the aisle we occupy, regardless of the issues that may divide us, and despite any political differences we may have, all of us ran for office and fought to stay here because we want to serve and make a difference. There is no more noble calling than public service, and no more rewarding place to serve than the U.S. Senate. This is truly one of the most unique and special institutions in the world and the opportunity to serve in this body is a rare privilege and one which I think all of us value equally.

In my public service career, I have served in many different capacities and at every level of government, but none has been more meaningful or gratifying than the time I have spent as the Senator from South Carolina.

When I graduated from Clemson College in 1923, my father gave me a paper entitled "Advice" which I have always proudly displayed in my Senate office and after which I have always tried to pattern my life. The advice which my father gave me, and which I pass on to others follows:

Remember your God;

Take good care of your body and tax your nervous system as little as possible;

Obey the laws of the land;

Be strictly honest;

Associate with only the best people, morally and intellectually;

Think 3 times before you act once, and if you are in doubt, don't act at all;

Be prompt on your job to the minute;

Read at every spare chance and think over and try to remember what you have read;

Do not forget that "skill and integrity" are the keys to success.

Mr. President, I leave you, and my friends, with my father's universal advice and add the following: Always respect and appreciate your tenure in the

world's greatest deliberative body; do your absolute best to serve this Nation with honor and decorum; and strive to keep the U.S. Senate the proud, historic and distinguished body of government it has been since the birth of this blessed Nation.

As I close out my public service career, I again thank my constituents, my colleagues, my staff and my family. May God bless each of you, the U.S. Senate, and God bless the United States of America.

I love all of you, and especially your wives.

EXHIBIT 1

SENATOR STROM THURMOND STAFF LIST

Duke Short, Chief of Staff and Administrative Assistant.

Holly Richardson, Executive Assistant.

Mark Ivany, Personal Assistant.

Eliza Edgar, Assistant to the Chief of Staff.

Erin Goodin, Receptionist.

Walker Clarkson, Receptionist.

PRESS/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Becky Fleming, Press Secretary.

Emily Dorroh, Press Assistant.

RECORDS

Les Sealy, Office Manager and Systems Administrator.

David Black, Assistant Office Manager.

PROJECTS

Bill Tuten, Projects Director.

John Hawk, Projects Assistant.

Kevin Smith, Projects Assistant.

Michael Bozzelli, Projects Assistant.

Melissa Kiracofe-Low, Projects Assistant.

GENERAL LEGISLATION

David Best, Legislative Director.

Ernie Coggins, Legislative Assistant.

James Galyean, Legislative Assistant.

Helena Mell, Legislative Correspondent.

Ashley Hurt, Legislative Correspondent.

MILITARY CASEWORK

Matt Martin.

JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION, FEDERALISM AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

Scott Frick, Chief Counsel.

Melinda Koutsoumpas, Chief Clerk.

ARMED SERVICES

George Laufer, Military Assistant.

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE, EMERITUS

James Graham, Staff Assistant.

THURMOND STATE OFFICES

Columbia: Warren Abernathy, State Director; Jeanie Rhyne; Valerie Gaines; Lind Morris; Michelle Quinn; and Christie Humphries.

Aiken: Elizabeth McFarland.

Charleston: Patricia Rones-Sykes.

Florence: Raleigh Ward and Kathryn Hook (Volunteer).

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 having arrived, the Senate stands in recess until the hour of 2 p.m.

Thereupon, at 12:43 p.m., the Senate recessed until 2 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. REID).

HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002—Resumed

AMENDMENT NO. 4694

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from

Connecticut is recognized for 7½ minutes.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I thank the Chair. Mr. President, I am pleased to urge adoption of the amendment offered by Senator McCain and ask that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is the Senator asking for the yeas and nays on the amendment?

Mr. LIEBERMAN. That is correct.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to discuss briefly my vote on the September 11 Commission. I joined in the amendment proposed by my good friends from Connecticut and Arizona because it is the right thing to do. Sitting as I do on both the Judiciary and Intelligence Committees, it has become clear to me over the past year that many different causes contributed to the horrific terrorist attacks on September 11. I have become convinced that we need to take a hard look at how this tragedy happened in order to better understand how we might avoid a similar tragedy in the future. hindsight is, indeed, 20-20, and we may be able to profit from a detached and objective analysis of mistakes that may have been made in the days and months before that attack. We need to learn from our mistakes. The stakes are simply too high to bury them.

While I believe that a September 11 Commission should be appointed, I also think that the administration should have some voice in its makeup. The amendment establishes a 10-member commission with all of the 10 members appointed by the majority and minority leaders of Congress. It is fitting that Congress play a large role in defining the membership of this Commission, but it is striking to me that the Administration has no voice at all. Just as this Commission was approved by strong bipartisan support, so too should its task be apolitical. In this spirit, I would call upon my colleagues to think seriously about providing the administration with some role in defining the Commission.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, as a member of the Select Committee on Intelligence, I have had reservations about creating an outside commission to investigate 9/11 as called for in this amendment. My reservations have essentially been twofold: First, the Intelligence Committees were given the responsibility to look into this very matter, so an additional investigation would be duplicative and place additional stress on our intelligence community at a time when its resources should be dedicated to fighting the war on terrorism.

Second, we had every reason to believe that the joint committee investigation would do its job that is, find out what went wrong, why it went wrong, and how we can reform the intelligence community to try to prevent future such failures.

Sadly, it appears that the joint committee will fall short of that goal. In the Intelligence Committee, I have expressed serious reservations about the direction of the investigation, including the allocation of time and resources to holding premature open hearings.

Last week, the joint committee held public hearings in spite of not having completed its investigation. In fact, what was presented last week was only a staff document, not a consensus product of the committee. Members had no practical input into this interim report.

The interim statement from the joint inquiry staff provided information about what has been done to date, a chronology of events leading to the September 11th attacks, and some background information about al-Qaida. This history may be useful, but it does not address the questions that are fundamental to this investigation.

In the committee, we heard from more than one witness that at least some of the problems in the intelligence community stem from a bureaucratically and politically-induced culture of risk aversion and/or an inadequate allocation and improper prioritization of resources. Yet, it is not evident that the joint committee inquiry is serious about pursuing these fundamental questions.

For these and other reasons, it will be difficult for me to concur in the final joint committee product without reservations. We will not know what we haven't been told. Therefore, we will not be able to vouch unequivocally for the final product.

And, of course, these are the very questions that have led to calls for the creation of a national commission to investigate these matters, and, hence, to this amendment. Reluctantly, I have come to the conclusion that it is necessary. If its work starts after the Joint Intelligence Committee investigation has concluded, there should be no duplication or additional stress on the entities required to cooperate in the investigation.

Mr. President, because of the inadequate course being taken by the Joint Intelligence Committee investigation, and because the imposition of that investigation on our intelligence apparatus will be ended by the time this commission begins its work, I will support the creation of the commission.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I have had the chance to speak about the urgent necessity of this independent commission to review the causes of the tragic events of September 11. It responds to the public interest by creating the best possible Department of Homeland Security to close the gaps that existed prior to that. The joint intelligence committees have done excellent work that led to disclosures that cry out to us for further investigation by our intelligence apparatus—and some other aspects of our Government that created the vulnerabilities which