

That is why he was beloved in Nebraska and never lost an election, serving two terms as Governor and then three terms as Senator. That is why he was popular even as the father of the Democratic Party in an overwhelmingly Republican State. And that is why his friendship and kindness meant the world to me.

Jim and I were both members of the class of 1978, and we—and our wives—quickly became close friends. We served together on the Armed Services Committee; in fact, we sat next to each other for 18 years. We had honest, substantive debates about our defense policy, and I will always cherish the memories of that time. His only interest was the security and prosperity of our country and his beloved Nebraska.

Jim worked for a strong national defense. He supported responsible budget policies. And he was ahead of his time in warning against terrorism and arguing for a Department of Homeland Security. For so many of us, he was a source of wise counsel and trusted advice. With Jim, you could always be certain he was telling you what he thought was right, and he usually was right.

We will miss him terribly, but we are fortunate to have had him for so long. My thoughts and prayers, and those of my wife Barbara, are with his loving wife Pat and his entire family.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

TYLER L. CREAMEAN, DUSTIN C. FISHER, AND
PHILLIP N. SAYLES

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I rise with a heavy heart to honor the lives of three very special Arkansans; Army Specialists Phillip N. Sayles, Tyler L. Creamean, and Dustin C. Fisher. They will be remembered by their family and friends as loving souls who lived their lives with energy and passion; they will be remembered by their Nation as dedicated soldiers who bravely answered their Nation's call to service and gave their lives in the defense of our freedom.

Those who knew Phillip Sayles often spoke of his quiet demeanor and the way he showed determination whenever there was a task at hand, focusing on getting the job done and never complaining. He called the central Arkansas town of Jacksonville home, and attended nearby North Pulaski High School. In school, he was active in the ROTC program, where his leadership skills and discipline quickly distinguished him with the qualities of a soldier. Spc. Sayles transferred to Cabot High School for his senior year and, upon his graduation in 1997, enlisted in the U.S. Army.

Despite being born in Texas, Tyler Creamean also spent most of his childhood in Jacksonville. Known for his energy and his light-hearted nature, he had a personality that allowed him to make friends with nearly everyone he encountered. He was also known for playing pranks and causing mischief

but did not have a mean bone in his body. Instead, he had a gift for lightening dark moods and bringing a quick smile to the faces of those around him when they needed it most. Spc. Creamean attended Jacksonville High School but left after his sophomore year to join the Youth Challenge Program, a 22-week program sponsored by the Arkansas National Guard to help young adults develop as leaders, earn their G.E.D. and acquire the skills necessary to succeed in life. It was an opportunity for Spc. Creamean to learn more about himself and what he wanted in life, and he did just that. He went on to earn the program's spirit award and shortly after his graduation, he joined the Army in April of 2003.

Spc. Sayles and Spc. Creamean were both a part of the Army's 25th Infantry Division and spent time at Fort Lewis in Washington prior to their service in Operation Iraqi Freedom. While in Iraq, Spc. Creamean served with the 73rd Engineer Company and conducted more than 600 patrols, sweeping roads for explosive devices and clearing the way so that fellow soldiers as well as Iraqi civilians could pass through safely. In late February, he returned home on leave and on February 24, his 21st birthday, he married the love of his life, his girlfriend KaMisha. KaMisha, also a soldier, was stationed at Fort Still, OK, and had begun preparations for her deployment to Iraq. As a result, Spc. Creamean now set his sights on re-enlistment, so that his new wife would not have to serve in Iraq without him nearby.

Dustin Fisher was born in the Northwest Arkansas town of Fort Smith. He spent his childhood as many children do; hanging out with his friends, playing sports, and making life difficult for his sister. He was a fun-loving person who had a gift for story-telling and was always quick with a sarcastic remark to lighten a conversation. If looking for him, he could often be found cruising around town in his pink pickup truck, a gift from his father that he used to draw attention and meet girls.

Upon his graduation from Van Buren High School in 2001, Spc. Fisher tried a year of college but found it was not for him. It became apparent that he wanted to make something of himself, so he followed his father and brother into military service. Shortly after joining the U.S. Army, he was sent down to Fort Stewart, GA. At Fort Stewart, he not only seemed to find his niche in life, but he also met his soul mate, a young woman named Alicia. Her presence made him truly happy and two were married just days before his deployment to Iraq in late January.

While serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Spc. Fisher's mission often entailed escorting dignitaries across the war-torn country. Although it placed him in ever-present danger, he downplayed its significance to comfort his family and friends. Although he had originally thought of re-enlisting, he now considered returning home to be

with Alicia and potentially become a firefighter. He had last been home for Christmas, and was looking forward to returning for a 2-week leave in late June.

Despite the many differences between these three Arkansans, each was a true soldier in every way. Not only did they share a love for their country, but they embodied a selfless courage in the name of freedom that continually put them in harm's way. One week in late May would ensure their fates would forever be intertwined. Early on May 22, while routinely sweeping a stretch of the main highway south of Mosul, Spc. Creamean's military vehicle hit a roadside bomb that killed him and a fellow soldier. On May 24, while escorting a high-ranking Iraqi official, Spc. Fisher was one of three soldiers killed when a car bomb exploded near their convoy. On May 28, Spc. Sayles was checking for weapons in three cars that had been pulled over by American troops in Mosul. An improvised explosive device was detonated nearby, killing him and wounding 21 others; including 13 American troops and 8 Iraqi civilians.

Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt in the hearts of the families and loved ones of Phillip Sayles, Tyler Creamean, and Dustin Fisher, but I pray they can find solace in the courageous way they lived their lives. Although they may no longer be with us, their spirit will forever live on in the examples they set and the many lives they touched. My thoughts and prayers go out to their families, their friends, and to all those who knew and loved them.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ACT

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about S. 147 the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2005. My colleague, the junior Senator from Arizona, for whom I have great respect, has inserted several documents written by outside sources into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD over the past months, criticizing my legislation as a race-based measure. I vehemently disagree with his characterization of my bill as race-based.

We will be debating S. 147 on the floor of the Senate in a few weeks and, at that time, we will have a full opportunity to talk about the legislation, which extends the Federal policy of self-governance and self-determination to Native Hawaiians, Hawaii's indigenous peoples, thereby establishing parity in Federal policy toward American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians.

S. 147 is widely supported in Hawaii. Governor Linda Lingle has testified twice in 4 years in support of this bill. The Hawaii State Legislature has passed resolutions in support of Federal recognition for Native Hawaiians in 2000, 2001, and 2005. Resolutions in support have also been passed by the

Alaska Federation of Natives and National Congress of American Indians. Finally, a substantial number of my constituents, Native Hawaiians and non-Native Hawaiians support this bill.

In 1993, P.L. 103-150, the Apology Resolution, was enacted into law. The Act provides an apology to Native Hawaiians for the participation of U.S. agents in the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1893 and sets up a process of reconciliation between Native Hawaiians and the United States. My colleague from Arizona has submitted multiple articles criticizing the Apology Resolution and purporting to justify one of the most painful experiences in Hawaii's history, the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1893.

I have worked on this bill for the past 6 years with the rest of my colleagues in Hawaii's Congressional delegation. This bill is a step in the right direction for all people of Hawaii because it provides a structured process that will allow us to finally resolve many of the longstanding issues resulting from the overthrow. It is disturbing that opponents to the bill rely so heavily on mischaracterizations of the legislation to advocate their position.

I stand by Hawaii's history as enacted in P.L. 103-150. The facts as cited are well-documented by historians. It greatly saddens me that the opponents to my bill feel the need to rewrite Hawaii's history, as painful as it is for those of us who have lived it, in order to advocate their position on S. 147. It is one thing to oppose my bill. It is quite another, however, to trivialize the history of Hawaii.

THIRTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE IX

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise today to mark the 33rd anniversary of the enactment of title IX, a law that has opened doors to educational opportunities for countless women and girls across America.

Prior to passing title IX, roughly 295,000 girls participated in high school sports, and only about 25,000 played sports at the college level. When President Nixon signed the educational amendments of 1972 into law 33 years ago, skeptics claimed the law would do little to change women's participation in sports.

They could not have been more wrong. Recent data show that nearly 2.6 million high school girls and over 135,000 women in college participate in organized sports, constituting more than 40 percent of all high school athletes.

In Washington State, women at public colleges and universities represented less than one-third of most schools' athletes less than 15 years ago. Today, women represent 48 percent of athletes at public institutions of higher education in our State. As the numbers of girls participating in sports has increased, there has been a decrease in

the number of girls who drop out of school, smoke, drink alcohol or have unwanted pregnancies. What's more, adolescent girls that participate in organized sports enjoy improved physical and mental health throughout their lives.

Today, 1 in every 2.5 girls participates in athletics, which is an 800-percent increase in participation rates since the enactment of title IX. Yet attempts to weaken title IX persist. Last March, the Department of Education issued a policy guidance that would weaken Title IX. The new clarification would allow institutions to avoid offering sports opportunities to women if a sufficient number of the student body failed to respond to an e-mail survey expressing interest in the program. This allows universities to use what may be highly questionable, potentially inaccurate e-mail survey results to prove that the interests and abilities of the underrepresented sex have been accommodated, as title IX requires.

I am deeply concerned that this policy guidance represents the current administration's repeated attempts to diminish the enforcement of this very important law and believe that e-mail surveys will likely underestimate the need to expand athletic opportunities for women. The growth of opportunity for women and girls should not hang on the outcome of such informal means of data collection.

Our Nation has taken great strides toward equity, and title IX has played a significant role in that success. Millions of girls have access to opportunities that their mothers never knew. However, there is still much to be done before we can say that males and females are treated equably in education. Further progress hinges on our continued commitment to the principles of title IX and proper enforcement of the law.

GENERAL BERNARD ADOLPH SCHRIEVER

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, it is with deep sorrow that I come to speak on the floor of the Senate today. The father of the United States Air Force space and missile program, General Bernard Adolph Schriever, died today of natural causes. He is survived by his wife, his three children, and his two step-children. I offer them my deepest condolences and prayers as they go through this difficult time.

General Schriever was a great American. Born in Bremen, Germany in 1910, Schriever's family moved to America 7 years later, where he became a naturalized citizen in 1923. Schriever would give 33 years of distinguished military service to his new home.

During his exceptional career in the Air Force, General Schriever led America's charge into space. When President Dwight Eisenhower assigned the Nation's highest priority to the development of an Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile, the Air Force assigned

Schriever to manage the program. He demanded sweeping authority to accomplish the job, authority that Schriever's commander gladly granted him.

The success of the ballistic missile and space programs managed by Schriever was phenomenal. The progression of the Thor Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile, from program approval to the Initial Operational Capability, took only 3½ years. The Atlas's development time was little more than 5 years, and the Titan's less than 6. Moreover, even as the first Titan lifted off from Cape Canaveral, Schriever's group was already developing the more advanced Titan II.

The Minuteman, from start to finish, took only 4 years and 8 months to deploy. The first ten were on combat alert in their underground silos in October of 1962. Schriever's organization could rightfully take credit for winning the Cold War's race for missile supremacy, helping to ensure America's safety and security in perilous times.

Schriever had assembled an organization with the highest educational level of any U.S. military organization either before or since that time. More than a third of his hand-picked officers had Ph.D.s and Master's degrees. Schriever believed that America had to develop its mind power if the country was to survive in the space age, a belief we would be well served to listen to today.

General Schriever's legacy lives on in the men and women of Schriever Air Force Base in Colorado Springs. The more than 3,400 military and civilian employees continue to provide our Nation with an aerospace capability second to none. The base flies nearly all of the Department of Defense's satellites.

Colorado is proud of the men and women who serve at Schriever Air Force Base, and we are proud of the legacy left to us by General Bernard Adolph Schriever.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MILESTONES

• Mr. ALLEN. I am pleased today to recognize the Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce which celebrates its 70th anniversary this year. For seven decades, the Chamber has supported the community, educational and business interests of Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park.

In 1935, a small group of citizens gathered together in the Town of Manassas with an idea to form the Chamber of Commerce. These leaders founded an organization that has prevailed through times of prosperity and depression, and that continues to grow and prosper. Today, the Chamber has almost 1000 members, and it holds an accreditation from the United States Chamber of Commerce. Only 15 percent