

Judiciary Committee provides an opportunity for those nominated to answer questions about their past activities and involvement in and with the law. From these questionnaires, we are able to learn of a nominee's legal experience, find information about past statements and generally assess the fitness of the nominee for the federal bench.

On his questionnaire, Judge Porteous was asked whether any unfavorable information existed that could affect his nomination, and he answered that he did not know of any. I believe that Judge Porteous engaged in a pattern of behavior prior to, during and after his nomination to the federal district court that undermined the public's faith in him as a government official, and that this pattern of behavior rose to the level of an impeachable offense that met the standard of high crimes and misdemeanors. Having said that, I do not believe that future nominees should be subject to impeachment simply for a failure to answer a subjective, open-ended question on the Senate Judiciary Committee's questionnaire.

Judge Porteous abused the questionnaire process, misrepresented his background and misled the Senate in an egregious manner that was unique to this specific situation. However, I can imagine a scenario whereby a nominee could falsely affirm that no negative information affecting his nomination existed, yet I might not find that false answer to be an impeachable offense. I do not wish to see the nomination process become even more difficult for qualified men and women of good character, solely because of an onerous application process. Many of us have things in our backgrounds that we might miss when asked open ended questions, and the Senate should not hang the cloud of impeachment over every nominee's head because of such oversights alone—otherwise, we will find ourselves without any nominees.

As a Senator who is not a lawyer, I would like to thank my colleagues who took on the historic task of preparing and presenting this impeachment trial. Specifically, Senator CLAIRE McCASKILL and Senator ORRIN HATCH who shared the role of chair of the Special Impeachment Trial Committee. I came away from this experience with a renewed respect for the Senate as an institution. When given the opportunity, Senators can work in a productive and civil manner, and I am sure that if he were able to see the dignity and respect with which the Senate treated this impeachment, Alexander Hamilton would be very proud.

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, as a result of today's vote on the four Articles of Impeachment against Judge G. Thomas Porteous, the Senate has fulfilled its constitutional duty to remove a threat to the public's trust and confidence in the Federal judiciary.

The conduct set forth in the first Article of Impeachment alone justifies the Senate's conviction of Judge

Porteous. By coercing his former law partners to participate in a kickback scheme while a state judge, by failing to properly disclose this corrupt relationship when warranted as a federal judge in a recusal hearing and by obtaining further improper cash payments from them while taking their case under advisement, Judge Porteous misdeemeaned himself in a manner that is directly contrary to the essential public trust of his office. Federal judges cannot solicit improper gifts, and they certainly cannot lie to litigants who appear before them.

The conduct described in the remaining three Articles of Impeachment is, likewise, wholly repugnant to the office of a U.S. judge. Counsel for Judge Porteous argued that the Senate's unprecedented conviction on these counts would weaken the judiciary to political attacks. I do not dismiss these arguments lightly. With only 12 impeachment trials having been completed in our Nation's history, however, novelty of the particular offenses charged is no absolute defense. My votes to convict—whether for conduct on the State bench, as a private citizen, or before the Judiciary Committee—were compelled because they revealed corruption and duplicity that, if countenanced, would destroy the integrity of the federal judiciary. While counsel argued that the behavior charged in the final three articles did not concern Judge Porteous' conduct as a Federal judge, each article charged conduct that bore an essential nexus to his Federal service.

Judge Porteous set bail bonds for the purpose of maximizing the profits of the bail bonds company, rather than protecting the public safety and guaranteeing the defendant's presence at trial. He carried out this scheme to cultivate improper benefits from the bail bonds company, trading official judicial action for personal gain. This behavior was not an isolated lapse in judgment. It lasted for more than a year, stopping only when Judge Porteous was confirmed to be a Federal judge.

Judge Porteous also lied during his bankruptcy while serving as a Federal judge. His only defense was that such conduct was not related to his service as a judge and included only acts taken as a private citizen. A judge cannot repeatedly demean a Federal court by lying to it, as here, in an attempt to avoid embarrassment and to continue to amass more gambling debts.

Likewise, Judge Porteous' lies and deceptions during his confirmation process reflect a willingness to subvert the truth, under penalty of perjury, for personal gain. His claim that any mistakes were inadvertent is simply not credible. The evidence demonstrates that Judge Porteous actively concealed the corrupt bail bonds scheme from FBI investigators, and failed to disclose much more corrupt behavior.

Our Federal courts are an enduring symbol of our national commitment to

equal justice under the law. Judge Porteous' long history of corruption, deceit, and abuse of power renders him incompatible with that commitment. His removal strengthens our judiciary and confirms the integrity of those who remain a part of it.

OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS

MANILAQ ASSOCIATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, in Division H of the explanatory statement accompanying the fiscal year 2011 Consolidated Appropriations Act, under the authority of the Center for Mental Health Services at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, please add Senator BEGICH to the list of members requesting funds for the ManilAQ Association in Kotzebue, AK, to provide suicide prevention activities in northwest Alaska.

DIVISION G

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to make a clarification regarding a project that is listed in the congressionally designated spending table to accompany Division G, the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies division of fiscal year 2011 omnibus appropriations bill. I understand that due to a clerical error, I was listed as a sponsor for the following water infrastructure project: "City of Baltimore for Penn Station pipe relocation." I would like the RECORD to reflect that I am not in fact a sponsor of this project.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, as the chairman of the Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, I regret that such an error was made. I would like to reconfirm that my colleague, Senator MIKULSKI, should not be listed as a sponsor for this project.

TRIBUTES TO RETIRING SENATORS

BOB BENNETT

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to honor a friend and colleague, Senator BOB BENNETT, who will be moving on from the Senate after 18 years of service to the people of Utah.

BOB has had a long and impressive career. Out of college, he served for several years in the Utah National Guard and worked as a congressional liaison for the Department of Transportation. Turning next to the private sector, he worked for 20 years in public relations and later in the technology field. He put that experience to good use once elected to the Senate, using his high-tech know-how to chair the Senate Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem, serve on the Senate Republican High-Tech Task Force, and work on issues from broadband infrastructure development to cyber security.

Utah and North Dakota have many things in common. Both are largely

rural States with unique needs that often go unrecognized by those who live in densely-populated areas. Senator BENNETT should be proud that he has been a vocal and consistent supporter of funding for Utah's farmers and ranchers, veterans, rural health care institutions, military installations, and roads, highways, and mass-transit infrastructure. I know that Utah has many reasons to be grateful for what BOB BENNETT's hard work on the Appropriations Committee has brought to the State over the years.

During his time here, Senator BENNETT and I have worked closely on a number of important issues, especially those related to our national defense. As an important member of the Senate ICBM Coalition, Senator BENNETT has worked with me to ensure that our Nation preserves both its fleet of Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles and the infrastructure required to keep them operational for years into the future. Senator BENNETT is also a member of the Senate Tanker Caucus, which has vocally and consistently pushed for the Department of Defense to quickly and fairly select and procure a next-generation aerial refueling tanker to replace the aging KC-135. His advocacy on this issue has been key in the work of the caucus.

Finally, of course, and I think most importantly to BOB, he is a dedicated and outstanding family man. Though I know he will be missed here in the Senate, the new time he will have to spend with his wife Joyce and his six children will certainly be counted among his many blessings. My wife Lucy and I wish BOB and his family many happy years ahead.

EVAN BAYH

Mr. President, I rise today to honor my colleague from Indiana, Senator EVAN BAYH, who is retiring from the Senate. Senator BAYH has been a strong voice for the people of Indiana, both in two terms as their Governor and 12 years as their Senator. He has brought a keen intellect and a commonsense perspective to the Senate that should make his fellow Hoosiers proud. Building on the Senate traditions he learned from his father, he has worked hard to build consensus across party lines to strengthen our country.

It is clear to me that Senator BAYH never forgets his other job in life. As a father of twin boys, he often reminds his colleagues to consider the impact of our decisions on our children and the following generations.

That is why I admire Senator BAYH's deeply held belief in fiscal responsibility. Senator BAYH played a key role in helping push for a fiscal commission to address our Nation's debt. He also urged that the long-term debt increase we passed earlier this year include a commitment to dealing with our debt.

With his experience on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator BAYH has been a respected voice on national security issues. He

has used that position to make sure our troops are properly equipped and supplied while on duty and to reduce the financial burden on their families. He has also been a strong supporter for efforts to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of dangerous states and terrorist groups.

Senator BAYH also understands the importance of education as a source of opportunity to our people and a key investment in the ongoing prosperity of our country. As Governor of Indiana, Senator BAYH created the 21st Century Scholars Program, which offers a path to higher education at Indiana's State universities for at-risk students. Senator BAYH continued his strong support of education in the Senate, working to make college more affordable through new tax credits for qualified tuition expenses, higher student aid grants, and more affordable student loans.

Senator BAYH has served the people of the State of Indiana with integrity. I will miss having him as a colleague in the Senate, but I also know that his wife Susan and his sons, Beau and Nick, will be excited to have him back home in Indiana. I wish him success in whatever he chooses to do in the next chapter of his life.

CHRISTOPHER DODD

Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute and recognize the accomplishments of a colleague and friend who will be retiring from the U.S. Senate at the end of this term. Senator CHRISTOPHER DODD has represented Connecticut in Congress for 36 years, and has been an unrelenting advocate for his constituents and working-class Americans.

Senator DODD has led a very impressive career, and his dedication and love of public service is evident. After graduating from Providence College, he volunteered with the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic for 2 years. Upon returning to the United States, DODD enlisted in the Army National Guard and later served in the U.S. Army Reserves. In 1972, he earned a law degree from the University of Louisville School of Law, and practiced law before his election to the United States House of Representatives in 1975. In 1981, he became the youngest person to join the United States Senate in Connecticut history. Senator DODD followed in the footsteps of his father, the late Senator Thomas Dodd, being elected to both Chambers of Congress.

Since his election to Congress, Senator DODD has served his State and the Nation admirably. He has been a true advocate for our children and their families, forming the Senate's first Children's Caucus. He was a champion and author of the Family and Medical Leave Act, which guarantees working Americans time off if they are ill or need to care for a sick family member or new child. In addition, he has consistently fought to improve and expand the Head Start program, a critical investment in our Nation's future. Due to his tremendous advocacy of the pro-

gram, he was named Senator of the Decade by the National Head Start Association.

Senator DODD was also one of the key Senators who made passage of health care reform, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, a reality. A close and personal friend of the late Senator Ted Kennedy, Senator DODD worked tirelessly on health reform in the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, and in the full Senate during Senator Kennedy's battle with brain cancer and after his passing. Senator Kennedy, who had been the leader in the Senate on reforming our health care system for several decades, would have been very proud of Senator DODD and his relentless efforts to reform our Nation's health care system.

The health care reform law that Senator DODD helped to craft will expand health insurance coverage to approximately 32 million Americans and create some common-sense rules of the road for the health insurance industry in an effort to clamp down on abusive practices such as jacking up premiums or dropping coverage just when people need it most. It also builds on our current private, employer-based system by expanding coverage, controlling costs, and improving quality, competition and choices for consumers.

Senator DODD is chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee. He has been instrumental in working to put our country back on sound economic footing. As we all remember too well, in the fall of 2008 we faced a financial crisis. Senator DODD and I and other leaders from both Chambers were called to an emergency meeting in the United States Capitol as the Nation's economy teetered on the brink of collapse. At this meeting, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve and the Secretary of the Treasury from the previous administration told us they were taking over AIG the next morning. They believed if they did not, there would be a financial collapse. Those were very, very serious days.

A few weeks later, the Bush administration proposed virtually unfettered authority for the Treasury Secretary to respond to the financial crisis. Senator DODD, to his lasting credit, insisted on defining the Treasury's authority, subjecting it to strict oversight, and protecting the taxpayer. He played a key role in improving the legislation, culminating in non-stop negotiations into the middle of a Saturday night in October. When the history of the financial crisis is written, I expect CHRIS DODD will be given great credit for responding to the crisis, helping to prevent a Great Depression, and improving the legislation. He played a central role, I believe, in shaping the response so that the ultimate cost to taxpayers will be far, far lower than originally expected.

Senator DODD also took the lead in writing landmark Wall Street reform legislation to help prevent another financial sector collapse. It will allow

the government to shut down firms that threaten to crater our economy and ensure that the financial industry, not the taxpayer, is on the hook for any costs. Senator DODD is owed great thanks for his leadership and hard work on these financial issues during a very difficult time for our Nation.

These are just a few of the examples of the great work Senator DODD has done for the country. I would like to close by saying that Senator DODD's presence will certainly be missed in this Chamber. He has served the people of Connecticut faithfully, and I know that his many contributions will not be forgotten. It has been an honor for me to work with such a compassionate and dedicated Senator, and I wish him and his family the very best.

GEORGE LEMIEUX

Mr. President, I want to take a moment to recognize our retiring colleague from Florida, Senator GEORGE LEMIEUX.

Senator LEMIEUX came to the Senate in September of 2009, amid extraordinary economic conditions. When he took office, Floridians were facing historically high rates of unemployment—a trend too common across the country. And by November 2009, an estimated 45 percent of home mortgages in Florida were “upside down,” meaning affected Floridians owed more on their property than it was worth. Needless to say, there were significant economic challenges facing the incoming junior Senator from Florida.

It takes uncommon character and dedication to accept appointment to public office, especially in these uncertain times. Senator LEMIEUX chose to confront our country's economic challenges by serving the people of Florida in the United States Senate.

Since arriving in the Senate, Senator LEMIEUX has expressed his desire to address our unsustainable fiscal condition—a problem I agree will cripple our country without bipartisan compromise. If we are to address our fiscal challenges, we must work together to craft solutions to our economic challenges.

In addition to historic economic and fiscal challenges, Senator LEMIEUX has confronted unexpected environmental challenges. Not long after Senator LEMIEUX arrived in the Senate, our country saw one of its greatest environmental disasters of all time. For 3 months, oil gushed into the Gulf of Mexico, causing extensive damage to marine life, coastline, and commerce. Senator LEMIEUX, along with his fellow gulf coast colleagues, worked to secure Federal relief to mitigate the effects of the spill on the coastal region.

It is not easy to navigate the Federal disaster relief system, especially for a new Senator. I commend Senator LEMIEUX for his work to protect his fellow Floridians from the effects of the gulf oil spill.

Despite our political differences, I respect Senator LEMIEUX's desire to make a difference in the lives of every-

day Floridians. I have appreciated the opportunity to work with Senator LEMIEUX and thank him for his service to our country.

CARTE GOODWIN

Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a colleague who has left the Senate. Senator Carte Goodwin represented West Virginia admirably after the passing earlier this year of our dear friend and colleague, U.S. Senator Robert Byrd, who was the longest serving Senator in history. Senator Goodwin took the oath of office on July 20, 2010, and joined the U.S. Senate as the Chamber's youngest serving Member at the age of 36.

Senator Goodwin has led a very impressive career. After graduating from Emory University School of Law in 1999, he clerked for Judge Robert King of the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit. In 2000, Senator Goodwin joined the family private practice of Goodwin & Goodwin and remained there until 2005, when he became the general counsel to West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin. After serving a full term for the Governor, Senator Goodwin returned to the family private practice before being selected by Governor Manchin to temporarily fill the vacated seat of the late Senator Byrd until the November 2010 elections.

Senator Goodwin's leadership became immediately evident in the Senate as his first vote cleared the way for an important extension of unemployment benefits to help those most in need during this tough economic time. He also introduced legislation in September, the Access to Button Cell Batteries Act of 2010, to protect children against the hazards associated with swallowing button cell batteries that can be found in everything from musical greeting cards to car keys.

As chairman of the Budget Committee, it has been a pleasure to have Senator Goodwin serve on that committee, and see first-hand his commitment and dedication to his Mountain State constituents and the country. It is no wonder that Senator Goodwin was recently named to Time Magazine's list of “40 Under 40—Rising Stars of U.S. Politics.”

Senator Goodwin is a man of outstanding integrity, who has a relentless work ethic. He has set a fine example for our Nation's young politicians to follow. He has also been a true defender of West Virginia. His compassion and conviction will be missed in the U.S. Senate. I wish Senator Goodwin and his family great success, and many happy years ahead.

ROLAND BURRIS

Mr. President, I want to take a moment to honor my colleague, Senator Roland Burris, who will be retiring from the Senate after serving 2 years.

Senator Burris has had a long and distinguished career as a public servant, both at the State and local levels. Upon graduation from Howard Law School in 1963, Senator Burris became

the National Bank Examiner for the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency for the U.S. Department of the Treasury. In 1978, Senator Burris became the first African American to be elected to a statewide office when he was elected comptroller of the State of Illinois. Senator Burris continued to break barriers when elected as attorney general for the State of Illinois, becoming only the second African American ever to be elected to the office of State attorney general in the United States.

Mr. Burris was appointed to fill President Obama's open Senate seat on December 30, 2008. In his nearly 2 years in the Senate, Mr. Burris has been active on the Armed Services and Homeland Security Committees, as well as the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Whether it is fighting hard for Illinois' veterans or casting an important vote in favor of health care legislation, Senator Burris has done much with his limited time in the Senate. A lifelong resident of Illinois, there are very few people more invested in their State's future than Roland Burris.

As he departs the U.S. Senate and heads off to future endeavors, there is no doubt that his beloved wife Berlean and his two children, Rolanda and Roland II, will be by his side. I wish Senator Burris lots of luck and happiness in the years ahead.

ARLEN SPECTER

Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute and recognize the achievements of a colleague who will be leaving the Senate at the end of this term. Senator ARLEN SPECTER has represented Pennsylvania in the Senate for three decades, making him the longest-serving Senator in his State's history. During his tenure, he has been an unrelenting advocate for his constituents and working-class Americans.

Senator SPECTER has had an impressive career in both the public and private sector. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, he served in the U.S. Air Force from 1951 to 1953. Following his service, he attended Yale Law School and worked as editor for the Yale Law School Journal. After graduating from law school, Senator SPECTER became an outstanding lawyer. As an aide to the Warren Commission, he investigated the assassination of former President John F. Kennedy. He also served as the district attorney in Philadelphia from 1966 to 1974, and practiced law as a private attorney before being elected to the U.S. Senate in 1980.

In the Senate, Senator SPECTER and I found significant common ground, as his strong sense of integrity and moderate philosophy have been key in passing some of the this institution's most important legislation. During his time in Congress, the Senator will be remembered for presiding over historic

U.S. Supreme Court confirmation hearings as chairman of the Judiciary Committee. While undergoing chemotherapy for advanced Hodgkin's disease, Senator SPECTER managed the intense confirmation proceedings for Chief Justice John Roberts Jr. and Justice Samuel Alito Jr. As a senior member of the Appropriations Committee, he led the fight to increase funding for the National Institutes of Health from \$12 to \$30 billion to expand medical research to find cures for cancer, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other devastating and debilitating diseases. It is no wonder that Time Magazine listed him among the 10 best Senators in 2006.

ARLEN SPECTER embodies what it means to be a good Senator—integrity, a strong work ethic, courage, dedication, and being true to one's convictions. Senator SPECTER has been a real champion for Pennsylvania and this country. His compassion, independence and voice of reason will be missed in the U.S. Senate. I have appreciated the opportunity to work with Senator SPECTER, and wish him and his family the very best.

TED KAUFMAN

Mr. President, I wish today to pay tribute to my distinguished colleague, Senator Ted Kaufman. Ted has retired after just 2 years as a United States Senator. He was appointed to this position in January 2009 after Senator Joe Biden was elected as Vice President of the United States.

Ted was an obvious choice to fill Joe's well-established shoes. He has a tremendous amount of experience on Capitol Hill, and there are few who understand the inner workings of the Senate as well as he does. Before being appointed to fill Delaware's vacant Senate seat, Ted served almost 20 years as Chief of Staff for Senator Biden. This experience served him well as Ted proved himself to be a strong and effective leader for Delaware.

After only a month of Senate service, Ted introduced the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act, which increases the number of FBI agents and prosecutors available to prosecute individuals who committed fraud during the financial meltdown. This legislation became law May 20.

In addition, Ted has been a tireless advocate for improving regulation and safety in the financial services market to help protect Americans from another devastating economic decline as a result of loose rules and abusive banking practices. He was also a strong proponent for renewing our country's focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics research to help propel our country into the 21st century.

Ted also established a unique tradition during his time in the Senate. Every week, he made it a priority to honor the lifelong services of Federal employees. All too often, the hard work of these public servants goes unrecognized, and I commend Ted for his efforts to honor these men and women.

Even in retirement, Ted will continue serving the American people. He was recently named Chairman of the TARP Congressional Oversight Panel.

There are few who could make such a tangible mark on public policy in such a short time. I thank Ted for his years of service and wish him all the best in the coming years.

BYRON DORGAN

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I have been honored for the past 18-plus years to serve alongside Senator BYRON DORGAN, who is preparing to leave the Senate after three distinguished terms. Senator DORGAN has been one of the most plain-spoken, energetic, and formidable forces in the U.S. Senate, and I will sorely miss his voice.

Some might, at first, see relatively little in common between more urban, industrialized Michigan and more rural, agricultural North Dakota. But Senator DORGAN and I saw eye-to-eye on issue after issue—problems that needed to be tackled, outrages that needed to be exposed.

One of those problems is tax abuse. Senator DORGAN has been one of the Senate's most stalwart and active opponents of tax cheats who rob the Treasury of billions of dollars each year, while unloading their tax burden onto the backs of honest taxpayers. He introduced legislation, commissioned key GAO reports, and fought long and hard against tax breaks that encourage U.S. companies to ship jobs offshore, set up factories in other countries, and use phony offshore companies to dodge taxes. I remember one floor fight last year in which he led a successful effort to stop legislation that would have opened the floodgates to billions of dollars that U.S. companies had hoarded offshore and wanted to bring back home without paying the same tax rate as their competitors. I remember battles we fought to stop so-called "inverted" corporations—companies that pretend to move their headquarters offshore as a method of dodging U.S. taxes—from participating in Federal contracts. I remember joining with him to request data exposing how U.S. companies have stopped bearing their share of the tax burden. I am going to miss his iron will and sharp wit in the ongoing battles to combat tax abuse.

Senator DORGAN has also been an articulate and strenuous defender of American workers, benefitting working families not only in North Dakota and Michigan, but across the Nation. For years, he has fought for fair trade policies, insisting trade partners like South Korea and Japan, that export millions of autos to the United States, open their doors to U.S.-made autos. There may be no major auto factories in Senator DORGAN's home State, but that did not prevent him from exposing the hypocrisy and injustice of unequal market access and demanding change. I will miss his voice in the ongoing battles to pry open markets now shut to American goods.

Senator DORGAN also fought for American working families when he

helped author the Creating American Jobs and Ending Offshoring Act, a bill that sought to end the tax benefits given to employers that send jobs overseas, and instead reward the companies that invest in the United States. I am hopeful that the Senate may yet see the wisdom of his legislation and enact it into law. Senator DORGAN literally wrote the book on how corporate interests and political short-sightedness are hurting U.S. workers and the U.S. economy, and the Nation will continue to benefit from his work on this issue even after he has left the Senate.

