

# TRIBUTE TO W. EDGAR WELDEN

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Edgar Welden of Birmingham, AL, for being named the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame's 2016 "Distinguished American Sportsman." Edgar is a distinguished businessman and friend whose life has been marked by service to the people of his community, State, and Nation. His untiring work to benefit young people through athletics makes him most deserving of this honor.

Edgar has an extraordinary record of accomplishment. A Wetumpka native, he grew up with a great passion for sports, playing football, baseball, and basketball in high school before earning a degree from the University of Alabama. His passion for athletics has only grown since then. In fact, he spent 1997 traveling to seven continents and all 50 states to attend more than 250 sporting events, and he chronicled his journeys in his book "Time Out! A Sports Fan's Dream Year."

One of his most valuable contributions to Alabama was his service as director of the important Alabama Development Office and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and as special assistant to the Governor for Economic Affairs. He has been widely recognized as one of the key players in Governor Guy Hunt's successful first term. This work for the State, performed on a volunteer basis, earned him recognition in 1987 by the Alabama Broadcasters Association as Alabama's Citizen of the Year. In 1988, he was appointed by Governor Hunt as voluntary chairman of the Alabama Reunion, a 2-year statewide celebration and promotion of the State's heritage and economic development opportunities. As the architect of this nationally recognized program, he was awarded the 1992 National Governor's Association Award for Distinguished Service to State Government.

Despite his impressive accomplishments in government, business, and politics, it is through athletics that he has had perhaps his greatest influence. Edgar has a special place in his heart for young people, and with his keen insight, he has found ways to utilize athletics to promote character and education and improve the lives of young people across our State.

His accomplishments in this regard are too many to list comprehensively. His work with high school athletics includes the Crippled Children's Foundation, where he currently serves as chairman, and the Monday Morning Quarterback Club, where he is a board member. In 2002, he founded the non-profit Birmingham Athletic Partnership to support the city's middle and high school athletic programs. This program has provided Birmingham city schools with over \$3.5 million in financial support. Edgar believes that children in the inner city should have the same chances for athletic success as better funded programs and his goal is to ensure their athletes, bands, and

cheerleaders are able to compete on a level playing field. In addition, since 2003, he has served as the chairman and president of the hugely successful Bryant-Jordan Scholarship Program, which has awarded over \$9 million college scholarships to more than 2,700 student-athletes in Alabama who excelled athletically and scholastically while overcoming adversity. In 2006, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness & Sports.

Edgar also serves as chairman of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame Museum, a true State treasure which maintains for generations to come the stories of legendary Alabama athletes whose stories never fail to inspire us today. Many say it is the best sports hall of fame in America. And in a great victory for the city of Birmingham, he co-chaired the committee that landed the 2021 World Games. This was a huge effort to land this event, and Edgar used all his energy and people skills to do so. He was inducted into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2007 and was recently elected to the board of directors of the National Football Foundation. Indeed, while he would never say so himself, perhaps no other sportsman in the country has done more for their State than Edgar has for Alabama.

Edgar also serves on the president's cabinet at the University of Alabama and, in 2010, was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. He has accomplished all of this while building a successful business career in real estate development and property management. An essential part of his success has been the support and partnership of his wonderful wife, Louise. She is a star in her own right and has always enjoyed seeing young people grow and progress. They are a great pair. Edgar and Louise get great pleasure out of random acts of kindness. On a plane flight, Edgar met the wife of a soldier that was returning from combat—so typical of his generosity, Edgar arranged for them to have the honeymoon suite in his hotel for free. Edgar and Louise are people of generosity, patriotism, and positive spirit. To know Edgar and Louise is to love them.

For all of his accomplishments, I commend and congratulate my friend today. Being named to receive the Distinguished American Sportsman Award is a fitting honor indeed. It is appropriate that our Nation pauses periodically to recognize, celebrate, and give thanks to citizens like Edgar and Louise whose lives make our country so wonderful.●

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:20 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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 87. An act to modify the boundary of the Shiloh National Military Park located in Tennessee and Mississippi, to establish Parker's Crossroads Battlefield as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1815. An act to facilitate certain pinyon-juniper related projects in Lincoln County, Nevada, to modify the boundaries of certain wilderness areas in the State of Nevada, and to provide for the implementation of a conservation plan for the Virgin River, Nevada.

H.R. 2009. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the United States to the Tucson Unified School District and to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona.

H.R. 2733. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for certain Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3070. An act to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to permit striped bass fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone transit zone between Montauk, New York, and Point Judith, Rhode Island, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4904. An act to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to issue a directive on the management of software licenses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4906. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the eligibility of employees of a land management agency in a time-limited appointment to compete for a permanent appointment at any Federal agency, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5273. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for regulatory relief under the Medicare program for certain providers of services and suppliers and increased transparency in hospital coding and enrollment data, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5338. An act to reduce passenger wait times at airports, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 129. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years, and urging the Federal Republic of Germany to continue to reaffirm its commitment to this goal through a financial commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims, including home care and other medically prescribed needs.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 3(a) of the Evidence-Based Policy Commission Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-140), and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking: Mr. Ron Haskins of Rockville, Maryland, Co-Chairman, Mr. Bruce Meyer of Chicago, Illinois, and Mr. Robert Hahn of Hillsboro Beach, Florida.

## MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 87. An act to modify the boundary of the Shiloh National Military Park located in Tennessee and Mississippi, to establish Parker's Crossroads Battlefield as an affiliated

area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1815. An act to facilitate certain pinyon-juniper related projects in Lincoln County, Nevada, to modify the boundaries of certain wilderness areas in the State of Nevada, and to provide for the implementation of a conservation plan for the Virgin River, Nevada; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2009. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the United States to the Tucson Unified School District and to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3070. An act to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to permit striped bass fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone transit zone between Montauk, New York, and Point Judith, Rhode Island, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 4904. An act to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to issue a directive on the management of software licenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4906. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the eligibility of employees of a land management agency in a time-limited appointment to compete for a permanent appointment at any Federal agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5273. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for regulatory relief under the Medicare program for certain providers of services and suppliers and increased transparency in hospital coding and enrollment data, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 5338. An act to reduce passenger wait times at airports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 129. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years, and urging the Federal Republic of Germany to continue to reaffirm its commitment to this goal through a financial commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims, including home care and other medically prescribed needs; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### 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-5637. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General James F. Jackson, United States Air Force Reserve, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5638. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of four (4) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5639. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of three (3) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral or rear admiral (lower half), as indicated, in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5640. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the mobilizations of select reserve units, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5641. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of nine (9) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5642. A communication from the Secretary, Division of Corporation Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Form 10-K Summary" (RIN3235-AL89) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5643. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to Definitions in the Export Administration Regulations" (RIN0694-AG32) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5644. A communication from the Chair of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 102nd Annual Report of the Federal Reserve Board covering operations for calendar year 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5645. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Nevada: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions" (FRL No. 9947-28-Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 1, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5646. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Arizona; Infrastructure Requirements to Address Interstate Transport for the 2008 Ozone NAAQS; Correction" (FRL No. 9947-27-Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 1, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5647. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences: Fiscal Year (FY) 2015"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5648. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Programs; Medicare Shared Savings Program; Accountable Care Organizations—Revised Benchmark Rebasing Meth-

odology, Facilitating Transition to Performance-Based Risk, and Administrative Finality of Financial Calculations" ((RIN0938-AS67) (CMS-1644-F)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5649. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)" (RIN0985-AA11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5650. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Labeling: Revision of the Nutrition and Supplemental Facts Labels" ((RIN0910-AF22) (Docket No. FDA-2012-N-1210)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5651. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mitigation Strategies to Protect Food Against Intentional Adulteration" ((RIN0910-AG63) (Docket No. FDA-2013-N-1425)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5652. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Labeling: Serving Sizes of Foods That Can Reasonably Be Consumed At One Eating Occasion; Dual-Column Labeling; Updating, Modifying, and Establishing Certain Reference Amounts Customarily Consumed; Serving Size for Breath Mints; and Technical Amendments" ((RIN0910-AF23) (Docket No. FDA-2004-N-0258)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5653. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Administration for Community Living—Regulatory Consolidation" (45 CFR Parts 1321, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1385, 1386, 1387, and 1388) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5654. A communication from the Chairman, U.S. Election Assistance Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5655. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Labor's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5656. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2015 through