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THANKING MAYOR RICHARD M. DALEY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if you were to have visited the city of Chicago in the last 50 years and someone had asked you the name of the mayor and you said Daley, you would have been right about 90 percent of the time because for 42 of the last 55 years there has been a Richard Daley as mayor of Chicago. Monday marks the end of that era, when Richard M. Daley steps down as the current mayor after six terms in office. He has led Chicago for 22 years and 8 months, 5 months longer than his dad and longer than any mayor in Chicago's history.

I know Rich Daley pretty well. We started together in politics. He was a State senator and I was a staff attorney to the Illinois State Senate back in 1970s. Back then, he was a young father with a young family, brand new to public life. I worked for him on the Senate Judiciary Committee and I got to know him sitting next to him for many hours of hearings, watching his reaction to ideas, measuring the man.

He and his wife Maggie were going through a tough time then. They had a little baby who was very sick and eventually passed away. It was an emotionally draining experience for the whole family and those of us who worked closely with him felt the sense of loss that he and his family experienced. But he is an extraordinary man.

Richard Michael Daley was born in 1942, the fourth of seven children, and the eldest son of Richard J. Daley and Sis Daley. His father, who ran Chicago from 1955 until his death in 1976, was one of the most powerful big city mayors America has ever known.

Rich Daley grew up in a modest red brick house in Bridgeport, a storied

Irish neighborhood of blue-collar bungalows on the south side of Chicago. The famine Irish immigrants who settled the neighborhood in the 19th century called it "Hardscrabble."

Rich Daley's mom and dad taught the kids that family always comes first. His father, even as mayor, made a practice of eating dinner every night at home with his family, with very few exceptions.

Mayor Daley introduced his kids to politics at an early age. Often after dinner he bundled them up and put them in the car and took them to ward meetings he was attending, so I guess politics is in the Daley blood.

One brother, Bill, is now President Obama's Chief of Staff. He served as U.S. Commerce Secretary under President Clinton. Another brother, John Daley, is a Cook County commissioner. In Chicago's De La Salle High School, which Rich Daley attended, his nickname was "Mayor." No surprise. In his yearbook he said his ambition was to become a "great lawyer and a politician."

His family name may have helped open some doors to his dreams, but then he had to make a name for himself. As he once told a reporter, his father said to him: "I can put you on the ballroom floor, but you have to dance yourself."

He started his political life as a delegate to the convention that rewrote Illinois' constitution in 1970. Two years later, he was elected to the Illinois State Senate in a landslide. As a senator, he steered to passage important mental health and nursing home reforms. He pushed for laws to combat child abuse and drug abuse—and against a sales tax on food and medicine.

In 1980, he was elected Cook County State's attorney. As the county's chief prosecutor, he earned a reputation for law and order. He tripled the number of African-American prosecutors in the office and was reelected twice. He first ran for mayor in 1983. After finishing last in a three-way primary, he considered getting out of politics. Thank goodness, he changed his mind. He got a second chance to run for mayor in 1989, in a special election to finish the unexpired term of Chicago's beloved first African-American mayor, Harold Washington. That time, he won with 56 percent of the vote, and took the oath of office on April 24, 1989, his 47th birthday. He would go on to be reelected five times, never with less than 60 percent of the vote.

Richard Daley's vision has always been clear: To make Chicago one of the best cities in the world. And he has pursued that goal with fierce determination. His leadership helped transform Chicago from a rustbelt manufacturing center to a cultural and commercial center that the Global Cities Index calls the sixth-most global city in the world, alongside New York, London, and Hong Kong.

Richard Daley is funny, blunt, impatient, emotional, and notoriously de-

manding—especially of his staff. Like his father, he is a hands-on manager. Whenever he sees anything that needs attention—a pothole, graffiti—he makes a note on a blue slip of paper and then calls department heads to make sure the problems are fixed.

His tenure includes some disappointments—most recently, the city's failed bid to bring the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games to Chicago. But we gave it our best try. But it also includes far more remarkable successes.

He travelled the world promoting Chicago. He helped bring new jobs and new vitality to the Greater Loop, the economic heart of Chicago. The Daley years brought the expansion of McCormick Place, the ongoing modernization of O'Hare International Airport, the redevelopment of Soldier Field, home of the Chicago Bears, and the transformation of Navy Pier into one of the city's top tourist attractions. Mayor Daley pushed bravely for sensible gun laws. It is understandable. Too many times he has had to attend the funerals of policemen and other people in the city who were gunned down by gun violence from gangs and other sources.

Mayor Daley has worked relentlessly to make Chicago the most livable big city in America and the most environmentally friendly city in the world. During his tenure, Chicago created a comprehensive plan to help lower greenhouse gas emissions and address climate change. The city planted more than 600,000 trees and built more than 600 green roofs covering more than 7 million square feet, more than any other city in America. New flower beds now line the sidewalks and medians.

Downtown, a 24-acre expanse that was once an eyesore of tangled rail lines is now Millennium Park, one of the most magnificent city parks in the world, an emerald-green showcase for music, recreation, art and design.

In 1995, Mayor Daley made his boldest and riskiest political move. He asked the State legislature for control and responsibility of Chicago's public schools. When a political ally told him that taking on the schools "could be the end of your career," the mayor replied, "If I can't do that for the children of Chicago, then I should not be mayor." Underperforming schools were closed, new schools were opened. Test scores went up, and dropout rates were down, and some of the most innovative educators in America led the Chicago public school system forward. The mayor would be the first to tell you we still have a long way to go. But were it not for his determination and his accepting the responsibility the school system would not be as good as it is today.

In 1999, the city took control of the Chicago Housing Authority, razed some of the most notorious public high-rises in the country—places like the Robert Taylor Homes and Cabrini-Green—and replaced them with mixed-income housing—safe, clean houses.

Richard Daley's greatest success is the sense of common purpose he has

given Chicago. A recent Chicago Tribune summed it up well. It said:

What distinguished Richard M. Daley from many big-city mayors is his remarkable if impossible-to-complete work to barrow racial chasms that, during the 1980s, threatened to swallow Chicago. He has done that not with anguished speeches or paeans to social justice, but by projecting a strong sense of fairness in the way he does his job. As a result, he has persuaded many Chicagoans, of many hues, to pull together in the same direction: Up.

Edward Bedore, who served as budget director under both Mayor Daleys, told the Sun Times: "One was a builder, the other completed the house."

In 2005, Time magazine named Richard Daley one of "the five best big-city mayors." NPR's Scott Simon said it well: "He was his father's son, but he became his own man."

Among Mayor Daley's most cherished childhood memories is going to the White Sox games with his dad and brothers at Comiskey Park. One of my favorite memories of Richard Daley also involves the White Sox. It was October 26, 2005—Game 3 of the 2005 World Series, White Sox against the Houston Astros.

Mayor Daley was in Washington for business and I had invited him and the members of the Illinois congressional delegation to my office in the Capitol to watch the game. Everyone came, including our new Senator, now the President of the United States.

What a game. The White Sox finally won it 7-5 with a home run in the 14th inning. They would go on to win the series. That game was the longest World Series game in history: 5 hours 41 minutes. As the night wore on, almost everybody trailed away—but not Rich Daley. I have a photo of the handful of us who stuck it out until the very end. Standing in the middle, the happiest man in the photo, is Mayor Daley.

That's the Richard M. Daley way: No matter how long it takes, you give it your all until the game is won.

On Monday, Chicago will enter a new era: The post-Daley era. We will welcome a passionate, talented, new mayor, Rahm Emanuel. Like so many other cities, Chicago is struggling involving the recession and a large deficit. Fortunately, Mayor Emanuel will also inherit a legacy of unity and progress that that will continue to benefit Chicagoans for generations to come.

As one reported noted, "The Daley name is so synonymous with Chicago politics, it might as well be stitched into the city flag."

The legacy Rich Daley has created in Chicago is going to live on, in the improved lives of the people who live in that great city. His legacy will live on in the wonderment of so many people who visit and whose first words about the city are always, "I couldn't get over how clean it is." I tell you it doesn't happen by accident. It takes the leadership of a mayor and a great first lady, Maggie Daley, who made it happen.

To quote from the Tribune editorial which I mentioned earlier, "When this community, this Nation, needed to know that a city could come back from economic decline and tribal conflict, he delivered. For that, Mayor Daley, we thank you."

I also want to offer my personal thanks for his friendship and the great opportunity to work together over the years. Loretta, my wife, and I had an opportunity a couple of weeks ago to go out to dinner with the mayor and Maggie. It is something we have been planning for a long time and we had a great night. We were over on Clark Street at the Naha Restaurant. The windows were open and I watched as everybody walked on by and stopped to look inside at the mayor and the first lady. They know him because he is Chicago.

I also want to say kind words about the Daley children, Nora, Patrick, Elizabeth, and Kevin, for sharing their husband and father with us.

I will close by saying that we attend the same church in Chicago. It is called Old Saint Pat's. Last St. Patrick's Day was the mayor's big day. Maggie, who has been struggling with some health issues, made it that day and the church was packed. Everybody was wearing shamrocks and green ties. The Irish dancers were there for a great celebration of Saint Patrick's Day. Luckily for the Daleys, their grandkids were also there, little kids scrambling all over the church pews, waiting in anxious anticipation for the end of the mass because at the end of the mass the mayor's favorite, the Shannon Rovers bagpipe band, marched right up the front aisle of the church and the kids were brimming with excitement as they came up the aisle.

I captured a picture on my cell phone, which I sent to the mayor and his wife, of their grandkids in anticipation of the bagpipe band arriving. I value it and I am sure that family values it too. We value Mayor Daley and his great family. They have made Chicago a better place and the United States a better nation.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWN of Ohio). Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. ALEXANDER pertaining to the introduction of S. 964 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. ALEXANDER. I yield the floor.
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN). The Senator from Washington.

DEFICIT REDUCTION

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I come to the floor today to support the

Close Big Oil Tax Loopholes Act and to talk about the devastating effect that high prices at the pump are having on families in my home State of Washington.

Middle-class families and small business owners are still struggling. Our economy is just starting to turn around, but so many families are still fighting to stay in their homes, so many small business owners are still struggling to keep their doors open, and so many workers are still desperately trying to get back on the job. All of this is happening while we are here debating in Congress about the best ways to cut spending responsibly and rein in the deficit.

This is a serious issue. We need to get it done. But I feel very strongly that before we make budget cuts that slash support for our middle-class families, we should look at ways to responsibly reduce the deficit that do not hurt the families who are struggling the most. To me, one of the most commonsense actions we can take is to end the wasteful subsidies that we, the taxpayers, are forced to hand over to the big oil companies every year. It is a no-brainer.

Anyone who is serious about reducing the deficit should support this effort. It is as simple as that. The big oil companies are already making billions of dollars in profits from families in America who are paying now sky-high prices at the pump. In fact, the five biggest oil companies have made nearly \$1 trillion in profits—\$1 trillion in profits—in the last decade and \$36 billion in the first 3 months of this year alone.

But the big oil companies are not just making money hand over fist from families paying sky-high prices at the pump. They also have the gall to come back to those same taxpayers and demand billions more in subsidies that add directly to their profits. It does not make any sense, and it has to end.

I think my colleagues in the Senate who oppose this legislation need to explain to the American people why they think big oil companies need even bigger profits and why they think American taxpayers should continue to pad their coffers with unwarranted subsidies at the very time we are fighting to rein in the deficit.

But in addition to ending those wasteful subsidies to the big oil companies, we also have to act to end the speculation that is a big part of what is pushing prices at the pump higher and higher. At a time when our household budgets are already stretched so thin, speculators continue to drive up those prices and volatility in the oil markets. That is one of the reasons I was so angry and disappointed that the House Republican budget proposal slashed the funding for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. That is the very agency that is charged with protecting consumers from excessive speculation in the markets. How can they do their job and protect consumers if they are not there?