

As we consider these wilderness proposals, we can generally rely upon existing standards and interpretations of the Wilderness Act. Thanks to our predecessors we have a wealth of guidance in the legislative history of the Wilderness Act and the more than 100 laws Congress has enacted since to protect additional lands.

Now, as we celebrate the 40th year of the Wilderness Act, the preservation of our wilderness has never been more important. Population growth, especially in the Western United States, is placing increased pressure on our public lands. That is why it was so critical that our leaders acted 40 years ago and why it is urgent that we continue to preserve our Nation's natural treasures today.

John Muir once said, "Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul alike."

For 40 years, the Wilderness Act has entrusted Congress and the American people with the means to preserve that beauty.

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN SENATE SERVICE PIN REGULATIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to announce that in accordance with Title V of the Rules of Procedure of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, the committee has updated the Senate Service Pin regulations effective September 22, 2004.

Based on the committee's review of the 1987 regulations which authorize the issuance of a staff service pin when a Senate staff member has served 12 years in the Senate, the Committee has concluded that service pins should be awarded to staff members who have served 20 years in the Senate and to those staff members who have served for 30 years.

Regulations adopted by the Committee on Rules and Administration on September 22, 2004, to replace similar regulations approved by the Committee on September 23, 1987, pursuant to S. Res. 21, agreed to September 10, 1965, relative to the awarding of service pins to Members, officers, and employees of the Senate:

1. Service pins of the material and design suggested by the Secretary of the Senate and approved by the leadership of the Senate and the Committee on Rules and Administration, together with appropriate Certificates of service signed by the Secretary of the Senate, shall be procured and awarded by the Secretary of the Senate.

2. Each Member of the Senate and each elected officer of the Senate shall receive his/her pin and certificate upon taking office.

3. Each employee of the Senate shall receive a pin and certificate after the completion of 12, 20, and 30 years on the Senate payroll.

4. Senate service shall be limited to all service—whether continuous or not—performed while on the Senate payroll.

5. Former employees of the Senate are not covered unless they were on the Senate payroll on or after September 22, 2004, and were otherwise qualified.

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6. After the initial award of pins and certificates, the Secretary of the Senate shall arrange for presentation of subsequent awards to those who qualify pursuant to the pertinent provisions of this regulation.

7. Each individual who qualifies will receive a pin and certificate and no additional pins will be subsequently awarded to such individuals for more than 30 years of Senate service, except that appropriate date plates and/or seals may be presented by the Secretary of the Senate at termination of service.

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE WEEK

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I today publicly recognize the importance of National Hispanic Heritage Month. This 30-day observance begins September 15th, the independence day of five Latin American countries, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, and includes Mexico's Independence Day, September 16, as well as Chile's day of Independence, September 18.

Despite that Hispanic Americans have played important roles in our great nation for the last five centuries, it wasn't until the 1960s that this legislative body officially honored the Hispanic ethnic legacy. In 1968 Congress voted to name the week including September 15 and 16 National Hispanic Heritage Week, and in 1988 Congress passed Public Law 100-402, expanding National Hispanic Heritage Week to a 30-day celebration.

Hispanic individuals have made immeasurable contributions to America in many fields. Dr. Severo Ochoa discovered RNA, Ribonucleic acid, and as a result won the Nobel Prize and set the foundations of many of today's medical technologies. Cesar Chavez made great strides in worker's rights, and more than three dozen Hispanic Americans have been awarded the Medal of Honor for their military service to our country.

America, the great melting pot, has always taken pride in her diversity. Over 10,000 of my constituents are of Hispanic origin, and approximately 40 million Hispanics call America home, making them the United States' largest minority group. It is with great honor that I bring attention to National Hispanic Heritage Month and the contributions of the Hispanic people.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORT AND EMPOWERMENT ACT OF 2004

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the Special Olympics and Empowerment Act of 2004. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation which will create a multi-million dollar authorization, over 5 years, for the Special Olympics. This crucial funding will expand the scope of the Special Olympics by offering more children and adults with disabilities the

opportunity to join in the life-changing events of the Special Olympics program.

The oath of the Special Olympics is "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." This mission of this program certainly rings true to the spirit of America and beyond. More than one million athletes and 500,000 volunteers participate in Special Olympics world-wide. Also, in my State of Montana, the Special Olympics signifies a real success: during the last year over 2,000 Special Olympics athletes participated and they could choose from as many as fourteen Olympic-style sports.

It is important to me that Montanans with developmental and intellectual disabilities have access to recreational opportunities that will not only improve their health and well-being, but also promote mental and emotional strength. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting the Special Olympics.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF BEN WOODMAN

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute to and congratulate Ben Woodman of Berea, KY on being awarded a Boren Undergraduate Scholarship from the David L. Boren National Security Education Program, NSEP.

Mr. Woodman was one of 181 applicants nationwide to receive one of these scholarships. NSEP is administered within the National Defense University in the Department of Defense. It funds outstanding U.S. students to study critical languages and world regions in exchange for a commitment to seek employment with the Federal Government in the arena of national security.

Mr. Woodman has been studying Arabic and will spend the year in Egypt. He attends the University of Kentucky and is majoring in international economics and Arabic.

The citizens of Madison County should be proud to have a man like Ben Woodman in their community. His example of dedication and hard work should be an inspiration to the entire Commonwealth. He has my most sincere admiration for this work and I look forward to his continued service to the United States.●

TRIBUTE TO ANTOINE PETTWAY

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the achievements of Antoine Pettway on the occasion of his being honored by his high school, Wilcox Central High School, in Camden, AL. During ceremonies for Mr. Pettway, the Mayor of Camden, Henrietta Blackmon, presented him with a key to the city and a series of speakers praised their native son for his skills on the basketball court and for his

strengths as a person. I have watched his career unfold with special interest because I too went to school in the small town of Camden. While the community is not a wealthy one, it has produced many outstanding young people, and Antoine is one of the most noteworthy.

Antoine Pettway was born on November 13, 1982, to Joseph Pettway and Linda Crawford. Growing up in the small, rural town of Alberta, AL, Antoine ate, slept, and breathed basketball, when he was not working on his father's cattle farm or in his grandfather's country store. Pettway was a high school basketball standout averaging 24.3 points, 5.2 rebounds, and 6.7 assists, per game. Subsequently, with his athletic skills and strong leadership on and off the court, Antoine was able to help clinch State championship titles in 1998 for Keith High School, and in 2000 for Wilcox Central High School. Antoine was not only known for his athletic success, but also his academic success. He was a 4.0 student in high school and Salutatorian of his graduating class.

Pettway received athletic scholarships from Jacksonville State, Louisiana Tech, Alabama State, and Alabama A&M, but his heart belonged to the University of Alabama. Standing at only 6 feet, he was not noticed by the Tide's coach, Mark Gottfried, until the State tournament and after all scholarship positions had been filled for the upcoming season. However, Antoine was approached by Coach Gottfried and asked to walk on as a freshman. So, with the help of his father and an academic scholarship, Antoine Pettway entered the University of Alabama in the fall of 2000 and joined the Crimson Tide basketball team as a walk-on for the 2000–2001 season.

Antoine, determined to prove to Coach Gottfried that he belonged, averaged 2.9 points, 1.6 assists, and 1.1 rebounds per game during the 29 games he played his freshman year. His best game was a stand-out performance at Ole Miss in which he scored 19 points. His energy and skills on the court earned Pettway a scholarship in July of 2002.

During his sophomore year, Antoine became a well-recognized figure on the Crimson Tide's basketball team not only for his charisma and athletic ability, but also his bright red, shiny sneakers. They became his trademark. His "ruby slippers" earned him fame around the country, but he is probably most remembered that year for his lay-up at the buzzer that gave Alabama a 65–64 victory over Florida, clinching the Tide's first Southeastern Conference title since 1987.

In the 2002–2003 season, Pettway started 10 games and averaged 6.3 points, 2.5 rebounds, and 2.4 assists per game. He was ranked 7th in the SEC in assists to turnover ratio and shot 81.8 percent from the free throw line, making 36 of 44. His hard work and awesome talent was recognized by the bas-

ketball community when he was awarded the MVP of the Basketball Hall of Fame Tipoff Classic.

Antoine remained the heart and soul of the Crimson Tide's basketball team through his senior year and led his team to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament, a plateau that Alabama basketball had never reached before. He was the starting point guard and averaged 9.38 points, 3.62 rebounds, and 3.31 assists per game.

Antoine's dedication and extraordinary work ethic can be seen not only on the basketball court, but also in the classroom. In his senior year, he was named Academic All-Southeastern Conference. To make the honor roll, an athlete must be a sophomore or higher in academic standing and have a 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) or higher grade point average. He graduated from the University of Alabama in May of 2004 with a degree in Health Care Management.

Most recently, Antoine Pettway was selected as the World Basketball Association's "Rookie of the Year" and was named to the 2nd Team All-WBA All-Star Team. He helped lead his team, the Kentucky Reach, the first Christian-based professional basketball team, to an 11–9 record and averaged 4.6 assists and 12.7 points per game. He is ranked second in the league in assists and 14th in scoring.

The people of Camden and Wilcox county are proud of his basketball success, and they are even more proud of his leadership, his academic achievements, and his character. Indeed, Antoine Pettway's accomplishments on and off the court have inspired young and old to strive for excellence. He has high ideals and is true to his faith. The people of the State of Alabama are proud to call him their native son, and I wish him best of luck with his future endeavors. Whatever the future holds for this Wilcox County native son, it will be bright because he has his priorities straight.

I am proud to recognize the accomplishments of a great American and Alabamian, and a wonderful representative of Wilcox County, Antoine Pettway.●

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLISH DAILY NEWS

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize *Dziennik Polski*, or the Polish Daily News, one of Michigan's oldest and honored publications, on its 100th anniversary. The Polish Daily News can be proud of its dedication to generations of Polish Americans and its support of American traditions and ideals. The Polish Daily News has worked together with other organizations in the greater Detroit area to help build strong and effective communities, which has given rise to a diverse and vibrant socioeconomic region in southeast Michigan.

Founded in 1904 by a small group of community members, the Polish Daily

News was housed in a building on the south side of Canfield east of Riopelle. This was home to the paper until the 1960s when the offices and print production moved to a location on Van Dyke in Detroit. A third and fourth move relocated the newspaper to two addresses on Joseph Campau, with the last one in Hamtramck. As Detroit's primary Polish newspaper serving the new immigrants who began to settle in what was becoming the Nation's Motor City, the Polish Daily News played a vital role in building a strong Polonia that was committed to full participation in American life. The paper supported a cohesive community that encouraged its members to strive for accomplishments that reflected their shared values of a deep commitment to family, faith, hard work, as well as the American ideals of democracy and freedom. With a circulation of 30,000 during the 1940s and 1950s, the Polish Daily News kept its readership informed about the struggle for Poland's independence from Soviet oppression while advocating for a future democratic Poland and strong U.S.-Poland relations.

Today as the Polish Weekly, the newspaper continues the heritage of promoting both a strong Polonia and citizen participation in the life of the United States. The Polish Daily News is celebrating its 100th anniversary of serving the Polish-American community of greater Detroit on Saturday, October 2, 2004. Families, friends, community leaders, and elected officials will gather at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy to pay tribute to the important efforts of the Polish Daily News organization which has helped to promote community life and strengthen Polish-American pride throughout the 100 years of its existence.

I know my Senate colleagues join me in also congratulating publisher Bruno Nowicki and the editors and staff, along with the community supporters and many friends of the Polish Daily News/Polish Weekly on this great milestone. I am proud to recognize their record of service to the Polish-American community and their respected standing among all the people of Michigan. A Hearty Sto Lat—Another 100 Years.●

REMEMBERING ED HENNESSEE FROM LAWTON, OK

● Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, earlier today, my State of Oklahoma, as well as the Nation, lost a true friend of education.

Ed Hennessee, a longtime resident of Lawton, OK died doing what he loved best—advocating for children attending federally connected school districts.

Ed served the Lawton Public Schools in a variety of capacities for many years retiring as assistant superintendent for business in 1995.

While in that capacity he fought for a program that I have come to champion—Impact Aid.