

(d) the President pro tempore is the supervisor of the Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, the Chaplain, the Legislative Counsel, and the employees of the Office of the Legislative Counsel;

(e) the Secretary of the Senate is the supervisor of the employees of his office;

(f) the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper is the supervisor of the employees of his office;

(g) the Majority and Minority Leaders and the Majority and Minority Whips are the supervisors of the research, clerical, and other assistants assigned to their respective offices;

(h) the Majority Leader is the supervisor of the Secretary for the Majority and the Secretary for the Majority is the supervisor of the employees of his office; and

(i) the Minority Leader is the supervisor of the Secretary for the Minority and the Secretary for the Minority is the supervisor of the employees of his office.

#### CONFIRMATION OF CHUCK HAGEL AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, today is Chuck Hagel's first day as our Secretary of Defense. This is a great development for our Armed Forces and the Nation they protect.

I was proud to support Chuck Hagel's nomination to become the Secretary of Defense, and I was proud to see his nomination confirmed with bipartisan support yesterday. Throughout his life, Chuck has displayed courage, wisdom, and leadership. And he has always served this Nation with dedication and resolve. I am confident he will be a strong and able leader of the men and women in our military, and I am confident he will do everything possible to keep our country safe.

I congratulate Secretary Hagel on his successful and well-deserved confirmation and wish him the best as he begins his leadership of our Department of Defense.

I yield the floor.

#### TRIBUTE TO RICK DEBOBES

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, there is a document posted on the wall of the offices of the Senate Armed Services Committee with all of the staff listed in order of seniority, with the dates on which they started their service. The second name on the list is that of Rick DeBobes, the staff director of the committee, who joined the committee staff 24 years ago, on March 9, 1989. That record of service is all the more remarkable because Rick did not come to the Senate until after he had completed a distinguished 26-year career in the Navy. His last assignment on Active Duty was as legal advisor to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff William Crowe.

This week, Rick will retire for the second time, culminating an extraordinary record of 50 years of service to the Senate, the Navy, the men and women of our Armed Forces, and his country.

In the course of his service on the committee staff, Rick has played a key role in the enactment of 24 National

Defense Authorization Acts. A proud graduate of Georgetown University, Rick received his law degree from Fordham University and a masters' degree in international law from the National Law Center at George Washington University. He has gone on to have what I am sure must be a far greater influence on international law than any of his professors or mentors could have imagined. It is no exaggeration to say that Rick DeBobes has been involved in writing or improving virtually every major piece of national security legislation to come before the Congress in the last quarter century, starting with the Goldwater-Nichols legislation that he helped shape before joining the committee staff.

For the last 10 years, Rick has served as staff director of the Senate Armed Services Committee—one of the toughest and most important jobs in the Senate. In this capacity, Rick has not only helped guide our annual National Defense Authorization Act to enactment each year, but also played a vital role in congressional oversight of our military operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere. His leadership of the committee staff has also seen the enactment of the Wounded Warrior Act, the Detainee Treatment Act, the Military Commissions Act of 2009, the Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act, TRICARE for Life, and the repeal of don't ask, don't tell, along with other major legislation. Rick's advice and counsel on all of these matters—informed by his unique background and experience—have been invaluable not only to me and to other members of the Armed Services Committee, but also to our military chiefs of staff, combatant commanders, and other senior military and civilian officials in the Department of Defense.

In the 16 years that I have served as chairman or ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, Rick has spent countless hours in my office, discussing national security matters of every kind. He has joined me on virtually every overseas trip I have taken, including more than a dozen trips to Iraq and Afghanistan. We have met together with Senators, Secretaries of Defense, chiefs of staff, and foreign heads of state. We have been through markups, floor debates, and conferences together. Through all of this, I have not only appreciated and needed Rick's wise counsel, I have enjoyed his company.

Rick's hallmark as staff director has been the composure, the steadiness, and the sound judgment that he brings to the job every single day. The committee staff often line up outside Rick's office door, bringing him one crisis after another that needs to be addressed. Whether it is early in the morning before a hearing or late at night after a "Little 4" meeting in conference, Rick always makes time for the staff. And I don't think any of us have ever seen Rick lose his cool—except perhaps when his beloved George-

town Hoyas basketball team blows a late lead.

As Rick leaves us to enjoy a well-deserved retirement with his wife Margaret, his children, and his grandchildren, I know I speak for the entire Armed Services Committee—members and staff—when I say: Thanks, Rick, for a job extraordinarily well done, and best wishes for the future.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### CONGRATULATING WAYNE WILSON

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize one of Nevada's own, Wayne Wilson, for being named as a finalist for the Citizen Service Before Self Honors by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation. His efforts to assist disabled veterans have earned him this distinct honor, and I am both humbled and honored to recognize him today.

After graduating from the United States Army Sergeant Major Academy in 1976, Wayne served in the National Guard for over four decades. He served as command sergeant major of an engineer group and a combat engineer battalion. In 1984, he transferred to the Nevada National Guard and moved to Carson City. Throughout Wayne's lifetime, he has always remained an active member in the veteran community and has dedicated his free time to looking after this community's needs. Wayne was one of the original founders of the Veterans Guest House, is a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans, DAV, and has been named the Silver State's Veteran of the Month.

In 2008, Wayne founded the Northern Nevada Wheelchair Program to distribute wheelchairs to disabled veterans. Providing our Nation's greatest heroes with mobility and independence is a unique gift and a singular act of heroism. His commitment to putting others first is a true example of sacrifice for the betterment of others.

In October 2012, I had the privilege of meeting Wayne when he was recognized by Governor Sandoval as Nevada's Veteran of the Month. His continued service and sacrifice to our country and veteran community makes me proud that Wayne calls Nevada home. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Wayne for his tireless efforts to better the Silver State. •

##### REMEMBERING CLARENCE JACKSON

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the sad news that Clarence Jackson, a Tlingit elder, "walked into the forest" on January 31, 2013, at the age of 78.

Clarence Jackson was an individual who committed his life to the Native peoples of Alaska. Clarence was invaluable and irreplaceable, as he generously shared his vast knowledge of the

Tlingit language, history and culture. In 1972, Jackson signed the articles of incorporation for Sealaska Corporation that was created under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. As one of the original incorporators of Sealaska Corporation, he was the only board member to serve continuously from the time Sealaska was founded. He also served on the board of directors for Sealaska Timber Corporation and served as the chairman of the Sealaska Heritage Institute's Council of Traditional Scholars. But many saw him as an ambassador to the community. He was a gentle man adept at using humor to reach people. In his capacity on the board, he represented Sealaska at funerals, celebrations, and many other community events.

Clarence was born in Kake, AK, on May 24, 1934. He lived there most of his life, attending Sheldon Jackson School in Sitka. He continued on to Sheldon Jackson College in 1954. Growing up immersed in his Tlingit community allowed him to become a very articulate orator. He excelled through his teachings of the Tlingit culture. After college, Clarence moved back to Kake, where he became a fisherman and operated a small store.

In the 1960's, Clarence became a delegate to the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indians in the Alaska Native claims movement. He served as this council's president from 1972 through 1976.

Clarence also advocated for the importance of preserving the cultural values of all Native people and eloquently spoke to this at Celebration 2012 in Juneau.

Clarence positively impacted the lives of everyone he met. He accomplished a great deal for his Native people, and he was blessed with a truly wonderful family. Thanks to modern technology, his stories and life experiences will live on for eternity.

On behalf of the Senate I extend condolences to Clarence's family, his wife of 58 years, Gertrude Louise "Lidda" Paddock, and the Tlingit people of Southeast Alaska. His life has been appropriately honored with a ceremony at Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall, in Juneau, AK.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JIM ALEXANDER

● Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize and congratulate chief of police M. James "Jim" Alexander, Jr., of the Lebanon New Hampshire Police Department for his more than 26 years of dedicated law enforcement service to our State and Nation.

The Chief began his law enforcement career as a police officer with the Brattleboro, VT, Police Department in 1987. Chief Alexander then joined the Lebanon New Hampshire Police Department in 1990 as a patrol officer. He was promoted to patrol supervisor in 1991, sergeant in 1996, lieutenant in 1999, captain in 2002, and deputy chief in 2004. Jim was appointed Lebanon's chief of police on March 1, 2006.

During his long career as a public safety professional, Chief Alexander has been a leader in promoting community-oriented policing, improving public safety within the State of New Hampshire, and promoting sound public policies and practices, which have helped keep New Hampshire one of the safest States in the Nation. Chief Alexander has worked tirelessly with his peers and with other public safety officials to better the administration of justice. He is well known for his collaboration with local, county, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies. He was recognized in 2007 with the Community Health Leadership Award, and in 2009 he received recognition for his extraordinary commitment and contributions to the Grafton County Drug Court Program. Under his leadership, the Lebanon, NH, Police Department was cited for the extraordinary assistance provided to the U.S. Marshals Service in helping to successfully end a dangerous 9-month-long standoff with convicted antigovernment activists.

As Chief Alexander celebrates his retirement, I commend him on a job well done. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him, his wife Deb, and their adult children, Nick and Jacqui, well in all future endeavors.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read twice and placed on the calendar pursuant to the order of February 14, 2013, as modified on February 26, 2013:

S. 16. A bill to provide for a sequester replacement.

#### 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-457. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tomatoes Grown in Florida; Decreased Assessment Rate" (Docket No. AMS-FV-12-0051; FV12-966-1 IR) received during adjourn-

ment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-458. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Marketing Order Regulating the Handling of Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Change to Administrative Rules Regarding the Transfer and Storage of Excess Spearmint Oil" (Docket No. AMS-FV-12-0014; FV12-985-2 FR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-459. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Department of Defense counternarcotics support activities (OSS Control No. 2013-0256); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-460. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Alleged Crimes By or Against Contractor Personnel" ((RIN0750-AH57) (DFARS Case 2012-D006)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-461. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System" ((RIN0750-AG40) (DFARS Case 2009-D002)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-462. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Acquisition of Tents and Other Temporary Structures" ((RIN0750-AH73) (DFARS Case 2012-D015)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-463. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, (15) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Defense, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-464. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, a report relative to a vacancy in the Department of the Air Force, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-465. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of the Army, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-466. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, a report relative to a vacancy in the Department of the Navy, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the