

Especially this past year during these unprecedented times, the American people needed bipartisan work and leadership from its public officials in getting relief to struggling communities across the country. Senator ALEXANDER'S direction and leadership through debates and negotiations brought out the best in him this year, as it has in the past, evident both in how he treats people with dignity and respect and in his unwavering dedication to public service.

Not only will we miss Senator ALEXANDER'S presence in this Chamber, but we will also miss his beautiful piano skills during the holiday season. I hope he will have the opportunity to come back to the Senate Hart Building and play for us again soon. I promise I will be there in the front row.

Senator ALEXANDER, I wish you the best in the next chapter of your life and hope you have a wonderful retirement after your long and impactful career.

TRIBUTE TO PAT ROBERTS

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to someone who is more than just a colleague. He is more than just a friend. In fact, he has been a true partner here in the Senate, and that has paid huge dividends for farmers, families, and communities across our country.

PAT ROBERTS has been here in the Senate for a long time. Some might even call him an institution. At a recent Ag Committee event, I joked that, as a young man, he advised George Washington on farm policy. That might be a bit of an exaggeration, but his legacy can hardly be overstated. He has left a lasting imprint on farm and food policy in this country. He is the only person to have written a farm bill as both the chair of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees.

Those of us who have had the honor of serving alongside PAT on the Senate Agriculture Committee know there is no other place quite like it. It is a place where we leave politics at the door and focus on the ways we can improve people's lives and livelihoods in rural America. We do that because we know agriculture isn't a red issue or a blue issue. Agriculture and food policy affect everyone. And nobody knows that better than PAT.

Senator ROBERTS and I never gave up on passing the 2018 farm bill even when it got tough. At the beginning of negotiations, we made a commitment to work together. We visited each other's home States—twice, in fact. I arrived in "The Little Apple" of Manhattan, KS, wearing K-State purple. A few weeks later, PAT came to Frankenmuth, MI and wore a MSU green tie.

Around this time, we also made a commitment to each other to write a bipartisan farm bill. Throughout the entire process, I never doubted that PAT had my back—even when negotia-

tions got tough. Thanks to this partnership, we achieved the most bipartisan bill in history.

We first passed our Senate bill by 86 votes, but that wasn't enough. We decided to beat that record and passed the final farm bill by 87 votes, the most yes votes ever. We were able to do that because we have a unique partnership built on trust and mutual respect. And the outcome was a strong, bipartisan bill that provided certainty for all farmers, from wheat farmers in Kansas to cherry growers in Michigan. Part of that certainty is Federal crop insurance—and nobody deserves more credit for the foundation of that important safety net program than Senator ROBERTS.

PAT is also a champion for food security, agricultural exports, and agricultural research, which is why he and I worked together to establish the Foundation for Food and Agriculture in the 2014 Farm Bill. He also understands the importance of protecting food assistance for children and families. I was honored to share the Food Research and Action Center's Distinguished Service Award with Senator ROBERTS last year for our teamwork.

Above all, it has been an honor working with PAT because he is truly one of a kind. From the moment I met him, it became abundantly clear that he wasn't your run-of-the-mill politician. Some say it is his unflappable nature. Others say it is his unique sense of humor. But to me, PAT ROBERTS is defined by his loyalty, integrity, and dedication to the people of Kansas.

He started his career as a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps. And it is clear he has carried that courage and conviction with him throughout his life. He was also a newspaper reporter, which makes sense when you consider his dogged determination, and, for better or worse, his ability to be exceptionally quotable.

As a public servant, he is so beloved in his home State of Kansas that he never lost an election, a record of 24-0. If only his K-State Wildcats could be so lucky.

Senator PAT ROBERTS, it has been such an honor to be your partner—and an even bigger honor to be your friend. So while your retirement is well earned, you will be deeply missed on the Agriculture Committee and here in the Senate.

Thank you for all you have done for farmers, families, and the American people.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I would like to recognize and thank the Senator from Kansas, PAT ROBERTS. He has served the people of Kansas and our Nation in Congress for nearly 40 years, serving 16 years in the House of Representatives and in U.S. Senate since 1997. Over the past 4 years, I have had the pleasure of serving with Senator ROBERTS in the Senate, including on the Committee on Rules and Administration and the Finance Committee for the last 2 years.

Senator ROBERTS has been a pragmatic partner on legislation focused on supporting rural hospitals and telehealth access during the pandemic. We introduced the Rural ACO Improvement Act to support rural health care providers as well as the Ensuring Parity in Medicare Advantage for Audio-Only Telehealth Act to protect seniors' access to telehealth visits even when video is not available during the COVID-19 public health emergency. I respect and appreciate Senator ROBERTS'S dedication to these important issues.

Senator ROBERTS has had a long and esteemed tenure in Congress, and his emphasis on working across the aisle can be seen clearly with the record number of votes in favor for the 2018 farm bill. His evident love for his family, rich heritage as a fourth-generation Kansan, and his call for levity and humor in the Senate to ensure bipartisanship will be remembered for years to come. I thank Senator ROBERTS and wish him, his wife Franki, and his family all the best in the coming years.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL B. ENZI

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to recognize and thank the Senator from Wyoming, MIKE ENZI. He has served the State of Wyoming and our Nation for more than 40 years, first as the Mayor of Gillette, then in both chambers of the Wyoming Legislature, and finally in the U.S. Senate since 1997. Over the past 4 years, I have had the pleasure of serving with Senator ENZI in the Senate, including on the Finance Committee for the last 2 years. Together, we introduced the 1921 Silver Dollar Coin Anniversary Act, to celebrate the anniversary of the Peace silver dollar memorializing the end of World War I.

Senator ENZI has had a long and distinguished tenure in the Senate as both the chair and ranking member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and as the chair of the Budget Committee. Across all his legislative efforts, Senator ENZI has remained a staunch advocate of his "80 percent tool"—the belief that we can get a lot done when we can agree on 80 percent of the issues 80 percent of the time. This lesson is one that we all should take to heart as we enter the 117th Congress and the future.

Senator ENZI's legacy and his words of wisdom—do what is right, do your best, treat others as they wish to be treated—will continue to remind us to work hard and serve our constituents to the best of our abilities. I wish him a peaceful retirement fly-fishing on the banks of Wyoming's rivers, and I wish his wife Diana and his family all the best in the next chapter.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNNY ISAKSON

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I would like to recognize and thank Senator Johnny Isakson for his service

in the U.S. Congress. Having served in the House of Representatives from 1999 to 2004 and later in the Senate from 2005 until his retirement in 2019, Senator Isakson has dedicated himself to supporting longstanding, bipartisan measures. His ability to find common ground and his commitment to public service are a reflection of his adherence to Georgians' and our Nation's values. It is my honor to have served alongside Senator Isakson during the 116th Congress.

In his tenure, Senator Isakson sponsored over 130 bills—a testament to his determination and aptitude to work across party lines. Having served in the Georgia Air National Guard, Senator Isakson played a key role in passing salient legislation to aid our veterans. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, he led the Department of Veterans Affairs Educational Assistance Improvement Act of 2017, which created opportunities for veterans to pursue higher education. I am proud to have cosponsored this bill in my first year in office and to have worked with Senator Isakson to unite Congress in support of our veterans, among many other bipartisan causes led by Johnny.

Senator Isakson's time in office has left a profound mark in the Halls of Congress. I am confident his courage, compassion, and celebrated accomplishments will be remembered for years to come. I thank Senator Isakson for his service and send my best wishes to him and his wife Dianne and their children, Kevin, Julie, and John.

TRIBUTE TO TOM UDALL

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to honor someone whom I have had the good fortune to serve alongside both in the House and the Senate.

In American political history, there are certain names that carry a legacy. There are the Roosevelts, a family of great means who nonetheless understood the deeply personal pain of the Great Depression and helped bring a nation through it. There are the Kennedys, a family that for generations has been near the center of American power and popular culture.

And there are the Udalls.

Now, the Udalls have never been flashy. They might not be the equivalent of political royalty. You are more likely to find Udalls in cowboy boots and jeans than expensive suits. But they are a family that is deeply devoted to public service, protecting the people and places of the West, and just being some of the kindest, hardest-working, most decent folks you could ever meet.

Senator TOM UDALL has certainly lived up to his family's legacy during his long career in public service. New Mexico is so fortunate to be represented by him, and I feel so fortunate to have him as a friend.

TOM, it has been such a pleasure to work with you on issues including pro-

tecting funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, ensuring that our community health centers receive full funding, strengthening rural communities, and improving services for our veterans and our work together on TSCA reform. I have been so impressed by your work on clean energy and on protecting the wild places that make our States so special—and, of course, your important work on reforming the Senate. And I am so grateful for your strong leadership on the Indian Affairs Committee and your hard work on behalf of our Nation's Tribes. You have also set yourself apart through your work on foreign relations and on keeping our Nation safe.

I will never forget our trip to Vietnam and South Korea last year. It was such a special moment when Jill organized a Passover Seder for everyone on our plane to Ho Chi Minh City. It brought everyone together to focus on our common humanity and what we are each called to do: serve others.

Whatever the future holds for you, I have no doubt that you will continue serving the people of New Mexico and this great Nation. Public service, that is what Udalls do.

TOM, congratulations on your retirement, and thank you for a job well done. You have been a true blessing to New Mexico and our Nation.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise to honor my colleague and good friend, Senator TOM UDALL, who will be retiring from the Senate at the end of this Congress. TOM has been a forceful advocate for the people of New Mexico, a champion for all Americans, and a guardian of our Nation's public lands and our democracy. It has been my privilege to partner with him, both in the House and Senate, over the past 17 years.

TOM's family roots were grown from American history. Generations ago, his ancestors traveled west and settled on the American frontier. Although centuries have passed since those early pioneers, TOM's deep connection to our country's rich history hasn't waned. He holds deep respect for the communities that treasured the American landscape long before his family arrived, and TOM has championed the cause of Tribal sovereignty throughout his career. As vice chair of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, he fought to ensure that our country fulfills its obligations to indigenous Tribes. His commitment to this cause reminds us, as lawmakers, that the government has a responsibility to respect the rights of all communities from coast to coast.

His personal link to the American experiment has also nourished a passion for conserving our natural inheritance. In the House, I was proud to work with him on bolstering our Nation's renewable energy infrastructure. In the Senate, I have been privileged to serve with him on the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior and Environment. He has been an advocate for supporting the Chesapeake Bay in my

home State of Maryland and helped us secure a historic increase in funding to the Chesapeake Bay Program. Senator UDALL's pioneering work in these arenas has rallied colleagues around the cause of protecting our environment, culminating this August with the passage of the Great American Outdoors Act. His tireless efforts to preserve America's natural heritage will live on through the clean water and clean air that he helped safeguard for generations to come. But TOM knew well that preserving our environment must go hand-in-hand with defending our planet against climate change. His landmark bill on renewable energy standards offers a model for the type of rigorous approach we can take to cut carbon emissions and address this global threat.

Senator UDALL's commitment to keeping our planet healthy has been equal in force to his mission of keeping our democracy healthy. Throughout his career, TOM promoted the notion that we need structural change in our institutions if we want to move our country forward. He and I worked together on campaign finance reform to help insulate our elections from the influence of special interests and big corporations and have fought to reform financing for Presidential elections and the FEC. In Washington, he has been a vocal critic of government inaction and proposed rule fixes to remedy congressional paralysis, both while in the minority and in the majority. His calls for change have challenged this body to act on institutional adjustments that could help us get more done for the American people.

But beyond these achievements, one of TOM's greatest contributions to the Senate is the way in which he has made this Chamber a kinder place. His warm temperament and humble nature exemplify the character of a true public servant—someone who is here to do good work on behalf of their constituents, not stroke their own ego. He has stayed grounded and honored those whom he serves, always looking to move our country forward. In his farewell address, Senator UDALL reminded us that disagreements in politics shouldn't get in the way of progress. TOM lives and breathes this bedrock principle and has always extended a hand to those across the aisle in order to deliver for the American people. Although he is now headed back West to return to the place that made him, he is leaving a lasting legacy of collaboration and success that cannot be undone.

Thank you, TOM, for your dedication to this body and to our country, and I wish you and your family the best in the years ahead.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to recognize and thank the vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Senator UDALL, for his years of leadership in the Senate, on our committee, and for his commitment and service to