

me to introduce S. Res. 356, a bipartisan measure calling upon the Government of Turkey to facilitate the reopening of the Ecumenical Patriarchate's Theological School of Halki without condition or further delay. As we approach the 40th anniversary of the forced closure on that unique institution by the Turkish authorities, I renew my call for the Government of Turkey to allow the seminary to reopen.

Founded in 1844, the Theological School of Halki, located outside modern-day Istanbul, served as the principal seminary of the Ecumenical Patriarchate until its forcible closure by the Turkish authorities in 1971. Counted among alumni of this preeminent educational institution are numerous prominent Orthodox scholars, theologians, priests, and bishops as well as patriarchs, including Bartholomew I. Many of these scholars and theologians have served as faculty at other institutions serving Orthodox communities around the world.

Past indications by the Turkish authorities of pending action to reopen the seminary have, regrettably, failed to materialize. Turkey's Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan met with the Ecumenical Patriarch in August 2009. In an address to a wider gathering of minority religious leaders that day, Erdoğan concluded by stating, "We should not be of those who gather, talk and disperse. A result should come out of this." I could not agree more with the sentiment. But resolution of this longstanding matter requires resolve, not rhetoric.

In a positive development this August, the authorities in Ankara, for the first time since 1922, permitted a liturgical celebration to take place at the historic Sumela Monastery. The Ecumenical Patriarch presided at the service, attended by pilgrims and religious leaders from several countries, including Greece and Russia. Earlier this month, a Turkish court ordered the Buyukada orphanage to be returned to Ecumenical Patriarchate. If the transfer of the property occurs, this would be another welcome development, potentially paving the way for the return of scores of other church properties seized by the government. In 2005, the Helsinki Commission, which I chair, convened a briefing, "The Greek Orthodox Church in Turkey: A Victim of Systematic Expropriation." The Commission has consistently raised the issue of the Theological School for well over a decade and will continue to closely monitor related developments.

Yesterday's release of the 2010 Report on International Religious Freedom is a reminder of the challenges faced by Orthodox and other minority religious communities in Turkey. I urge the Turkish Prime Minister to ensure respect for the rights of individuals from these groups to freely profess and practice their religion or beliefs, in keeping with Turkey's obligations as an OSCE participating state.

The 1989 OSCE Vienna Concluding Document affirmed the right of religious communities to provide "training of religious personnel in appropriate institutions." The Theological School of Halki served that function for over a century until its forced closure nearly four decades ago. The time has come to allow the reopening of this unique institution without further delay.

TRIBUTE TO KEN FLANZ

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a longtime member of my staff who recently became a Senior Stennis Congressional Fellow.

Ken Flanz has been a central member of my staff since 1997, currently serving as my legislative director. In addition to advancing my legislative agenda and guiding my staff, Ken's responsibilities include foreign affairs, intelligence, Native Americans, appropriations, congressional and campaign reform, and human rights issues. Throughout his years of dedicated service, Ken has been a valued resource to many in the Senate and has contributed helpful insight. His thoughtful approach, patience, and knowledge have been instrumental to the Senate community.

Ken's achievements through the Stennis Congressional Fellows Program will serve him well and be beneficial to my office and the Senate. The Stennis Program seeks to enhance senior congressional staff members' leadership skills and communications abilities for those committed to public service. Senior fellows advance congressional staff development and serve as significant resources for Members of Congress, fellow staff, and the public. The program's emphasis on non-partisanship and the long-term effectiveness of Congress provides for an essential discourse.

I have great appreciation for Ken's experience and circumspection. He has served as a trusted adviser and has been a great asset to me and my staff. I commend Ken for this distinguished achievement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HAWAII'S 2010 LITTLE LEAGUE U.S. CHAMPIONS

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I honor and congratulate the Little League team from Waipio, HI, our 2010 Little League U.S. Champions.

On Saturday, August 28, Waipio defeated the team from Pearland, TX, to win the U.S. Championship title game. It was a resounding victory for Hawaii, who won in five innings via mercy-rule with a final score of 10-0, advancing to the final game of the World Series Championship against Japan.

Our U.S. Champions performed with the highest level of athleticism as they played the International Champions from the Edogawa Minami Little

League of Tokyo. Waipio rose to the occasion and played their hearts out. Despite their hard-fought 4-1 loss to Japan, our young men proved that they are genuine winners, exiting the World Series with their heads held high and leaving an undeniable impression of inspiration and sportsmanship.

With great pride, superior confidence, motivation and spirit, our team showed the Nation and the world what it takes to be a champion. They are: Kahoea Akau, Shiloh Baniaga, Kaimana Bartolome, Matthew Campos, Ty DeSa, Ezra Heleski, Dane Kaneshiro, Tyler Kushima, Cody Maltezo, Justice Nakagawa, Keolu Ramos, Noah Shackles, Brysen Yoshii, Manager Brian Yoshii, and Coaches Kina Akau and Jason Heleski.

Although I am proud of their achievement, I am most proud of the sportsmanlike conduct and warm aloha that these players brought to both the national and international stage. I commend the coaches, parents and families of these players, as well as their friends for the sacrifices made in support of these individuals. I thank them for their dedication to the dreams of these young players, and applaud their hard work. I wish the players all the best in their future endeavors and thank them again for being exceptional representatives of the State of Hawaii and our Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. PING-TUNG CHANG

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, today I congratulate Dr. Ping-Tung Chang, the recipient of the U.S. Outstanding Community Colleges Professor of the Year Award. This award is recognized as one of the most prestigious honors bestowed upon a professor, and this is the second time Professor Chang has won a Professor of the Year award.

To be nominated for this award requires dedication to the art of education and excellence in every aspect of the profession. Professor Chang should be proud of this accomplishment as he has been personally vested in each student and has helped shape the leaders of tomorrow.

In his 24 years at Matanuska-Susitna College, Professor Chang has taught mathematics to nearly 6,000 students and has successfully established a scholarship fund for students. Professor Chang has used innovative methods to get students excited about mathematics and problem solving. I commend him for his leadership and passion for educating.

Professor Chang, I wish you the very best in all your endeavors. Congratulations and best regards.●

REMEMBERING ANNA ELLA CARROLL

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, as dean of the Senate Women, I rise on this day to bring attention to the life and work of fellow Marylander Anna

Ella Carroll, 1815-1893. Our recognition of her achievements is long overdue.

Anna Ellen Carroll was born in Somerset County, the daughter of Maryland Governor Thomas King Carroll. She was one of President Abraham Lincoln's closest advisers and a senior strategist during the Civil War. And though she is nearly absent from history books, Anna was one of the most influential American women of the 19th century.

Anna believed in justice and fairness. She was a free thinker and an abolitionist. In 1853, she freed the slaves she inherited from her father's estate and persuaded her abolitionist friends to accompany the newly freed men and women to Canada, ensuring they would remain free.

Anna's belief in freedom and humanity led her to campaign passionately on behalf of the abolitionist movement. In fact, many believe that Anna's hard work and strong voice helped motivate President Lincoln to end slavery in America.

Anna formally joined the ranks of President Lincoln's top advisers in 1861, after writing a political pamphlet that impressed the President so much that he requested an interview with its author.

After the meeting, President Lincoln sent Anna on a reconnaissance mission to the secessionist South. When she arrived, Anna immediately knew the proposed Union strategy of sending troops down the Mississippi would fail. She recommended an alternative—send troops to divide the South by using the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers. The President listened, and ultimately, Anna's strategy helped the Union win the war.

Anna served as a consultant to Lincoln's War Department and, after his assassination in 1865, as an advisor to President Ulysses S. Grant. She also was a recognized political essayist, an avid writer, and an influential member of the Maryland and Washington political circles before and after her role in wartime politics.

During her life, Anna was recognized by her contemporaries as a top adviser to President Lincoln. In the 1864 painting of Lincoln and his Cabinet by Francis B. Carpenter, a chair sits empty. It is surrounded by maps and notes similar to those carried by Anna during her time advising Lincoln, implying her place at the table. Still, despite multiple petitions, she was never formally acknowledged for her contributions.

Anna Ella Carroll was a woman who had a profound impact on the trajectory of our country's reunification, helping make decisions at a crossroads that were critical to America's survival. I am proud to count her among the ranks of Maryland's most influential women. It is time we give her a proper place in our history books.●

TRIBUTE TO RON HAYES

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I am honored to bring to the attention of the Senate the work of a remarkable American and constituent of mine, Mr. Ron Hayes, of Fairhope, AL.

As blessed as we are to be living in America, we would do well to remember that our society continues to be enhanced through the noble efforts of those who tirelessly and passionately pursue a better quality of life for us all. These often unsung heroes seek only the reward of knowing they have transformed our laws and our land for the better.

Today I wish to honor one such individual who has spent nearly two decades advocating for strengthened workplace safety regulations and timely communication between the government and accident victims and their families. His efforts have made a difference.

Ron Hayes began his journey to improve workplace safety in 1993 when he lost his beloved 19-year-old son, Patrick, to a grain silo accident in Florida. Facing tremendous emotional pain, Ron and his wife Dot sought details of their son's death as well as survivor's benefits from local, State and Federal agencies, only to be met with delays and few answers. After 2 years of navigating the bureaucracy, they resolved to learn everything they could about workplace safety standards and sought ways to improve both job safety rules and enforcement.

Ron Hayes' dedication resulted in the revision of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's, OSHA, grain handling standards. But this was only the beginning. Ron and his wife founded the Families In Grief Hold Together "FIGHT" Project, a nonprofit group devoted to assisting families and workers cope with the consequences of workplace accidents and deaths.

Some 10,000 people lose their lives while working each year. Ron Hayes worked with OSHA to create a policy which the agency often uses in communicating with family members after a workplace accident.

Since its founding, the FIGHT Project has reached out to nearly 800 families, providing valuable help in the grieving process, negotiating the red tape and ultimately in healing.

Ron Hayes could have stopped there, but his dedication to improving worker safety has motivated him to speak to almost 50,000 workers and taken him to some of the largest companies in the world. He has testified before Congress on numerous occasions and has served as a special adviser to the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

In the process, Ron Hayes has received many awards for humanitarian efforts.

I commend Ron Hayes' selfless dedication to worker safety while providing comfort and valuable counsel to families.

In our society it is possible for one person, or in this case a husband and

wife, to make a difference that will positively impact the lives of millions. Ron Hayes has shown us that a lone voice for good cannot only be heard but it can change society for the better.●

RECOGNIZING TILSON TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, it is essential that today's small businesses be flexible and responsive when it comes to changing demands and conditions if they wish to be successful and truly distinguish themselves. My home State of Maine boasts a number of these highly innovative companies, which are poised to lead our economic recovery in the coming years. I rise today to recognize one of these firms, Tilson Technology Management, a small independent information technology project management company based in Portland, which is helping businesses grow through the creative and comprehensive training it offers its customers.

Mike Dow founded Tilson Technology Management in 1996 with the goal of improving the day-to-day operations of construction companies through the unique technology consulting training it offers to its clients. Tilson quickly met this goal and, adjusting to the needs of a variety of other industries, set its sights on providing technology solutions to businesses on a broader, global scale. As such, Tilson expanded its expertise, offering its critical technology services to a wider range of markets, including the biotechnology, banking, and manufacturing industries. All the while, Tilson has maintained its reputation as a leading example of solid and principled business management.

At its core, Tilson is a company of solutions, helping businesses meet their customers' needs while also helping to improve Maine's high-tech infrastructure. As a result of the company's hard work and determined success, Tilson was recognized this year with the Governor's Award for Technology Company of the Year. This honor is bestowed annually on a business that takes great pains to ensure that Maine is a cutting-edge technology State.

The company's work to find solutions to everyday technology problems is never-ending. In Maine, this includes constructing 1,100 miles of fiber optic cable that will expand the reach of broadband and the countless opportunities that will come as a result. I look forward to the completion of this project and the doors it will open for the citizens of Maine and local industries seeking a wider, global reach. At the same time, Tilson is helping to improve the lives of Americans abroad. The company is taking on the crucial task of developing ways to furnish U.S. troops with the food and supplies they need while serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A member of such organizations as the Portland Regional Chamber of