

Bob's abilities, professionalism and dedication that he has served as chief clerk for such a number of chairmen of both parties.

For all of these years, we could always count on Bob to take care of all types and any number of details to make sure our committee functioned smoothly. He took responsibility for everything from stocking supplies, to covering the front office, to troubleshooting the computer system, to handling the whole range of committee finances, rules and legislative documents and reports. Bob starts the day early and on many occasions, without hesitation, has stayed late into the night, or even overnight, to do what needed to be done. Thanks to this high level of dedication, we could always be sure that the paperwork and other details were in order for hearings and committee meetings. Also, of special note, Bob very successfully oversaw the recent renovation of our beautiful committee hearing room in the Russell Building.

Former Senator Margaret Chase Smith of Maine once said, "Public service must be more than doing a job efficiently and honestly. It must be a complete dedication to the people and to the Nation." Those words perfectly capture the extraordinary dedication of Bob Sturm.

We all congratulate Bob on the milestone of his retirement from the Senate. I also thank him for all of his great work and express my gratitude for his friendship and invaluable help to all of us over the years. I am but one of many who wish Bob all the best, with many years of health and happiness, as he begins this new phase in life.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL GRASSLANDS WEEK

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, while many may not know, last week was National Grasslands Week. I would like to join Secretary Johannes and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to celebrate and recognize the legacy represented by the establishment and maintenance of our national grasslands and to honor all of the individuals that have worked so diligently over the years to preserve New Mexico's precious grassland ecosystem.

In my home State of New Mexico we enjoy the luxury of hosting two officially designated national grassland areas. Those are the Kiowa and the Rita Blanca National Grasslands. These grassland reserves, located near the towns of Clayton and Roy, in the northeastern part of the State, are chartered under the Cibola National Forest System. They are both ongoing ecosystem restoration projects that were implemented following the Dust Bowl in the 1930s.

While the Kiowa and Rita Blanca National Grasslands started as a means to

preserve the environment and wildlife, they are rich in cultural significance as well. The lands were once inhabited by a number of Native-American tribes, including the Comanche, Kiowa, and Kiowa-Apaches. They were nomadic tribes whose culture depended heavily on hunting Buffalo and gathering food from the areas vast array of native plants. The area also plays a significant part in the history of the Wild West as the Homestead Act of 1862 brought thousands of settlers out West, many of which settle in the grasslands of eastern New Mexico. They contain over 100 individual grazing permits, which incorporate the use of a wide variety of grazing management techniques, a large range of piñon-juniper management programs, which includes prescribed burning and mechanical treatment along with a personal use fuel wood program, and many active partnerships with State and local governments, and other entities such as Quail Unlimited and New Mexico State University's Clayton Livestock Research Center.

The National Grasslands of north-eastern New Mexico provide thousands of acres of wildlife habitat, livestock forage and even serve as centers for recreation and clean energy initiatives. The Kiowa and Rita Blanca National Grasslands also attract many visitors who get to see firsthand the biological wealth, culture, and heritage the grasslands preserve and maintain. Visitors can participate in a wide range of activities like camping, picnicking, fishing, and wildlife viewing and get a taste of our western heritage.

The New Mexico's Grasslands provide a place of peace, quiet, and beautiful sunsets. Next time you are in my home State, I invite and encourage you to visit these great places in northeast New Mexico. I commend USDA, which has managed public grasslands to meet the needs of the American people for over seven decades, and salute the staff of the Cibola National Forest and the people of New Mexico who work so hard to help administer these grasslands in a way to maintain and preserve sustainable use.●

HONORING COACH TERRY HOEPPNER

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, today Senator LUGAR and I, with heavy hearts, honor the life of a great Hoosier from Woodburn, IN, Terry Hoepfner. Coach Hoepfner died last week after battling brain cancer for several years.

He graduated from Franklin College in 1969. After graduation, he began his career as a coach, spending time coaching high school football in Indiana, South Carolina, and Alabama until he was hired by his alma mater's football program in 1980.

He was the defensive coordinator for 6 years at Franklin College until he was hired by Miami University in Oxford, OH. He spent 13 years as an assistant coach until 1999, when he was pro-

moted to head football coach, a position he held for 6 years.

Coach Hoepfner came to Indiana University in 2004 as the new head football coach and brought with him a new energy to Bloomington. At his first press conference, he stated that, "Our goals are simple—100 percent graduation rate, and the Rose Bowl. We will shoot for perfection, and we can settle for excellence."

In March, doctors were forced to hold Coach Hoepfner out of spring practices, and on June 19, 2007, he finally succumbed to the disease. He is survived by his wife, Jane; his children, Drew, Amy, and Allison; and his grandchildren, Tucker, Spencer, Tate, and Quinn.

Coach Hoepfner was held in high esteem by both colleagues and former players. Pat Fitzgerald, Northwestern University football coach said, "He was one of the great role models in our coaching profession."

Ben Roethlisberger, Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback, who played for Hoepfner at Miami said, "He has been a second father, a teacher and a friend. He believed in me and I owe everything to him for where I am in life. I hold the deepest love and respect for him, his wife Jane, and their family. He has been a role model for so many young men. I aspire to be as honorable and touch as many lives as Coach Hep. I will miss him more than words can describe."

It is our sad duty to add the name of Terry Hoepfner in the official record of the Senate for the role he played in the lives of so many young athletes. May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn.●

HONORING POLICE OFFICER FRANK C. DENZINGER

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude I honor the life of a dedicated police officer from Indiana. Frank Denzinger, 32 years old, died on June 18, 2007, from a gunshot wound he suffered in the line of duty as a Floyd County sheriff's deputy. Frank risked his life, every day, to serve and protect Hoosiers in order to make Indiana a better place.

Frank was a good man and was well loved by the Floyd County community. He was best known for his devotion to his family as a loyal father, husband, son, and brother. He was a loving husband to Tara, who said their 2-year-old daughter, Avery, was his "pride and joy." He is also survived by his parents Frank W. and Patricia, as well as his sisters, Sara Rowe and Amy Cook.

Frank was a graduate of Floyd Central High School, and also graduated with honors from Vincennes University and Eastern Kentucky University. He was a 4-year veteran of the Floyd County Sheriff's Department. The former Floyd County Sheriff who hired him, Randy Hubbard, described him as being an "excellent, high-quality" deputy, who was always willing to lend a

hand to families, "helping them work out problems, little things."

Frank's last action was one of incredible heroism. After being shot in the back, he pushed a woman out of the line of fire and into safety. This final act of bravery not only encompassed his dedication to his job and duty to protect, but also illustrated his extraordinary character. His friend and fellow deputy, Jeff Firkins, said, "He was a hero to the end. He took every care to make sure everybody else was safe. He was a great person and he had a heart of gold."

Today, I join Frank's family and friends in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely serving to make America a safer place. It is his heroism and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Frank, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

When I think about Frank's profound commitment to protect and the pain that accompanies the unjust loss of this outstanding officer, I hope that some comfort can be brought to all the loved ones Frank left behind through the words of Peter 3:14, "but even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed." Both Frank's final heroic act, as well as his everyday lifestyle, epitomized doing what is right. May God be with all of you who mourn this tragic loss, as I know He is with Frank.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Frank C. Denzinger in the official record of the United States Senate for his service to the State of Indiana and the United States of America.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a nomination and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nomination and withdrawal received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following measure was discharged from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and referred as indicated:

S. 1615. A bill to provide loans and grants for fire sprinkler retrofitting in nursing facilities; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 1686. An original bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-89).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. SPENCER):

S. 1685. A bill to reduce the sentencing disparity between powder and crack cocaine violations, and to provide increased emphasis on aggravating factors relating to the seriousness of the offense and the culpability of the offender; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 1686. An original bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1687. A bill to provide for global pathogen surveillance and response; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 1688. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to extend the time limit for the use of education assistance by members of the Selected Reserve and members of the reserve component supporting contingency operations and certain other operations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1689. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received on account of claims based on certain unlawful discrimination and to allow income averaging for backpay and frontpay awards received on account of such claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 1690. A bill to establish a 4-year pilot program to provide information and educational materials to small business concerns regarding health insurance options, including coverage options within the small group market; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 1691. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to restrict the public display on the Internet of all or any portion of social security account numbers by State and local governments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. VITTER):

S. 1692. A bill to grant a Federal charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. BIDEN):

S. Res. 253. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the establishment of a Museum of the History of American Diplomacy through private donations is a worthy endeavor; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself and Mr. REED):

S. Res. 254. A resolution supporting efforts for increased healthy living for childhood cancer survivors; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 38

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 38, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program for the provision of readjustment and mental health services to veterans who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and for other purposes.

S. 41

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to improve America's research competitiveness, and for other purposes.

S. 479

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 479, a bill to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans.

S. 573

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 573, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women.

S. 616

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 616, a bill to promote health care coverage parity for individuals participating in legal recreational activities or legal transportation activities.

S. 648

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 648, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reduce the eligibility age for receipt of non-regular military service retired pay for members of the Ready Reserve in active federal status or on active duty for significant periods.

S. 691

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 691, a bill to amend title XVIII