

John was born in La Crosse, WI, and has been the community's strongest advocate ever since. He graduated from Aquinas High School and went on to receive his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

John's public service career began in 1972 with his work at Volunteers in Service to America, VISTA to combat poverty and racial inequality in Virginia. During his time in Virginia, John developed a passion for social justice that guided his future work as a public servant.

In 1976, John was elected to represent the 95th district in the Wisconsin State Legislature, where he ultimately served as assistant majority leader of the assembly. As a State representative, John became known for fighting domestic abuse. He authored one of Wisconsin's first domestic violence bills to create safe houses for victims and worked with Wisconsin police departments to make combating domestic abuse a top priority. He was also known for his early leadership on gay rights issues, fighting for marriage equality, and proudly participating in La Crosse's first PRIDE Fest.

I have known few public servants as dedicated as John in serving the people he represents. He embodies the true meaning of public service. No request was too small for his devoted attention. In fact, John was famous for coming to work on Monday after a weekend of local events with a fist full of paper scraps covered in scribbled notes from people he ran into, describing their concerns. John remembered every one of those concerns as he advocated for his constituents on the assembly floor. During a time of increasing partisanship, he had a knack for bringing opposing sides together in the interest of bettering the lives of Wisconsinites.

After 16 years, John left the State legislature. Although he claimed his departure was to get away from long legislative speeches, it was clear he wanted to be closer to the people he cared so much about in his hometown. Unable to stay out of public service for long, John announced his campaign for mayor in the Spring of 1997. As mayor of La Crosse, John adhered to his fundamental belief that he was there to serve all residents of La Crosse—not just those who supported him. Guided by his VISTA experience, John created the city's first anti-racism task force and encouraged people of color to run for local office. He is especially well-loved by the African-American and Hmong communities in La Crosse.

Three U.S. Senators, myself included, had the privilege of having John represent us in southwestern Wisconsin. Although times have changed and technology has advanced—much to John's chagrin—his knowledge, dedication, and connections are irreplaceable.

John has taught those lucky enough to have worked with him what it means to be a true representative of the people: take your work—but not

yourself—seriously, don't hold a grudge, keep your word, and, above all, put constituents first. I will miss John a great deal, but I am delighted to wish him and his wife Dee the very best in this new chapter.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT GENERAL HAROLD "HAL" GREGORY MOORE, JR.

• Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, today I mourn the loss of LTG Harold "Hal" Gregory Moore, Jr., and to honor his life and memory as one of Georgia's great citizens and military heroes.

Having served in the U.S. Army for 32 years, Lieutenant General Moore was known for valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during the Korean and Vietnam wars and for always leading by example.

He is perhaps best known for leading the 1st Battalion, 7th Calvary Regiment in the first major battle against North Vietnamese forces in the Ia Drang Valley on November 14, 1965. During that 4-day battle—which would set the tone for the entire conflict—then-Lieutenant Colonel Moore kept the promise he had made to his men: that he would be the first to set foot on the battlefield, the last to step off, and that, dead or alive, he would leave no man behind. For his leadership and dedication to his men at Ia Drang, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for valor.

Lieutenant General Moore passed away on February 10, 2017, leaving behind 5 children and 11 grandchildren. He was buried with his wife of 55 years, Julia Compton Moore, at the Main Post Cemetery in Fort Benning, GA. His funeral was attended by more than 500 people, showcasing the extent to which his service, sacrifice, and leadership touched the lives of countless others.

We will forever remember and forever aspire to live our lives in the spirit of selflessness, bravery, kindness, and compassion with which Lieutenant General Moore led his.●

##### REMEMBERING CARMEN DELGADO VOTAW

• Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to a distinguished woman from the State of Maryland. Carmen Delgado Votaw, who passed away on February 18, 2017, was a civil rights pioneer, a public servant, a storyteller, and a beloved community leader.

Ms. Votaw was born on September 29, 1935, in Humacao, PR. She studied at the University of Puerto Rico and graduated from American University in Washington, DC, with a bachelor of arts in international studies. She was subsequently awarded an honorary doctorate in humanities by Hood College in Frederick, MD.

Ms. Votaw was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to serve as cochair of the National Advisory Committee on Women. She served as president of the Interamerican Commission of Women of the Organization of American States in 1979–80. The first president of that body, she remains just one of two women from the United States to have served as the commission's president.

During her career, Ms. Votaw travelled to more than 80 countries and met with more than 50 heads of state. She was a member of the U.S. delegation to the International Women's Year conference, attending conferences in Mexico City, Copenhagen, Nairobi and Beijing.

Ms. Votaw was chief of staff for Puerto Rico's Resident Commissioner Jaime B. Fuster from 1985–91. As the first Hispanic female chief of staff for a Member of Congress, she worked to address the challenges facing 3.5 million Puerto Ricans living on the island and to build a strong network for women in the Federal Government. After leaving the U.S. House of Representatives, she was involved with the Girl Scouts of the USA, United Way of America, and the Alliance for Children and Families.

Ms. Votaw was an author of a number of publications on women, including "Puerto Rican Women: Mujeres Puertorriquenas," "Notable American Women," "Libro de Oro," and "To Ourselves Be True." These stories highlight the wonderful accomplishments of women, particularly Hispanic women, who led remarkable lives and serve as role models for younger women.

As a stalwart defender of civil rights for diverse populations, especially Hispanics, Ms. Votaw received the Hispanic Heritage Award for Education, the Mexican American Women's Primeras Award, and numerous awards from NASA, FEW, and national and local civic organizations.

Ms. Votaw served on the boards of directors of numerous women's organizations, including the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, which she served as national president and president of the DC chapter, the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women's Voters, the Girl Scouts of the USA, the International Girl Guides, the National Women's Political Caucus and its Appointments Coalition, the Mid-Atlantic Equity Center, and the National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education. She was also active with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, the Gala Hispanic Theatre, and the Maryland Women's Heritage Center, and she was a longtime member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

In 1992, Ms. Votaw was inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame for her numerous contributions to the community. In addition, she was recognized by the National Women's History Project for Distinguished Lifetime Achievement in 2014.

Ms. Votaw died on February 18, 2017. She is survived by her husband of more

than 50 years, Gregory B. Votaw; three children, Stephen G. Votaw of Arlington, VA, Michael A. and Liz Votaw of Potomac, MD, and Lisa Votaw and Brian Olson of Steamboat Springs, CO; and six grandchildren—Daniel Votaw, Alexandra Votaw, Anna Votaw, Michael Todd Votaw, Taylor Delgado Olson, and Abby Olson.

Ms. Votaw's extraordinary and transformational contributions to our State, Nation, and world will have an impact on the lives of girls, women, and families for generations to come. Her vision of inclusivity and creating opportunities for women broke barriers and shattered institutional societal stigmas that prevented women from achieving their dreams. Ms. Votaw lived a life of extraordinary accomplishment, and we owe her a tremendous debt of gratitude for her outstanding work in increasing equality and opportunity throughout the world. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Carmen Delgado Votaw and in expressing our deepest condolences to her family and countless friends.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:10 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. 442. An act to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 375. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the "Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

H.R. 1174. An act to provide a lactation room in public buildings.

H.R. 1362. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Pago Pago, American Samoa, the Faleomavaega Eni Fa'aua'a Hunkin VA Clinic.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1174. An act to provide a lactation room in public buildings; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 1362. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Pago Pago, American Samoa, the Faleomavaega Eni Fa'aua'a Hunkin VA Clinic; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HELLER (for himself and Mr. TESTER):

S. 563. A bill to amend the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 to require that certain buildings and personal property be covered by flood insurance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. LEE):

S. 564. A bill to repeal debt collection amendments made by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 565. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for transparency of payments made from the Judgment Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 566. A bill to withdraw certain land in Okanogan County, Washington, to protect the land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. HEITKAMP:

S. 567. A bill to amend the Home Owners' Loan Act to allow Federal savings associations to elect to operate as national banks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. NELSON, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 568. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. BURR, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. COONS):

S. 569. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the Land and Water Conservation Fund to maximize the effectiveness of the Fund for future generations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 570. A bill to improve the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's weather research through a focused program of investment on affordable and attainable advances in observational, computing, and modeling capabilities to support substantial improvement in weather forecasting and prediction of high impact weather events, to expand commercial opportunities for the provision of weather data, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PERDUE (for himself and Mr. ISAACSON):

S. 571. A bill to authorize the sale of certain National Forest System land in the State of Georgia; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 572. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to study the coverage gaps of the Next Generation Weather Radar of the National Weather Service and to develop a plan for improving radar coverage and hazardous weather detection and forecasting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. NELSON, Mr. Kaine, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 573. A bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 574. A bill to restrict the use of funds for the long-range standoff weapon until the Secretary of Defense completes a Nuclear Posture Review that includes an assessment of the capabilities and effects of the use of the long-range standoff weapon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. LEE):

S. 575. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to restrict the debt collection practices of certain debt collectors; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 576. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend certain protections against prohibited personnel practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. RISC):

S. 577. A bill to require each agency, in providing notice of a rule making, to include a link to a 100 word plain language summary of the proposed rule; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 578. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide requirements for agency decision making based on science; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. 579. A bill to require agencies to publish an advance notice of proposed rule making for major rules; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 580. A bill to establish agency procedures for the issuance of guidance documents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 581. A bill to include information concerning a patient's opioid addiction in certain medical records; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 582. A bill to reauthorize the Office of Special Counsel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELLER, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 583. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds to