

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 4830 to the instructions of the motion to refer H.R. 2965.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

"and that the study should focus attention on the dependent's children".

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4831 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4830

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a second-degree amendment to my instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 4831 to amendment No. 4830.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

"include any data which might impact local communities".

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorums required under rule XXII be waived with respect to the cloture motions filed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that we proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

I would say, Mr. President, that we have made contact with the Republicans, and they tonight do not wish to have more debate on the START treaty. So that is why we are moving to morning business. People can talk about whatever they want for the rest of the evening. Tomorrow, I am going to move back to executive session to do the START treaty. I hope we can make progress on that tomorrow.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THANKING OUR SERVICEMEMBERS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the members of America's Armed Forces who are deployed during this Christmas season. The sacrifices of our military and those of their families are always great, but especially so during wartime and the holidays. As most Americans celebrate this time of joy and good cheer it is important that we take a moment to honor and remember the brave men and women in uniform who are defending our well being overseas and to thank their families as well.

Kentucky's military installations have been in the thick of the fight in the war on terror. The 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, for exam-

ple, is once again overseas. The unit is fully deployed and is executing a critical mission in Afghanistan.

The Army's 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division is currently deploying from Fort Knox to Afghanistan. The Duke Brigade, as it is known, is the first unit of its kind at Fort Knox since the 1990s.

And the Kentucky National Guard continues to deploy to theater. Just last week, members of the 123rd Civil Engineer Squadron left for Southwest Asia.

I am profoundly grateful for the sacrifice of our servicemembers and military families. And, as a Kentuckian, I swell with pride at the contributions made by units from the Commonwealth's military installations and by Kentucky servicemembers. During this holiday season our prayers are with them.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN BELSKI

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Louisville, Kentucky's, longtime meteorologist John Belski, whom a large swath of Kentuckians have relied on for accurate weather forecasts for over 23 years. After a long and successful career, John has retired. This September 8 he presented his final weather broadcast.

John began at WAVE-3 TV in Louisville in July 1987 and has been welcomed into Kentuckians' homes ever since. A typical morning for residents of the greater Louisville area began by tuning in to John for important details about the day's forecast.

Before joining WAVE-3, John worked in Louisville at WLKY-TV and also at stations in St. Louis and Columbia, MO. John's professionalism has earned him several awards, including 15 different Best of Louisville Magazine honors, the Best of Kentucky award by Kentucky Monthly magazine and the LEO Readers' Choice Award, just to name a few.

John was at the center of the hard-hitting winter storm in 1994, when Kentucky was blanketed with a record snowfall of more than 15 inches. In August 2009 he stood watch when a massive rainstorm produced large hail and flash flooding that caused major damage to some of Kentucky's most well known attractions, including Churchill Downs. And who could forget this time last year, when one of the most severe ice storms in Kentucky's history crippled the area, leaving 760,000 residents without power and causing 36 deaths across the State. Throughout it all, John's was a calm and steady voice, providing viewers with critical information.

Now that he has retired, I hope John will have more time to spend with his wife Lynn and his two daughters. John is not just known for his abilities as a meteorologist in Louisville. Whether it be partaking in one of the many county fairs or being present at the Kentucky Derby, John was always there,

reporting. He is going to be missed enormously, and I would ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him on behalf of all Kentuckians for his service.

Mr. President, WAVE-3 TV recently published a story on the retirement of their friend, John Belski, and I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From WAVE3.com, Aug. 18, 2010]

METEOROLOGIST JOHN BELSKI RETIRES FROM WAVE 3 TV

LOUISVILLE, KY (WAVE).—WAVE 3 Meteorologist John Belski will retire from WAVE 3 TV on September 8, 2010, it was announced by Regional Vice-President & General Manager Steve Langford.

"Retirement for a deserving friend should always be looked upon with happiness," said Langford. "While I regret to see John leave the airwaves, I respect his decision and wish him and his family much happiness."

"This is an opportunity for me to explore some new possibilities outside of the TV business," Belski said. "After all these years at WAVE 3 it's time for Kevin Harned to take the reins and lead the weather team."

Kevin Harned and John Belski first met when Kevin was in high school. Harned wrote to Belski asking him to speak to his 4-H Club in Nelson County. That meeting left an indelible mark on Harned who persistently pursued his new career goal to become a television meteorologist. "John has been a great mentor and a great friend," said Harned. "We've covered a lot of severe weather together and hopefully have helped to keep our community safe from harm."

John Belski first joined the WAVE 3 weather team in July 1987. Prior to that, he worked at WLKY-TV in Louisville and also at stations in St. Louis and Columbia, Missouri. In addition to his television forecasts John makes multiple daily postings to his blog, Twitter and Face book sites. Over the years John has been on the air on 18 different radio stations and currently on 84 WHAS-AM and WMPI 105.3 FM. His weather book "Backyard Weather Folklore" sold thousands of copies.

"For the past 23 years John Belski has been the calming voice in the storm while protecting our viewers during severe weather," said Langford. "His folksy, friendly style of forecasting has made him a favorite in our community."

John Belski has received numerous awards from community organizations and publications including 15 different Best of Louisville Magazine honors, the Best of Kentucky by Kentucky Monthly magazine and the LEO's Readers' Choice Award. He has anchored Emmy Award winning coverage of severe weather and received the Special Service Award from the National Weather Service and the Mark Trail Award for public awareness of NOAA weather radios.

John Belski will present his last weather broadcast during WAVE 3 News at 6:00 p.m. on September 8, 2010.

WAVE-TV is owned by Raycom Media, Inc., an employee-owned company which is now one of the nation's largest broadcasters. Currently the company owns and/or operates 42 television stations in 18 states. Raycom Media stations cover more than 10.6 percent of the U.S. television households and employ 3,500 individuals in full- and part-time positions. Through Raycom Sports, the company owns and operates the Continental Tire Bowl in Charlotte and two LPGA golf tournaments, as well as produces pre-season NFL football games for non-owned stations.

TRIBUTES TO RETIRING SENATORS

EVAN BAYH

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a colleague and friend of mine—Senator EVAN BAYH—who will be retiring from the U.S. Senate when the 112th Congress convenes in January. I would like to take this moment to thank EVAN for his service, and wish him, his wife Susan, and their twin boys Beau and Nick, the very best as they embark on the next chapter in their lives.

EVAN comes from a family tradition deeply rooted in public service and committed to improving the lives of our fellow citizens. Our fathers, Birch Bayh and Tom Dodd, served together in the U.S. Senate, and instilled in both of us the desire to serve as we grew older.

EVAN has dedicated the better part of his adult life to serving the people of Indiana. He began his career in public service when he was elected Indiana's Secretary of State in 1986. He then served as Governor of Indiana for two terms starting in 1988. As Governor he focused on fiscal responsibility, lower taxes, job creation and lean government. In 1998, Hoosiers once again demonstrated their faith in EVAN BAYH by electing him to the U.S. Senate.

Throughout his career in public service, EVAN has been particularly vocal on issues related to our national security, economic competitiveness, and job creation. He has demonstrated his willingness to work hard, a fact underscored by his membership on six Senate committees—Aging, Armed Services, Banking, Energy and Natural Resources, Intelligence, and Small Business. He has developed a broad range of subject matter expertise, and has time and again demonstrated his willingness to reach across the aisle to get things done for the people of Indiana.

This Congress, as chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, I had the opportunity to work with EVAN on several vital issues, such as his contributions to the Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility, and Disclosure, CARD, Act and Wall Street reform.

When EVAN leaves the Senate in just a few short weeks, I believe he will be remembered as a public servant who was devoted first and foremost to advancing the interests of Hoosiers, and who was willing to work across the aisle whenever he saw an opportunity to do the right thing for our Nation.

Once again, I would like to thank EVAN for his years of service, and wish him well as he leaves the Senate. It has been a pleasure working with him over the years, and I firmly believe that this body will not be the same without him.

BOB BENNETT

Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and longtime colleague Senator BOB BENNETT who, like me, will be departing from the U.S. Senate in just a couple of weeks. I would like to take this opportunity to

wish BOB, Joyce, and the rest of his family the very best as he leaves the Senate and embarks on this new chapter in his life.

Since he was first elected to this body in 1992, BOB has served the people of Utah well as their Senator. BOB comes from a long line of individuals dedicated to public service, and it is no surprise that he himself decided to go down that path. BOB's grandfather, Heber J. Grant, was the seventh President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Salt Lake City. And BOB's father, Wallace F. Bennett, represented the state of Utah in this very Chamber between 1951 and 1974, serving alongside my father, Tom Dodd.

Throughout the time that I have known and worked with him, I have always found BOB to be receptive to the ideas of others and careful and deliberate in his own evaluation of complex policy questions.

Of course, that is not to say that BOB BENNETT isn't also a determined partisan. Indeed, throughout his three terms here, BOB has been one of the Senate's most consistently conservative voices. But in spite of that, BOB has frequently reached across the partisan divide to seek out areas of common ground and mutual interest with Democrats.

That willingness to engage and cooperate with colleagues has perhaps been most evident in his work on the Senate Banking Committee. Throughout our years of service together on that panel, BOB and I have frequently been among the first to reach out across the aisle and search for solutions to the challenges facing our Nation's financial services sector. And from our work together during the savings and loan crisis, to passage of legislation that provides a safety net for our economy in the event of a devastating terrorist attack, we have achieved some important results.

BOB chaired and I served as vice chairman of the Y2K Committee, to ensure the integrity of our Nation's financial services sector. More recently, in the fall of 2008, when the global financial system was on the verge of collapse and our country was standing at the precipice of an economic depression, BOB took a significant political risk by supporting the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act, which established TARP. I realize that this was an incredibly difficult vote for BOB and every other Member of this Chamber at the time.

But I am convinced that without elected officials who are willing to cast those kinds of tough, yet necessary votes, this country would be a very different place.

So I would like to once again thank BOB for his 18 years of service in this body and for his willingness to listen to and work with colleagues with whom he hasn't always agreed. And I would like to once again wish BOB and his family the very best as he leaves the Senate this January.

BLANCHE LINCOLN

Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Senior Senator from Arkansas, BLANCHE LINCOLN, who, like me, will be leaving the U.S. Senate in the coming weeks. I would like to take this moment to thank BLANCHE for her service, and wish her, her husband Dr. Steve Lincoln and her two twin boys Bennett and Reece, the very best as they embark on the next chapter in their lives.

As a seventh generation Arkansan, BLANCHE has dedicated the better part of her adult life to serving the people of Arkansas. She was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1992. After two terms representing Arkansas's first district she retired briefly to give birth two her twin sons. However, the call of public service led her to run for a vacant seat in the U.S. Senate and in 1998, at the age of 38, the people of Arkansas elected her to serve them as their U.S. Senator the youngest woman ever to be elected.

As a young woman growing up on her family farm in the small town of Helena, AR, BLANCHE developed a strong appreciation and understanding for American farmers and ranchers and the important work they do for our country. She carried the lessons she learned, and the values they instilled in her, with her to Congress. Throughout her career in public service, BLANCHE has been particularly vocal on issues related to agriculture, hunger, working families and children.

In 2009, BLANCHE became the first ever woman to chair the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee. She played the key role in brokering the compromise that led to passage of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, otherwise known as the farm bill, which reauthorizes U.S. agriculture policy every 5 years and is of vital importance to farmers and food producers across the country.

Senator LINCOLN and the Agriculture Committee also played a vital role in shaping the derivatives provisions in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform bill. These were difficult, highly complex matters, and Senator LINCOLN worked tirelessly to lead her committee throughout the process. Her seriousness and hard work were a tremendous asset to the overall process, and I commend her and her committee for helping to shape the legislation.

In addition to her work on the Agriculture Committee, BLANCHE has been focused on our country's children. She formed the Senate Caucus for Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children and the Senate Hunger Caucus. She recently worked to pass the child nutrition bill, which will improve the lives of millions of children in our country.

After BLANCHE leaves the Senate, I believe she will be remembered as a tireless public servant who was devoted first and foremost to advancing the interests of the people of her beloved home State, Arkansas.

Once again, I would like to thank BLANCHE for her years of service, and