

TRIBUTE TO CINDY HASIAK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, before we wrap up today, I call my colleagues' attention to a truly dedicated staff member who has served the Senate for decades.

After more than three decades on the job with the Senate Sergeant at Arms, Cindy Hasiak is retiring today from her post as Chamber manager.

A native of Indiana, Cindy first arrived to work in the Capitol back in 1987. She was welcomed with—get this—a chance to work the Iran-Contra hearings. Since then, she has been on the clock for 7 Presidential inaugurations, 32 Presidential addresses and States of the Union, 6 lying-in-state ceremonies, and a great many more normal workdays, or at least what passes for normal here in the Senate.

More than three decades of landmark votes, major debates, and all the daily business that takes place in this Chamber, Cindy has been here helping make it happen.

To be specific, as one of our doorkeepers, and lately the director of doorkeepers, Cindy has literally guarded the Senate floor. Talk about a sensitive job.

Alongside the brave men and women of the Capitol Police, our doorkeepers control and manage access to this historic institution that attracts the attention of the entire world. They check credentials, welcome visitors, keep things running smoothly.

Here on the floor, they keep us safe. Up in the Galleries, they welcome visitors and give citizens a chance to watch democracy in action. So it is undoubtedly the case that the Senate has been stronger for Cindy's attentive service, but even after 32 years, we would be foolish to think we could keep her forever.

After more than her share of long days, longer weeks, and late nights that relegated entertaining and family time to the back burner, Cindy has certainly earned the chance to spend less time supervising all of us here and more time with her loved ones.

I know my colleagues join me in wishing Cindy good health and happiness as she embarks on a well-deserved retirement. She will leave with our deepest gratitude for a job well done. I might add that given the fact Cindy is from Indiana, it is appropriate that we have the Senator from Indiana as the Chair.

VETERANS' COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 1200, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1200) to increase, effective as of December 1, 2019, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 1200) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17 AS "PATRIOT WEEK"

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed, to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 311, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 311) expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as "Patriot Week".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 311) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NATIONAL DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 312, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 312) designating the week beginning September 8, 2019, as "National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleagues Senators COLLINS, KING, BROWN, MARKEY, MUR-

PHY, MENENDEZ, KLOBUCHAR, BLUMENTHAL, HASSAN, JONES, VAN HOLLEN, CASEY, BALDWIN, HARRIS, MURRAY, ROSEN, and Kaine to recognize the week beginning September 8, 2019, as National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week. Direct support professionals are an invaluable part of our Nation's healthcare system, caring for the most vulnerable Americans, including the chronically ill, seniors, and those living with a disability. Direct support professionals include, among others, those whose titles include home caregiver, personal care assistant, home care worker, or home health aide. These varying titles speaks to the broad areas of support that are integral to the work of direct support professionals. With the assistance of direct support professionals, these individuals can perform daily activities that many people take for granted, such as eating, bathing, dressing, and leaving the house. The work of direct support professionals ensures that these individuals can be active participants in their communities.

Let me share with you the experience of Marian Mulbah-Poquee, a direct support professional who was recognized this year for her incredible work and dedication when she was given Maryland's Direct Support Professional of the Year Award by the American Network of Community Options and Resources, ANCOR. Marian has been described as "a tireless advocate for her ladies," providing the women she serves with the space and choice to lead full and independent lives.

Marian supports her clients by teaching them skills that enable them to participate in their communities to the fullest extent possible. For example, Marian teaches her clients safety skills, gardening, and basic home care so they can spend more time living independently. Marian also encourages her clients to actively participate in civic life. This was best exemplified by a trip her clients took to Annapolis last year for Developmental Disability Day. Marian supported her clients as they met with and engaged their local representatives to discuss issues that affect the disability community in Maryland. Marian's commitment to simultaneously supporting and empowering her clients to actively participate in the public sphere speaks to the very core of what defines direct support professionals.

Marian's story describes a career that is fulfilling, but one that often times is not easy for Direct support professionals like her. The hours are often long, and the wages are low. The job can be physically laborious, as well as emotionally draining. The reward for direct support professionals, however, is that they are able to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and help fulfill the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act by making it possible for these Americans to participate in their communities to the fullest extent possible.

In our country, we are incredibly fortunate to have millions of service-oriented individuals who are willing to rise to the task of becoming a direct support professional. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the employment of DSPs is projected to grow by an average of 41 percent from 2016 to 2026, compared to a 7 percent average growth rate for all occupations during that period. The demand will only continue to increase over time; the Baby Boomer generation will result in the doubling of the population of adults ages 65 and older by 2050. The increased demand for direct support professionals has created shortages in some areas, which can place strains on patients and their families or result in medical issues that could have been avoided.

Unfortunately, direct support professionals are often forced to leave the jobs they love due to low wages and excessive, difficult work hours. Many direct support professionals rely on public benefits, and some must work multiple jobs in order to provide for themselves and their families. Now, more than ever, it is imperative that we work to ensure that these hardworking individuals have the income and emotional support they need and deserve.

I urge my colleagues to join me and Senators COLLINS, KING, BROWN, MARKEY, MURPHY, MENENDEZ, KLOBUCHAR, BLUMENTHAL, HASSAN, JONES, VAN HOLLEN, CASEY, BALDWIN, HARRIS, MURRAY, ROSEN, and Kaine in expressing our appreciation for the critically important work of our country's direct support professionals, in thanking them for

their commitment and dedication, and in supporting the resolution designating the week beginning September 8, 2019, as National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 312) was agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, September 16; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, until

5 p.m. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that following morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Rakolta nomination and that the closure motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m. on Monday.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:21 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 16, 2019, at 3 p.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 12, 2019:

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

MICHELLE BOWMAN, OF KANSAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM FOR A TERM OF FOURTEEN YEARS FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2020.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

THOMAS PETER FEODO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR INVESTMENT SECURITY.

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

JENNIFER D. NORDQUIST, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS.