

and as a cosponsor of my bill to establish a National Endowment for the Oceans to protect the environment and economies that are so vital to both his home State and my own.

As his colleague and compatriot Senator DANIEL AKAKA said on the Senate floor in those first hours after we received the terrible news of Chairman Inouye's passing, "He fulfilled his dream of creating a better Hawai'i." His wife Irene, his son Ken, his daughter-in-law Jessica, his stepdaughter Jennifer, and his granddaughter Maggie can all be proud of that legacy. My thoughts are with them in this, their time of loss.

As the old hymn tells us:

Now the laborer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.

Aloha, Dan Inouye.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MIKE BURKE

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to thank and to honor an invaluable member of my Senate team, Michael Burke. As my Maryland projects director, Mike has been the key liaison between the Federal legislative process and the critical institutions of my home State of Maryland. As my top environmental adviser, Mike has been vital to each of my environmental priorities, from climate change to the Chesapeake Bay. Mike is a substantive expert, a keen strategist, a wise counselor, and an attentive mentor and friend to my entire team. He is a diligent public servant who leads quietly, by example, with the strength of his knowledge and skill. As he retires after an exemplary career of service, I am pleased to pay public tribute to this remarkable man.

Mike has devoted much of his career to protecting the natural splendor of Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic, particularly our iconic Chesapeake Bay. Before joining my team, Mike was associate director of the Environmental Protection Agency's Chesapeake Bay program. There, he dedicated himself to implementing solutions for the bay, which is the world's largest estuary, one of the most important water bodies in the Nation, and a natural resource that all Marylanders treasure. Shortly after I was sworn into the Senate, Mike joined my office as an EPA fellow. He demonstrated an incredible knowledge and understanding of the wide range of issues affecting Maryland, and I knew I needed to hire him as a permanent member of my staff. He brought his passion for the environment to his work in the Senate, skillfully leading efforts on environmental issues from Chesapeake Bay health to clean air, and from climate change to wildlife conservation. I will continue to fight hard for the issues and programs that Mike helped initiate.

Mike knows the ecological importance of the Chesapeake Bay and the impediments harming the bay's ecology because he has seen it all and experienced it firsthand. From Poplar Neck to Elk Neck, from Catoctin Mountain to Calvert Cliffs, from the Nanticoke to the Pocomoke, from Rocky Gorge to Sandy Point, Mike has experienced the natural wonder of our great State. It is his deep appreciation for the importance of protecting our State's natural resources that has made him such a valuable member of my staff.

In addition to his critical environmental work, Mike led my team in charge of instate projects. The key institutions of Maryland's public life our universities, our hospitals, our local governments, and community organizations have benefitted from Mike's expertise in navigating the legislative process and his commitment to fighting on behalf of the people of Maryland.

Mike's substantive knowledge and political acumen extend well beyond the bay and Maryland. His policy expertise led Senator BARBARA BOXER, the chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, to ask me if I would "lend" Mike to her committee during the committee's arduous work on both the 2010 climate bill and the 2012 Transportation bill. While his full-time service to my office was missed during those periods, I was pleased to see how much my colleague from California valued Mike's input and skill, and I was happy to see him brought in to help the chairman with these important committee initiatives.

In addition to his wealth of knowledge and strategic skill, Mike will be missed most of all for the warmth, integrity, and generosity of spirit that he brings to every encounter. When he first joined my office, he would occasionally send Maryland trivia questions around to the staff. His enthusiasm helped to broaden my team's—and even my own—knowledge of the great State of Maryland, and endeared him to everyone in the office. No matter how tough the circumstance and here in the Senate, we often face tough days—Mike is quick to declare with a smile that he has "never had a bad day." He has committed himself to mentorship, voluntarily and enthusiastically spending hours working with more junior colleagues, guiding and advising them with a selflessness that is remarkable for being all too rare.

During the years, I am proud to say that I have come to value Mike not just as a staff member, but as a friend. He and his wife Pat have become favorites within the Cardin team, and I am pleased to have this opportunity to acknowledge Pat publicly as well. Her strong commitment to Maryland is evident not only in her own work in children's health care, but in her support of Mike's efforts here in these Halls, and I thank her for her contribution to the people of Maryland.

Mike's knowledge of the environmental issues of the day does not just stem from his professional experience, but also from his personal interest as an avid naturalist, bird watcher, kayaker, and overall lover of the outdoors. Mike is most at home among the natural spaces he treasures, either on the water in a sea kayak or walking along a nature trail. For several years, Mike has shared that passion with the community by writing a column featuring different species of Mid-Atlantic native and migratory birds in the "Chesapeake Bay Journal." As with everything he does, Mike's columns always manage to include some of the quiet wisdom that is uniquely his. In a column about the common song sparrow, a local bird that is often overlooked in favor of those with brighter colors and flashier songs, Mike urges his readers to look beyond the bird's plain exterior to appreciate its unique contribution to the natural community. His words manage to capture something about his own steady, unassuming service to those around him. Mike writes, "We lead quiet lives until some rare person decides to listen with abiding patience, waiting for us to finally step out from behind protective cover and softly announce our presence. And then anonymity gives way to the individuality that has been there all along." For me, for my team, Mike has always been both the quiet presence and the patient listener, working with steady determination for the people of Maryland. As he looks forward to a retirement filled with relaxation and the outdoor recreation that he loves, I am humbly grateful for his service. He will be missed.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:46 a.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 bill, without amendment:

S. 285. An act for the relief of Sopuruchi Chukwueke.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6014. An act to authorize the Attorney General to award grants for States to implement DNA arrestee collection processes.

H.R. 6671. An act to amend section 2710 of title 18, United States Code, to clarify that a video tape service provider may obtain a consumer's informed, written consent on an ongoing basis and that consent may be obtained through the Internet.

At 12:27 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, without amendment:

S. 3642. An act to clarify the scope of the Economic Espionage Act of 1996.

S. 3687. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program, to designate certain Federal buildings, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6504. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide for increased limitations on leverage for multiple licenses under common control, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6621. An act to correct and improve certain provisions of the Leahy-Smith America Invests Act and title 35, United States Code.

H.J. Res. 122. Joint resolution establishing the date for the counting of the electoral votes for President and Vice President cast by the electors in December 2012.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3783) to provide for a comprehensive strategy to counter Iran's growing hostile presence and activity in the Western Hemisphere, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 2:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 285. An act for the relief of Sopuruchi Chukwueke

H.R. 3783. An act to provide for a comprehensive strategy to counter Iran's growing hostile presence and activity in the Western Hemisphere, and for other Purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

At 2:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 63. Concurrent resolution correcting the enrollment of S. 2367.

S. Con. Res. 64. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of the late Honorable Daniel K. Inouye.

The message also announced that the Clerk of the House be directed to return to the Senate the bill (S. 2367) to strike the word "lunatic" from Federal law, and for other purposes, in compliance with a request of the Senate for the return thereof.

At 3:40 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the house passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6672. An act to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House passed the following bill with amendments, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 1440. An act to reduce preterm labor and delivery and the risk of pregnancy-related deaths and complications due to pregnancy, and to reduce infant mortality caused by prematurity.

At 6:33 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6655. An act to establish a commission to develop a national strategy and recommendations for reducing fatalities resulting from child abuse and neglect.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 6655. An act to establish a commission to develop a national strategy and recommendations for reducing fatalities resulting from child abuse and neglect; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 19, 2012, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 3193. An act to make technical corrections to the legal description of certain land to be held in trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians, and for other purposes.

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-8583. A communication from the Director of Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expansion of 911 Access Loans and Loan Guarantees" (RIN0572-AC24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8584. A communication from the Manager of the BioPreferred Program, Office of Procurement and Property Management, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Designation of Product Categories for Federal Procurement, Round 9" (RIN0599-AA15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8585. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bacillus subtilis Strain QST 713 Variant Soil; Amendment to an Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance for Bacillus subtilis Strain QST 713 to Include Residues of Bacillus subtilis Strain QST 713 Variant Soil" (FRL No. 9369-3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8586. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions (Multiple Chemicals)"

(FRL No. 9372-1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8587. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Flubendiamide; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9373-3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8588. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pyriproxyfen; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9365-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8589. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Picoxystrobin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9370-8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8590. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Dodine; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9364-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8591. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clodinafop-propargyl; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL No. 9371-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8592. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Purl K. Keen, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8593. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Fiscal Year 2010 Report on the Department of Defense (DoD) Operation and Financial Support for Military Museums; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8594. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2008: Amendments to Program Regulations" (RIN2577-AC80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8595. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA-2012-0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8596. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant