

Mr. President, we can't continue on this path. When I sat down on the budget negotiations, one of the things President Obama put on the table was extending Pell grants. There was a time when I would have instinctively said: Sign me up. I believe if you don't help that generation of students, like myself, who don't have the resources to go to school, you are denying them the opportunity that I had. I think young people deserve that opportunity.

But I have to say now when I hear Pell grants and student loans and consider these for-profit schools, I stop and think. We have to step back and ask which of these schools are good and worth supporting and which are not.

I said to Secretary Duncan today we should have accreditation standards so these schools are known to be worth the money the students are paying to attend. We should follow their progress to make sure if they are steering young people in debt and then dumping them into a jobless situation in life, that we stop subsidizing them with Federal student loans and Pell grants. That is incumbent upon us.

The administration recently took up the for-profit college cause. They are asking for more reporting. It is a step in the right direction. As I said to Secretary Duncan, we should have done more. We are going to find the worst of the worst. Maybe we will stop them from exploiting the students, but there are going to be a lot of awful schools still in business because our standards are not as strong as they should be at the Federal level.

Mr. President, as we consider the future of higher education, let's consider the fact that the cost of it is outstripping the resources of many families, the debt that students incur will change their lives, and there is a process of exploitation at many of these for-profit colleges that we should not tolerate. It is not fair to the students nor their families. It certainly isn't fair to America's taxpayers because, as they default on these student loans, the American taxpayers will be the ultimate losers.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we move to Calendar No. 196; that the nomination be confirmed; the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination

be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

William J. Burns, of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service with the Personal Rank of Career Ambassador, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate resumes legislative session.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we extend the morning business hour until 7 p.m.

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

Mr. REID. I also ask that the consent agreement be modified that Senators be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each during that period of time.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HENRY D. MOORE PARISH HOUSE AND LIBRARY

• Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President. On August 22, 1911, more than 1,000 people, including Governor Frederick Plaisted, gathered in the small downeast Maine town of Steuben to dedicate the Henry D. Moore Parish House and Library. Given that the crowd was far larger than the entire population of the town and the difficulty of travel from the State capital to Maine's easternmost county in those days, this clearly was an important event.

Its importance was twofold. First, the people of Steuben worked hard to wrest a living from the sea; it was a life that offered the rewards of independence in surroundings of great natural beauty, but few of the amenities found in more prosperous, less remote towns. Now, thanks to this marvelous gift, they had a center for intellectual and spiritual growth, a place to come together as a community.

Just as important as the gift was the giver. Henry Dyer Moore was born in Steuben in 1842, the son of a carpenter and shipwright. From that modest start, he went on to achieve remarkable success in business, with interests that ranged from snuff to railroads and banking. His career took him to the centers of commerce, but his heart never left Steuben.

In the century since, the people of Steuben have turned that gift into a treasure. Today, the Henry D. Moore Parish House and Library hosts concerts, plays, adult education classes,

and many other events. The library resources are considerable and modern, and are a great asset to the entire region, including the students at the Ella Lewis Grammar School. The building is more used than ever, and more beautiful than the day it was dedicated.

There is another fascinating aspect to this story. Henry D. Moore had a cousin, 6 years younger. He, too, came from a seafaring family of Steuben, and he, too, went on to achieve astonishing success. John Godfrey Moore was a pioneer in the telegraph industry and one of the most prominent international financiers of his day. Like his older cousin, he never forgot the place of his birth. The land he bought, preserved, and kept open to the public on the Schoodic Peninsula near Steuben is now one of the most spectacular sections of Acadia National Park.

One might simply observe that philanthropy ran in the Moore family. The greater truth is that such generosity runs throughout Maine and across America. Achieving success and then giving back to the place and the people that instilled the values that led to success is among the highest qualities of our national character.

Cherishing the gift and building upon it for the generations to come is another. That quality is demonstrated today by the people of Steuben, ME, and I offer my congratulations as they gather again to celebrate the centennial of the Henry D. Moore Parish House and Library.●

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS UNION BANK

• Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, today I recognize the 150th anniversary of Wisconsin's own Farmers and Merchants Union Bank. I am honored to have the opportunity to celebrate this extraordinary milestone.

The year 1861 will forever mark the beginning of one of the most trying times in American history. With the onset of the Civil War, financial and banking institutions suffered as a result of the division of our Nation. Inspired by the courage and determination of President Abraham Lincoln, businessman John Wheeler chose that year to open two banks in the town of Columbus, WI. On September 5, John Wheeler became the first president of the Farmers and Merchants Union Bank of Columbus.

Wheeler's passion and commitment to customer service continued in those who followed him as bank leaders. His grandson J. Russell Wheeler was committed to honoring the legacy his grandfather left behind and expanding the bank's profile, reach and influence. He commissioned renowned architect Louis Sullivan who has often been called the "father of the skyscraper," to design and oversee the construction of the new Farmers and Merchants Union Bank building. Sullivan acted as a mentor to architect Frank Lloyd Wright and was diligent in making sure

every detail lived up to the standards on which the institution was founded. The product of Sullivan's work has become one of Wisconsin's prized architectural attractions. On October 18, 1972, the bank was entered on the National Register of Historic Places, and later designated a national historic landmark.

