

DOMENICI, as I noted. She was legislative director to Senator DOMENICI from 1985 to 1991. Obviously she developed and executed legislative strategies on a wide range of domestic and international issues, including tax reform issues, the omnibus trade bill of 1998, the United States-Canada Free Trade Agreement, and gained a lot of valuable experience in that position with Senator DOMENICI. She was counsel to the minority for the Senate Budget Committee where she worked the closest with Senator DOMENICI but a lot of Senators, Democrats and Republicans, learned to know her and respect her.

Finally, from 1992 to 1996, she was general counsel to the Senate Budget Committee, a committee that has played a huge part in what the Senate has done over the last 20 years. Keep in mind, we did not have a Budget Committee until the late 1970s because we never got around to having a process where we add up how much we take in and how much we send out. Senator DOMENICI deserves a lot of credit for us eventually moving for the first time in 30 years to balanced budgets in the late 1990s and early in this century. Right there beside him, time and time again, was Denise Ramonas.

As majority leader, you do have some staff turnover occasionally and when we had a retirement here on our floor staff in 2001, I stole, once again from Senator DOMENICI, a great staff member. Over the years I think I have acquired about three of Senator DOMENICI's former staff members, and Denise Ramonas became assistant secretary to the majority serving on the floor, keeping track of the flow of legislation, making sure Senators were properly notified, keeping track of the votes. It is a demanding job with long hours, dealing with a clientele that is not always pleasant. But she did it with a smile, with a radiant beauty and with a high intellect. She served in that position from 2001 to October the 10th, I believe, was her final day.

I wish nothing but the best for Denise as she goes forward into the rest of her life seeking other opportunities. I am sure she will find some good ones and it will be rewarding to her.

I also thank her for her dedicated service over the years to this institution, particularly her years on the Senate floor. She did a great job. I personally appreciated it. So to Denise and her loved ones, I say a fond adieu and a great deal of thanks for your service here. I hope she will stay in touch with the Senate, with the Senators, and maybe even we will find a way to call on her services again.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SENATOR PAUL WELLSTONE

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I want to thank the distinguished majority leader for setting aside time today for those of us who wish to share our tributes and thoughts regarding our colleague who, 1 year ago tomorrow, passed away in a tragic plane crash, Senator Paul Wellstone.

Paul was a friend of mine for over 20 years and my colleague, mentor, and partner here for the first 2 years of my term. It is hard to believe it was a year ago now that he boarded a small charter plane to go up to northern Minnesota and somehow, impossibly and horribly, it crashed as it was trying to land there. It was demolished by the impact and by a fire that killed all eight people on board—Senator Wellstone; his wife and partner of 39 years Sheila; his daughter Marcia; the associate chair of the Minnesota Democratic Party, Mary McEvoy; and two of Paul's trusted aides, Tom Lapic and Will McLaughlin; as well as the plane's two pilots.

I have felt deep sadness and futile anger many times as I have entered this Chamber during the past year and as I walk by Paul's desk—which to me will always be Paul's desk. I have always felt his absence at caucus lunches, committee hearings, and policy debates. Always I miss his courage, his eloquence, his passion, and his deep caring for other people and their well-being, especially for all the people who have most often been ignored or forgotten in the stampedes of the rich and powerful, which occur regularly around here.

Thousands of Minnesotans and other Americans have felt similar grief, despair, anger, hopelessness, and profound loss during this past year. No one in my lifetime has meant so much to so many people in Minnesota as Paul and Sheila Wellstone.

Paul once wrote that politics is not about left, right, or center; it is about speaking to the concerns and circumstances of people's lives. Paul practiced what he preached. He was both by gut instinct and by reasoned conviction a man of the people. The rich and the famous held no special sway over him. Senatorial trappings, perks, and offerings did not appeal to him.

Instead, he was drawn to the real people, everyday Americans going about their business in their homes, schools, farms, offices, and union halls. They were the people who aroused his personal passions and instructed his political purposes. Their misfortunes became his causes. Their injustices forged his remedies. Their hopes and dreams inspired his orations. He was their Senator, their champion, and their hero.

Paul liked to say he was the Senator for the little fellows, as he jokingly pointed at his own height. He may have been short, but he was in every other respect a big, big man, with a big heart, big ideas, big courage.

He became a towering political leader. His popularity and prestige were enormous in Minnesota, and they were growing nationwide, especially with people who were hungry for real leadership. Had he lived and had he won reelection, his star would be shining even more brightly than ever before, which is why the darkness surrounding his absence is so hard to bear for his family, his friends, and his followers.

His best was still to come. He understood, as he said, that people yearned for a politics that speaks to and includes them and that offers them something real. As Paul admonished his colleagues, especially those of us in his own caucus, the question is not how to communicate our agenda but whether we have an agenda worth communicating. Paul did.

Nothing illustrated better his greatness, his unfailing ability to rise up to the challenge, to summon his courage, and to act rightly than one of his last votes in the Senate a year ago. The Senate was about to begin its consideration of a resolution authorizing the President to initiate military action against Iraq. Paul was in the final weeks of a very tough reelection contest against my distinguished colleague from Minnesota who is presiding at this moment, and many of his friends and political advisers were urging Paul to support this resolution. Doing so, they said, would assure his victory. Voting against it, they warned, could seal his defeat.

Paul was still wrestling with this decision when an article appeared in one of the Capitol press reports which quoted an unnamed Senate aide as saying the Democratic caucus was trying to devise a political cover to help Paul and others in close reelections finesse this tough vote.

At a caucus meeting later that day, Paul was as furious as I had ever seen him. He wasn't seeking anyone's cover, he fumed. He had never tried to duck a difficult vote, and he refused to do so now. He finished by saying: Whether Minnesotans agree with my decisions or not, they know I am doing what I believe is right. If I lose that trust, I have lost everything.

He left the meeting and went straight to the Senate floor and gave a powerful speech announcing he would vote against any resolution which gave the President complete and unilateral authority to start the war in Iraq.

In the following days, his last days on Earth, Paul was the most relaxed and upbeat I had seen him since his reelection campaign began. He was, of course, delighted with what he said were poll numbers which had boosted his standing after making that speech but, more importantly, he knew he had done what he believed was right. Principle had again prevailed over expediency. His integrity, his courage to stand up for his convictions, and his inspiring eloquence in speaking the truth were the essence of what he offered to the voters of Minnesota, and he knew

he had reestablished that connection, that special bond that he and only he had with so many Minnesotans.

He boarded that plane a year ago tomorrow, hopeful and optimistic of a victory in 11 days. That we will never know. But I say: Paul, you were right. You were and you always will be a winner.

Ernest Hemmingway, in his book "Farewell to Arms," wrote:

Few men are willing to brave the disapproval of their fellows, the censure of their colleagues, the wrath of their society. Moral courage is a rarer commodity than bravery in battle or great intelligence. Yet it is the one essential vital quality of those who seek to change a world which yields most painfully to change.

The Senate body recognized Paul's rare greatness last year by authorizing \$10 million for a project selected by Paul and Sheila's two surviving sons, David and Mark Wellstone, the Neighborhood House in St. Paul. Mr. President, \$8.9 million was appropriated for fiscal year 2003 through the good efforts of my colleague, Senator COLEMAN. He and I share the hope that the remaining \$1.1 million, to fulfill the Senate's commitment, will be appropriated for fiscal year 2004. It is a wonderful project, and it will benefit many people in Paul and Sheila's name for many years to come.

We can do something even more significant, even more befitting Paul's memory. We can pass the legislative initiative that was closest to his heart and to which he devoted himself in the last 5 years of his life, and that is mental health parity.

Senator DOMENICI, whose personal dedication to this just cause equals Paul's, has carried that torch forward. He has been joined by Senator KENNEDY who, like Paul, has also championed so many efforts to help those among us who are most in need. Senator DOMENICI informed me this week he is optimistic the bill will be considered by the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee within the next 2 weeks, and hopefully will be passed out of that committee and put on the Senate calendar where it might even be taken up and acted upon this year.

That is incredibly good news for Paul and Sheila's families for whom this means so much. It is incredibly good news to the many organizations throughout the country that have joined to help support and enact this critically important and needed legislation. It is most incredibly good news to the many Americans who will benefit from it, who will finally have access to the health care they need at prices they can afford.

Even then, however, the bill faces major obstacles. The House leadership is reportedly opposed to it; the White House is supposedly against it; the insurance companies hate it; and many health care providers would also prefer that it just not be passed.

So nothing has changed down here, Paul. It is the same battle: Profits for

the bigger fellows versus services for the little fellows. Only this time, Paul Wellstone will not be able to champion the cause for the little fellows. He cannot come to this Senate floor every month, week, or even every day, if necessary, to remind us, to challenge us, to cajole us, to do what is best for most of our constituents. So all of us must do it without him and do it for him. Surely we can find it within ourselves to vote once for something to which Paul gave his entire life, and his life itself.

So, my friend and colleague, we will go on missing you. We will do our best without you to advance the causes which you have championed.

Somehow saying "rest in peace" does not seem to fit your style. So instead, I hope there is a great debating hall up in heaven, that you are seated with other great Senate voices such as Daniel Webster and Henry Clay. I hope your microphone cord is long enough for you to roam while you speak and that there are no time agreements limiting debate. Please keep your eye on the rest of us down here and, if you can, send us a little of your wisdom and your inspiration, especially when we face the choices between principles and expediency, profits and people, between what is easiest for us and what is best for everyone else, the people we are elected to serve. Keep reminding us, if you will, that as once said, inasmuch as ye have done so unto the least of these thy brethren, ye have done so unto me.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. DOLE). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and former colleague, Paul Wellstone. I know we have just heard from the distinguished Senator from Minnesota, and I listened carefully to his message. He conveyed so much of what we all feel.

The Senator from Minnesota had the privilege of knowing Paul Wellstone very well, and that was indeed a privilege because everybody with whom he worked knew what an unusual and—I will use a trite word—fantastic fellow he was as a person.

It hardly seems possible that a year has passed since we received the terrible news that Paul and Sheila, his beloved wife—they were a great team—their daughter Marcia, and loyal staff members Tom Lopic, Mary McEvoy, and Will McLaughlin were also lost in that tragic plane crash. The crash also claimed the lives of the two pilots, Richard Conry and Michael Guess.

This weekend marks the first anniversary of this immeasurable loss to

our country, and we pause for a moment to honor the memory of these extraordinary individuals. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families and their loved ones.

Paul and Sheila Wellstone devoted their lives to giving a voice to the voiceless. He saw his mission in the Senate and his life as comforting the afflicted and, when necessary, afflicting the comfortable. That was Paul Wellstone in a nutshell. In social justice circles, it is called speaking truth to power.

Everyone admired Paul for the fact that he spoke from his heart. He cast his votes in this Chamber based on his deep beliefs. He had a strong moral compass, unwavering in his convictions, never changing his message to please any particular audience. One of his favorite expressions in that connection was an old Jewish proverb that you cannot dance at two weddings at the same time. He was always answering to the mission that he believed could mean something to most people.

He conformed his style somewhat after coming to the Senate, but he never sold out. He always had that kind of impish look, a half smile on his face, but often at the same time with a deeply furrowed brow. He never joined the establishment. He just had diplomatic relations with it.

During his time in the Senate, Paul led legislative battles to make health care more accessible, protect seniors' pensions from corporate raiders, and authored historic ethics and lobbying reform legislation that is now the law of the land. He has forever changed how we do business here on Capitol Hill.

He and Sheila were leaders in combating the scourge of domestic violence. Sheila was a working member of Paul's office and became a respected national voice in her own right as she traveled the country, dedicating herself to this important cause. In the year 2000, Paul teamed with his colleagues on the other side of the aisle to pass historic bipartisan legislation to prevent the international sex trafficking of women and girls, establishing the first ever penalty for those so despicable as to enslave and traffic in other people.

He teamed with our colleague, Senator DOMENICI, to require health insurance companies to provide more equitable coverage and benefits to people suffering from mental illness. It was the right thing to do, it was the fair thing to do, and he prevailed.

It is my hope that before the end of this Congress we are going to honor Paul Wellstone's fighting, fair-minded spirit by passing the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Parity Act into law. It would also be the right thing to do.

Paul Wellstone deeply loved his country and, speaking from my view of Paul Wellstone, his country loved him. Many people who did not know him as we had the privilege of doing, would so much respect him from hearing his

fiery oration about what was right. And he stood up to anybody. He was willing to be the odd person out when it came to issues of significance. He wanted them always to be right.

He demanded that we be the best that we can be and was never more passionate than when he was trying to right a wrong, holding up a mirror to a government that has not always kept its promises—especially to its veterans. Paul worked tirelessly on behalf of veterans, helping to pass legislation to aid homeless veterans and to secure compensation for atomic veterans suffering from cancers due to radiation exposure during their military service.

In Paul's words:

I am very proud that atomic veterans and their families will finally get the VA benefits and compensation they deserve, and also the recognition of the terrible personal sacrifices that they made on behalf of the nation, so long denied to them.

He continued:

This has been a long fight, but one that was well worth it. This was a victory, not only for atomic veterans, it was a victory for justice, and for all of our Nation's citizen-soldiers. America is a safer place because of it.

One of the last votes Paul cast in this Chamber was for a multilateral approach to our situation in Iraq. During the debate, he argued as follows:

Acting now on our own might be a sign of our power. Acting sensibly and in a measured way, in concert with our allies, with bipartisan congressional support, would be a sign of our strength.

Paul Wellstone will long be remembered for his strength: for his strength of mind, strength of spirit, and the steely tenacity and strength of his convictions. What gifts he gave to us all. He will forever be missed.

I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. REED. Madam President, I rise today to commemorate the life of Senator Paul Wellstone and to urge the Senate Republican leadership to pave the way for the expeditious passage of the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Parity Act.

Earlier this week, I joined a number of my colleagues in sending a letter to the majority leader, urging him to set aside other business yesterday so we could take up and pass this very important legislation. I regret that could not be accomplished yesterday.

This Saturday, October 25, marks the 1-year anniversary of the tragic death of our dear colleague, Paul Wellstone, his lovely wife Sheila, and six others: his daughter Marcia; Mary McEvoy of St. Paul, a professor of educational psychology at the University of Minnesota and also the associate chair-

woman of the State Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party; Tom Lopic, of Eden Prairie—Tom was Senator Wellstone's deputy State director and long-time associate and aide, and William McLaughlin, a 23-year-old who was Senator Wellstone's personal assistant and driver.

All of these individuals were dedicated, passionate public servants who shared Paul Wellstone's vision, his dedication and commitment to a better America, a place where opportunity was the heritage of all. For anyone who had the honor to serve with Paul and to see him here, his image and his memory still linger in this Chamber. To see him passionately and fearlessly fight for people—and not the wealthiest, but poorest, those who needed an opportunity to move ahead—that image of him stays with me and stays with so many of my colleagues.

Many times we would not agree. Many times we would differ. But no one in this Chamber doubted his passion, his commitment, and his selfless dedication to this country. He challenged us. In fact, Paul probably challenged his colleagues more than any other Member.

He would speak here when it was inopportune and inconvenient for him, but he would do it because he felt a commitment and a need to speak, to give voice to those who were voiceless in this country.

He believed the Government had not only the obligation but also the ability to help people—not just to cradle them from birth through their lives but to give them opportunities and skills so they could use these skills to better themselves and better the Nation.

He was enthusiastic about helping people lift themselves out of poverty, about bringing justice to those who had been victimized, and hope to those who were desperate.

He cared about all the issues that are before us in the Senate. But one issue he cared so much about, for which he advocated so strenuously and which he articulated so passionately, was the fact that our mental health system needs additional improvement; that there is disparity between the treatment given to those with physical pain and treatments given to those individuals with mental anguish.

He also was passionate in denouncing the stigma we attach to mental illness too often in this country. He fought effectively, and his efforts culminated in 1996 with the original Mental Health Parity Act. It was thought that this historic bill that would put mental health services on the same level as physical health services by essentially telling insurers whatever you do in terms of physical health problems you must also do in terms of mental health problems. However, it was discovered after passage of the Act that insurance companies and others were able to find ways to circumvent the law, so additional efforts would be necessary.

He stood up, along with our colleague and our friend Senator PETE DOMENICI

of New Mexico, to lead the fight to make the parity law of 1996 even better, more effective, and stronger.

Last summer it appeared we were on the verge of a breakthrough when President Bush indicated he supported this concept of a mental health parity standard. Yet we are still without effective action.

I was very pleased to join Senator DOMENICI, Senator KENNEDY, and others to sign on to the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act in honor of our esteemed colleague. But today, despite having 66 cosponsors, this legislation has not been brought to the floor of the Senate. We are indeed seeing tremendous strains on our health care system, but this is one of the most critical problems. There are those who say it is going to cost too much if we address mental health parity seriously. My argument is the costs today are immense, and if we don't deal with these mental health issues, it will continue to grow.

In my State of Rhode Island, we have a very active community mental health system. I suggest we probably have saved dollars over the course of the last couple of decades. But we can't do this unless we have a commitment to parity between physical health issues and mental health issues.

The majority leader has indicated that his preference is to do this through the committee process. We have a markup scheduled for next Wednesday on health care issues. That would be the ideal opportunity to schedule the Paul Wellstone legislation and do our best to pass it. Working with the majority leader and the chairman of the HELP committee, I hope we can do that, or certainly at the earliest possible opportunity have committee action to take up the Paul Wellstone bill.

There is one other area which Senator Wellstone was passionate about. In fact, I can hear him now. His desk was right behind me. He would prowl up and down the corridor, and go as far as the cord would let him go. He would speak out. One issue on which he spoke so eloquently was the issue of funding education—the No Child Left Behind Act. He was one of the few dissenters. He said prophetically this might be a good plan, but without resources it wouldn't work. Ironically, today we struggle to get those resources. He would say, we can't reform education on a tin cup. Unfortunately, we still seem to be passing around that tin cup rather than funding education robustly as we must.

I hope we can move aggressively on the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Parity Act. I hope also we can find those resources to fund education and the No Child Left Behind Act. In doing that, we will pay tribute to a Senator who honored us and honored his country with his public service.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I join with my colleagues here on the Senate floor today to mark the 1-year anniversary of the tragic death of our friend and beloved colleague, Paul Wellstone, and his wife Sheila.

As I look around the Chamber here in the Senate today, I see men and women of remarkable talents and ability. It is kind of a family here in the Senate. Regardless of our ideological beliefs or party preferences, we all understand what we went through to get here and how we work and what we have to do. We have our differences. We meet, we argue, and we vote. But underneath it all, the Senate is kind of a family. That is good. Like all families, we may have our squabbles, but like a family, I have a strong sense there is kind of a void in our midst. A very special Senator, a Member who played a unique role in this body, is missing. It is as though we are suffering from the phantom-limb syndrome. The phantom-limb syndrome is when a person loses a limb, and even as time goes on, sometimes it feels like it is there. When an issue of moral urgency and an issue of conscience comes to the Senate floor, I still expect to see Paul standing over there chopping the air with his hands, speaking with his own unique special passion, and urging us to do the right thing. Yes, it is like we have the phantom-limb syndrome. Once in a while, you expect to hear Paul speaking out here. He was truly the soul of the Senate.

No one wore the title of Senator better or used it less. He loved ordinary folks. Strangers would come up to him and call him Paul. I can't tell you how many times I would walk off the Senate floor and down the steps with him. We would go together back to the Hart Building or someplace. Policemen would come up. They might say Senator HARKIN, but they always called him Paul. People working on the grounds called him Paul. He took that as a sign that ordinary people knew he was one of them; that he was approachable; that he cared, all of which was Paul Wellstone to the core.

Paul had so many friends in my State of Iowa. Iowans knew him personally, and many more Iowans felt they knew him personally. I often said before his death and after that he was one of my best friends in and out of the State. But in truth, Paul Wellstone was one of those rare souls who so many saw as their best friend.

He had a powerful authenticity about him that made a miner on the Iron Range know he was as important to Paul as the President of the United States. Paul never had to proclaim his decency. It shone forth in great acts of political courage and in small acts of human kindness. He never had to say he cared. He never had to proclaim his compassion. We saw these qualities in him every day in dozens of ways—from his passionate speeches here on the Senate floor, standing up for those who otherwise had no voice, to the count-

less people he reached out to hug and to hear and to help all across Minnesota and all across the Nation.

Thirty years later, he retraced Robert Kennedy's journey to places of hunger and hurt in the heart of America. The hard-working folks he cared about most didn't have lobbyists or influence or money. But they had Paul Wellstone, and he truly was their best friend.

Paul always had a great sense of humor and a sense of perspective. He never took himself too seriously. One of his favorite stories, which I heard him tell many times, was the story of one of his early Senate speeches which he thought was rather eloquent and passionate. You can read about it in his book, "Conscience of a Liberal." Our friend, the senior Senator from South Carolina, who sits across the aisle from me, FRITZ HOLLINGS, approached him after the speech and said, "Young man, you remind me of Hubert Humphrey." Paul, as he told the story, swelled up with pride and thought this was wonderful until Senator HOLLINGS said, "You talk too much." Paul would love to tell that story. He would get that big grin and his eyes would squint and he would roar with laughter. As I said, he never took himself seriously.

Paul may have talked a lot, but he meant every word. He showed us that way to lead is by following your conscience. When injustice was proposed or unfairness was advancing or selfishness was on the march, Paul would go into battle. It was OK with him if he went into battle all by himself. Paul Wellstone may have suffered from a bad back, but he had a spine of steel.

Paul was the soul of the Senate. He believed politics could truly be a noble profession, putting principle above polls. Sometimes he cast votes that even some of his friends disagreed with—on war, welfare, education. And when he did, he was the mirror in which we, his colleagues, looked at ourselves and searched our own hearts as to the correctness of our own positions.

So 1 year later, we remember this political science professor whose measure of truth was never in political theory but in the impact our decisions have on real people. We remember the community organizer, the farm organizer, who understood how to bring people together, rural and urban, environmentalists and labor, Republicans and Democrats and, as I have often said, even Minnesotans and Iowans. We remember a leader, a proud Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, a liberal who constantly reminded those who are Democrats that the real center of gravity of our party, the progressive ground of our being, is everyone should have a chance to reach their full potential.

We remember a man of principle who for all his convictions also had the rarest of gifts in politics: Paul actually sometimes came to the conclusion that the other person was right. He could partner with TED KENNEDY or PETE

DOMENICI. He could fearlessly oppose Senator Jesse Helms' views yet become Jesse Helms' friend. It was all perfectly consistent with his guiding star. The decency Paul Wellstone demanded of society was the decency he lived out in his own life.

Paul once said politics is about what we create about what we do, what we hope for, and what we dare to imagine. Paul Wellstone did not just dare to imagine a better America, he helped to build one. Sure, he was willing to fight the lonely fight if he thought it was the right thing to do, but he also knew how to turn idealism into ideas and ideas into actions to improve people's lives: investing in education, expanding health care, fighting killer diseases like Parkinson's, helping homeless veterans and veterans exposed to radiation. Thanks to his hard work in the Senate, farmers have a better future. Because of what he demanded, mental illness will some day be treated equally in our health care system. Because of who he married, Sheila, and because of Sheila's passionate charge, more women and children will find safe harbor from the scourge of domestic abuse.

Paul was a hopeful man. His campaign colors were always green. I always thought that was the color of springtime. It is also the color of hope. This picture captures Paul and Sheila Wellstone, standing on that green bus with all kinds of people around him, smiling, with Sheila standing by his side, and the American flag over his head waving proudly, with a big smile on his face. That was Paul Wellstone.

He bought this bus 13 years ago and used it in his campaigns time and time again. I often said he got that bus on his journey to build a better America. But he never wanted to be on the bus by himself. He never meant it to be a solo voyage. He wanted us all on board that bus.

Although Paul is no longer with us, we all must get on that bus, the bus of hope, the bus leading to a better America, a bus that is on a journey for justice, equality, a bus that is on a journey to ensure every individual in our society, no matter the circumstances of birth, has the potential to reach his or her full potential.

As we listen to the tributes this morning, it is clear our memories of Paul Wellstone remain rich and warm. His spirit is still very much with us. He still inspires us. He still calls us to conscience. He still makes us smile when we think of his puckish humor.

Today, 1 year later, let's agree that our period of grieving has passed. The darkness has dissipated. What remains is the light Paul radiated every day in this Chamber. He was truly the finest of human nature.

In addition to Paul and Sheila, six other wonderful people died in that plane crash 1 year ago. Paul would not want us 1 year later to just remember him or to just remember him and Sheila, because as he always said, we are all

part of his family, the campaign workers, the people who flew him around. So we remember them, too: Their daughter, Marcia; Tom Lopic, who died, and was Paul's long-time trusted aide and served many years in Paul's Senate offices here in Washington and St. Paul. We remember and miss Tom today. He was also a member of our Senate family. We remember Mary McEvoy, a professor of early childhood education at the University of Minnesota, always by Sheila Wellstone's side; Will McLaughlin, 23 years old, Paul's driver. Again, Paul always reached out to bring young people into politics. We remember the two pilots, Richard Conry and Michael Guess, of that ill-fated plane.

Finally, there is one piece of Paul's legacy that is not complete, and it has been spoken of by the Senator from Minnesota, Mr. DAYTON, and I just heard Senator REED speak about it, and I know Senator LAUTENBERG spoke about it: the issue of mental health parity. Paul worked tirelessly to overcome the barriers to mental health treatment. Specifically, he championed legislation that would require group health plans to treat mental health benefits as generously as they do surgical or medical benefits. If Paul were here this morning, he would remind us how crucially important this is to millions of Americans. He and Sheila never faltered on this issue.

I can think of no better way to honor Paul's memory and to complete his legacy than to pass the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act in this Congress. This bill passed the Senate overwhelmingly in the last Congress. It was attached to the appropriations bill in Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee. We took it to conference and the conferees would not agree to adopt it, but we were given assurances this would be addressed. Paul Wellstone was given assurances this would be addressed, that we would pass it in a form—maybe not in an appropriations bill—but pass it in a form that would then go to the House.

The bill today is supported by an overwhelming number of Senators. Madam President, 67 Senators now are supporting this bill, Republicans and Democrats, including 18 Republicans—at least that is my count on it anyway. So with that many supporting the bill, you would think we would not have much problem getting it through. The American people want this bill desperately. They have waited too long for its passage.

According to the Surgeon General's report, mental disorders collectively account for 15 percent of the overall burden of disease from all causes, and it is even more than the burden associated with all forms of cancer in our society. And yet, how many people burdened with mental disorders cannot get the help they need because their insurance carrier does not cover it and they cannot afford it?

We all know what happens. We know what happens when people have mental problems and they are not treated—things degenerate, families break up, domestic abuse happens, people lose their lives. Sometimes people are thrown in prison for long periods of time because in the beginning they did not get mental health treatment.

I have seen some figures that indicate that close to half of the people serving long-term prison sentences today are there because they have mental disorders—depression, schizophrenia, bipolar illnesses—which led them through a series of stages that culminated in probably some heinous crime. But in the beginning they did not get the mental health they needed.

So we have waited too long. It is critical we find an opportunity to bring up this bill and pass it before we adjourn this year.

Next week, the HELP Committee, of which I am a member, will be marking up legislation that will provide for parity in insurance coverage for recreational activities, such as riding a motorcycle or skiing. In other words, your insurance carrier has to give you the same coverage for any kind of injury that would happen to you if you were skiing or riding a motorcycle, or something like that, as if it happened purely accidentally some other way. It begs credulity that somehow we can cover that but cannot give mental health parity to people who, through no fault of their own, are suffering from mental illness in our country.

It is this Senator's intention to try to attach this bill to this piece of legislation. We have waited too long. I have been hearing all year that soon we are going to bring up this bill. We have 67 Senators on it. We have waited too long. It is the legacy of Paul Wellstone. We are going to get it passed. And yet, days go by, weeks go by, months go by, and nothing happens.

Now, I am too respectful of the Senate and of the agreements that are reached here to ask unanimous consent that we bring it up and pass it today. Some have suggested we do that in honor of Paul Wellstone, but I know that most Senators are not present. We are not voting today.

But I will say this. There will be some time before we leave this year when I intend to bring up the Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act and seek a vote on it, either through committee or on the floor, and somehow try to get it into a conference with the House before the year ends.

President Bush said last spring that he supported mental health parity. So if the White House supports it and the President supports it, and we have so many Senators and Members of the House support it, what is stopping us?

I know some of the big insurance companies and others are kind of opposed to it, but all of the studies we have seen show this is cost-effective. According to SAMHSA, undertreated and untreated mental disorders are

costing this Nation over \$200 billion a year in lost work, crimes, and incarceration. It is a huge impact on our society, and we have to respond. That is why we have to bring up this bill and get it passed.

I can think of no better time in which to talk about it—and to state, unequivocally, we are going to have a vote on this bill this year—than on this the first anniversary of the death of our beloved colleague, Paul Wellstone, his wife, and those who were with them on that tragic day.

Madam President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, a number of us have come to the floor today to remember and celebrate someone most of us knew and many of us loved. Paul Wellstone believed that politics is about more than money; it is about more than power. As he said so often, in the last analysis politics is what we create by what we do, by what we hope for, by what we dare to imagine. Paul Wellstone dared to imagine so much.

There is a quote he loved from the famous abolitionist, Wendell Phillips. One day, after Phillips had given a speech, a friend told him: Wendell, you were on fire.

Phillips replied: Brother, I'm on fire because I have mountains of ice before me to melt.

Paul Wellstone saw good in everyone, including people whose politics he disagreed with strongly and who disagreed just as strongly with him, but Paul also saw injustice and he had the fire and the conviction to end it.

He used his wit, his charm, his astonishing organizing abilities and every ounce of his hyperkinetic energy to fight for people with few champions in places of power. He fought for family farmers on the edge of foreclosure. He fought for workers facing layoffs, for older people trying to decide which prescription to fill this month. He and Sheila, his indispensable partner, fought for women and children threatened by violence. He fought for teachers and coal miners, for Vietnam veterans. He fought for immigrant parents who work at less than minimum wage jobs and who worry about not being able to give their children what they need. He listened to them and looked them in the eye, and when he did he used to say he saw his own parents. He gave voice to the voiceless. He demanded fairness for those to whom life had been unfair. He gave people hope and courage.

He himself had that rarest sort of courage. It was a moral courage. Even when he knew the vote was likely to be

99 to 1, he was not afraid to speak and vote his conscience. It was a reflection of his respect for the people who elected him, that he trusted they would respect him for doing what he believed was right.

Saturday we mark the 1-year anniversary of the plane crash on the Iron Range that claimed the lives of Paul and Sheila Wellstone, their beloved middle child, Marcia Wellstone Marcus, their campaign aides and friends, Mary McEvoy, Tom Lopic, Will McLaughlin, and their pilots, Richard Conry and Michael Guess.

To keep their parents' work alive, Paul and Sheila's other two children, Mark and David, have started a progressive democracy organization. Through their advocacy, which they call, appropriately, Wellstone Action, the spirit of Paul and Sheila is very much alive.

If you go to the Wellstone Action Web site, you can read hundreds of messages from people the Wellstones inspired. One is from John Nichols, the editorial page editor of *The Capital Times* newspaper in Madison, WI, and the Washington correspondent for *The Nation* magazine. Mr. Nichols was in rural Wisconsin at a conference of family farm advocates. He had just finished giving the keynote address about the need for activists to go into politics when the news came. When he told the audience, he wrote:

Cries of, "No" and "My God, my God" filled the room. Grown men felt for tables to keep their balance. Husbands and wives hugged one another and everyone began an unsuccessful effort to choke back tears. People wept in silence until finally a woman began to recite the Lord's Prayer for the son of Russian Jewish immigrants who had touched the lives and heart of solid Midwestern Catholic and Lutheran farmers who do not think of themselves as having many friends in Congress."

Another message is from a man who was a junior at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota. When he volunteered to help on Paul's first and improbable Senate campaign in 1990, they met when Paul visited the campus for a Fourth of July parade. He writes:

It was stifling hot that day in St. Cloud—at least 95 degrees with stick-to-your-shirt humidity. The plan was for the two staffers and me to hand out Wellstone literature while Paul would walk along and wave to the crowd. Much to my amazement, Paul proceeded to run—not walk, not even jog, but to run from left to right, for the entire two-mile route, which took about an hour to complete—trying to shake the hand of every single parade-goer.

Almost no one knew who he was—and most probably weren't likely Wellstone voters, anyway. Didn't matter. He even said that to people . . .

"Vote for me or vote for someone else. Just make sure you vote in November." He was always moving, always smiling, always talking.

This former campaign volunteer wrote that when he got back to his dorm room he called a few friends and told them: You wouldn't believe the guy I just met. I don't think he has a prayer of winning but, by God, it is not going to be for lack of effort.

In the last few years Paul didn't run much. He had that pronounced limp that he and his doctors first attributed to old wrestling injuries but that turned out to be a symptom of multiple sclerosis. Even though he was in pain most of the time, his illness never dulled his sense of humor. He joked that at least he had gotten a progressive disease.

His efforts never flagged. Until the end he gave every ounce of energy he had to try to bring hope and help to others.

I have been told there is a tradition in Judaism, on the first anniversary of the death of someone you love, you pray his soul will find proper rest. Well, I loved—I loved Paul Wellstone. But it is still hard to imagine him at rest. I know, with absolute certainty, he would not want us to mark this first anniversary by resting or by talking. How many times did we hear Paul say:

Intentions are good. But it's not intentions that count. What counts is action.

One of the injustices that made Paul Wellstone the most angry, that offended him the most deeply, was the stigma attached to mental illness and the discrimination and suffering people with mental health problems suffer as a result of that stigma. He thought it was cruel that people with mental health problems very often received lesser care than those with physical health problems. He was outraged by the terrible toll such discrimination often takes on the people with mental illness, and their families.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 486

So, Madam President, now, in the name of Paul Wellstone, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 486, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act, the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

I am told at the request and on behalf of the majority leader and others on the Republican side, there is an objection to this legislation. I acknowledge that and I present that objection on behalf of the majority leader at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. DASCHLE. Words alone are just not a fitting tribute to Paul Wellstone. It is the action that counts. I was deeply moved by Senator DOMENICI's beautiful eulogy for Paul last fall at the memorial for the Wellstones in Washington. In that eulogy Senator DOMENICI vowed to do everything he could to pass the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act this year. He has worked very hard to keep that promise and we thank him for it. He and Senator KENNEDY introduced the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act 8 months ago in the early days of this session. Unfortunately, despite the efforts of Senators DOMENICI and KENNEDY and many others, despite the support of 66 Senators,

two-thirds of this Senate, including the distinguished Presiding Officer, despite the fact that the Senate voted overwhelmingly last year to pass this measure as an amendment to the Labor-HHS appropriations bill, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act remains stuck in committee today because of opposition from the insurance industry and its backers.

The insurance industry claims incorrectly that requiring insurers to treat mental illness the same way as they treat physical illness will drive up premiums so high that more people will lose their health insurance. That is not true. Those are the same kinds of scare tactics we have heard from that industry on other occasions.

As another of our departed friends, Senator Moynihan, used to say, everyone is entitled to their own opinion but they are not entitled to their own set of facts.

The truth is, two highly respected organizations have analyzed the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act. The private accounting firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers predicts the bill would increase health insurance premiums by 1 percent—1 percent. That works out to \$1.32 per month. I think most families would think that was a very good deal. The Congressional Budget Office predicts an even smaller increase, nine-tenths of 1 percent.

We also know from experience that requiring mental health parity in insurance has a negligible, if any, effect on premiums.

In 1999, President Clinton signed an executive order giving the 8 million Federal workers in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Plan the same protections the Wellstone bill would extend to others.

On the website of the Federal Office of Personnel Management, there is a list of "frequently asked questions" about mental health and substance abuse parity under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Plan. This is what that website says:

Recent advancements in the treatment and management of mental illness have left no justifiable rationale for disparate treatment of mental illness. The National Institutes of Mental Health informed us that most diagnoses have well-established biological bases, diagnoses are reliable, and treatment is effective and affordable.

The website goes on to say:

A growing body of research and actual industry experiences indicate that parity can be implemented without substantially increasing premiums, as long as it is coupled with efforts to manage the benefits.

Those are the facts.

In 1996, Congress passed the Mental Health Parity Act, which was also sponsored by Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici. The 1996 act says that group health plans sponsored by employers with 50 or more workers cannot place annual or lifetime dollar limits on mental health benefits that are more restrictive than their limits for physical health care.

Paul Wellstone and PETE DOMENICCI may have seemed like unlikely allies to some, but they shared a deep bond. They had both seen close family members struggle with serious mental illness.

So have many others. Fifty-four million Americans suffer from mental illness.

They include Republicans, Democrats and people who don't care a whit about party labels. No family is untouched by mental illness.

Four days ago I received an email from a man in Sioux Falls. His name is Jamie Snyder.

His wife Bonnie suffered severe abuse in her first marriage and, as a result, she suffers from post traumatic stress disorder. Nine years ago, her doctor and two other doctors—including the head of the American Psychological Association in South Dakota—said she needed to be hospitalized.

Unfortunately, a doctor who worked for Jamie Snyder's employer, which was self-insured—a doctor who was hundreds of miles away in another State and who never laid eyes on Bonnie Snyder—ruled that she didn't need to be hospitalized. So the Snyder's were left with an \$8,000 hospital bill.

Jamie Snyder tried for years to resolve this dispute with his employer. When that failed, he hired an attorney and went to court—only to be told that he couldn't bring a claim because too much time had passed.

Then he started getting calls from bill collectors. In desperation, he signed an agreement with a collection agency that charges exorbitant interest rates. If he misses a payment for any reason, the agency garnishes his wages and adds huge penalties.

Since 1996, Jamie Snyder has paid \$8,000 on his initial \$8,000 bill. Yet today, he still owes the collection agency \$15,950.

Bonnie Snyder still suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, and now, on top of that, depression and agoraphobia. But she doesn't want to get counseling because she doesn't want to add to her family's debt.

The irony is that she has been on full disability since 1992. The government would rather pay her disability every month than see that she gets the help she needs to return to work and a full life.

Another family in Sioux Falls has a daughter who was always outgoing, socially active—a straight-A student. When she was a freshman in high school, she won debate competitions.

When she was a sophomore, she told her mother, "I'm a failure" and admitted she had thought about suicide. It took 4 months to get an appointment with a psychiatrist. Eventually, the young woman received treatment in another State. She was diagnosed with bipolar disorder.

Despite that diagnosis, the insurance company refused to pay for her treatment, so her mother was forced to take

out a \$20,000 mortgage on their home. After a long fight, the insurance company finally paid the bill.

Today, that young woman is a freshman in college. Medications help her control her illness. But they cost \$3,000 a month.

She will probably need to take the medications for the rest of her life.

She is covered under her mother's health plan—for now. But that won't always be the case.

She and her mother worry about what will happen when she has to leave her mother's policy. Will she be able to get affordable insurance on her own?

If so, will it pay for the mental health care she needs to stay healthy?

That young woman knows about the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act. She tracks its progress on the Internet.

She is counting on us to do the right thing and help end the stigma and discrimination that makes it even harder for her to live with a tough disease.

There is another young woman in college who is watching what we do on this bill. I know her. Her name is Erica Gitis-Miles. She is a junior at South Dakota State University, my alma mater.

Erica's birth mother drank heavily during her pregnancy and Erica has fetal alcohol syndrome as a result. Erica was neglected by her birth mother and severely abused by her birth mother's boyfriend. She was in and out of 13 foster care placements by the time she was 4 years old. She was adopted into a loving home when she was 7.

Fetal alcohol syndrome causes serious brain damage. Most people struck with that illness also have serious mental health problems.

Erica suffers recurrent depression. A year ago, during a serious depression, Erica cut herself. The doctors who treated her decided that she might be a danger to herself, so Erica was ordered held in a mental health unit for 72 hours.

Her parent's insurance company refused to pay for the hospitalization. They said Erica chose to hurt herself, so it was not their responsibility to pay for her care. So Erica and her parents are stuck with the bill.

She says she is fortunate. Her father is a medical doctor. But she worries about all the families who aren't able to help themselves as they helped her. Who, she asks, will help them?

The Mental Health Parity Act of 1996 was an important step forward. But we know that discrimination persists. Insurers have found new ways to restrict mental health benefits.

They continue to discriminate by limiting visits, and requiring higher co-pays and deductibles. And some even continue to impose lower annual and lifetime spending limits for mental illness—and make little effort to deny it.

The results can be devastating: unemployment, broken homes, shattered

lives, poverty, poor school performance—even suicide.

A report earlier this year by the GAO showed that at least 12,000 parents a year are forced to give up custody of their children because they cannot get them the mental health care they need. What family values is that?

Wellstone Action has made passing the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act its sole legislative priority for this year.

The Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act also has the support of 274 national organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Alzheimer's Association, the National PTA, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Catholic Charities, The National Association of Counties, the American Medical Association, the American Nurses Association, the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, The Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, the National Rural Health Association, the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and many other groups.

I ask unanimous consent that the complete list be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at this time.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

274 ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THE WELLSTONE MENTAL HEALTH EQUITABLE TREATMENT ACT

Advocates for Youth  
Alliance for Aging Research  
Alliance for Children and Families  
Alliance For Mental Health Consumers Rights  
Alzheimer's Association  
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
American Academy of Physician Assistants  
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry  
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy  
American Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation  
American Association of Children's Residential Centers  
American Association of Pastoral Counselors  
American Association of Practicing Psychiatrists  
American Association of School Administrators  
American Association of Suicidology  
American Association on Mental Retardation  
American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work  
American College of Medical Genetics  
American College of Mental Health Administration  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American College of Physicians  
American Congress of Community Supports and Employment Services (ACCSES)  
American Counseling Association  
American Diabetes Association  
American Family Foundation  
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees  
American Federation of Teachers

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention  
 American Group Psychotherapy Association  
 American Heart Association  
 American Hospice Foundation  
 American Hospital Association  
 American Humane Association  
 American Jail Association  
 American Managed Behavioral Healthcare Association (AMBHA)  
 American Medical Association  
 American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association  
 American Medical Student Association  
 American Mental Health Counselors Association  
 American Music Therapy Association  
 American Network of Community Options and Resources  
 American Nurses Association  
 American Occupational Therapy Association  
 American Orthopsychiatric Association  
 American Osteopathic Association  
 American Pediatric Society  
 American Political Science Association  
 American Psychiatric Association  
 American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
 American Psychoanalytic Association  
 American Psychological Association  
 American Psychotherapy Association  
 American Public Health Association  
 American School Counselor Association  
 American School Health Association  
 American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry  
 American Society of Addiction Medicine  
 American Society of Clinical Pharmacology  
 American Therapeutic Recreation Association  
 American Thoracic Society  
 America's HealthTogether  
 Anna Westin Foundation  
 Anorexia Nervosa and Related Eating Disorders, Inc.  
 Anxiety Disorders Association of America  
 Association for the Advancement of Psychology  
 Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare  
 Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc.  
 Association for Science in Autism Treatment  
 Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations  
 Association of Jewish Aging Services of North America  
 Association of Jewish Family & Children's Agencies  
 Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs  
 Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
 Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
 Association to Benefit Children  
 Attention Deficit Disorders Association  
 Autism Society of America  
 Barbara Schneider Foundation  
 Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law  
 Brain Injury Association of America, Inc.  
 Camp Fire USA  
 The Carter Center  
 Catholic Charities USA  
 Center for the Advancement of Health  
 Center for Women Policy Studies  
 Center on Disability and Health  
 Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice  
 Central Conference of American Rabbis  
 Chicago Public Schools  
 Child & Adolescent Bipolar Foundation  
 Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder  
 Children's Defense Fund  
 Children's Healthcare Is a Legal Duty  
 Children's Hospital Boston  
 Child Welfare League of America  
 Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation  
 Church of the Brethren Washington Office  
 Clinical Social Work Federation  
 Coalition for Juvenile Justice  
 College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists  
 Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism  
 Corporation for the Advancement of Psychiatry  
 Council for Exceptional Children  
 Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation  
 Council on Social Work Education  
 County of Santa Clara, CA  
 Cure Autism Now  
 Dads and Daughters  
 Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance  
 Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, Inc.  
 Disability Service Providers of America  
 Division for Learning Disabilities (DLD) of the Council for Exceptional Children  
 Easter Seals  
 Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy & Action  
 Employee Assistance Professionals Association  
 Epilepsy Foundation  
 Families For Depression Awareness  
 Families USA  
 Family Violence Prevention Fund  
 Family Voices  
 Federation of American Hospitals  
 Federation of Behavioral, Psychological & Cognitive Sciences  
 Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health  
 Freedom From Fear  
 Friends Committee on National Legislation (Quaker)  
 Harvard Eating Disorders Center  
 Human Rights Campaign  
 Inclusion Research Institute  
 Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research  
 International Association of Jewish Vocational Services  
 International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services  
 International Community Corrections Association  
 International Dyslexia Association  
 International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses  
 Iris Alliance Fund  
 Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago  
 Johnson Institute  
 Kids Project  
 Kristen Watt Foundation for Eating Disorder Awareness  
 Latino Behavioral Health Association  
 Learning Disabilities Association of America  
 Legal Action Center  
 Lutheran Ofc. for Governmental Affairs, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
 Lutheran Services in America  
 Medicare Rights Center  
 MentalHealth AMERICA, Inc.  
 NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals  
 National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
 National Alliance for Autism Research  
 National Alliance for the Mentally Ill  
 National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Affective Disorders  
 National Alliance to End Homelessness  
 National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association  
 National Asian Women's Health Organization  
 National Assembly of Health and Human Service Organizations  
 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)  
 National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics & Prosthetics  
 National Association for Children's Behavioral Health  
 National Association for the Dually Diagnosed  
 National Association for Rural Mental Health  
 National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders—ANAD  
 National Association of Case Management  
 National Association of Children's Hospitals  
 National Association of Community Health Centers  
 National Association of Counties  
 National Association of County Behavioral Health Directors  
 National Association of County and City Health Officials  
 National Association of Developmental Disabilities Councils  
 National Association of Mental Health Planning & Advisory Councils  
 National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
 National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems  
 National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems  
 National Association of School Nurses  
 National Association of School Psychologists  
 National Association of Social Workers  
 National Association of State Directors of Special Education  
 National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors  
 National Center for Policy Research for Women & Families  
 National Center on Institutions and Alternatives  
 National Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
 National Coalition for the Homeless  
 National Coalition of Mental Health Consumers and Professionals  
 National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare  
 National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
 National Council of Jewish Women  
 National Council of La Raza  
 National Council on the Aging  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence  
 National Council on Family Relations  
 National Council on Problem Gambling  
 National Council on Suicide Prevention  
 National Down Syndrome Congress  
 National Down Syndrome Society  
 National Eating Disorders Association  
 National Educational Alliance for Borderline Personality Disorder  
 National Education Association  
 National Exchange Club Foundation  
 National Foundation for Depressive Illness  
 National Health Council  
 National Health Law Program  
 National Hispanic Medical Association  
 National Hopeline Network  
 National Housing Conference  
 National Latino Behavioral Health Association  
 National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty  
 National Leadership on African American Behavioral Health  
 National League of Cities  
 National Medical Association  
 National Mental Health Association  
 National Mental Health Awareness Campaign  
 National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
 National Network for Youth  
 National Organization for Rare Disorders  
 National Organization of People of Color Against Suicide  
 National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome  
 National Osteoporosis Foundation  
 National Partnership for Women and Families

National PTA  
 National Recreation and Park Association  
 National Rural Health Association  
 National Schizophrenia Foundation  
 National Senior Citizens Law Center  
 National Therapeutic Recreation Society  
 National Treatment and Research Advancements Association for Personality Disorder  
 Native American Counseling, Inc.  
 NETWORK, a Catholic Social Justice Lobby  
 NISH (National Industries for the Severely Handicapped)  
 Northamerican Association of Masters in Psychology  
 Obsessive Compulsive Foundation  
 Office & Professional Employees International Union  
 Older Adult Consumer Mental Health Alliance  
 Organization of Student Social Workers  
 Partnership for Recovery  
 People For the American Way  
 Presbyterian Church (USA), Washington Office  
 Prevent Child Abuse America  
 Rebecca Project for Human Rights  
 Renfrew Center Foundation  
 Samaritans Suicide Prevention Center  
 School Social Work Association of America  
 Service Employees International Union  
 Shaken Baby Alliance  
 Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation  
 Society for Adolescent Medicine  
 Society for Pediatric Research  
 Society for Personality Assessment  
 Society for Public Health Education  
 Society for Research on Child Development  
 Society for Social Work Research  
 Society for Women's Health Research  
 Society of Professors of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
 STOP IT NOW!  
 Suicide Awareness Voice of Education  
 Suicide Prevention Action Network USA  
 The Arc of the United States  
 Title II Community AIDS National Network  
 Tourette Syndrome Association  
 Treatment and Research Advancements Association for Personality Disorder  
 Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
 Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations  
 United Cerebral Palsy Association  
 United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministry  
 United Jewish Communities  
 United Methodist General Board of Church and Society  
 Volunteers of America  
 Wellstone Action  
 Working Assets  
 Women of Reform Judaism  
 Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program  
 Youth Law Center

Mr. DASCHLE. More than a year and a half ago, in a speech at the University of New Mexico with Senator DOMENICI by his side, President Bush said:

Our country must make a commitment: Americans with mental illness deserve our understanding and they deserve excellent care. They deserve a health care system that treats their illnesses with the same urgency as physical illness.

In the great consensus-seeking spirit of Paul Wellstone, I must say I agree with the President. I appreciate his words. But words alone will not solve this problem. We urge the President to join us, help us take up and pass the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act now, this year.

Paul was the champion of many causes, but no cause was more dear,

more personal to him than making sure people with mental illness are treated fairly, are treated with dignity. Intentions are fine, but it is the actions that count. Millions of American families are counting on us to act for mental health parity. Let us agree to do it now as a tribute to Paul Wellstone, and let us keep his spirit alive.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.  
 The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I come to the floor to close this week but more importantly to address and continue the comments and remarks that have been made with regard to the death on October 25th last year of Senator Paul Wellstone.

Senator Wellstone's plane, the plane he was flying in, was lost in the Minnesota wilderness on that day, October 25, with all eight passengers aboard, having lost their lives in a tragic accident: Senator Wellstone, his wife Shelia, his daughter Marcia, staff members, the two pilots.

Today, on the eve of that sad anniversary, we pause to remember Senator Wellstone and his remarkable, his tremendous contribution to this body and, indeed, to the United States of America.

I have tremendous respect for what he demonstrated both on the floor of the Senate and the many committee hearings we both attended, especially the Health, Education, Labor, and Pension Committee, where he focused so much of his attention and energy on mental health. I respected his tenacity, his intelligence, his commitment, his humor, his integrity.

He was a kind man, a gentle man, never mean-spirited or one to make personal attacks.

In this body, you look and you categorize certain people in terms of impressions. And the one word that summarizes my impression of Paul Wellstone is that he was a real idealist in the very best sense of the word—principled and tough, a stalwart defender of his ideals.

In Minnesota and across the country, people will be celebrating Paul with a Wellstone World Music Day tribute. Here in the Senate, I think it is fitting we also acknowledge Paul's tireless work on behalf of those for whom he fought from early in the morning till late at night, those people who suffer from mental illness. He was their unflagging champion and mightily advanced the concept of the cause which, as a physician, I cherish; that is, fairness and equity.

I share his commitment to this important issue, and I look forward to working with Senator DOMENICI and

Senators DASCHLE and KENNEDY; the chairman of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, Senator GREGG; indeed, all of my colleagues to ensure that mental health is appropriately addressed in this Congress.

I do join with my colleagues and the people of Minnesota in a real celebration of the life and the ideals of Senator Paul Wellstone. He was a wonderful man, a remarkable man, and an outstanding Senator.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, Paul Wellstone was an extraordinary leader with a common touch. His dedication to the well-being of average Americans was unparalleled in Congress. He believed that all of our citizens, no matter how humble their beginnings or difficult their plight, had an equal right to happy, healthy, and full lives.

There was no issue more dear to his heart than ensuring access to health care for people with mental illness. He spent so much of his time here in the Senate working to improve the care and treatment they receive. For them, Paul Wellstone was their champion, their Senator. And in the Senate, Paul was our conscience, our guiding light.

Paul worked with Senator PETE DOMENICI on legislation to end the shameful discrimination in our society against mental illness. After Senator Wellstone's tragic death one year ago, Senator DOMENICI has continued with great diligence to urge the Senate to act. But the bill, the Senator Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act, is still being held hostage by the insurance industry and their allies.

We know that large numbers of Americans across the country with mental illness constantly face stigma and misunderstanding because of their illness. Even worse, they are often denied the treatment that can cure or relieve their debilitating conditions because they are victims of discrimination too. It is unacceptable that we continue to tolerate actions by insurance companies that deny medical care for mental illness, even though the same insurers readily cover treatment for physical illnesses that are more costly, less debilitating, and less curable. Mental illnesses are often treatable and curable, and it's time to end the widespread discrimination against them.

Equal treatment of the mentally ill is not just an insurance issue. It is a civil rights issue, too. Mental health parity is an issue of simple justice. The need for action is clear. One in five Americans will suffer some form of mental illness this year—but only a third will receive treatment. According to a report of the Surgeon General, at least 4 million children suffer from a mental illness that results in significant impairments at home, at school, and with other children. Families must often make impossible choices about how to pay for the care their child needs to live a normal life.

It is tragic when a child is diagnosed with any illness. It is heart wrenching for parents to watch their children suffer. The tragedy is even greater when insurance companies deny treatment for a child solely because the illness is a mental illness. It's wrong for insurance companies to apply modern medicine to physical diseases, but leave mental health in the dark ages.

Earlier this year, we received petitions signed by 30,000 young people asking Congress to provide affordable coverage for mental health treatment. The petitions were signed at concerts held across the country to raise awareness for suicide prevention.

It is long past time to end insurance discrimination, and guarantee all those with mental illness the coverage they deserve. The American people should not have to wait any longer. Paul's committed family members should not have to wait any longer. The Senate should not continue to delay action on this bill. It is time to pass it, and bring first class medicine to millions of Americans who have been second class patients for too long.

Mr. CORZINE. Madam President, exactly 1 year ago tomorrow, October 25, our Nation lost Senator Paul Wellstone, a truly great American and a hero to many. I remember that tragic day as if it were yesterday. The initial shock and pain of losing Paul has been transformed into a profound sadness akin to losing a parent—a brother. You never forget what they meant to your life. A year ago and to this day, millions of Americans still grieve and share this deep sense of loss.

I served with Paul for only 2 short years, but in that brief time, he became one of my closest friends. His enthusiasm was infectious, his values, uncompromised and his honor, unquestioned. His loss was a personal and painful one for me, and I miss him every day.

Indeed, Paul's loss was a tragedy for the entire United States Senate. As most would agree, there was no Senator quite like Paul Wellstone. He was unique. He left a void in this body that no one will ever fill.

What was it about Paul that made him so unique? It's hard to point to any one thing.

Perhaps it was his sincerity. Paul was a real, genuine person who never tried to be someone other than who he was. He said what he thought. He was the same man in the back rooms as under the glaring lights of the Senate floor. Paul was Paul.

Perhaps it was his humility. To say that Paul didn't put on airs would be an understatement. There simply wasn't an ounce of pretense to Paul—none. He wasn't trying to impress anyone. He wasn't impressed with himself. He should have been, but he wasn't.

Perhaps it was his empathy. Paul cared about other people, and he cared deeply. He spent his life helping others. It's what made him tick. It's what drove his politics. It's how he lived his life.

Perhaps more than his sincerity, more than his humility, and even more than his empathy, what made Paul—Paul was his passion.

To this day, Paul Wellstone was the most passionate public servant I have ever met. In a day and age when it is difficult to reconcile a public servant's actions with their statements, Paul was truly unique. His stirring words—"We should never separate the lives we live from the words we speak" were the compass by which he set his course. He didn't just speak about helping others, he did it. He didn't just preach about righting wrongs, he did it. He wasn't just talking about the need for social justice, human rights, civil rights, workers' rights, health care, education, environmental protection, and political reform. Paul was the most committed, compassionate, and tireless advocate for these causes I have ever met.

Paul's passions defined him as a human being, and you could not be around this Chamber for long without witnessing those passions first hand. He would come to this Chamber to speak, and it wouldn't be long before his voice would rise, his fist would pound the desk, and his finger would jab the air. When Paul spoke, he dominated the Chamber, and we listened.

No, we will not see another person like Paul Wellstone for a very long time. And this body, and our Nation, will be the worse for it.

In many ways, Paul was the conscience and soul of the Senate. When he saw something that wasn't right, he would speak out. He didn't wait for a cadre of his colleagues to approve. Often, that meant he upset some of us. Frequently, it meant he upset lobbyists and special interests. But, for millions of working Americans, Paul was the one voice on which they could always depend. And, they were grateful for him. Sometimes, all it took was Paul Wellstone to raise a wrong—to bring it into the sunlight for all to see—for it to be made right. He truly was our conscience and our soul, and he made a difference.

That is why I wanted to come to the floor to honor Paul's memory. These speeches are not what he would have sought. He probably would have been embarrassed. That said, he would have hoped we would come to advocate his causes—none more personal, none more passionate, than his quest for mental health parity.

Paul Wellstone was not only a hero. He was a model for all of us who are representatives of all the people. It's only right that we honor him here in this Chamber—where he stood for so many. Remembering who he was and what he stood for can only make us better Senators.

Sadly, unavoidably, it also reminds us of the terrible loss that this Senate and our Nation suffered on that heart-breaking day 1 year ago.

Paul—like all of us—I was blessed to know you and will always remember

that you said, "Politics is what we create by what we do, what we hope for and what we dare to imagine." Thank you for daring to hope and imagine. I miss you. We all do.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I rise today to speak in honor of our late friend and colleague, Senator Paul Wellstone, and to remember his wife, Sheila, their daughter, Marcia, the campaign staff and the pilots who died in a plane crash one year ago.

I speak today to praise Paul's work and to praise his passion, to praise his vision, and to praise his legacy. He was truly a great Senator and a great human being. His love of all people was his guiding principle. He is very much missed in the Senate, in this country, and especially in the great State of Minnesota.

Born in Washington, D.C., Paul began a journey that would take him from Virginia, to North Carolina, to Minnesota, and back to Washington, D.C. to serve in the United States Senate. His life experiences along the way back here developed and defined his political vision. Seeing his father cope with Parkinson's gave him insight into the failures of our health care system, and the struggle with his brother's mental illness fueled his desire to raise awareness and expand care for mental illness.

From the beginning of his service in the Senate, Paul left an impressive legacy. In his first Senate campaign in 1990, Paul was the only candidate to beat an incumbent Senator. During this campaign, he was the underdog. He was an unknown candidate challenging an incumbent; he was outspent 6-to-1 and he had never held elected office in his life.

Despite these odds, however, Paul battled, town by town, to be elected Senator from Minnesota. He traveled throughout the State on an old green school bus, making stump speeches and inspiring grassroots organization. In many ways, his campaign for Senate is an allegory for his entire political life. He was often viewed as the underdog, fighting for the little guys, against moneyed and powerful special interests, refusing to give up or accept defeat.

Paul once stated "I still believe Government can be used as a force for good in people's lives." A simple but profound statement, it guided him in his journey in public service. Whether he was advocating for universal healthcare, or fighting for victims of domestic violence, he truly believed that he, and the United States Senate, could do good in people's lives.

One need only listen to the tributes from the Members of this body to truly see that Paul himself was also a force of good in people's lives. Many people that were opposed to Paul politically and philosophically still respected him very much. Last year, Senator DOMENICI, an ally of Paul's in the fight for mental health parity, made a beautiful statement when he found out Paul had

died. Senator LOTT, too, gave a wonderful tribute to Paul, praising his compassion and his optimism. It is truly a tribute to the character of Paul Wellstone that he was so respected, even by people who disagreed with him.

Paul loved the Senate and the Senators with whom he served. He was a master at delivering moving speeches, usually speaking when there were no Members in the Chamber to hear him speak. I remember that as he would speak, he would start to speak at his desk, not far from my own desk, and would walk back and forth behind the desks, up and down the aisle. He could not contain his excitement or his passion.

In his book, "Conscience of a Liberal," Paul wrote this about Diane Feldman, a member of his campaign staff:

She told me that Minnesotans did not agree with me on every issue, but many of them admired my courage and integrity. I hope and pray that Minnesotans will always feel this way about me.

I believe that Minnesotans do admire and respect him for his courage and integrity. Most people that have met Paul Wellstone admire and respect him for his courage and integrity.

Paul was called a number of things in his career as a Senator: "the happy warrior," "the soul of the Senate," "embarrassingly liberal," "Senator softie." But I am truly honored to be able to call him a friend, and I consider myself lucky to have served in this distinguished body with such a great human being.

Mr. BAUCUS. Madam President, 1 year ago the Senate, Minnesota, and our Nation suffered a great loss. I remember that day clearly. I was in Great Falls attending the Montana Farmers Union Convention. I was in such disbelief.

Senator Wellstone, his wife Sheila, daughter Marcia, three of his staffers Mary McEvoy, Tom Lopic and Will McLaughlin, and two pilots tragically lost their lives in a plane crash in northern Minnesota.

Senator Wellstone, known to everyone simply as Paul, served his state of Minnesota for 12 years. Paul was a special person for whom I had the highest personal regard. Though I may not have always agreed with Paul on all the issues, I always respected him as he expressed his views with such passion and conviction.

Paul was frequently seen on the Senate floor giving impassioned speeches on different issues. He was always fighting for the little guy, the underdog. Whether it was providing disaster assistance for farmers and ranchers, working mental health parity, or helping the less fortunate in our society, Paul was always fighting for what he believed in. I was fortunate to sit with Paul on the Senate Agricultural Committee. Though Paul may not have sat at the head of the table, he made it clear that his message was important and that everyone heard it. I was proud

and grateful to have Paul on my team fighting for natural disaster assistance for farmers in 2001 and 2002. Minnesota, Montana, and our Nation's agriculture producers benefited from his fight throughout the debate.

Paul embraced his work the same way he embraced his life and relationship with Sheila. With passion, dedication and conviction. I admired him greatly.

Paul loved his State and he loved his job as Senator, but most of all he loved his wife Sheila. And in order to understand Paul, one had to understand Paul and Sheila's relationship.

Paul and Sheila were a package deal. She was his world. I often saw the two of them walking the halls of the Senate together. And Paul always insisted that Sheila get credit for his successes. She was his rock. She was his life. She was his everything. It seems most appropriate that Paul and Sheila left this life together. He would have been lost without her.

On the 1-year anniversary of his passing, Paul is sorely missed. The Senate is not the same without him. The floor is a little quieter. The halls are no longer filled with his enthusiasm and passion for life and justice. Paul was a good man, a good senator, and a good friend. Paul Wellstone is deeply missed.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, it has been a year since we heard the terrible news of Paul Wellstone's death and trudged through, with broken hearts, the days and months that followed. Kind, compassionate, a voice for those without a voice, a bundle of energy, Paul Wellstone was unique, he was priceless, he was irreplaceable. When we learned of Paul's death, our grief was magnified by the deaths of the two women he loved most—his wife Sheila and his daughter Marcia—and by the deaths of his devoted aides, Tom Lopic, Will McLaughlin, and Mary McEvoy.

Their loss still cuts deep. I vividly remember flying back from California to speak in the Senate about Paul, and being overcome by a sense of profound loss seeing the black shroud and flowers over the desk he loved, the launching pad for his extraordinary, impassioned speeches.

I want to read some of the statement I made that day, as what I said then remains true for me now.

"Paul was never afraid to speak out when it might be unpopular, nor was he afraid to be on the losing side of a Senate vote. He had courage. And when you told him that, when you said: 'Paul, you have courage,' he shrugged it off. He would say something like: 'What else could I do? It's just not right!' He would say that—determined, brave.

"Paul was a powerful man. His power did not come from his physical stature. He was strong but he was slight of

build. His power did not come from generations of family wealth. He was not a man of moneyed wealth. His parents were immigrants: Leon and Minnie Wellstone. His power did not come from political connections. His connections were with regular people.

"Let me tell you where his power came. It came from a fierce dedication to justice and truth and honesty and righteousness. He gave comfort and he gave hope to those he touched. And he gave them some of his power—the power to see the possibilities of their own lives. Paul died on his way to give comfort and hope to those facing death. He was flying to a funeral service."

As his staff wrote at the time of his death, "He was a passionate visionary who never gave up hope that we could make the world a better place for everyone; a committed fighter for social justice who gave a voice to the voiceless; a man with a huge heart who lit up a room—and the hearts of others when he walked in. He was a man who valued others for who they were, not where they came from, or what they wore, or their position or social status. He was dedicated to the little guy in a business dominated by the big guys."

You cannot speak about Paul Wellstone without speaking about the center of his life—his wife Sheila, his children and grandchildren. Paul and Sheila were partners in the truest sense, and shared almost 40 years of love and affection for each other. They were inseparable, and it was obvious to anyone who saw them together, they were deeply in love. They were also partners in public service, and in their shared sense of idealism, values, and purpose. They died as they had lived—together, even probably holding hands.

Paul and Sheila adored their daughter Marcia, whose radiant smile could light up the darkness, and doted on her very special child and their grandson, Joshua. They reveled in their sons David and Mark, and were enormously proud of David's entrepreneurial spirit and the gift he had at being a good father, and Mark's skill with Spanish and his talent as a teacher in the classroom. All of their grandchildren—Joshua, Cari, Keith, Acacia, Sydney, and Matt—delighted them and brought boundless joy to their lives.

Today we say to Paul again: We will give comfort and hope to those you left behind by doing all that we can to continue your legacy and your dream. What a gift you gave us all. You are impossible to replace. We will always miss you.●

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. KERRY. Madam President, I rise today in memory of my dear friend and colleague, Senator Paul Wellstone. A year ago today, the Senate—indeed, the Nation—suffered the tragic passing of Senator Wellstone. With his loss, his efforts to establish full mental health parity were cut short. It is now time to

build on Senator Wellstone's historic achievements in this policy area and put an end to the discrimination faced by individuals with mental illness once and for all.

I was a proud cosponsor of the landmark Mental Health Parity Act, which Congress passed in 1996 at Senator Wellstone's urging. This law establishes parity for annual and lifetime dollar limit coverage for mental health treatment. While its enactment marked an important victory in the fight to provide greater mental health treatment benefits, it is time to take the additional steps needed to truly provide mental health parity for all Americans.

The Senator Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act of 2003 (S. 486) requires health insurance coverage to provide equal coverage of mental health benefits as it does for medical and surgical benefits. This legislation will improve access to care for individuals who are living with mental illness by closing the loopholes used by insurance companies to limit coverage. I am a proud cosponsor of this important legislation. It should be the law. I call on Senate leadership to bring this bill up for a vote without delay as a fitting tribute to the memory of Senator Wellstone.

I also urge the Senate to address the current discrimination in Medicare that seriously restricts seniors' access to mental health benefits. Under Medicare, seniors and people with disabilities pay a 20 percent copayment for all Part B services except for mental health care services, for which patients are assessed a 50 percent copayment. In other words, when seniors visit a cardiologist for heart disease, an endocrinologist for diabetes treatment, or an oncologist for cancer treatment, they pay a 20 percent copayment for the cost of the visit. If, however, a senior citizen or a person with disabilities seeks treatment for a debilitating and possibly life threatening mental illness, they pay for half of the cost of care out of their own pockets. Consequently, Medicare beneficiaries, many of whom are on fixed incomes, face an insurmountable barrier in seeking treatment that could substantially improve or prolong their lives because of a discriminatory policy that treats mental health services and medical services differently.

We need to put an end to what is essentially discrimination by diagnosis. I, along with my colleague Senator SNOWE, introduced legislation that phases down the 50 percent copayment for mental health care services to 20 percent over 6 years. This legislation, entitled the Medicare Mental Health Copayment Equity Act (S. 853), will establish parity in the Medicare program and improve access to care for our senior and disabled beneficiaries living with mental illnesses.

In the memory of my dear friend, Senator Wellstone, I urge my colleagues to consider this legislation, in

addition to the Senator Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act of 2003. Together, these two bills will eliminate the stigma of mental health and establish mental health parity in both the private and public sectors. I ask for your support and hope that together we can fulfill Senator Wellstone's passionate vision by ending mental health discrimination for all individuals.●

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I rise in support of S. 2989, the Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies Act for FY 2004, as reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

I commend the distinguished Chairman and the Ranking Member for bringing to the Senate a carefully crafted spending bill within the Subcommittee's 302(b) allocation.

The pending bill provides \$26.0 billion in general purpose discretionary budget authority, an \$810 million decrease from FY2003. Including outlays from previously enacted legislation, the bill provides \$33.4 billion in outlays, which represents a \$1.9 billion increase from FY2003. These levels are at or below the subcommittee's 302(b) allocation.

For highways, including outlays from previously enacted legislation, \$31.6 billion in discretionary outlays is provided, which is equal to the subcommittee's 302(b) allocation.

For transit, the bill provides \$1.461 billion in BA and \$6.632 billion in outlays including outlays from previously enacted legislation. Both BA and outlays are equal to or below the subcommittee's 302(b) allocation.

The pending bill provides \$17.5 billion in mandatory budget authority and outlays, equal to the subcommittee's 302(b) allocation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a table displaying the Budget Committee scoring of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1589, TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY APPROPRIATIONS, 2004 SPENDING COMPARISONS—SENATE-REPORTED BILL  
(Fiscal year 2004 in millions of dollars)

	General purpose	Highways	Mass transit	Mandatory	Total
<b>Senate-reported bill:</b>					
Budget authority .....	26,038	0	1,461	17,518	45,017
Outlays .....	33,397	31,555	6,632	17,516	89,100
<b>Senate Committee allocation:</b>					
Budget authority .....	26,041	0	1,461	17,518	45,020
Outlays .....	33,397	31,555	6,634	17,516	89,102
<b>2003 level:</b>					
Budget authority .....	26,848	0	1,436	16,718	45,002
Outlays .....	31,458	31,264	6,551	16,722	85,995
<b>President's request:</b>					
Budget authority .....	26,172	0	1,290	17,518	44,980
Outlays .....	33,730	30,521	6,584	17,516	88,351
<b>House-passed bill:</b>					
Budget authority .....	26,324	0	1,424	17,518	45,266
Outlays .....	32,704	31,528	6,625	17,516	88,373
<b>SENATE-REPORTED BILL COMPARED TO:</b>					
<b>Senate 302(b) allocation:</b>					
Budget authority .....	-3	0	0	0	-3

S. 1589, TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY APPROPRIATIONS, 2004 SPENDING COMPARISONS—SENATE-REPORTED BILL—Continued

	General purpose	Highways	Mass transit	Mandatory	Total
Outlays .....	0	0	-2	0	-2
<b>2003 level:</b>					
Budget authority .....	-810	0	25	800	15
Outlays .....	1,939	291	81	794	3,105
<b>President's request:</b>					
Budget authority .....	-134	0	171	0	37
Outlays .....	-333	1,034	48	0	749
<b>House-passed bill:</b>					
Budget authority .....	-286	0	37	0	-249
Outlays .....	693	27	7	0	727

Note.—Details may not add to totals due to rounding. Totals adjusted for consistency with current scorekeeping conventions.

RUNWAY INCURSIONS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to clarify language included in the Transportation, Treasury and General Government Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2004. My distinguished colleague, the Chairman of the Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator SHELBY, worked to ensure that important funding was provided for the Federal Aviation Administration to address the problem of runway incursions at our Nation's airports.

I share his concern about reports of runway incursions and surface incidents. It is my hope that the FAA will use the funding provided to them to test new technologies that could significantly improve this situation. Testing at one of the 90 "hot spot" airports identified by the FAA should include accurate and reliable non-cooperative sensors, such as millimeter wave sensors, that can form a distributed radar and optical identification local network. The technologies tested should also include synchronized 2D and 3D graphic displays.

I would ask the chairman to clarify the funding provided by the subcommittee to address runway incursion prevention devices at our Nation's airports.

Mr. SHELBY. Indeed, my colleague from Mississippi is correct. The Senate bill does include funding for the Federal Aviation Administration to address problems of runway incursions, and it is my hope the FAA will perform testing as the Senator from Mississippi described.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. Chairman, thank you for clarifying this issue and for your leadership and support in addressing this important issue.

FAIR COMPETITIVE BID PROCEDURE

Mr. BROWNBACK. The House passed FY04 Transportation bill contains a provision to assist the States in initiating a Fair Competitive Bid Procedure for State-assisted intercity rail passenger operations. The objective of the provision is to allow States the option of providing competitive intercity passenger rail. The House provision