Similarly, as cochair of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, Senator DORGAN has done much to shed light on human rights abuses in China and to illustrate how China has often failed to make good on its World Trade Organization commitments. I am a member of the commission, and my brother is Senator DORGAN's cochair, and we have both enjoyed the privilege of working with him in that forum.

Finally, Senator DORGAN has been an essential voice in the Senate on reining in the excesses of Wall Street. As chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which conducted a 2-year investigation into the financial crisis, I know personally how diligent, informed, and intense his efforts were to restore sanity to the U.S. financial system. He took it upon himself to organize Senators into a force for change and reform. When lobbyists claimed banks were the victims rather than the perpetrators of the crisis, that their executives had done nothing wrong, and their multi-million paychecks were justified, Senator DORGAN dug into the facts, educated himself on the most esoteric financial engineering, and took on the special interests. For example, he crafted an amendment to the Wall Street reform legislation to ban "naked" credit default swaps and worked with me to add my amendment banning synthetic asset-backed securities. Our joint amendment was unsuccessful, but time will show those types of high-risk, empty bets do nothing to advance the real economy and much to direct dollars into the mindless casino that plagued the U.S. financial system.

I will sorely miss Senator DORGAN's insight and determination in the ongoing battles to rein in Wall Street excess. The people of North Dakota are rightly proud of Senator DORGAN. He is a fighter, and he never stopped fighting for them. They have benefitted greatly from Senator BYRON DORGAN's service. The people of our Nation have benefitted. I know the working families of my State have benefitted. I want to thank him for his service, for his energy, for his diligence, for his tenacity, and for his friendship. On a personal level, Barbara and I wish him and Kim and their family the best as they embark on this new path together.

BLANCHE LINCOLN

Mr. President, over the last 210 years, many pioneers and groundbreakers have passed through this Chamber.

Today, I would like to pay tribute to one such groundbreaking Senator, one who will leave the Senate at the end of this session.

When the people of Arkansas elected BLANCHE LINCOLN to represent them in the Senate in 1998, she became the youngest woman ever elected to this body. After compiling an impressive list of accomplishments after joining the Senate, she became, in 2009, the first woman to chair the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. These accomplishments are just some of the highlights of an impressive career of Senate service.

Senator LINCOLN has been among the Senate's most passionate and effective voices in combating hunger, helping found the Senate Hunger Caucus to focus attention on an issue that affects far too many Americans. And she has been a tireless advocate for the working families of America's rural communities.

I am especially grateful for the work Senator LINCOLN has done this year in helping craft comprehensive financial reform. She was instrumental in ensuring that the bill we passed into law this year brought new transparency and safety to the largely unregulated world of derivatives trading. I know from hard experience that passing reform that Wall Street doesn't like is, to say the least, challenging. The financial system is more secure, and the people of Arkansas and the Nation are better off, because Senator LINCOLN was willing to take on that challenge and able to overcome it so effectively. She will long be remembered as one of the architects of financial reform.

Arkansas has given the Nation many accomplished public leaders, names such as Caraway, Fulbright, Bumpers, Pryor and Clinton. As she prepares to leave the Senate, Senator LINCOLN can proudly join that list of Arkansans who have improved the lives of those in their State and this country. I have been proud to call her a friend and a colleague, and I know that, while she is leaving the Senate, her contributions to her country are far from over.

EVAN BAYH

Mr. President, I want to take a few moments today to congratulate Senator BAYH on a productive two terms in this body, and thank him for his service, in particular as a member of the Armed Services Committee and on issues of importance to both our States.

As chairman of the Armed Services Committee, I have seen first hand the diligence Senator BAYH brought to his work on national security. He has been active on one of the greatest threats to our security, the proliferation of nuclear weapons and materials, seeking to support and extend the work of his Indiana colleague, Senator LUGAR. He has been equally effective in working, on a bipartisan basis, to pass legislation seeking to hold the government of Iran accountable for its egregious human rights abuses. And he has been

active in helping the committee carry out its oversight function, bringing his thoughtful approach to his role as chairman of the our Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support over the last 2 years. The committee, the Senate, and the American people have greatly benefitted from Senator BAYH's efforts in these areas.

Senator BAYH represents a State that is part of America's industrial heartland, and he has energetically sought to ensure that we pursue policies that do not damage the industrial economy. I would mention two such efforts in particular.

In 2007, Senator BAYH, along with me and other members of the Auto Caucus, worked to ensure that negotiations on a free trade agreement with South Korea addressed the unfair and unbalanced way in which automotive imports are treated in South Korea. Barriers to entry make the South Korean market essentially closed to U.S.-made vehicles, while Korean automakers have found an open lucrative market in the United States. He, like I and many others, is deeply concerned about the impact of any potential trade agreement on the auto industry, and I have been privileged to stand with him on this issue.

Senator BAYH also has been a leader in fighting against intellectual property theft by China and other nations. Manufacturers in both our States have been harmed by the ability of foreign companies to copy their products and reproduce them in violation of international standards, and by the inability or unwillingness of other nations to combat such piracy. Along with Senator VOINOVICH, Senator BAYH in 2007 introduced the Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement Act. This legislation would be an important safeguard protecting American companies from intellectual piracy.

Whether the issue was defense of American companies' rights or defense of our Nation, Senator EVAN BAYH has been a thoughtful, balanced and capable member of the U.S. Senate. The people of Indiana have gained much from his service. I will miss him as a colleague and a friend, and I wish him and his family the best of luck as he seeks to continue to serve his State and Nation.

BOB BENNETT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, it is always a bittersweet moment when the end of a session of Congress draws near and it becomes time for us to say goodbye to those of our colleagues who will be returning home at the end of the year. We know we will miss them when the next session of Congress begins not only for their many contributions to the day-to-day work of the Senate but for their friendship and the good advice they have provided to us for so long as we deliberated issue after issue on the Senate floor.

I can't think of anyone who better fits that description than BOB BENNETT. BOB was born in Utah, a member

of a family who was very active in their community and the government. BOB was therefore blessed with some great role models early on in his life. He soon found he had a talent for business and a great understanding of the needs of businesspeople all over the State and around the Nation. Because of his insights and his ability to promote his good ideas and products, he took his company from a 4-person shop in 1984 to an \$82 million company just a few years later with more than 700 newly created staff. With today's economy we can really appreciate that—that is a lot of jobs.

From there he decided to take on the challenge of a run for the Senate. As we all know, that first run for the Senate is never easy as it takes more than the vote of a community to make it happen. You have to take your case to every corner of the entire State. That means putting a lot of miles on your car and getting to know people from every city, town, and neighborhood.

It wasn't an easy bid for office that brought BOB to Washington. But, in the end, he proved to have what it takes to be a successful candidate. He had a vision for the future of Utah and the United States, a willingness to work hard, and a sense of humor. He took his job and the position he holds of Senator very seriously, but he was never one to take himself too seriously. In fact, he sees his job principally in terms of what he can do to help the people of Utah who elected him.

That is why, when he arrived in Washington, he immediately established a reputation as one of the Senate's most influential and sought after conservatives. Like me, he learned at a very young age that it was better to be a workhorse than a showhorse because there is no limit to what you can do if you don't care who gets the credit. BOB never cared about getting his share of the credit; he was always too busy working on the next issue and helping to form another compromise agreement to make sure things continued to get done.

BOB has left quite a legacy of achievement during his service in the Senate and a big pair of shoes for those who will follow him to fill. The media knows him not for an assortment of catchy one liners but for his ability to provide easily understood, readily accessible explanations about what was going on in the Senate—and why. No one has a better, clearer understanding of the inner workings of the Senate than BOB does. He has been such a valued resource, in fact, that many of us have sought him out more than a time or two just to get his take on things.

One of the things I will most remember about BOB is his love of gadgets. He was the first Senator to drive a high-mileage, low-emissions, gasoline-electric hybrid car. His interest stemmed from his awareness of the importance of conserving energy and the need to pursue solutions to our transportation problems that would make good and wise use of our resources.

He was also a leader in encouraging the Senate to tackle a very thorny issue—Social Security. Social Security is a lot like the weather: we all complain about it, we all know something needs to be done about it, and we are all sure we will know the right solution when it appears magically on the Senate doorstep. That wasn't what we should do, as BOB saw it. Then again, he was never one to shy away from getting the conversation started on just about anything.

In addition, as fellow small businessmen, we both took a great interest in proposals that were offered by both sides that would have caused problems for other small businessmen who were trying to do what they do best—make a profit and create more jobs. Thanks to BOB, our small business community had a champion in the Senate who was willing to take a stand against efforts to make owning and running your own business more difficult than it already is.

Those are just a few short snippets of BOB's record and the great success he has been able to achieve for his constituents and for our great Nation. During his service in the Senate, BOB was not only a part of our Nation's history, he helped to write a new chapter of it every day.

Before I close, I want to thank BOB for the great gift of his friendship. It has meant a great deal to me ever since that first day that Diana and I drove our van into Washington from Wyoming, unsure of what the future held for us but excited to begin this great new adventure in our lives. BOB made a difference for us from the first time we met him and Joyce, and we will always be grateful for that. We are very proud of them both and the difference they have made over the years in our lives and so many more. Thanks to their efforts together, the future will be a lot better and a more hopeful place for our children and our grandchildren.

I don't know what you have planned for the years to come, but one thing I am certain of—we haven't heard the last from you. That is a good thing. You have proven to be a great success at so many things. You have always been an important addition to our debates and deliberations, and you will be missed. It is good to know you will never be more than a phone call away.

Good luck in all your future endeavors, my friend. Keep in touch with us, and we will keep in touch with you. God bless.

EVAN BAYH

Mr. President, soon the current session of Congress will be gavelled to a close. When that happens, it will also bring to a close the Senate careers of several of our colleagues. I know we will miss them and their spirited participation in our deliberations both in committee and on the floor.

I have always said that every Member who comes to the Senate has something to teach us—a message that only they could bring. EVAN BAYH, who will

be retiring at the end of this session is such an individual. I will always remember him as the young Governor who was able to serve in the Senate without losing sight of his ideals and principles both as a Hoosier and a parent and devoted and loving father.

EVAN's career in politics began after he had clerked for a judge and practiced law for a while. An opportunity presented itself for him to run for office, and he did, winning an election that made him the secretary of state at the age of 30. In just 2 years he then became the youngest Governor in the Nation. He served in that capacity for 8 years, during which he made a strong reputation for himself as someone who was able to get things done.

Then, when term limits prohibited his run for reelection, he set his sights on a Senate seat and again found success. He ran a good campaign, took his case to the people, and they liked what they heard. They also knew him and what he stood for from his previous service to the State. They knew they could send him to Washington to the Senate, and he would champion what they believed in and fight for what was needed during his service there.

During his Senate career, you could always find him in the political center looking for a compromise agreement that would benefit everyone involved. I have always thought he would agree that it is better to get a half of the loaf than none at all, especially when the available half was the part that was needed the most.

We also agree on something else. When a Democratic win at the polls helped them to obtain control of the Senate, BAYH joined a breakfast group of Senators that was designed to get Republicans and Democrats more involved in a regular dialogue. He understood that by getting both groups to talk more and to get to know each other better in a context that was separate from our legislative duties, the Senate would be more productive and it would be easier to create and promote compromises between the two parties.

Now that EVAN's Senate career has come to a close, he will be able to do something he has always looked forward to—spend more time with his family.

In the end, I think that is one of the things that EVAN will always be known for—his great love of his own family and his understanding of the great love all of his constituents have for theirs. He believes everyone deserves their shot at the American dream, no matter their age, and the best way to do that is to be careful and cautious in our approach to any sweeping legislation and to ensure that we do everything we can so our children and grandchildren will have the same chance we have had to reach their goals and live their dreams.

Diana joins me in sending our best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement to EVAN and his wife Susan. We wish them the best. I don't know what

EVAN has planned for the future, but one thing I feel certain of—we haven't heard the last from him. Good luck in all your future endeavors and in whatever you decide to do. Keep in touch.

GEORGE LEMIEUX

Mr. President, each year that brings a session of Congress to an end, it has long been a tradition for the Senate to take a moment to say goodbye to those who will not be returning in January for the beginning of the next session of Congress. One of those I know I will miss who will be heading home to Florida as his term concludes is GEORGE LEMIEUX.

It may surprise a lot of people to learn what a powerful presence GEORGE has been in the Senate. Although he did not serve a full term of 6 years, the months he has spent representing Florida have been very productive.

Simply put, GEORGE is an impressive individual who understands the importance of the work we must do to control spending in the years to come and, if we fail to do that, the impact it will have on our Nation and our children as they try to pursue their goals and live the American dream.

GEORGE grew up in Florida and, like me, he came to Washington, D.C., for his college studies. I graduated from George Washington University, and GEORGE graduated from Georgetown University. When he returned home to begin his career, his attendance at a high school reunion proved to be a turning point in his life when he met a former classmate named Meike who soon became his wife.

Years later, when an individual of GEORGE's talents and abilities was needed to complete the Senate term of Mel Martinez, the Governor knew who would be the right person for the job—GEORGE LEMIEUX. Soon, GEORGE was on his way back to Washington, looking forward to the opportunity to use his knowledge, skills, abilities, and professional experience to serve the people of his home State.

There were some eyebrows raised when he arrived. Some people thought he wasn't the best candidate for the job. Others thought he didn't have the background necessary to be a productive Senator. It didn't take him long before he proved them all wrong.

GEORGE not only hit the ground running, but he proved to be a natural and effective legislator. I don't think I have ever seen anyone who has had such an impact on the Senate after such a short time in office.

Over the past months, GEORGE has not only fulfilled his duties as a Senator, he has taken them to another level as he came up with good ideas for legislation, especially on the need to control spending and reduce the deficit which he has referred to as the "single greatest threat" to our future and the prosperity of our people.

That is the kind of Senator that GEORGE has been—strong, spirited, focused, and determined to speak out about the consequences that will come

from not being good stewards of our Nation's financial resources. His concern about our debt and the world we will leave behind for our children and grandchildren means even more to him today now that his Washington experience includes the addition of a fourth child—his first daughter.

I don't know what the future holds for you, GEORGE, but I do know that we will all be watching with great interest and expectation. You have already established a reputation for hard work that has earned you the friendship of your colleagues on both sides of the aisle. Whatever you decide to do, I am sure you know you can count on us to support and encourage you as you begin the next great adventure of your life. I am hoping it will be as the elected Senator from Florida. You can certainly run on experience. You have done more in months than some do in a career.

Diana joins in sending our best wishes to you and Meike. You have made a difference in just a few months, and we are sure there is more to come. Keep in touch when you return home. We will always be pleased to hear from you with your thoughts and suggestions about the legislation being considered by the Senate and what we can do to make it better.

TED KAUFMAN

Mr. President, soon the gavel will bring to a close this session of Congress, and many of us will return home to be with our families for the holidays. Before we leave, it is one of the Senate's traditions to say a few words to express our appreciation to those who will no longer be serving in the Senate when we reconvene for the next session of Congress in January. One Senator I know I will miss in the months to come is Ted Kaufman.

Ted isn't one of those who followed the typical road to the Senate. He came to be a part of our work after first making career stops as a college instructor, a political consultant, and a chief of staff for JOE BIDEN, whose seat he was appointed to fill when Senator BIDEN became our Nation's Vice President.

Each stop along the way provided Ted with a different perspective about government and its effect on the people it was created to serve. The different roles he has played and his knowledge of and experience with the workings of the Senate made him a good choice to serve the remainder of JOE BIDEN's Senate term. When the Governor made the appointment, she cited Ted's knowledge of the Senate which he gained during his many years of service here that she believed would enable him to hit the ground running and be an "effective Senator for Delaware from day one." She was right on both counts.

Ted is one of only two Senators who holds a degree in engineering. Just as I have found being the Senate's only accountant has helped me during our debates on the budget and how to handle

the deficit, Ted's understanding and appreciation of the sciences have given him some valuable insights into the importance of moving science and technology careers "back in their rightful place in our economy."

As the ranking member of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, I share his concern about the need to encourage our young people to take a closer look at those fields and consider a career in one of them. Unless they do, we will continue to fall further and further behind in the number of science students we graduate. That will have an impact on our place in the world economy and our ability to attract the kind of jobs that will enable our workers to find jobs that are both challenging and rewarding.

Although I do not know what the future holds for Ted as he leaves the Senate, I do know that he has taught in the past about government and the process of governing. His experience as a Senator would add a vital dimension to another round of those classes. I hope he considers sharing what he has learned with the next generation of our leaders—and help to groom our future Senators. It will be yet another way for him to make a difference in the world.

Good luck, Ted. Thanks for your willingness to serve. You can be very proud of the contribution you have made to the Senate and to the history of our country. Every day another chapter of our history is written in our Nation's Capitol and, as one of only 100 Senators, you have played a key role in that effort that has now been recorded and will not be forgotten.

Our thanks also go to your wife Lynne, who has been a part of this and all your life's adventures. As we both know so well, serving in the Senate means a lot of late nights, trips back home with little notice, and a lot of other things we have to deal with because they come with the job. Fortunately our wives never complain because we could never do what we have to do without them. While I am thanking you for your service, I think Lynne also deserves a word of recognition for all she has done over the years to support your efforts. Together, you are a remarkable team, and that is why Delaware is so proud to claim both of you as their own.

ROLAND BURRIS

Mr. President, soon the gavel will bring to a close this session of Congress, and many of us will return home to be with our families for the holidays. Before we leave, it is one of the Senate's traditions to say goodbye to those who will not be with us when we reconvene for the next session of Congress in January. One Senator I know I will miss in the months to come is Roland Burris.

Roland is quite a remarkable individual—a man of many firsts who has never been one to shy away from any challenge. He was the first African American to win a statewide election in Illinois, for example, and for the

past months he has been serving the people of that State as their Senator.

Through the years, Roland has had a wide and varied career. He has been a lawyer, a lobbyist, a college instructor, the director of a civil rights nonprofit, a bank executive, and so much more. He has a great understanding of how government works from many different perspectives, and that knowledge has helped him to make an important contribution to the work of the Senate every day.

One aspect of his character I will always remember is his great love of God and his willingness to share so much of himself and his faith in our Senate Prayer Breakfasts. He has always had something important to say, a word or an insight that had not been mentioned until he spoke and added something that needed to be said by him—and heard by us.

I am always amazed to discover that no matter how many times I have read or reflected on a passage in the Bible, there is always someone who is able to offer a fresh insight, a new approach to the text that I had never heard or considered before. That is what made Roland such an important part of our Senate Prayer Breakfasts. On many occasions he was able to offer a personal perspective on the Bible that was gained from his unique life experience. His heartfelt dedication to the words of the Bible meant a great deal to me and to all those in attendance. Through these past 2 years, I have enjoyed listening to him speak about his faith and the source of strength and support it has been for him throughout his life.

Now Roland will be returning home to Illinois in search of another mountain to climb, another adventure to enjoy. I have no idea what the future holds for him, but if his past is any indication, we haven't heard the last from him. He has always been a trailblazer in a number of fields, and I am certain he will continue to be all of that—and much, much more.

Diana and I send our best wishes to Roland, his wife Berlean, and their children. Thank you for your willingness to serve. Life in the Senate has never been easy, and you have handled its pressures very well. God bless.

JIM BUNNING

Mr. President, it is always a bitter-sweet moment when we come to the end of a session of Congress. As the clock winds down on the final hours of our legislative activities, it also signals the time when several of our colleagues will be retiring and ending their years of service in the U.S. Senate. One of our colleagues who will be leaving at the end of this session is my good friend JIM BUNNING of Kentucky. I know we will all miss him, his spirited presence in the Senate and the friendship he has shared with us through the years.

Someday when he gets the urge I have no doubt that JIM will be able to write another book or two about his life that will sell countless copies all

over the country. It can't miss. JIM has a truly remarkable story to tell about his life that has all the makings of a best seller. An old adage reminds us that it isn't the number of years in your life that is important, it is the life in your years. If that is the standard we are going to use, I can't think of anyone who has been able to fit more into every day of his life than JIM and I for one would enjoy reading all about it. This time JIM might think about writing about how playing baseball was a lot like politics—and how the bean balls he used to throw at batters became verbal fast balls that came with lightning speed right at other Senators and members of the media.

I would imagine the first volume of this new series would be about JIM's years in baseball. There is definitely a lot still to be written about his Hall of Fame career and the outstanding results he was able to achieve that kept him in the Major Leagues for so many years.

JIM's 17 year career in baseball began when he broke into the big leagues on July 20, 1955 with his first team, the Detroit Tigers. In the years that followed, he pitched for the Philadelphia Phillies, the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Los Angeles Dodgers, notching 100 wins and 1,000 strikeouts in both the American and National Leagues. When he retired he had the second highest number of career strikeouts in the history of major league baseball and two no-hitters, one of them the seventh perfect game in baseball history that he pitched on June 21, 1964—Father's Day—which made the game that much more meaningful for him. He was then inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1996.

For anyone else that would have been enough. A Hall of Fame career, after all, is the kind of thing that most people can only dream about—but JIM was never one to be like most people. He had another career in mind, and it was time to get started on his other dream—making government work better for the people of Kentucky.

Soon after he first tossed his cap into the political arena, JIM won an election to serve on the city council in Fort Thomas. He then ran for and won a seat in the Kentucky State Senate where he soon came to serve as its Republican leader. Then, when the opportunity presented itself, JIM ran for and won an election to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served for 12 years.

Fortunately, for the people of Kentucky and the Senate, JIM then ran for and won a seat in the Senate. At every level, it was JIM's willingness to work hard and his commitment to his country and his beloved Kentucky that not only got him noticed, but helped him to make progress on all fronts.

Here in the Senate, JIM became the first Kentuckian in nearly 40 years to serve on the Finance Committee. He also served on the Banking Committee, chaired that committee's Economic

Policy Subcommittee, and then served on the Energy Committee which gave him a chance to work to make our Nation more energy independent.

At every post he has held he has been a fighter—for a sound budget, one that would provide the funds that were needed for our national priorities, like our Armed Forces—especially those who were serving overseas. For 12 years in the House and 12 years in the Senate, JIM held true to the values and principles that had guided his life and served as his inner compass through all of his life's challenges and opportunities.

JIM has had more great moments in his life than most other people could ever hope for. He has his victories on the mound during a Hall of Fame career to look back on. He had all those wins on election day to remember with pride. Still, there was one moment that still stands head and shoulders above them all—his marriage. That day when Mary said "I do" was the best moment of his life. She is a strong source of support for him and I am sure he has already said that whatever success has come into his life he owes to a large degree to Mary. Theirs has been a remarkable marriage, during which they raised nine children who have blessed them with an abundance of grandchildren and some great grandchildren, too.

Just like the title of the movie so many of us enjoy during this time of year JIM is having a wonderful life. Each day, each week, each month and every year, he's played a full and active role in his community and his nation. As a baseball player he proved to be one of the best there ever was. As a Senator and a Representative, he showed a willingness to bring that same determination that had won him so many games on the mound to our deliberations on the Senate floor.

I don't know what JIM is thinking of taking on next—but given his legacy of excellence that he continues to add to every day, I wouldn't be surprised to learn we haven't heard the last from him. That would suit me and so many who know him just fine. His is a voice that is still needed.

That is why, in the months to come I hope I continue to hear from him with his thoughtful ideas and suggestions about the issues we will be taking up in the current Congress. I will miss hearing what he has to say—but if I know JIM—I have a hunch he will make his views known.

Thanks, JIM, for your willingness to serve the people of Kentucky and the Nation. With both careers you have inspired countless people of all ages to pursue their goals and work to make their dreams a reality. Thanks most of all for your friendship. Diana and I wish you and Mary all the best that life has to offer. You have earned all of that and so much more. For all your life you have been leading the best way—by example—and living a life that has been nothing short of a great

and grand adventure—just what life was always meant to be.

SAM BROWNBACK

Mr. President, if I could sum up the service of SAM BROWNBACK in the Senate in just a few words, I would choose a phrase that is very familiar to the people of Wyoming and the West. SAM is an individual who says what he means and means what he says. That is why when he made a promise that he would step down after he had served 2 full terms in the Senate—he did it.

Fortunately, as the classic old film reminds us, whenever a door is closed, somewhere, God opens a window and that window was SAM's opportunity to run for Governor. Now that he has been elected, the Senate's loss will be Kansas' gain as the people of that State will have the benefit of his leadership for many years to come.

Here in the Senate, SAM followed a philosophy he calls "pro-life, whole life." Simply put that means that the great respect we have for life doesn't end at birth, it continues throughout. If it sounds familiar I believe that is what our Founding Fathers meant when they spoke of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" as the great gifts that are given to us by our Creator that can never be taken away from us.

Throughout the years, SAM has followed that philosophy wherever it has taken him as he has worked to support legislative initiatives that seemed to clearly follow from it. That is why you would find him working with members on both sides of the aisle to reach out to "everybody on the planet" who was in need "everywhere on the planet" they could be found.

Looking back, there is so much that SAM has accomplished that should serve as a great source of pride for him, his staff and the people of Kansas. He has taken a consistent stand for human rights whenever he was called to do so and this is another reason why his is a voice that will be missed in the Senate in the months to come.

Through the years, I have never met anyone who had a stronger or more firmly aligned inner compass when it comes to doing what is right because it is right than SAM. In everything he does, his faith and his relationship with God have served to direct his efforts. That heartfelt approach of his has helped to keep his work in perfect alignment with his core values and the thinking of the people of Kansas who sent him to Washington to do what he thought was best to protect and preserve the American dream and keep it available for generations to come.

SAM is someone we will always remember for the things he did and how well he did them. He is a natural leader who leads with actions—not words because he knows that is the only way to get the important things done—and done quickly.

That philosophy showed itself in things like SAM's work to address the needs of the people of Africa. He did

not have to do it—but because he did, countless lives were saved. If you asked him why he was working so hard to make a difference in a nation so far from home, he would probably say that is just another example of his philosophy that the whole world is his backyard and everyone, everywhere is his neighbor.

I am certain that SAM is very familiar with the Parable from the Bible in which the Master expresses his appreciation for the good work of his servant. “Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities.”

I mention that because SAM has done so very well in the Senate, it is as if the people of Kansas have now placed him in charge of great responsibilities as their Governor. I have no doubt that he is the right person at the right time for this difficult job the people of his State have now entrusted to his care.

SAM has often told the story about a comment that was made to him by an older gentleman as he traveled throughout the State, listening to voters at the end of his campaign for Governor. The message he heard from this one voter was simple but it spoke volumes. “Be a good governor,” was all he said. It’s good advice but easier expressed than done. Still, I have no doubt in the years to come SAM will be all of that and so much more.

Diana joins in sending our best wishes to SAM and his special wife Mary. Together they make up a remarkable team and they can and should be very proud of all they have accomplished together.

Thank you for your willingness to serve and most of all, thanks for your friendship. Although you won’t be with us in the Senate Chamber next year, you will be just down the road in the Governor’s office in Kansas. I hope you continue to let your thoughts and suggestions be known as we take up those issues that were such a source of great interest—and action—during your service here. Good luck in the months to come as you take on this new and very difficult challenge in your life. God bless.

ARLEN SPECTER

Mr. President, soon the current session of Congress will be gavelled to a close. When that happens it will also bring to an end the Senate careers of several of our colleagues. I know we will miss them and the contributions they have made over the years to the debates and deliberations they have participated in on the Senate floor and in committee.

In the years to come I know I will miss ARLEN SPECTER. He has been such a strong and active presence in the Senate for so many years and in so many ways the coming session of Congress won’t be the same without him.

His long and varied history as a public servant really began to take shape when he was asked to bring his skills and abilities to the Warren Commis-

sion’s investigation of the circumstances surrounding the death of President John F. Kennedy. It was a difficult and challenging job, but ARLEN proved to be well up to the task. After studying and surveying the evidence surrounding the President’s murder, ARLEN developed the “single bullet theory” that proved to be the key to the case that helped to explain what happened that day.

In the years soon after, ARLEN’S understanding of the law and all the technicalities and the countless details that surround it made him an ideal candidate for the position of district attorney. In 1965 he ran for the position in Philadelphia and served there for 8 years.

I have always believed that every life is a mixture of both success and disappointment. How we handle them both defines to a great extent the quality of our lives.

That is why ARLEN’S unsuccessful reelection bid and a few disappointments after that may have slowed him down—but it didn’t stop him. It was just a few years later that ARLEN would run a successful campaign for the Senate. It was here that ARLEN really found his niche as he was soon in the middle of a number of high profile battles in the Judiciary Committee that won him the notice of his colleagues for his in-depth knowledge of Senate procedure, the law and our Constitution.

ARLEN’S reputation as a warrior has stayed with him over the years as he has faced a number of challenges in committee and on the floor—as well as a number of very difficult health issues in his life. He fought them all with the same strength and heartfelt determination that would make any fighter from Philadelphia proud.

Although ARLEN credits his successful return to health to his enjoyment of squash, a difficult sport that he says kept him strong and healthy enough to make it through each health crisis he faced, I credit his good health to his strong Philadelphia roots.

As ARLEN wrote in his book “Never Give In,” the key to so much of life is to “keep working and keep fighting.” That is the only way to ensure you will continue to make progress—or at least—make your presence felt in the war you are waging. That is how ARLEN has lived his life as he has pursued each goal he set his sights on. In the end, as he wrote in his book “The tougher the battle, the sweeter the victory.”

ARLEN has now served five terms for a total of 30 years in the Senate. He has survived countless battles at the ballot box and a wealth of health issues that would have convinced a lesser individual that the time had come to take it easy for a while. Not ARLEN, however. He has always been someone who fought with all his heart for the things he believed in and as a result, he has known the sweetness of victory many, many times in his life.

ARLEN is not only the longest serving Senator in Pennsylvania’s history he is

also one of the most productive. He has left a remarkable legacy and shoes that will be very difficult for any future Pennsylvania Senator to fill. Together with his wife Joan they have been a team that has made a difference throughout their home state of Pennsylvania and the Nation.

Thanks, ARLEN, for your willingness to serve the people of your home State for so long and so well. Diana joins in sending our best wishes and our appreciation for your friendship to you both. I hope you will keep in touch with me and with all your colleagues in the years to come. Good luck. God bless.

BLANCHE LINCOLN

Mr. President, the final gavel will soon bring to a close the 111th Session of Congress. When it does, we will all return home to spend time with our friends and families to celebrate the holidays. We will also have a chance to meet with our constituents as we prepare for the challenges the New Year and a new session of Congress will bring.

Before all of that occurs, we will have to say goodbye to several of our colleagues who will be returning home at the end of the year. We will miss them and the important presence they have been in our lives and our work over the past few years. One such Senator I know we will miss is BLANCHE LINCOLN who will be returning home to her beloved Arkansas.

During her service in the House and the Senate, BLANCHE was known for being one of the strongest voices for rural America. She understands that what works well in the big cities and towns back East doesn’t always work so well in rural areas—like those in her State and mine.

BLANCHE came by her knowledge and understanding of the difficulties and challenges inherent in rural life from the days of her childhood. She comes from a family that for seven generations has farmed rice, wheat, soybeans and cotton. She may be the only Senator who has walked a rice levee.

BLANCHE is a woman of great faith, and she is very open about her personal relationship with Jesus Christ. “When I talk to Him,” she said, “it’s pretty informal. I just lay it out there and say it like it is.” That is the kind of straight talk that the people she represents found so appealing. Simply put, what life is like on a daily basis for them has been the same for her.

Although she takes great pride in her title as Senator, she has another that means just as much if not more to her—she’s the mother of twin boys. She works hard at both jobs—raising her family and making sure she is prepared for every issue that comes to the floor.

Because she was raised on a farm she has a great interest in what can be done to help support the farming community of Arkansas and the rest of the United States. That is what made her such an important part of the effort to draft a major farm policy overhaul. She was no stranger to the issue, having served as a subcommittee chair on

agriculture. She did such a good job with those issues she was honored for her efforts with a "Golden Plow" award from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Her support for farmers across the country and her willingness to work in a bipartisan fashion to forge workable solutions to difficult problems reflect the kind of principles that have helped to guide and direct her during her service in the Senate and throughout her life. Another is the importance of family—her own—and families just like hers all over the country.

Those aren't just my observations—they are common knowledge back in Arkansas. When BLANCHE won a seat in the House of Representatives everyone was certain that the sky was the limit for her. After she had served for 2 terms; however, she decided not to run for another when she learned she would soon be giving birth to twins. She decided to return home so she could take care of her family while she waited for another opportunity to serve the people of Arkansas to present itself—which is exactly what happened.

As her twins began to grow up, she was able to return to politics. She made a run for Dale Bumpers' seat when he retired and was elected by a margin of 13 percent. Her victory made her the youngest woman ever elected to the Senate, an expression of the great confidence and trust the people of her State had in her.

For 12 years BLANCHE has worn the title of Senator with great pride not for her accomplishment, which was historic, but for the opportunity it gave her to make the world a better place for the people of Arkansas, the people of rural America, the citizens of our great Nation and, of course, for those twins of hers.

I do not know what BLANCHE has planned for the days to come but I think I can predict with safety and certainty that we haven't heard the last from her—and that is a good thing.

Keep in touch, BLANCHE. We will always be pleased to learn what you are doing and your thoughts on the latest issues before the Senate. Diana and I send our best wishes to you and all your family. God bless and keep all of you.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

DANIEL EDWARD DUEFIELD

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of a young veteran, Daniel Edward Duefield, who died at the age of 24 on November 17 at his home in Grafton, NH. A veteran of the Iraq war, Daniel served his country on two tours of duty as a member of the 10th Mountain Division in the U.S. Army.

A native of New Hampshire, Daniel was born in Franklin on December 14, 1985. He attended Mascoma Valley Regional Schools and graduated from Mascoma Valley Regional High School in June 2004. From playing video games

with his nephew, Josh, to relaxing on a fishing trip, Daniel enjoyed spending time with family and friends.

He also felt a deep and abiding love for his country, enlisting in the Army in June 2005. Daniel graduated from Army basic training in Fort Benning, GA, and joined the 10th Mountain Division out of Fort Drum, NY. He was excited to have the opportunity to protect his country and family and succeeded in doing so throughout his service until he was honorably discharged in July 2008. The American people will forever be grateful to Daniel for his willingness to serve.

Daniel was a true patriot whose service to his country and family will endure in our memories. No words can lessen the pain of losing this young hero and brave New Hampshire son. It is now up to us to honor him by continuing to improve the support we provide to our veterans and their families and ensuring America's continued security.

Daniel is survived by his parents, Harold "Duffy" E. Duefield III and Ruth E. Duefield of Grafton, NH; his fiancé, Alicia Vasquez of Grafton, NH; his grandfather, Harold E. Duefield, Jr., and extended family. This young patriot will be dearly missed.

I ask my colleagues and all Americans to join me in honoring the life of Daniel Edward Duefield.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, this morning, both the New York Times and the Washington Post published strong editorials condemning the delays in Senate consideration of the President's nominees. The Washington Post wrote about the extraordinary and damaging treatment of Jim Cole, who is nominated to serve as the No. 2 official at the Justice Department, a position with extensive responsibilities for national security and law enforcement. The New York Times wrote about the across-the-board objections to Senate consideration of judicial nominees, including dozens who have been reported without opposition by all Republicans and Democrats on the Judiciary Committee.

Two weeks ago, I came to the floor and asked unanimous consent that the Senate consider the long-pending nomination of Jim Cole to be the Deputy Attorney General, and that the Senate schedule for debate and a vote without further delay. Senator SESSIONS objected to my request and we continue to be prevented from acting on this critical national security nomination.

I will ask consent to have printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my statement today's editorial from the Washington Post entitled, "An Unacceptable Delay." The editorial notes:

James M. Cole appeared well on his way in July to filling the important No. 2 slot at the Justice Department after earning a favorable vote from the Senate Judiciary Committee.

But the full Senate has yet to vote on Mr. Cole's nomination to what is essentially the post of chief operating officer of the mammoth department. The five months between committee and floor vote appear to be the longest delay endured by any deputy attorney general nominee.

The slow crawl comes courtesy of some Senate Republicans who question Mr. Cole's approach to terrorism cases and his role as an independent monitor for struggling financial giant American International Group (AIG). These concerns should not derail Mr. Cole's confirmation—and they certainly should not be used to block a vote.

Mr. Cole's nomination has been pending on the Senate's Executive Calendar since it was reported favorably by the Judiciary Committee in July. Those continuing to block this nomination from debate and a vote are wrong. As the editorial observes: "There is no suggestion that Mr. Cole suffers from the kind of ethical or legal problems that would disqualify a nominee." If Senators disagree, they are free to vote against the nomination. But it is long past the time to end the stalling.

I noted 2 weeks ago that the letter from eight former Deputy Attorneys General of the United States who served in the administrations of President Reagan, President George H.W. Bush, President Clinton, President George W. Bush, as well as the current administration, correctly observed that "the Deputy is also a key member of the president's national security team, a function that has grown in importance and complexity in the years since the terror attacks of September 11." They are right. This is a dangerous game that partisans are playing in stalling this important nomination in what is really an unprecedented way.

Mr. Cole's nomination has been pending five times longer than the longest-pending Deputy Attorney General nomination in the last 20 years. All four of the Deputy Attorneys General who served under President Bush were confirmed by the Senate by voice vote an average of 21 days after they were reported by the Judiciary Committee. In fact, we confirmed President Bush's first nomination to be Deputy Attorney General the day it was reported by the committee. We treated those nominations of President Bush with the "enormous deference in executive branch appointments" that the Post editorial today states that every President deserves.

Jim Cole served as a career prosecutor at the Justice Department for a dozen years, and has a well-deserved reputation for fairness, integrity and toughness. As he demonstrated during his confirmation hearing months ago, he understands the issues of crime and national security that are at the center of the Deputy Attorney General's job. Nothing suggests that he will be anything other than a steadfast defender of America's safety and security. His critics are wrong about Jim Cole's approach to terrorism. He has testified strongly that the President should use every power and weapon and tool he possesses in this fight.