Today, Farmers and Merchants Union Bank strives to provide the best in modern banking to customers in Columbus, Fall River, Friesland, Juneau, and the areas that surround those Wisconsin communities. Their mission endures as "an independent bank known for maintaining a reputation for integrity and fair dealing and promoting growth and stability in the communities they serve."

I have great admiration for independent banks that are focused on building communities in both the good and hard times. For 150 years, Farmers and Merchants Union Bank has done just that; continued to represent the importance of local ties and their critical role in the health and vitality of the Wisconsin communities they serve.

So for their commitment to providing every customer with the highest quality banking service and to reaching out to the community—a dedication that has helped sustain this institution for a century and a half—I am proud to celebrate this historic occasion and the 150 years of service that the Farmers and Merchants Union Bank has provided to the people of the State of Wisconsin.●

TRIBUTE TO STEVE LEVESQUE

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Steve Levesque, the executive director of the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority, or MRRA, which is the entity charged with the transition of the former Brunswick Naval Air Station into a vibrant commercial center. Steve has been a longtime leader in economic development in the State of Maine, having previously served as commissioner of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development. His most recent efforts have earned him recognition from the Association of Defense Communities, which presented Steve with its Base Redevelopment Leadership Award last week at its annual conference in Norfolk, VA.

An era came to an end on May 31 when the Brunswick Naval Air Station, also known as BNAS, was officially closed as an unfortunate casualty of the base realignment and closure process. As the executive director of the MRRA, Steve Levesque was charged with the unenviable task of overseeing the reuse of the 3,200-acre former air station. Many anticipated that the closure would be a devastating blow to the Midcoast economy, but under Steve's leadership the air station's closure has transformed into an exciting redevelopment project with much hope for the future.

Always reluctant to accept credit for the successes at Brunswick Landing, Steve is always quick to laud the efforts of those around him. While the MRRA staff and board unquestionably embody the finest attributes of Maine's legendary work ethic, Steve's buoyant outlook, foresight, and true leadership capacity have undoubtedly accelerated the redevelopment of BNAS into Brunswick Landing, which is home to an ever-growing number of businesses focused on projects as diverse as aviation, advanced composites, and education. Tenants include both new and existing business from across the globe, including Kestrel Aircraft, Molnlycke Health Care, Southern Maine Community College, and Bowdoin College.

Under Steve's leadership, there are presently 10 companies in the process of relocating to Brunswick Landing, and many other businesses are actively considering moving to the site because of the proactive efforts of Steve and his team at MRRA. There are 90 jobs associated with those 10 firms, and an additional 515 are projected. In April, Steve also oversaw the successful launch of Brunswick Executive Airport, and just over a month later hosted the first annual Brunswick International Fly-In for pilots from across the region and the entire country.

In acknowledging Steve's commitment to Brunswick Landing with its prestigious Base Redevelopment Leadership Award, the Association of Defense Communities noted that "[m]uch of the success so far in promoting the base's redevelopment can be attributed to Levesque's strong working relationship with the Navy, the state's congressional delegation, the governor's office, the legislature, local officials and the business community." I can attest that Steve has been a reliable partner and a tremendous asset to the redevelopment effort as he has labored tirelessly to ensure that the Midcoast region is an attractive locale for businesses seeking to open, expand, and grow.

Steve exemplifies the very best of Maine. Aside from his professional duties, he has been active in the local community as the founder of the Maine Moose Junior Hockey team. From 2006 until 2010, Steve served as the president and general manager of the Maine Moose, sharing his love of hockey with kids from across the State. Steve's passion for and commitment to public service and the people of Maine is truly commendable.

I have long respected Steve Levesque for his intelligence, confidence, and ability to accomplish great things. At a time when job creation and economic growth are paramount to revitalizing midcoast Maine's economy, I know no one more suited to the task than Steve Levesque. I thank Steve for his incredible work thus far, and wish him success as he continues his efforts to construct Maine's Center for Innovation at Brunswick Landing.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 9:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1383. An act to temporarily preserve higher rates for tuition and fees for programs of education at non-public institutions of higher learning pursued by individuals enrolled in the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs before the enactment of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

At 12:13 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1938. An act to direct the President to expedite the consideration and approval of the construction and operation of the Keystone XL oil pipeline, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2608. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

At 2:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1309. An act to extend the authorization of the national flood insurance program, to achieve reforms to improve the financial integrity and stability of the program, and to increase the role of private markets in the management of flood insurance risk, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1309. An act to extend the authorization of the national flood insurance program, to achieve reforms to improve the financial integrity and stability of the program, and to increase the role of private markets in the management of flood insurance risk, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1420. A bill to require that the United States Government prioritize all obligations on the debt held by the public, Social Security benefits, and military pay in the event that the debt limit is reached, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time: