to the Subcommittee or he or she may order and direct the witness to answer the question, but the Subcommittee shall not initiate procedures leading to civil or criminal enforcement unless the witness refuses to testify after he or she has been ordered and directed to answer by a Member of the Subcommittee.

9.4 Filing. The Subcommittee staff shall see that the testimony is transcribed or electronically recorded. If it is transcribed, the witness shall be furnished with a copy for review pursuant to the provisions of Rule 12. The individual administering the oath shall certify on the transcript that the witness was duly sworn in his or her presence, the transcriber shall certify that the transcript is a true record of the testimony, and the transcript shall then be filed with the Subcommittee clerk. Subcommittee staff may stipulate with the witness to changes in this procedure; deviations from this procedure which do not substantially impair the reliability of the record shall not relieve the witness from his or her obligation to testify truthfully.

10. Any witness desiring to read a prepared or written statement in executive or public hearings shall file a copy of such statement with the Chief Counsel or Chairman of the Subcommittee 48 hours in advance of the hearings at which the statement is to be presented unless the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member waive this requirement. The Subcommittee shall determine whether such statement may be read or placed in the record of the hearing.

11. A witness may request, on grounds of distraction, harassment, personal safety, or physical discomfort, that during the testimony, television, motion picture, and other cameras and lights, shall not be directed at him or her. Such requests shall be ruled on by the Subcommittee Members present at the hearing.

12. An accurate stenographic record shall be kept of the testimony of all witnesses in executive and public hearings. The record of his or her own testimony, whether in public or executive session, shall be made available for inspection by witness or his or her counsel under Subcommittee supervision; a copy of any testimony given in public session or that part of the testimony given by the witness in executive session and subsequently quoted or made part of the record in a public session shall be made available to any witness at his or her expense if he or she so requests.

13. Interrogation of witnesses at Subcommittee hearings shall be conducted on behalf of the Subcommittee by Members and authorized Subcommittee staff personnel only.

14. Any person who is the subject of an investigation in public hearings may submit to the Chairman of the Subcommittee questions in writing for the cross-examination of other witnesses called by the Subcommittee. With the consent of a majority of the Members of the Subcommittee present and voting, these questions, or paraphrased versions of them, shall be put to the witness by the Chairman, by a Member of the Subcommittee, or by counsel of the Subcommittee.

15. Any person whose name is mentioned or who is specifically identified, and who believes that testimony or other evidence presented at a public hearing, or comment made by a Subcommittee Member or counsel, tends to defame him or her or otherwise adversely affect his or her reputation, may (a) request to appear personally before the Subcommittee to testify in his or her own behalf, or, in the alternative, (b) file a sworn statement of facts relevant to the testimony or other evidence or comment complained of. Such request and such statement shall be submitted to the Subcommittee for its consideration and action.

If a person requests to appear personally before the Subcommittee pursuant to alternative (a) referred to herein, said request shall be considered untimely if it is not received by the Chairman of the Subcommittee or its counsel in writing on or before thirty (30) days subsequent to the day on which said person's name was mentioned or otherwise specifically identified during a public hearing held before the Subcommittee, unless the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member waive this requirement.

If a person requests the filing of his or her sworn statement pursuant to alternative (b) referred to herein, the Subcommittee may condition the filing of said sworn statement upon said person agreeing to appear personally before the Subcommittee and to testify concerning the matters contained in his or her sworn statement, as well as any other matters related to the subject of the investigation before the Subcommittee.

16. All testimony taken in executive session shall be kept secret and will not be released for public information without the approval of a majority of the Subcommittee.

17. No Subcommittee report shall be released to the public unless approved by a majority of the Subcommittee and after no less than 10 days' notice and opportunity for comment by the Members of the Subcommittee unless the need for such notice and opportunity to comment has been waived in writing by a majority of the Minority Members.

18. The Ranking Minority Member may select for appointment to the Subcommittee staff a Chief Counsel for the Minority and such other professional staff members and clerical assistants as he or she deems advisable. The total compensation allocated to such Minority staff members shall be not less than one-third the total amount allocated for all Subcommittee staff salaries during any given year. The Minority staff members shall work under the direction and supervision of the Ranking Minority Member. The Chief Counsel for the Minority shall be kept fully informed as to preliminary inquiries, investigations, and hearings, and shall have access to all material in the files of the Subcommittee.

19. When it is determined by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, or by a majority of the Subcommittee, that there is reasonable cause to believe that a violation of law may have occurred, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member by letter, or the Subcommittee by resolution, are authorized to report such violation to the proper State, local and/or Federal authorities. Such letter or report may recite the basis for the determination of reasonable cause. This rule is not authority for release of documents or testimony.

DOD APPROPRIATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise to discuss an amendment I have filed to the bills dealing with sequestration. I am pleased that Senator KING has joined me as a cosponsor.

Our amendment is the fiscal year 2013 Department of Defense appropriations bill that was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee by a bipartisan vote of 30 to 0 on August 2, 2012.

There is no doubt we must find a way to avoid the meat-ax approach to budgeting that will occur under sequestration.

At the same time, we must recognize that a continuing resolution also presents real challenges for those trying to carry out the necessary functions of the Federal Government, including providing for the national defense. Continuing resolutions have become far too routine. This familiarity, however, should not blind us from the harm these stop-gap measures cause to the effective and efficient functioning of government.

A yearlong continuing resolution would be just as devastating as sequestration. I am not alone in that judgment. After a New York Times editorial that claimed the Pentagon can easily absorb the cuts of sequestration, Deputy Secretary of Defense Ash Carter wrote the following in a letter published on February 27, 2013:

> Good management is undermined by sequestration and by something that your editorial does not mention but that is as much of a problem—the fact that we have no new appropriations bills and are living under last year's law. These two factors together lead to dangerous absurdities like having to curtail soldiers' training, ships' sailing, and airplanes' flying. Our military will therefore not be fully ready to meet contingencies other than Afghanistan.

Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta and the service chiefs have also repeatedly warned that the effects of sequestration or a yearlong continuing resolution will be devastating to our national security and defense industrial base.

On January 14, 2013, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the heads of each military service signed a letter warning that ''the readiness of our Armed Forces is at a tipping point'' and the unfolding budget conditions, including the continuing resolution, are causing this readiness crisis.

Regardless of what happens with sequestration, a continuing resolution presents two major problems.

First, the readiness of our military will be put at risk unless the Department of Defense is able to transfer funds from investment accounts into readiness accounts. Under the continuing resolution, the Department cannot do this. That is why the letter signed by seven four-star generals said the current budget uncertainty will ''inevitably lead to a hollow force.''

Second, a yearlong continuing resolution prevents the Pentagon from performing three responsibilities crucial for national security: increasing production rates for existing weapons, starting new programs not previously funded the year before, and signing multiyear procurement contracts that provide significant savings while reducing the unit cost for taxpayers.

There are several examples of these multiyear procurement contracts that cannot move forward without an appropriations bill. For example, Congress authorized the Navy to procure 10 destroyers during the next 5 years in the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. The Navy has the bids for these ships in hand and the Navy is

ready to sign, but the Navy cannot sign these contracts without an appropriations bill. We risk throwing away savings on the order of hundreds of millions of dollars if we do not enact the fiscal year 2013 appropriations bill.

The ramifications of inaction on a full-year appropriations bill are not limited to the 6 months remaining in this fiscal year. Failing to enact a full-year appropriations bill that allows new starts and cost-saving multiyear procurement contracts will jeopardize the long-term stability in the shipbuilding industrial base that the Congress and the Navy have worked long and hard to preserve.

When I questioned Deputy Secretary Carter on February 14, 2013, at a Senate Appropriations Committee hearing about what the continuing resolution means for shipbuilding, he testified that ''we're in the absurd position where we're five months into the fiscal year and we have the authority to build the ships that we built last year and no authority to build the ships that we plan to build this year. That's crazy. . . And that has nothing to do with sequester, by the way, that's the C.R.''

The existing continuing resolution expires on March 27. That deadline is just 4 weeks away, but each week that passes puts our military increasingly at risk and makes it less prepared.

I know the chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and its ranking member, Senator MIKULSKI and Senator SHELBY, share my concern that continuing resolutions are not the way to govern. I am also encouraged about reports that the House of Representatives may consider a bill next week which includes a full-year defense and a full-year veterans affairs and military construction budget.

At least as far back as 1974, Congress has never failed to pass a Department of Defense appropriations bill. Now is not the time, with troops in the field and the looming threat of sequestration, to establish a dangerous precedent of denying our military services the support they need to accomplish the mission we have asked them to perform.

This year's continuing resolution hurts our military readiness now and, even more, in the future.

It is time to show the American people that we can act responsibly before the very last minute. The men and women who serve our country are performing every task we have asked of them. It is long overdue for the Congress to do the same, so I urge the Senate to act to replace the current CR with a full-year Department of Defense appropriations bill as our amendment would provide.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD D. DEBOBES

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, today I honor an exceptional public servant and patriot. After a lifetime of service to our Nation, Richard D. ''Rick'' DeBobes is retiring from his position as staff director of the Senate Armed Services Committee, effective February 28, 2013. On this occasion, it is fitting to recognize Rick's 50 years of uniformed and civilian service to our Nation.

Rick began his career as a naval officer, serving 26 exemplary years in jobs that included directing the International Negotiations Branch of the Navy's Judge Advocate General, commanding the Naval Legal Service Office, and finally serving as the legal adviser and legislative assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he helped craft policies that have shaped our modern joint military force. Such a career, in and of itself, illustrates a commitment to causes greater than self-interest.

Rick's devotion to service and excellence continued long after he left active duty. Upon his retirement from the Navy, he joined the Senate Armed Services Committee as counsel, advising committee members on issues relating to national security strategy, defense policy, foreign affairs, and Department of Defense organization and management. Rick's authoritative analysis and counsel to members distilled complex issues and often served as a basis for common understanding and problem solving. Few were surprised then, when in 2003 he was asked by Senator CARL LEVIN to be the committee's staff director. Ten years on, the wisdom of that selection is evident. Rick's steady management of the committee, amidst strong personalities and throughout the occasionally animated policy debates, has yielded the admiration of his professional colleagues in Congress and the Department of Defense, and a long record of legislative success. Thoughtful leaders throughout government will feel his absence.

I join many past and present members of the Senate Armed Services Committee in my gratitude to Rick DeBobes for his outstanding leadership in uniform and in Congress, and his unceasing support for members of the Armed Forces. I wish him and his wife Margaret ''fair winds and following seas.''

RETIREMENT OF WAYNE LEONARD

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Wayne Leonard, who served as Entergy's chief executive officer from 1999 and chairman/CEO from 2006 until January 2013. Over the course of those years, his visionary leadership as Entergy's top executive also encompassed impassioned advocacy for issues such as climate change, poverty and social justice. To a great extent, his compassion for people from all walks of life and his desire to protect the environment for future generations came to define his tenure at Entergy.

When Leonard was named CEO in 1999, he began calling for action by business, community, and political leaders to break the cycle of poverty that has stunted economic growth in the mid-South region for generations. Since that time, Entergy has donated more than $50 million to charitable initiatives and advocacy efforts that successfully helped move low-income residents toward self-sufficiency. Among them were campaigns to improve early childhood education programs and financial support of a matched-savings program that has helped 19,000 people and created an economic impact of $69 million over the last decade.

Leonard pioneered the pursuit of sustainability within his industry. Early on, he recognized the importance to the industry's future of operating in an economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable manner. His achievements include a number of landmarks that set the standard and shaped the future for the energy industry. Under his leadership, in 2001 Entergy became the first utility in the United States to commit to voluntarily reduce greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, work force safety, customer satisfaction, and strong regulatory relationships were always top priorities for Leonard. Entergy has delivered top-quartile shareholder return—the overarching financial goal Leonard set for the company—since he was announced as CEO in 1998.

After the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Leonard led the restoration not just of a company but also a city and its surrounding region. Entergy and its charitable foundation donated more than $20 million to nonprofits working to rebuild the physical, intellectual, and cultural assets of New Orleans. When Katrina's damages prompted Entergy to consider relocating its corporate headquarters, Leonard lobbied to keep Entergy in New Orleans and take a lead role in the city's revitalization and renewal.

Leonard has personally received numerous national honors in recognition of his outstanding leadership, including Platts Global Energy CEO of the Year, the Anti-Defamation League Torch of Liberty Award, and the National Wildlife Federation Achievement Award. During his tenure, Entergy was named to the Dow Jones Sustainability Index for 11 consecutive years for demonstrating strong financial performance and outstanding leadership in environmental and social commitment.

Leonard's passionate commitment to building a strong, sustainable company, community, and energy industry never wavered in 14 years. In honor of his legacy, Entergy endowed a $5 million charitable fund upon his retirement to continue his work on climate change, poverty, and social justice issues. The fund is being endowed through shareholder-funded donations to the Entergy Charitable Foundation, with Leonard serving as an adviser.

While I will miss working with Wayne to improve both New Orleans and Louisiana, I applaud the work he has done to leave my city and my State stronger, healthier, and on the path to a brighter future.