

on whether Judge Kavanaugh's executive branch records are official—available to the committee and to the public—or personal. It is simply absurd to suggest that anyone is hiding anything. So I hope I don't hear that complaint anymore.

I hope my colleagues on the other side of the aisle put aside politics and reconsider their reckless demands for the immediate release—for the whole world to see—of documents that contain full names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, personal communications with family members, other sensitive matters affecting personal privacy, and, of course, some of the more sensitive issues related to the President's core constitutional duties.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, we are making good progress on the rather large package of appropriations bills, including Defense and Labor and HHS, but just to make sure we are in a position to wrap it up before we depart for the week, I send a cloture motion to the desk for Senate amendment No. 3695.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Senate amendment No. 3695 to Calendar No. 500, H.R. 6157, an act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Orrin G. Hatch, Jerry Moran, Lindsey Graham, Mike Crapo, Richard C. Shelby, John Thune, John Cornyn, John Hoeven, Shelley Moore Capito, Johnny Isakson, Pat Roberts, Steve Daines, John Boozman, Richard Burr, Lisa Murkowski, Roy Blunt.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk for H.R. 6157.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Calendar

No. 500, H.R. 6157, an act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Orrin G. Hatch, Jerry Moran, Lindsey Graham, Mike Crapo, Richard C. Shelby, John Thune, John Cornyn, John Hoeven, Shelley Moore Capito, Johnny Isakson, Pat Roberts, Steve Daines, John Boozman, Richard Burr, Lisa Murkowski, Roy Blunt.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in 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

Ms. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for yesterday's votes on S.A. 3705 and S.A. 3706 to H.R. 6157 so I could join the Secretary of the Air Force during her visit to Grand Forks Air Force Base in my home State. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the amendments.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL "TONY" DUNNE AND BRANDON "RAY" SEABOLT

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, it is my honor to pay tribute today to two exceptional Oklahomans and patriots, retired Army Chief Warrant Officer Michael "Tony" Dunne of Webber Falls, OK, and retired Army Chief Warrant Officer Brandon "Ray" Seabolt of Skiatook, OK. On August 14, 2018, both were awarded the Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Valor, the highest civilian award presented by the Department of Defense.

On August 7, 2015, Tony was working at Camp Integrity, just north of Kabul, Afghanistan, executing duties as contractors for the Department of Defense when a potent vehicle-borne improvised explosive device impaled the main gate and knocked down a guard tower. Without hesitation, Tony rushed to the fight and evacuated a wounded servicemember from the scene, undoubtedly saving their life. From his actions that day and others, Tony has been honored for exceptional gallantry in repeatedly putting himself in harm's way to assist in countering multiple insurgent threats, helping to save lives at the risk of his own.

On December 17, 2015, Ray was serving as a counter-IED expert in congruence with U.S. Special Forces and Afghan partners when they were ambushed by enemy fire. Without regard for his own life, Ray jumped to action and single-handedly fended off the insurgent onslaught, allowing the recovery force to approach the scene with little resistance. Ray has deservedly been recognized for his bravery and confidence in supporting multiple engagements with the enemy with dev-

astating effects and for providing tactical advice and assistance in the successful recovery of servicemembers.

Oklahoma is truly honored and proud to claim Tony and Ray, two patriots that exemplify the ultimate in bravery and courage in support of our country's most critical national security missions both at home and overseas.

Created in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, the Medal for Valor recognizes government employees and private citizens who perform an act of heroism or sacrifice, with voluntary risk to their personal safety in the face of danger. Tony and Ray's well-deserved medals, along with one other awarded on August 14, bring the total number of Medals for Valor to 17 awarded since September 11, 2001. This exemplifies the recognition of immense sacrifice that this small group has made for our Nation. Now, Tony and Ray's names will permanently reside in the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes, distinguished among our Nation's best.

REMEMBERING OPHA MAY JOHNSON

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, August 13, 2018, marked the centennial of women serving in the U.S. Marine Corps. I am proud that Indiana was home to the first woman to serve in the Marine Corps, Opha May Johnson.

Mrs. Johnson was born in Kokomo, IN, on May 4, 1878. Before becoming a marine at the age of 39, she graduated from Wood's Commercial Business College and worked diligently for 14 years in the Interstate Commerce Department.

Like many Americans during WWI, Mrs. Johnson heeded the Nation's call and took the oath without hesitation on August 13, 1918. She was the first of 300 women who worked at the Marine Corps headquarters in Virginia. After 5 weeks in the service, she was promoted to the rank of sergeant and remained on Active Duty until February 1919, 3 months after the end of WWI. Mrs. Johnson remained in civil service until her retirement in 1943.

Mrs. Johnson was the first of a group of trailblazing women in the Marine Corps, and it is with overwhelming pride that I recognize her service to this country. As a marine and Hoosier, I ask that you join me today in honoring Opha May Johnson and all of the courageous marines following in her footsteps.

TRIBUTE TO KEN FLANZ

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today, I wish to salute Ken Flanz, my longtime legislative director and senior-most legislative policy adviser who is retiring from the Senate, for his nearly 30 years of devoted congressional service.

Next month, he joins his loving wife, Meghan, in her hometown in southern California. I was honored to attend their wedding in 2003 at St. John's Church near the White House, with their families and friends.

Ken has been an integral part of my legislative team since he became part of my staff in 1997 during my service in the U.S. House of Representatives. He joined my staff after working for former Representative Martin Hoke, from 1993–1997 and former Representative Bill McCollum, from 1990–1991. His tenure on Capitol Hill has a wide range, having worked in both legislative bodies, in every Congress stretching back to the 101st Congress, five Presidential administrations, leadership shifts, and staff changes. His integrity, dedication, and longevity have served my State and our Nation well throughout.

Beyond his leadership on my senior management team, Ken has taken on tremendous responsibilities, as I have counted on him to cover many different issues over the years. He has been a trusted counsel, providing detailed work and advancing my policy agenda on diverse matters, including appropriations, international trade, intelligence, foreign affairs, energy, the environment, government reform, and the Federal judiciary. This includes his work covering my role as a Commissioner on the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform and leadership with the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group for many years. Ken understands the nuance, skill, and discretion needed to effectively navigate work with other countries and differing viewpoints, and he has taken on the challenges with tact and diplomacy.

Ken also assisted with my assignments on at least six committees, including Senate Finance; Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Senate Environment and Public Works; Senate Judiciary; Senate Indian Affairs; and the Joint Select Committee on Solvency of Multiemployer Pension Plans. During my tenure in the House, he also assisted me on the House Energy and Commerce and Agriculture Committees.

He has always been ready and able to fill gaps and cover what needs to be done as he has supported and filled out the staff. In addition to his principal issue assignments, he has covered taxes, healthcare, and education when staff vacancies occurred or the need required. Simply put, the complete list of policy issues he has handled throughout his time in Congress is extensive and likely too long test.

Ken can also point to achievements in helping me enact legislation relating to environmental protections, defense initiatives, Tribal sovereignty, land conveyances, and delivering assistance to Idaho communities and institutions. He was also instrumental in advancing and confirming executive branch and judicial branch nominees important to Idaho.

As legislative director, Ken has managed, led, and mentored over five dozen legislative team members and agency fellows. He has trained and guided so many young legislative minds into suc-

cessful careers and shared his consummate understanding of the legislative process and policy efforts.

It is telling on how much Ken has valued his relationship and mentorship with those on his staff when he requested, as a farewell gesture, photos with each one who could be available during his last month in my office. Without exception, they all trust and admire Ken and point to his guidance as part of their successes today.

He has an extraordinary depth of knowledge and understanding that has been invaluable and will be deeply missed in and beyond the Senate community where he has worked with many colleagues over the years. As a Stennis Congressional Fellow and a Woodrow Wilson Foreign Policy Fellow, Ken deepened his knowledge and skills that have made him effective in his commitment to serve the public.

I extend my deep gratitude to you, Ken, for the more than 21 years you have devoted to serving as member of my staff and the 28 years you have worked in Congress. Thank you for your thoughtful guidance all of these years. I wish you and Meghan all the best as you head West and start your next chapter.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING KRTV

• Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the fine broadcasters at KRTV in Great Falls, MT, who are celebrating their 60th year on the air.

On June 27, 1958, KRTV went live with its first broadcast, only to be promptly knocked off the air by a severe windstorm that damaged its television tower, but as they would prove, time and again, nothing could keep KRTV from bringing the news of the day to northcentral Montana. Three months later, they were back on the air, and they have been leading the way ever since.

In 1960, KRTV pioneered the first live broadcast from the Montana State Fair. At the time, it was a historic technological development in northcentral Montana. In 1961, they began broadcasting in color, bringing life to storytelling and breaking news. Every day since, KRTV has set the standard for excellence in broadcast journalism in Montana, winning EB Craney newscast of the year numerous times.

They have covered events large and small, from Presidential visits and historic flooding to six-man football and fall harvest. Legendary broadcasters like Norma Ashby laid the groundwork for the familiar faces of Tim McGonigal and Shannon Newth and so many others. They have brought the news to Great Falls and its surrounding market area with passion, grace, and persistence.

For 60 years, KRTV has been a shining example of how much local news

matters to a community. I know the next 60 years will be as good as the first.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Cuccia, 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:49 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Yahner, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. COMSTOCK) has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 717. An act to promote pro bono legal services as a critical way in which to empower survivors of domestic violence.

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-6190. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cerevisiae (cell walls of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strain LAS117); Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9980-51) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6191. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Picoxystrobin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9980-47) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6192. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Spinetoram; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9978-83) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6193. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, four (4) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Agriculture, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August