

Meyers began as a pastor in 1969 in Nebraska and Illinois. In 1980, his career took a dramatic shift when he began working as a recreational therapist at the Battle Creek Sanitarium. In 1986, he transitioned to Hanford Hospital, where he worked as a registered nurse.

Four years later, Meyers accepted a position as vice president of nursing at San Joaquin Community Hospital.

From there, he became chief operating officer and vice president of nursing at Manchester Memorial, and then president and chief executive officer.

Several community outreach initiatives began under Meyers's direction, including Mission in Motion, public health screenings, Live It Up!, and mission-outreach programs that enrich the community.

Meyers holds a bachelor of arts in religion, a bachelor of science in nursing, and a master's of divinity from Andrews University.

He is married to Susan Meyers, who works for the hospital, and all three of his children hold nursing degrees.

Meyers plans to continue helping the community outreach and church programs.

TRIBUTE TO TESS LIPPS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an honored Kentuckian who has worked to better the Commonwealth. Mr. Tess Lipps of Clay County, KY, was named to the Clay County Days Wall of Fame in August 2012 for the extraordinary work he has accomplished in his community during his lifetime.

Tess Lipps was born July 8, 1947, in a section of Clay County known as Martin's Creek. Growing up with eight brothers and sisters, Tess and siblings learned what some would call the essentials in life: integrity to others and faith in God. Upon graduating from Clay County High School in 1964, Tess applied these essentials to his life.

In 1971, Tess married Barbara Hicks. From this critical point in life, Tess and Barb spent the next greater portion of their lives living to serve God and their community. They became youth leaders at the Manchester Pentecostal Church and taught a teenage boys' Sunday school class. In 1972, the couple opened the first Christian bookstore in the area in which they lived, the Gospel Variety Shoppe.

Tess continued to accomplish and succeed in a plethora of activities. He became an agent with the Commonwealth Insurance Company in 1984. Progressing through the ranks, he was promoted to sales manager and also branch manager. He retired from this position in 2003, but his work to the community did not cease.

In addition to serving as a board member of Agape and emcee of the Halleluiah Day Festivals, Tess answered his calling in life and became pastor of the Manchester Gospel Mission Church in 2006. Tess also formed the Clay County Cancer Coalition and the UPWARD Soccer Program in Clay County, despite some doubts from others. He was told that the community and church were too small to support such large programs. But Tess's faith allowed him to dream the impossible, and then accomplish that dream.

This year, 250 kids played soccer on a brandnew field in the community. Tess and Barb have been blessed beyond measure. The wish of Tess for the community is that all people can work together making greater opportunities for future generations. Mr. Tess Lipps has served his community well.

At this time, I would like to ask my colleagues in the Senate to join me in honoring Mr. Tess Lipps, an individual whose hard work and dedication to the community, combined with faith and persistence, has forever changed the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

A news story highlighting the achievements of Tess Lipps was recently published in the Manchester Enterprise. I ask unanimous consent that said story be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Manchester Enterprise, Aug. 30, 2012]

LIPPS KNOWN FOR COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY CLAY COUNTY DAYS HALL OF FAME SPONSORED BY THE MANCHESTER ENTERPRISE

Tess Lipps, recognized this year as a Clay County Days Hall of Fame inductee, is known as a community volunteer who helped form the Clay County Cancer Coalition and UPWARD Soccer.

Lipps was born July 8, 1947, in the Martin's Creek Section of Clay County, along with eight brothers and sisters. His parents, Henry and Georgia Lipps, instilled honesty, faith, and a hard working ethic.

He attended a two-room school at Martin's Creek for seven years, and was part of the first graduating class of the new Goose Rock Elementary in 1960. He graduated from Clay County High School in 1964.

He and his wife, the former Barbara Hicks, were youth leaders at the Manchester Pentecostal Church for over 13 years, and taught a teenage boys' Sunday school class for the next 12 years.

In 1972, they opened the first Christian book store in the area, and operated it until they sold it in 1983.

He became an agent with Commonwealth Insurance in 1984, and served in that capacity until he was promoted to sales manager in 1997. He was promoted to branch manager in 2001, and was there until his retirement in 2003.

A dream of his was realized in January 2006 when he became pastor of the Manchester Gospel Mission Church.

In May of that year, he was part of a group of concerned citizens that formed the Clay County Cancer Coalition. He was president of the coalition for five years, stepping down in June of this year.

In 2009, he and the congregation of the church, with the leadership of Joe and Tracy Farmer, started the UPWARD Soccer Program. This year, 250 youth are playing on a new field, with a vision for greater things in the future.

Lipps and his wife have a son, a daughter, and two goddaughters, along with grandchildren.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USTR

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, William Shakespeare once said, "Nimble thought can jump both sea and land."

Today I wish to pay tribute to a U.S. Government agency whose thinking is

nimble and its actions as well. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

For 50 years, USTR's small but elite staff has been crossing the globe, over sea and land, to break down barriers to American exports, and they have helped develop a world linked by trade, a world governed by rules, to ensure a level playing field for our exporters and their workers.

USTR has been remarkably effective at that task. Since the creation of the Special Trade Representative in 1962, annual U.S. trade has grown from \$52.1 billion to \$4.8 trillion, contributing to economic growth of nearly 350 percent. USTR led the way through 20 FTA negotiations, multiple GATT and WTO Rounds, and countless bilateral trade negotiations in its quest to create opportunities abroad for U.S. businesses, workers, farmers and ranchers, in order to reach the 95 percent of global consumers who live outside the United States.

USTR spearheaded the effort to create the fundamental rules and structures that underpin the global trading system. It successfully concluded the Uruguay Round negotiations that created the World Trade Organization. The WTO contributed to an explosion of trade and extended the rules-based trading system to nearly every trading nation of the world.

Throughout it all, the dedicated officials at USTR have maintained their commitment to expanding economic growth through trade, for the benefit of all Americans. Through Democratic and Republican administrations, USTR officials have put the interests of all Americans first. And they have accomplished so much with so little. Never larger than its current strength of about 250 professionals, USTR has turned its small size into a virtue. USTR acts and reacts quickly, cutting through bureaucratic obstacles in the government to develop and execute market-opening strategies to break down barriers facing American exporters abroad.

As part of the Executive Office of the President, USTR is perfectly positioned to leverage the resources of the entire U.S. government and to integrate the full range of stakeholder interests on trade issues. And it is perfectly positioned, and has served well, as an effective and indispensable interlocutor with the U.S. Congress. USTR understands and respects Congress's constitutionally established role in the regulation of international trade. Through its close consultations with Capitol Hill, USTR presents to the world a trade policy that enjoys broad support.

USTR would not be as effective and it could not perform its role if housed elsewhere in the government or were it to become much larger and more bureaucratic. As others have observed over the years, if USTR did not exist in its current form, it would have to be reinvented.

USTR is now hard at work on a number of initiatives that continue its legacy of expanding trade for the benefit of all Americans, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, and World Trade Organization agreements on topics from services liberalization to customs reform. And USTR remains hard at work enforcing our existing trade agreements at the WTO and elsewhere, to ensure the United States receives the full benefit of those agreements.

So I would like to extend my congratulations to Ambassador Kirk, his predecessors, and the entire USTR team past and present for reaching the 50-year milestone. I look forward to another half century of stellar accomplishments, and I can assure you that I will do everything I can to help make that possible.

SECOND BIG SKY HONOR FLIGHT VISIT TO D.C.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise to recognize a very important event that will be occurring this Sunday and Monday. Eighty-nine World War II veterans from Montana will take part in the Big Sky Honor Flight and come to Washington, DC, to visit their monument—the WWII Memorial.

Their trip is hosted by the Big Sky Honor Flight Program. The mission is to recognize American veterans for their sacrifices and achievements by flying them to Washington, DC, to see their memorials at no cost.

These veterans come from all parts of our great State. This is a special weekend for this group of heroes. It is also a time to give thanks for the courage and sacrifice of all our veterans and servicemembers. It is a time to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who fought on the front in Europe, on the battlefields of Korea, in the jungles of Vietnam, the deserts of Iraq, and those who are currently fighting in the mountains of Afghanistan. We must not forget their sacrifices.

I am so pleased I will be able to meet with these courageous Montanans. I ask the Senate to join me in welcoming these heroes to our Nation's Capital this weekend, and I ask unanimous consent that their names be printed in the RECORD.

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

Lee Alderdice; Milton Lyman Amsden; Harry A. Arvidson; Peter N. Bertram; Leonard E. Bestrom; Warren Charles Bodecker; Ralph Floyd Brewington; James C. Brook; William B. Brown; Jackson L. Burger; Filmore B. Canon; John M. Clark; Harold Lee Conrad; Hollis E. Coon; Gool Counts; Carley Rhein Cromwell; Leo Eckhardt; James E. Elander; James Ellison; Charles T. Eskro.

Frank D. Evans; Alvin Oscar Fisher; Samuel W. Frank; Durl J. Gibbs; Raymond P. Gregori; Robert Glover Hall; Charles E. Halstead; Thomas A. Hanel; Russell LeRoy Hartse; James Hasterlik; Milam V. Hearn; McDonald W. Held; Lewis W. Holzheimer;

Bernard E. Hertson; Earl T. Jackson; Elwin M. Johnson; George L. Kimmet; Vincent Leo Koefeld; Vernon Lee Koelzer; Frank J. Koncilya.

Andre Rioul Kukay; Willard E. LaCounte; Albert R. Lasater; Harold J. Lasater; Gorvan J. LeDuc; Oscar L. Lee; Norman D. Leonard; Joseph Biggs Little; Max E. Long; Robert W. Lubbers; Leonard John Mager; James J. Marshall; William R. Matthew; Paul Messer; Elizabeth S. Meyer; Geraldine E. Mihalic; Gerald K. Nelson; John H. O'Bannon; Clarence A. Olson; Eddie C. Olson.

Ray A. Olson; Thomas F. Patterson; Roy Louis Peters; John W. Porter; Carl Redding; Michael G. Rhodes; Robert V. Ryan; Charles F. Sandford; Dave Schledewitz; Laurence N. Shipp; William James Sivele; Anthony W. Skorupa; Charles E. Smith; Donald E. Smith; Kenneth C. Smith; Robert M. Standefer; John R. Stevenson; Frank Phillip Thatcher; Clifford V. Thomsen; Robert E. Torginson; Ronald W. Torstenson; James Arthur Vick; Albert Wade; James Forest Walker; Bernard Edgar Wanderaas; Joseph A. Weber; Allen L. Whittington; Bryce Wood Williams; Andrew R. Winter.

MODIFICATIONS TO S. 1956

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, would the Senator from South Dakota enter into a colloquy to discuss concerns I have with his bill S. 1956 and a suggested amendment I have filed for consideration, which is currently running through the hotline process?

First of all I want to thank my colleagues for their willingness to work with me to address some of the concerns I have with this bill as it was reported out of the Commerce Committee.

While I have some ongoing reservations about the precedent and potential impacts this bill could have on our relations with our closest European allies, I am willing to allow legislation to move forward if I may get consent to have my amendment agreed to.

I would like to discuss my amendment and the process which the legislation prescribes the Secretary of Transportation to follow in determining whether to prohibit U.S. airlines from participating in the European Union's carbon emissions trading scheme.

The second paragraph of subsection (a), section 3 of the legislation contains a provision that is designed to "hold harmless" U.S. airlines from the fees, taxes or fines that they incur from the EU under the emissions trading scheme.

While the Secretary of Transportation has discretion as to how he will act to "hold harmless" our air carriers, it is understood that these actions could possibly require some form of payment by the Federal Government.

One of my greatest concerns with the bill, which I believe the sponsors of the bill share with me, and I appreciate their interest in working with me to address this issue, is that any payments that may result from this provision not come at the expense of the American taxpayer.

I would like to ask the Senator this question: is it correct that it is not his intent that any costs or remunerations

triggered by this legislation come at the expense of U.S. taxpayer dollars?

Mr. THUNE. That is correct, it has always been my intent, and it is shared by the Congressional Budget Office, and the Secretary of Transportation, who will have the primary responsibility of implementing this legislation.

According to the CBO, "enacting S. 1956 would have no significant impact on the federal budget."

I ask unanimous consent at this time to have their entire report printed in the RECORD.

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

AUGUST 1, 2012.

Hon. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 1956, the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme Prohibition Act of 2011.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Megan Carroll.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF.

Enclosure.

S. 1956—European Union Emissions Trading Scheme Prohibition Act of 2011

The European Union (EU) has established the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), a regulatory framework related to greenhouse gas emissions. Currently, the ETS covers emissions from air carriers that operate flights within, to, and from EU member states. Negotiations between the U.S. government and the EU about the applicability of the ETS to U.S. air carriers are ongoing, and the potential outcome of those negotiations is unclear.

S. 1956 would direct the Secretary of Transportation to prohibit U.S. air carriers from participating in the ETS if the Secretary believes such a prohibition to be in the public interest. The bill would direct federal agencies to continue negotiations in pursuit of a worldwide approach to addressing aviation-related emissions and would authorize the Secretary to use existing authorities to ensure that U.S. air carriers are held harmless for any costs they incur if they participate in the ETS.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 1956 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. We expect that the bill would not alter the scope of diplomatic efforts currently underway or federal agencies' costs to participate in those efforts, which are subject to appropriation. The bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 1956 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 1956 would impose a private-sector mandate, as defined in UMRA, if U.S. air carriers would be prohibited from participating in the ETS. The cost of the mandate would depend on how the prohibition is administered by the Department of Transportation. Because information about how the prohibition would be implemented is not available, CBO has no basis for estimating the cost, if any, to U.S. air carriers. Consequently, CBO cannot determine whether the cost of the mandate would exceed the annual threshold established in UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$146 million in 2012, adjusted annually for inflation).