

to oppose this action and this nominee and this dispensing with a time-honored tradition of this institution.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

JOINT REFERRAL—PN1884

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that PN1884, the nomination of John Lowry III, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training, sent to the Senate by the President, be referred jointly to the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and Veterans' Affairs Committees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the postcloture time on the Engelhardt nomination expire at 12 noon tomorrow, May 9, and the Senate vote on confirmation of the Engelhardt nomination with no intervening action or debate; further, that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I regret that, due to unforeseeable flight delays, I was unable to make it back here to Washington in time for the cloture vote on Kurt Engelhardt's nomination for the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Had I been present, I would have voted against cloture.

His record on the district court is deeply troubling, particularly those concerning sexual harassment, religious discrimination, civil rights, and discriminating against women who choose to have children in the workforce—a right that should be open to every American woman without fear of losing one's job. In Mr. Engelhardt's court, ogling, groping, making sugges-

tive comments, and talking about a woman's appearance do not constitute sexual harassment or a hostile work environment. In Mr. Engelhardt's court, a woman who is ordered by her doctor to be on bedrest can be fired 2 weeks after giving birth because "the fact that Plaintiff's absences were caused by pregnancy does not dispense with the general requirement that employees must show up for work."

Then there is Judge Engelhardt's extremely disturbing ruling overturning the convictions of five former New Orleans police officers in the Danziger Bridge case. This was a case that was described at the time as "the most significant police misconduct prosecution since Rodney King," but Mr. Engelhardt overturned the convictions because three of the prosecutors wrote anonymous blog posts, even though the judge acknowledged that there was no evidence that any of the jurors had ever read these posts. Mr. Engelhardt's ruling in the Danziger Bridge case is exactly the kind of action that makes so many Americans distrust our criminal justice system and amplifies the racial inequalities that exist in it.

Too many Americans have been denied justice in Mr. Engelhardt's court for the Members of the U.S. Senate to reward and elevate him to a position of higher authority. Therefore, I would like it to be known on the record that I oppose Judge Engelhardt's nomination to serve on the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and would have voted in the negative had I been able to be here.

### HONORING FIRST SERGEANT DAVID H. QUINN

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, today I would like to honor the life of U.S. Marine Corps First Sergeant David H. Quinn of Temple, NH.

In 1941, First Sergeant Quinn enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. He would train at Parris Island, SC, and Quantico, VA, before being assigned to a newly created amphibious tractor battalion based in Dunedin, FL, which was preparing for war in the Pacific Theater.

His unit brought him to San Diego, where he was promoted to first sergeant, and eventually to New Zealand for further training in amphibious assaults. It was there that he met Zoe Boeson, who was working to become a nurse. David and Zoe were married on June 28, 1943, just 4 months before his unit shipped out.

In 1943, with Company C, 2nd Amphibious Tractor Battalion of the 2nd Marine Division, First Sergeant Quinn arrived on Betio in the Tarawa Atoll as part of Operation Galvanic. The island was critical to the U.S. island-hopping campaign and also to the Japanese, who used it as a base for attacking U.S. Forces in the Central Pacific.

The marines successfully captured Betio, but 1,029 marines were killed and approximately 2,700 men wounded on what came to be known as bloody

Tarawa. Among them was First Sergeant Quinn, who passed away on November 20, 1943. Though he and his new bride, Zoe, had spent just 4 months together prior to his death, she later remarked that they enjoyed more happiness in those 4 months than most people find in a lifetime.

Like many others, First Sergeant Quinn's remains were unidentified until 2016, when a DNA sample led to a positive match with his nieces. On May 4, 2018, nearly 75 years after his death, First Sergeant Quinn was reunited with his family and buried with full military honors back home in Temple, NH.

Though this expression of gratitude is long overdue, we must never miss an opportunity to thank those men and women in uniform who have put their life on the line to keep us safe, secure, and free. We must never forget their sacrifice.

I hope you will join me in honoring a brave Granite Stater, First Sergeant David Quinn. May he rest in peace.

### TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL LEONARD C. DOLLAGA

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the service and achievements of an esteemed and valued member of our Armed Forces, RDML Leonard C. Dollaga, U.S. Navy, on the unanimous confirmation of his promotion on Thursday, April 26, 2018.

Over the past 2 years, I have had the pleasure of working with Admiral Dollaga in his capacity as Director of the Navy's Appropriations Matters Office. As the principal representative of the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, he has provided invaluable support to Members and committee staff in presenting the budgetary needs of the Department of the Navy for our consideration and ensured timely and transparent communication flow to support Congress's enactment of appropriations for fiscal years 2017 and 2018. Throughout that time, Admiral Dollaga has provided superior support to me during a number of engagements with political and military leaders across the Asia-Pacific region. I would like to share with you some highlights of his fine career.

For the past 28 years, Admiral Dollaga excelled in leading our Navy's sailors aboard fast-attack and fleet ballistic missile submarines. He served sea tours on the USS *Los Angeles*, SSN 688; USS *Rhode Island*, SSBN 740 (Blue); and USS *Cheyenne*, SSN 773. He commanded USS *Charlotte*, SSN 766, followed by a command tour as commodore of Submarine Development Squadron Twelve, where he was in charge of nine fast-attack submarines and led the tactical development of the U.S. Submarine Force.

Ashore, his assignments enabled him to positively impact the submarine

force and Navy. He served as an admissions officer at the U.S. Naval Academy; the technical assistant to the director of Naval Nuclear Propulsion; the nuclear officer program manager and submarine officer community manager on the staff of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education; the prospective commanding officer instructor for the Pacific submarine force; and the chief of the program and budget branch on the Joint Staff, Program and Budget Analysis Division. His current assignment as director of the Navy's Appropriations Matters Office, FMBE, exposed him to the widest possible view of the Department of the Navy's budgetary requirements within the broader context of the national defense arena, preparing him well for future leadership at the highest levels of our Navy.

As Admiral Dollaga departs the Pentagon for his next assignment, I want to take this opportunity to urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to him on his promotion; to thank him, his wife, Lani, and his family for their years of service; and to wish him "fair winds and following seas" as he continues to lead our Navy in the years ahead.

Thank you.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO SOPHIA VELLA

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Sophia for her hard work as an intern in the Committee on Environment and Public Works. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office, as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Sophia is a native of Virginia. She is a student at Virginia Polytechnic and State University, where she is studying political science and foreign affairs. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Sophia for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.●

##### SESQUICENTENNIAL OF ALTOONA, IOWA

• Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the city of Altoona, IA, which was founded 150 years ago.

Originally named because of its location as the highest point—or altitude—on the Des Moines Valley Railroad, Altoona has continued to reach for new heights since its plot was recorded in 1868. Altoona has come a long way from its turn of the century, coal-mining identity.

Today Altoona is home to Iowa's premier entertainment destinations, with seemingly unlimited potential ahead. While Altoona's numerous regional attractions may define the landscape of the city, there is no doubt it is the people of Altoona who define its fabric. Over the years, Altoona's leadership has never forgotten its roots, and despite world-class amenities and contiguous proximity to Iowa's capital and largest city, Altoona continues to maintain that small town feeling that Iowans know and love.

There is no better place in America to raise a family than Iowa, and Altoona is a shining example of why. I invite my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating the city of Altoona on their sesquicentennial, and I wish them another 150 prosperous years.●

##### 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF JUPITER INLET LIGHTHOUSE OUTSTANDING NATURAL AREA

• Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, today marks a special day. It is the 10th anniversary of the designation of the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area. This 120-acre site in Palm Beach County, FL, contains invaluable historic and cultural resources, including an archaeological record showing continuous Native American settlement dating back 5,000 years.

Every year, tens of thousands of visitors enjoy tours of the restored 1860 Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and historical grounds, which include the 1892 George Washington Tindall House.

The Federal designation also protects the area's rich natural environment along the Indian River Lagoon, which provides habitat for over two dozen State or federally listed species, from the West Indian manatee to the Florida scrub jay.

A decade ago, I filed legislation to protect this special area, and on May 8, 2008, President George W. Bush signed it into law, Public Law 110-229. To this day, the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area remains the only unit of the 34-million-acre National Landscape Conservation System east of the Mississippi River.

I would like to commend the many partners who help the Department of the Interior take care of this heritage landmark, including the Loxahatchee River Historical Society, Palm Beach County, the town of Jupiter, the village of Tequesta, and the U.S. Coast Guard. Together, we have ensured this area will be preserved for future generations.●

##### TRIBUTE TO KELLIE MORFORD

• Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Kellie Morford, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work she has done on behalf of myself, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Kellie is a graduate of Spearfish High School in Spearfish, SD. Recently, she

graduated from Chadron State College in Chadron, NE, where she studied criminal justice and legal studies. Kellie is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience and who has been a true asset to the office.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Kellie for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

##### TRIBUTE TO NATALEE DEAETTE

• Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I would like to recognize a remarkable Vermonter, Natalee Deaette, who was recently selected as a 2018 Truman scholar. Natalee is one of just 59 outstanding college students from across the country who was honored this year by the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation with this prestigious graduate fellowship for young people who are pursuing careers as public service leaders.

Natalee is a member of Boston College's class of 2019, where she studies applied psychology and human development, with a focus on community advocacy and social policy and a minor in managing for social impact. She is involved in BC's Undergraduate Government and Emerging Leader Program, the McGillicuddy Logue Fellows Program, the Montserrat Coalition, Appalachia Volunteers, and the Global Medical Brigades. These are all very notable activities and achievements that demonstrate the depth of Natalee's commitment to her community.

What makes Natalee's story all the more impressive is that she broke through significant barriers to get to this place in her life. Natalee is a native of the most rural and economically challenged area of Vermont, where college graduation rates are well below the State and national averages. She is herself a first-generation college student and understands just how difficult it can be to navigate the world of higher education.

While in high school, Natalee greatly benefited from participating in Johnson State College's acclaimed Upward Bound program, which helps motivated first-generation high school students prepare for college success. The experience so influenced Natalee that she has worked for the program for the past 3 years. She also credits Upward Bound for inspiring her to pursue a career in public service and addressing educational inequity among disadvantaged youth, particularly those from rural areas.

I, like many Vermonters, am enormously proud of all that Natalee has already accomplished, and we look forward to what she will achieve in the future. I join with Natalee's friends and family in congratulating her for being named a Truman scholar and wishing her the best of luck in her future endeavors.●