

TRIBUTE TO HERBERT BRUCE CLEVELAND

•Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, I wish today to recognize Herbert Bruce Cleveland of Rapid City, SD, on the occasion of his 50th anniversary of ordination in the Lutheran ministry. Herb has developed a distinguished career in the ministry, both as a local pastor ministering to the needs of South Dakotans dating back to the 1950s and on a national level, having been appointed to numerous capacities in the Department of Veterans Affairs by three Presidents.

Born in North Dakota and a graduate of the University of North Dakota and University of Michigan, Herb joined the U.S. Army in October 1952 and completed various stateside and international duty assignments. Shortly after becoming ordained as a Lutheran pastor, Herb came to western South Dakota in 1959 and immediately developed a close working relationship with the families in the Homestake Gold Mine in Lead. After ministering to the needs of hospitalized parishioners at the nearby veterans hospital at Fort Meade, he served veterans at the VA Hospital in a full-time capacity in the early 1960s, a relationship with veterans that continues today. Herb has witnessed the impacts of war on soldiers and their families, and he has met these challenges with professionalism, commitment, and dedication.

He led local and national efforts to develop a system to address post traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, and psycho-social issues. He established the first substance abuse treatment center at the Fort Meade VA Chapel. He developed a strong bond with Native American veterans, working to add a Lakota chaplain to the VA staff and the initiation of Lakota worship services and events such as powwows and sweat lodge experiences.

He worked tirelessly to address the evolving needs of veterans and their families while continuing a strong presence in Black Hills communities, assisting in youth and community events and fundraisers. In 1983, the Veterans' Administration established new leadership in the chaplains service in Washington, DC, and summoned Herb, who had been working with South Dakota veterans for 20 years, to become the new Deputy Chief of Chaplains. In this position, he served as Human Resource Director and Educational Development Director and became increasingly involved in the ecumenical relations with all the faiths that were held by members of the Armed Forces. He recruited minority chaplains to serve the increasing number of minorities serving in the Armed Forces and veterans in the VA system.

He developed numerous institutes of training to address the needs of disabled veterans and worked to educate and identify the unique issues impacting young veterans, older veterans, and women veterans. Until his term in Washington, the chaplaincy had been

exclusively male, and Herb recruited a number of women chaplains to serve the growing numbers of women veterans. He helped create the Chaplains School, which among its many missions was providing professional training to women chaplains.

President Reagan appointed Herb as Chief of Chaplains in 1988, becoming the first Lutheran and first clergy member from South Dakota named to such a capacity. He served in this position during President George Herbert Walker Bush's Presidential term.

As national VA chaplain, Herb and his wife Connie participated in the international exchange of choral and symphonic music, which helped foster better cultural and artistic understanding among numerous nations. Herb would oversee the largest single trip of a choir of 150 voices that accompanied the national VA symphony that performed with the Russian Army Chorus in Moscow and St. Petersburg on the first anniversary of freedom.

Chaplain Cleveland was then appointed by President Bill Clinton as Director of Ethics for Health Care Management, where he would continue to address the health and faith challenge and issues affecting our Nation's veterans.

After a decade of valued service in Washington, DC, Chaplain Cleveland and his wife returned to South Dakota in retirement. As a volunteer, Herb continues to service funerals, memorial services, weddings, and reunions. During 3 years of peak deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan, Herb served as chaplain to the National Guard and Army Reserve cadets at the Fort Meade officers training facility.

Also in retirement, he has established mission tours to Southeast Asia with trips to China, Korea, Japan, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and Myanmar. These people-to-people visits emphasize and foster understanding of different cultures. He was recognized by the president of Payap University in Thailand with the Distinguished Alumni Award for his missionary work. This award is among numerous important recognitions for Chaplain Cleveland. These honors include the Point of Light Award from President George H. W. Bush for his work with homeless veterans; the Exceptional Service Award from the VA Secretary for service to the Nation's veterans; the National Black Chaplains of America Award for Exceptional Service to America's Veterans, and he was nominated by Coretta Scott King to serve on the National Steering Committee for Chaplains at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center in Atlanta in 1986. He also received the ELCA Award for Exceptional Service while serving the Lutheran Church and the Chaplaincy in America. His most recent honor was notification of induction into the South Dakota Hall of Fame with ceremonies this September.

Over the years, Chaplain Cleveland has maintained a steadfast commit-

ment to his faith and God and has continued to fulfill a lifelong mission to address the emotional and spiritual needs of veterans and their families. He remains firmly rooted in his family and his community and understands the importance of service. I consider myself very fortunate and blessed to have known and worked with him in various endeavors during my years in Congress.

I want to wish Chaplain Cleveland a heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of his 50 years of service in the Lutheran ministry and for his many years of great service to veterans, their families, and to this Nation. I also wish him many more years of continued service in his many endeavors in the Black Hills region.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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 sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

TRANSMITTING THREE VOLUMES COMPLETING THE BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010: UPDATED SUMMARY TABLES MAY 2009, ANALYTICAL PERSPECTIVES, AND HISTORICAL TABLES—PM 18

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975 as modified by the order of April 11, 1986; to the Committees on the Budget; and Appropriations:

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith the following volumes, which together complete my Fiscal Year 2010 Budget: Analytical Perspectives, Historical Tables, and Updated Summary Tables.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 11, 2009.

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 Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1014. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 to make

technical corrections to a provision relating to project deauthorizations; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1015. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance disability compensation for certain disabled veterans with difficulties using prostheses and disabled veterans in need of regular aid and attendance for residuals of traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 1016. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the commencement of the period of payment of original awards of compensation for veterans who are retired or separated from the Uniformed services for disability; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 1017. A bill to reauthorize the Cane River National Heritage Area Commission and expand the boundaries of the Cane River National Heritage Area in the State of Louisiana; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 1018. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, to construct a curatorial center for the use of Cane River Creole National Historical Park, the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, and the University, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 1019. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for the purchase of hearing aids; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 139. A resolution commemorating the 20th anniversary of the end of communist rule in Poland; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KAUFMAN, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. Res. 140. A resolution commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. BENNETT):

S. Res. 141. A resolution recognizing June 2009 as the first National Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT) month, established to increase awareness of HHT, which is a complex genetic blood vessel disorder that affects approximately 70,000 people in the United States; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 211

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from South Caro-

lina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 211, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of 2-1-1 telephone service for information and referral on human services and volunteer services, and for other purposes.

S. 255

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 255, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to empower the States to set the maximum annual percentage rates applicable to consumer credit transactions, and for other purposes.

S. 259

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 259, a bill to establish a grant program to provide vision care to children, and for other purposes.

S. 301

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 301, a bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for transparency in the relationship between physicians and manufacturers of drugs, devices, biologicals, or medical supplies for which payment is made under Medicare, Medicaid, or SCHIP.

S. 332

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 332, a bill to establish a comprehensive interagency response to reduce lung cancer mortality in a timely manner.

S. 428

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 428, a bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba.

S. 473

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 473, a bill to establish the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation.

S. 475

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 475, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to guarantee the equity of spouses of military personnel with regard to matters of residency, and for other purposes.

S. 614

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) and the Sen-

ator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. 614, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots ("WASP").

S. 629

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 629, a bill to facilitate the part-time reemployment of annuitants, and for other purposes.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 632, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that the payment of the manufacturers' excise tax on recreational equipment be paid quarterly.

S. 645

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 645, a bill to amend title 32, United States Code, to modify the Department of Defense share of expenses under the National Guard Youth Challenge Program.

S. 646

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 646, a bill to amend section 435(o) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding the definition of economic hardship.

S. 654

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 654, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to cover physician services delivered by podiatric physicians to ensure access by Medicaid beneficiaries to appropriate quality foot and ankle care.

S. 700

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 700, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to phase out the 24-month waiting period for disabled individuals to become eligible for Medicare benefits, to eliminate the waiting period for individuals with life-threatening conditions, and for other purposes.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to require mental health screenings for members of the Armed Forces who are deployed in connection with a contingency operation, and for other purposes.

S. 714

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor