

accomplishments, he remains a marine at heart. He is a marine through and through. He learned the tradition of service at home, although home changed often with his father's duty station. Jim's father was an officer in the U.S. Air Force and a pilot during World War II.

JIM's son, Jimmy Webb, a marine who served in Iraq, continued that tradition of service. Although JIM WEBB was a vocal opponent of the Iraq war, he was incredibly proud of his son's service as a soldier in battle-torn Iraq. Every day of his 2006 campaign, JIM WEBB wore his son's combat boots. It was a tribute not only to Jimmy, his boy, but to all people who have been sent into harm's way, he said.

I met JIM WEBB in my office not far from here as a result of Senator Bob Kerrey asking me if I would spend some time with him. I was happy to do so. I will never forget that meeting, just the three of us in the room. Those of us who worked with Bob Kerrey know he is and was such a vibrant person. He was almost mischievous, I guess you could put it. You could just tell he had a little touch of differentness.

When he brought JIM in to visit with me I learned very quickly they were both warriors—Bob Kerrey, a Navy Seal, recipient of the Medal of Honor, and JIM WEBB, as we said, Navy Cross, a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, both veterans of the Vietnam war.

As we sat talking, it was obvious they were both fighters, warriors. JIM certainly proved that in his 2006 campaign. The reason Bob wanted me to visit with him is because JIM WEBB had decided he wanted to run for the Senate. What did I think of it?

I probably told JIM what a lot of people told him: You want to run for the Senate? The election is right upon us.

He said, I want to do that.

Not many believed he had any chance of winning. He believed he could, Bob Kerrey believed he could, but he ran because he wanted to and, boy, did he run hard.

For me, though, it did not settle in my mind until the night before the election. There was an event in Alexandria, VA. It was a cold November night. I stood with JIM on that stage. I realized then that he could win. People were lined up for blocks. "Lined up" was the wrong word—people covered blocks. Every open space as far as you could see was filled with people.

President Clinton was there. I was there. They didn't come to see me, of course. They came to see not President Clinton, they came to see JIM WEBB because he was doing the impossible. He had captivated the voters. He was unafraid. He spoke his mind. And what a smart man.

I marvel at the intelligence of JIM WEBB, his ability to learn and to express his ideas. As I said, he captivated the voters. That is really why he won the race he should not have been able to win.

Once he was elected, he was a marvel to watch. He believed he could change the world. He did change several corners of the world. Let me give one example. He was a new Senator and he came to me and said, I have an idea. JIM WEBB is not a person who just focuses on an idea and walks away from it. When JIM WEBB came to see me, he had the legislation he had drafted. It was not sent to some bill drafter to have him look it over, he drafted the legislation himself. What did he want to do? He wanted to introduce a post-9/11 GI Bill of Rights. What he wanted to do was expand educational benefits for military families and he brought our commitment to our veterans to the standard enjoyed by World War II veterans. He was just a freshman Senator.

After spending about an hour with him with facts and figures and the actual legislation, I said sign me up. I will do whatever I can to help you with it.

A brandnew Senator passed this major piece of legislation. He built a coalition of veterans and Democratic and Republican Senators to fight for this legislation. Since this legislation became law in 2008, more than 750,000 veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and their families have used the program to access the education they deserve.

JIM, who speaks Vietnamese, has also helped shape our country's foreign policy in other places. He played a key role in Burma where he secured the rights of democracy activists such as Aung San Suu Kyi, who came and visited us a month or so ago.

JIM WEBB is a unique individual in so many different ways. He has visited many of the places where the battles were fought in World War II. He went to those islands and spent time walking to see what the veterans had gone through in a war prior to the one in which he was involved. He actually did that. It was physically hard, but he wanted to do that and he did it on his own.

Robert Kennedy said:

Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation.

JIM WEBB should be proud of his part—it was not a small part—in writing the history of his generation. He did it in the battlefields in Vietnam. He did it in the Pentagon. He did it here in the Senate.

I do not know what is ahead for JIM WEBB, but we have not heard the last of him. He has a wonderful, beautiful wife and wonderful children. He left his mark on the Senate and he will never be forgotten, even though he served here one term. I am really sorry his Senate career was not longer, but I am gratified it was so productive.

I congratulate JIM WEBB and express on this RECORD how much I admire him and what a strength he has been to me. He was a strength to me on the health

care bill. He has given me wonderful information on immigration—which I have spent a lot of time on. I have read some of his books. I have not read them all but I read a couple of them. He is somebody I will miss very much and I will always consider JIM WEBB somebody who made me a better person.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. HAGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF DANNY HICKMAN

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Boone County Sheriff Danny Hickman for his commitment to safety and law enforcement during 14 years at the helm of the sheriff's department.

Sheriff Hickman made a career of helping others, serving in the fire department, medical, and law enforcement fields, as well as the Boone County Quorum Court before being elected sheriff in 1998.

His dedication to safety and law enforcement has been instrumental in the improvements within the department and the services available to the citizens of Boone County. Sheriff Hickman made 21st century improvements to office computers, patrol cars, and provided resources for additional training for officers and staff.

In addition, he continuously strived for opportunities to learn the newest methods available to law enforcement officers in programs offered by the University of Arkansas division of Criminal Justice Institute and to help meet the needs of rural communities during the Rural Executive Management Institute.

His efforts helped bring nearly \$½ million in Federal grants for school resource officers, a domestic violence officer, radio and camera equipment for area schools, and law enforcement services in Boone County. Sheriff Hickman made safety improvements a priority.

He has a true passion to making sure the people of Arkansas. Sheriff Hickman is the past president of the Arkansas Sheriff's Association and currently

serves on the Arkansas Association of Counties Risk Management Trustees Board.

I congratulate Sheriff Danny Hickman for his successes in law enforcement and keeping Arkansas citizens safe. I wish him continued success in the future. We are all grateful for his years of service and leadership in Boone County.●

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT FIRST CLASS TOMMY SHOEMAKER

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a true American hero. During a parade honoring our veterans on November 15, 2012, in Midland, TX, four of veterans lost their lives when their float was tragically struck by an oncoming train. Sixteen other veterans were also injured.

That day, SFC Tommy Shoemaker was among the veterans being honored for their service, and his float was directly ahead of the one struck. Upon witnessing this tragedy, SFC Shoemaker jumped from his float that was traveling 40MPH. He, his fellow veterans, and other soldiers began immediately assisting those injured. Prior to ambulances arriving, they provided CPR and life-saving aid to stabilize those injured. SFC Shoemaker's selfless act of heroism not only saved lives but also is a testament to the special forces training he received.

SFC Shoemaker entered the military in 1986 and later served in the Army Reserves in Monroe, LA, and also the Mississippi National Guard. In 2004, he was deployed to Afghanistan as part of an Embedded Transition Team. Unfortunately, his convoy unit was attacked twice in 2005 and again in 2006, the last a combination of road side bombs and an ambush. The incident left SFC Shoemaker severely injured and forced him to return home.

Since, SFC Shoemaker has been working as an Associate Administrator at the Northeast Louisiana War Veterans Home, a position he held prior to deployment. He also lends his time at the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, and the Office of Public Health. He does all of this with permanent disabilities to 90 percent of his body, as a loving husband to his wife Pam, and their four daughters, Malissa, Kayla, Suzie, and Sierra.

It is my privilege and honor to recognize SFC Tommy Shoemaker for his bravery and courage and for his service to the United States of America.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:08 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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 2367. An act to strike the word "lunatic" from Federal law, and for other purposes.

S. 3486. An act to implement the provisions of the Hague Agreement and the Patent Law Treaty.

H.R. 6223. An act to amend section 1059(e) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 to clarify that a period of employment abroad by the Chief of Mission or United States Armed Forces as a translator, interpreter, or in a security-related position in an executive or managerial capacity is to be counted as a period of residence and physical presence in the United States for purposes of qualifying for naturalization, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6602. An act to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements.

H.R. 6605. An act to eliminate an unnecessary reporting requirement for an unfunded DNA Identification grant program.

H.R. 6620. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate certain limitations on the length of Secret Service Protection for former Presidents and for the children of former Presidents.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2838) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes, with an amendment, and agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the title of the bill.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 50. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multi-stakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 4:34 p.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 bills:

S. 2367. An act to strike the word "lunatic" from Federal law, and for other purposes.

S. 3486. An act to implement the provisions of the Hague Agreement and the Patent Law Treaty.

H.R. 6634. An act to change the effective date for the Internet publication of certain financial disclosure forms.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 6602. An act to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 6605. An act to eliminate an unnecessary reporting requirement for an unfunded DNA Identification grant program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 6620. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate certain limitations on the length of Secret Service Protection for former Presidents and for the children of former Presidents; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 3664. A bill to provide for debt limit extensions.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-8448. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; 2012-2013 Accountability Measure and Closure for Gulf King Mackerel in Northern Florida West Coast Subzone" (RIN0648-XC273) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8449. A communication from the Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XC113) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 3, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8450. A communication from the Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Commercial Quota Harvested for the State of New York" (RIN0648-XC294) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 8, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8451. A communication from the Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XC288) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 3, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8452. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor for the Department of Legislation and Regulations, Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Retrospective Review Under E.O. 13563: Seamen's Claims; and Admiralty Claims" (RIN2133-AB79) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8453. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Lewistown, MT" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-0538)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8454. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Bozeman, MT" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-0519)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8455. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation,