

Officer Kenyon Youngstrom, like all those who serve in law enforcement across California, put his life on the line to protect his community. He is survived by his loving wife Karen and four children: Alexander, Madison, Andrew, and Kennedy. My heart goes out to his family and loved ones, and my thoughts and prayers are with them. We are forever indebted to him for his courage, service, and sacrifice.●

TRIBUTE TO ALVIN ROHRS

● Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I am on the Senate floor today to honor Alvin Rohrs for his 30 years of leadership and dedication to SIFE, Students in Free Enterprise. SIFE brings together today's business leaders and thinkers with enterprising college students on every continent who develop small businesses to solve local problems and create wealth and hope where there was little of either. SIFE is a hands-on business leadership opportunity, and Rohrs directs this unique business gospel toward those who want to live a financially, personally, and environmentally sustainable life.

While Rohrs has carried the title of president and CEO of SIFE, he has also been known as the enabler, chief cheerleader, and director of SIFE over these many years. Alvin Rohrs is an educator, motivator, guidance counselor, spiritual leader and the wizard behind the curtain at SIFE, working with other captains of business and industry to bring new opportunities to campuses around the globe. The list of American and international corporate titans that have brought their energy, insight and resources to SIFE is extraordinary. Even the United States State Department recognizes the value of SIFE in developing "more effective, socially responsible business leaders."

SIFE has been a key sponsor of sustainable business practices on every continent for three decades. SIFE educates students about the virtues of the risk-reward system known as free enterprise. SIFE applies free enterprise principles to lift people out of poverty and give them new opportunities for personal enrichment and service to their neighborhoods and communities. Among many examples, SIFE teams have shown poor single mothers how to start their own small businesses that boost their incomes and provide for their families. Farmers and small business people are given instruction about turning their ideas into companies that solve problems and provide jobs in disadvantaged neighborhoods. It is the free market system at its best. It is SIFE. It is Alvin Rohrs.

Rohrs heads a staff of more than 60 professionals at the headquarters in my hometown of Springfield, MO. Dozens of staffers help with SIFE's efforts to spread the positive word about business development and how it can influence initiatives through which scores of students develop projects to lift others out of despair. More than 1,600

teams on college campuses—more than 57,000 students—are active in 39 countries, including China and Russia, demonstrating the power of local business to solve local problems and create wealth. SIFE is a powerful force for enlightenment and good works.

Rohrs has led SIFE's development into a megaphone for the positive power of business in the world community. This year he reaches a milestone—30 years at the helm. He has earned many awards and accolades for his works in the charity community and in the business world. He has an unwavering belief in the work of SIFE and the message it carries into energizing entrepreneurs and creating new wealth.

I congratulate Alvin Rohrs and SIFE on their growth, accomplishments and good work providing the world community with personal understanding of free enterprise and the rewards it offers to people in all walks of life and all economic ranks. My hope is that SIFE and Alvin Rohrs continue this critical work for many years to come.●

REMEMBERING JOHN FRANCIS DIGNAM

● Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary Bay State resident and patriot, John Francis Dignam, who passed away on March 18, 2012, at the age of 78.

John Francis Dignam's life story is truly an American story. Born in Lawrence, MA, John attended St. Mary's Grammar School and graduated from Central Catholic High School at the age of 16, in 1950. He attended Tilton Prep School and Holy Cross, before enlisting in the Army in 1953, where he received numerous commendations. Upon his discharge from the Army, John attended Northeastern University in Boston, and earned a degree in physics and Applied Science in 1962. He returned to Northeastern many years later, and earned a degree from the executive MBA program.

John is best known for his work as a civil servant at the Watertown Arsenal from 1966-1996, where he served with and led a core team of national experts focused on the development of advanced materials and structures to meet the highly challenging requirements of United States ground and space-based defense systems. At the time of his retirement, he served as the Chief of the Ballistic Missile Defense Materials Program Office; Physical Science Administrator in the Materials Directorate; and Director of the Hardened Materials Program.

Following the closure of Watertown Arsenal in 1996, John retired from government service and founded a small company named Mentis Sciences. At Mentis Sciences, John and his team have conducted cutting-edge materials research, engineering and manufacturing support for the Department of Defense on many high priority tactical and strategic missile defense programs.

John Francis Dignam loved our great country, and his record of academic and professional achievement is both substantial and impressive. But it tells only part of the story. Alongside of his beloved wife of 49 years, Rita, he was a life-long resident of Massachusetts who was active in his community and his church. Throughout his decades of service to the country, John never lost sight of his Massachusetts roots, and he always made time to support his community and his church. He led others through his example. And today he lays at rest along the hillside at the Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Lawrence.

I am proud to rise today to honor his service to the Nation, and to recognize his profound contributions to Massachusetts, the greater Lawrence community, and his family.●

TRIBUTE TO MOIRA MCCARTHY STANFORD

● Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Ms. Moira McCarthy Stanford, who has contributed enormously and tirelessly to the cause of fighting diabetes.

Moira's support for diabetes research stems from her personal journey learning about diabetes. Her daughter, Lauren, was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes shortly after her sixth birthday. Type 1 diabetes is a chronic disorder that occurs when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin to properly control the body's sugar levels. We can all agree that navigating through diabetes management for both parents and children is extremely difficult, and with no cure for this disease, Moira's advocacy for research is essential.

Now, you may be familiar with the ongoing clinical trials for an artificial pancreas, which will dramatically improve the quality of life for individuals living with diabetes. This device has the potential to improve diabetes control by automatically providing the amount of insulin an individual needs to maintain healthy glucose levels. I am encouraged by these developments, which Moira has strongly supported. Her daughter Lauren will participate in these trials, and I am impressed that she is following in her mother's footsteps to help others living with diabetes.

I would also like to mention that Moira will be riding in this year's Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's Ride to Cure Diabetes. She will be bicycling 105 miles through Death Valley to raise money for the foundation. An avid cyclist myself, I understand the dedication required to train for this type event. I am also impressed that she is the second highest fundraiser in the Nation for this race. Moira has worked tirelessly for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, JDRF. She has served as president of the JDRF and was named JDRF International Volunteer of the Year in 2007.

I would like to thank Moira McCarthy Stanford for her tremendous work

on behalf of the diabetes community and the JDRF. I know that her family, her daughter, Lauren, and the people of Massachusetts are extremely proud of her advocacy and service.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT F. GILLIGAN

● Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, along with my colleague Senator COONS, I wish to recognize a valued leader and respected public servant as he embarks upon his retirement following a long and distinguished career: the Honorable Robert P. Gilligan, speaker of the House of Representatives of Delaware.

As the longest serving house member in Delaware's history, Bob Gilligan has devoted his career to bettering the State of Delaware. A native of Wilmington, Bob went to Pennsylvania to earn his bachelor's degree from St. Joseph's University and a master's degree from Villanova University. But, fortunately for the people of Delaware and specifically those in Sherwood Park in northern Delaware, Bob soon returned to the First State to begin a remarkable career in public service.

Bob was first elected to the Delaware House of Representatives in 1972, and he has served there with distinction for the past 40 years. As representative of the 19th District, he has served as house majority leader from 1983-1984, house minority whip from 1985-1995, and house minority leader from 1995-2008. In 2008, Bob was elected by his peers to be the 145th general assembly speaker of the house.

During my time as Governor of Delaware, I had the great fortune of working with Bob on a host of important issues, including education reform, welfare reform, and fiscal policy that led to Delaware's credit rating being raised to AAA for the first time in State history—a rating that the State still enjoys today. I have had the privilege of watching Bob grow as a leader in the State house and, ultimately, as speaker over the course of his 40-year tenure. During that time, what I came to admire most about Bob was his ability to bring people together to work collaboratively. His peers on both sides of the aisle have noted Bob's ability to form partnerships and ensure the house proceeds in a civil and orderly manner. This is a truly laudable feat made even more impressive by the fact that over the past 40 years, Bob has worked with 8 different Governors, 67 different State senators, 176 different State representatives, worked on 12 different committees, and had the opportunity to vote on over 15,000 House Bills.

Bob leaves behind a legacy of creating a more open, responsible, and accountable government. When he first took office as speaker in 2008, Bob's goal was clear: He wanted to change business as usual in Dover. Almost immediately, sessions began on time, committee meetings were scheduled at least 48 hours in advance, and agendas were made public at least 24 hours prior to meeting. But the reforms

didn't stop there. Under Bob's new leadership, the first bill of the new general assembly was his bill, House Bill 1, which made the Freedom of Information Act, FOIA, applicable to the general assembly, effectively opening the legislature to FOIA requests. And, fittingly, as Bob closed the chapter on his career in the house, he introduced one of his final bills, House Bill 300, which requires stricter disclosure laws with regard to campaign finance, helping to ensure that elections in Delaware races are conducted in a fair and transparent manner.

Upon his retirement, Bob described the essence of his leadership and reiterated his faith in Delaware's approach to good governance: "I hope this place never becomes like Washington D.C. It's our state. You've got to do what's right for the state. Good government and making good decisions is good politics, and if you don't get elected because of a tough decision, you still sleep well. All the decisions I've made, I never lost any sleep."

A man of extraordinary service, Bob is known as a hard-working and active legislator. In addition to his responsibilities as speaker of the house, he served on the House Administration, Ethics, House Rules, and Veteran Affairs Committees. Prior to his role as speaker, Bob served as a member of the Joint Finance Committee and was chairman of the Bond Bill Committee, the Health and Human Development Committee, and the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Bob's leadership and commitment to serving others extends well beyond the State house. He is a life member of the Mill Creek Fire Company; a board member of the Blood Bank of Delmarva; a co-founder of the Mid-County and Absalom Jones Senior Centers; and, a parishioner of St. John the Beloved in Wilmington, DE. In addition to his title of "speaker," Bob is also known by the title of "professor" to many students through his role as an educator at Delaware Technical and Community College in Stanton.

Given Bob's incredible career of public service—both as an elected official and as a private citizen—I was of two minds when I heard of his plans to retire. On the one hand, Delaware will sorely miss its devoted public servant and leader. On the other hand, however, he will take some very well-deserved time to enjoy life with his wife Jeanne, their two daughters, son-in-law, and three grandchildren, Cole, Delaney, and Asher. We are in Jeanne's debt for sharing her husband of many years with the people of the First State.

I am truly honored to have worked with Bob Gilligan for many years and call him my friend. It is truly a privilege to pay tribute to a man who has done so much for the great State of Delaware for all of these years.●

● Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I am honored to join my senior Senator, Tom CARPER, as we rise today to honor the

legacy of one of Delaware's longest serving elected officials—Speaker of the House Bob Gilligan.

Speaker Gilligan has served in the Delaware House of Representatives for 4 decades, elected to 20 consecutive terms by his constituents. Bob was first elected in 1972 at age 29—a remarkably young age to be so focused and service-minded.

A lot has changed in this country since 1972, but not Bob's commitment to Delaware, to education, to equal rights and to making our State a better place to live.

After 40 years of service, Speaker Gilligan is retiring at the end of this legislative session to spend more time with his family, including his wife Jeanne, his daughters Katie and Shannon, and his son-in-law Gavin, as well as his grandchildren, Delaney, Cole, and Asher.

Earlier this year, a number of us gathered at the Mill Creek Fire Hall, where Bob is a lifetime honorary member, and celebrated 70/40—his 70th birthday and his 40th year of public service. All it took was a look at the crowd that gathered to see the real and positive impact Speaker Gilligan has had on our community. He always kept his constituents from his district first and foremost on his mind, even as he worked on issues of broader impact to our State and even our Nation.

It was through Speaker Gilligan's leadership that real transparency and openness was brought to Delaware State government. He led the way for House Bill 1—legislation in 2009 that made our State's open-government laws apply to the General Assembly. That may sound like simple fairness and good governance, but it wasn't an easy road to get there. It took all of Bob's legislative acumen to get it done, and now all Delawareans benefit from a more accountable and open government.

Our State has benefitted from Bob's passion and commitment in other ways, too. His legacy is felt in education programs and schools across our State, as well as at the Mid-County Senior Center, which he helped found to support local seniors and provide the recreational, educational, and nutritional services necessary for a dignified retirement.

In these times of deep division and heated political rhetoric, Bob is a breath of fresh air. He listens to diverse perspectives and values principled compromise. As someone who has been around long enough to serve as both Speaker of the House and Minority Leader for Delaware, he has worked hard to find ways to bring people together.

Our State and our Nation could use more Bob Gilligans, and I join Delawareans of all political parties in thanking him for his decades of service and wishing him well in his retirement.●