

the Senators who sit next to me, Senator SANDERS and Senator CARPER. Every Senator could say that. We all have things which are very important to us and our constituency, but if we act like that and we don't act in a mature and sensible way, we will never get anything done, and that is where we are now.

We have a handful of Republican Senators—maybe less than five, I don't know—who are objecting every day so we cannot take our budget to conference and have it reconciled. They have yelled at everybody for 4 years about how we didn't have a budget.

The only way we are going to get a budget is to go to conference, have regular order, and work out the differences in a public meeting with public votes. It cannot happen behind closed doors or in some back room somewhere. It has to take place in a public meeting, during a conference so we can talk about what programs or what levels of funding should be reduced, such as what revenues could potentially be raised. Then, according to our process, those directions are given to appropriations committees. At that point we can do our work on building an appropriation for defense, building an appropriation for education, building an appropriation for health, and for our veterans.

If we don't have a budget, we cannot even go to regular order on appropriations. As an appropriator, it is getting frustrating around here to not be able to go to a regular appropriations meeting and sit down as we used to do before this new crew showed up and talked about meeting our budget caps and how we wanted to allocate the taxpayer money in a public, open meeting instead of cramming things in an omnibus bill and doing deals in the middle of the night.

If they would let us get back to regular order and do the people's business, I promise that the people of Utah would be happy, the people of Arizona would be happy, and the people of Kentucky would be happy. They want us to get back to regular order so we can try to negotiate a budget that the majority—and not even the regular majority. We have to have 60 votes to do anything around here. Before a conference committee can come back, there has to be a broad understanding of what was going to be in that conference.

I have one final argument. I could understand a little trepidation on the part of the minority if they were not in control of the House, but the Republicans have control of the House, and the Democrats have control of the Senate. I mean, I could understand their concern if one party had the majority in both the Senate and the House. They might be concerned that what comes out of conference could get rammed down and the minority could be caught off balance. The minority controls the House. This is as fair a fight as they are going to have with one party controlling one and one party controlling the other.

Yes, the President is a Democrat, but he has indicated what I think is very open-minded support for entitlement reform when it is appropriate and additional revenues that are being raised. The President has not put any particular line in the sand that I am aware of. He has been quite reasonable, but he cannot sign a budget unless we can get it to his desk.

We have three or four Senators, if they can't get it exactly the way they want it, who are going to hold up everything. I don't think that is what the American people want, and I am disappointed in our colleagues.

I yield the floor.

TRIBUTE TO MARIE C. JOHNS

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, next Friday, May 31, is my friend's—Marie C. Johns—last day as the Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration. She has served the SBA and our country's small businesses with distinction since 2010, and I will miss working with her.

Her appointment to serve as the Deputy Administrator came at a critical time for U.S. small businesses, when the economy was recovering from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. The SBA needed great leadership, and she brought to the agency an impressive family history of entrepreneurship and professional accomplishments.

As she said during her confirmation hearing on May 19, 2010, “the spirit of entrepreneurship has been at the core of my professional and personal life.” She described the landscaping business her grandfather owned in Indianapolis, IN. And then later, after her uncle earned his degree in pharmacy at Howard University, her grandfather built a community pharmacy so that her uncle could practice as a pharmacist and serve the African-American community in Indianapolis. Marie built her own career in DC, starting as a first-level manager in telecommunications and retiring as the president of Verizon DC. During her 20 years in communications, she held numerous leadership positions, helping small businesses and entrepreneurs. To name just one, she served as the chair of the Small Business Committee for the DC Chamber of Commerce, helping small businesses obtain technical assistance and mentoring from larger firms.

During her time as the SBA Deputy Administrator, Marie and I have enjoyed a strong working relationship, which has allowed us, alongside Administrator Karen Mills, to achieve a number of substantial accomplishments. Most significantly, we passed the landmark Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 that provided billions of dollars of loans and investment capital to America's entrepreneurs. In 2011 and 2012, the SBA issued its first and second rounds of State Trade and Export Promotion, STEP, grants to 47 States and four territories. These STEP grants

have maximized the Federal, State, and local resources to help small businesses export, which in turn has contributed to both business growth and job creation. And finally, we persevered and improved the women's contracting program to put women-owned small businesses on the same playing field with other contracting programs so that contracts to women are no longer capped at artificially low amounts. Recently, on May 8, marking her last time to testify before the Senate Small Business Committee, Marie testified on the important issue of minority women entrepreneurs and how essential they are to the larger economy. The testimony from that hearing was moving and educational and helped raise awareness of this growing segment of job creators.

It has been an honor to work with Marie to provide help and support to the more than 28 million small businesses in this country. During her tenure, the SBA became a more effective Federal champion of small businesses by assisting these businesses to secure financing, technical assistance, training, and Federal contracts.

Ms. Johns now leaves the SBA with a strong performance record. This Nation's small businesses are in a better position because of her work. Her dedication to the improvement of the health of small businesses in the United States will always be appreciated. I thank her for her work and wish her well as she returns to her many civic duties.

RETIREMENT OF ADMIRAL JAMES STAVRIDIS

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, today I honor a superb leader, scholar, and warrior. After a lifetime of service to our Nation, ADM James G. Stavridis is retiring from the U.S. Navy and his position as Commander of the United States European Command. On this occasion, I believe it is fitting to recognize Admiral Stavridis' years of distinguished uniformed service to our Nation.

The admiral is a 1976 distinguished graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He has led at every level from command-at-sea to theater command. Admiral Stavridis has also served as a strategic planner for the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and as the senior military assistant to the Secretary of Defense. Prior to assuming command of the United States European Command, he commanded the U.S. Southern Command, focused on Latin America and the Caribbean. Admiral Stavridis assumed command of European Command on June 30, 2009, the first naval officer to hold this command.

Admiral Stavridis' contributions to scholarship are also notable. He has graduated with distinction from the Naval Academy, the Naval War College, the National War College, and the

Fletcher School at Tufts University, where he earned a doctorate of philosophy in international relations. He has been frequently published by many publications, including *Foreign Affairs*, and the United States Naval Institute's *Proceedings*. Admiral Stavridis was even featured in a 2012 TED Global where he spoke about the future of global security.

His leadership has been consistently recognized formally and informally, to include the Battenberg Cup for the top ship in the Atlantic Fleet, and the John Paul Jones Award for inspirational leadership. Admiral Stavridis' impact on the sailors and the fleet has been indelible. He is the author or co-author of seminal works on naval leadership, including "Command At Sea." His impact on soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines will continue well into the future.

Our Navy and our Nation will feel his absence. I join many past and present members of the Senate Armed Services Committee in my gratitude to ADM James Stavridis for his outstanding leadership and his unwavering support of servicemembers. I wish him and his wife Laura "fair winds and following seas."

REMEMBERING DR. ELBERT B. SMITH

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, with the recent death of Dr. Elbert B. Smith—known to his friends simply as "E.B."—I lost a much beloved mentor, advisor, and friend.

Obituaries in the *Washington Post* and elsewhere have captured the essential facts of his life. Since 1990, he was professor emeritus at the University of Maryland. He served in the Navy in World War II, earned his master's degree and Ph.D. at the University of Chicago, and taught at Iowa State University, among other colleges, before joining the faculty at Maryland in 1968. Over the years, he also served as a Fulbright professor at the University of Tokyo and at Moscow State University, and elsewhere. He ran unsuccessfully for the U.S. Senate as a Democrat in Iowa in 1962 and again in 1966.

What those factual obituaries fail to capture is the spirit of this remarkable man—his personal warmth, his talent for friendship, his great love of history and scholarship, and his passion for progressive causes.

He was one of the most influential people in my life, beginning in my years as an undergraduate at Iowa State University, where he was a history professor. He inspired me to get involved in politics and public service. When he ran for the U.S. Senate in 1962, I got involved in his campaign. And what a campaign it was—an unconventional, insurgent, student-run campaign against the status quo. This was 6 years before Senator Eugene McCarthy ran a similar campaign for President.

While working on his campaign, I was also president of Young Democrats

at Iowa State, and we had just passed a resolution urging the admission of Communist China to the United Nations. Of course, this could have been an embarrassment to the Smith campaign. But to his great credit, E.B. said: "That is your call, Tom, stick to your guns, I'll stand by you." That is the kind of principled person he was.

During the campaign, E.B. went to Washington to have his endorsement photograph taken with President Kennedy. There is a picture of E.B. presenting JFK with a copy of his scholarly biography of Senator Thomas Hart Benton, titled "Magnificent Missourian." The reason E.B. chose this gift, of course, was that Thomas Hart Benton was one of the eight Senators that Kennedy included in his book "Profiles in Courage."

E.B. lost that 1962 election, but only very narrowly, against the longtime incumbent Senator Bourke B. Hickenlooper. But that campaign was revealing of the kind of man he was: a straight-shooter, a person of great integrity, serious but with a sense of humor, a fighter for the little guy, standing up for civil rights and economic justice.

Fast forward a decade. In 1972, I was fresh out of law school. Ruth and I moved back to Ames, and, frankly, we were flat broke. E.B. allowed us to live rent free in a house that he owned in Ames. With that house as campaign headquarters, I ran for Congress again in 1972, with a student-run, insurgent campaign modeled after E.B.'s 1962 effort. I lost, but we did well enough to run again in 1974, and win.

When I arrived in Washington in late 1974 as a newly elected Representative, E.B. and his wife Jean were living in College Park, where he was teaching at the University of Maryland. My wife Ruth was serving then as Story County attorney, and had to stay back in Iowa. The Smiths generously allowed me to live with them for the next 3 years. I commuted back to Iowa on weekends.

From his days in the Navy, E.B. loved to sail and was an expert sailor. Many a time he took me out on the Chesapeake Bay on his boat. I always felt that he liked it best when the weather was cold and foul, with the rain pouring down. The rest of us would be huddled down below, and E.B. would be up top, steering the boat, having a great time. It reminded him fondly of his days as a Navy deck officer in the Atlantic during the war. Over the decades during my time here in Washington, one of my great joys has been my sailing outings with E.B.

Of course, the other great joy of E.B.'s life was Jean, his wife of 58 years, their five children, nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. After Jean died in 2002, E.B. found another wonderful partner—coincidentally, also named Jean—who filled his last years with much happiness.

E.B. Smith was a dear friend and an invaluable mentor. He imbued me with

the ideal that politics and public service are honorable callings. He always said to me: Don't worry about losing, do what is right, stick up for your principles.

I feel truly blessed to have had the friendship and counsel of E.B. Smith for so many years. He touched not only my life, but the lives of so many others all across the globe. He died one day short of his 93rd birthday, after a full, active, and accomplished life. Through his scholarship, generosity, and simple human decency, he made the world a better place.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

OBSERVING POLYNESIAN FLAG DAY

• Mr. BEGICH. Madam President, I would like to take the time to recognize Polynesian Flag Day. This day commemorates the first raising of the American Flag on the Tutuila Island in American Samoa by the United States Navy on April 17, 1900.

An annual Polynesian Flag Day event was established to bring Polynesian elders, children families, friends, and communities together across Alaska to celebrate, respect, and share their culture and history together. Polynesian Flag Day is a time to recognize the Polynesian community's years of nationality, freedom, and honor, and to commend the service of Polynesian Americans who have fought and are fighting for the freedoms that we all hold dear.

This year marks the 8th Annual Polynesian Flag Day celebration in Alaska, highlighting a proud cultural exchange between Alaska and the Polynesian Islands. The Polynesian Association of Alaska promotes community building, fosters leadership skills for Alaskan youth, and helps cultivate an exchange of ideas and respect between elders and youth, further strengthening our communities.

I join the Alaska Polynesian community in celebrating the 8th Annual Polynesian Flag Day in Alaska.

Thank you for allowing me to take a moment to recognize this year's Polynesian Flag Day. •

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH CARTER CORBIN

• Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, it is with the greatest pleasure that I wish to pay tribute to Professor Joseph Carter Corbin, founder and first president of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

Joseph Carter Corbin, an African-American educator, was born in 1833 in the town of Chillicothe, OH, to free parents, William and Susan Corbin. After earning two master's degrees from Ohio University, Joseph Corbin moved his family to Little Rock, AR in 1872, where he worked as a reporter for the *Arkansas Republican*.