

Grassley	Menendez	Scott (SC)
Hassan	Merkley	Shaheen
Hawley	Moran	Shelby
Heinrich	Murkowski	Sinema
Hirono	Murphy	Smith
Hoeben	Murray	Stabenow
Hyde-Smith	Paul	Sullivan
Inhofe	Peters	Tester
Johnson	Portman	Thune
Jones	Reed	Tillis
Kaine	Risch	Toomey
Kennedy	Roberts	Udall
King	Romney	Van Hollen
Lankford	Rosen	Warner
Leahy	Rounds	Whitehouse
Lee	Rubio	Wicker
Loeffler	Sasse	Wyden
Manchin	Schatz	Young
McConnell	Schumer	
McSally	Scott (FL)	

NAYS—7

Booker	Klobuchar	Warren
Gillibrand	Markey	
Harris	Sanders	

NOT VOTING—2

Alexander	Perdue
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The majority whip.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to 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.

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, Kay Hagan was a kind and passionate public servant. She fought from the heart for women, children, students, servicemembers, and working people in North Carolina and across the country.

In 2013, when interest rates on Federal student loans were about to double so that the government could increase profits off of the backs of our students, Kay said no. Together, with our colleague Senator JACK REED, we put forward commonsense legislation to keep interest rates low for students across the country. In this instance and so many others, Kay stood for fairness and served as a voice for those who needed it most.

Kay and I may not have agreed on every issue, but on those key issues that matter to working families—like equal pay, raising the minimum wage, and helping students getting crushed by debt—we were proud to fight side by side.

My thoughts are with her husband Chip, their children and family, and the people of North Carolina as they mourn Kay's loss and celebrate her memory.

REMEMBERING CORPORAL FRED B. MCGEE

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I rise today to honor a heroic Ohio veteran whom we lost this month, CPL Fred B. McGee. Corporal McGee served in Korea, where he and his squad leader were both wounded in the bloody Battle of Hill 528.

With his leader down, and despite his own injuries, Corporal McGee took command—he wasn't next in line, but he stepped up, and he saved lives. He was hit again, and his squad was given the order to withdraw. Yet still, with shrapnel in the face and leg, he voluntarily remained behind to evacuate his fellow soldiers who were wounded and killed. His acts of bravery earned Corporal McGee a Silver Star and two Purple Hearts.

For too long, he did not receive the recognition he earned serving our country. Like so many veterans, Corporal McGee rarely spoke about his service and never drew attention to his own courage. While recalling the battle earlier this year he said, "No, I'm not brave. I just did what was a necessity."

And in the 1950s, the color of his skin surely also contributed to the lack of recognition for Corporal McGee's heroism. He was drafted in 1951 into a newly integrating Army and was one of the first African-American soldiers to serve in Korea. Jefferson County's sheriff talked about how someone made a comic book in 1953 illustrating 10 stories of soldiers' heroics, they depicted Corporal McGee as a White man.

We owe a hero like Corporal McGee a tribute that befits his service and sacrifice. At the end of last year, the Jefferson County Veterans Service Commission honored Corporal McGee as its Veteran of the Year. And I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring him on the Senate floor today.

We thank CPL Fred McGee for his heroism and his sacrifices for our country and we send our thoughts to Corporal McGee's family. May the tributes from the many lives he touched bring you comfort, and know that we will keep alive the story of his heroism.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM MOEN, JR.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a member of my staff in the great State of New Jersey. We are all fortunate to have offices full of staff members passionate about working for the betterment of our country. William Moen, Jr., or Bill Moen, as we affectionately call him, is a shining example of what patriotism looks like in government service.

The son of a disabled Vietnam veteran and the grandson of a WWII veteran, Bill Moen's commitment to public service is a family legacy.

Even prior to his Federal work in my Senate office in Camden, NJ, Bill has worked at all levels of government in New Jersey. He's interned at his local police department and the First Con-

gressional District of New Jersey. He worked in the New Jersey State Legislature, with the Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders and even as an elected Freeholder himself in Camden County.

On December 9, 2013, I welcomed Bill Moen to my staff in Camden, NJ. Bill was with me on one of my first official events as U.S. Senator. He helped organize a visit to Cape May County—the southernmost county in New Jersey—where I spoke with residents who were still struggling to recover from the devastation of Superstorm Sandy. The past 6 years are full of memorable events, stories, projects, and cases like this one. He has managed my South Jersey office with compassion and integrity.

Mr. President, I wish to recognize Bill Moen today because he is leaving my office to set up his own as assemblyman representing New Jersey's Fifth Legislative District in the New Jersey State Assembly. I am sad to see him go but grateful for his work and proud of the new role he begins in what will surely be a long and brilliant career in public service.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING EARNIE BLACKLEY

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of Izard County Sheriff Earnie Blackley. Sheriff Blackley passed away on January 4, 2020, after a brief battle with cancer.

He first joined the Izard County Sheriff's Department in 1993 after having previously worked as a police officer in Greenville, MS, and served as chief deputy for 18 years before being elected sheriff in 2018.

Sheriff Blackley was a dedicated law enforcement official; a devoted husband, father, and grandfather; and a man of faith. His obituary noted how he was known for hosting fish fries to benefit a variety of causes and organizations. The outpouring of love and support shown to the sheriff and his family since his diagnosis is a testament to how well he served his community and how much that service was recognized and appreciated by all it impacted.

After being diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer in May of last year, Sheriff Blackley asked for prayers as he faced this serious diagnosis head on while also continuing to serve. Over 1,000 people reportedly turned out to a fundraiser in his honor shortly thereafter.

Sheriff Blackley was clearly a leader who inspired love, confidence, and respect. I am tremendously grateful for his decades of service in law enforcement and for the way he lived his life.

I join with many in his community and across the State of Arkansas in mourning his passing and praying for his loved ones, including his wife Theresa, during this difficult time. On behalf of everyone in Arkansas, I pray

God will bless the Blackley family and the people of Izard County as they cope with this loss and celebrate the life of Sheriff Earnie Blackley.●

TRIBUTE TO DANA BENNETT

● Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I come forward today to recognize the career and service of Ms. Dana Bennett, who will soon retire as president of the Nevada Mining Association. Ms. Bennett is the first woman to lead the Nevada Mining Association, serving as the State industry's educational and advocacy leader, as well as its chief representative in national and international outreach. As we commemorate her retirement, her countless contributions to the great State of Nevada are worthy of recognition.

Ms. Bennett began her career of service to Nevada as a principal research analyst with the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau, LCB, where she worked with both parties and committee staff in the State senate and assembly for over 9 years. One of her more notable achievements during her time at the LCB was identifying an error in the 1929 bill that established the design of the Nevada State flag. Ms. Bennett's sleuthing resulted in a design change to the Nevada State flag, ensuring that it fully complied with the law and producing the flag that we still proudly fly today.

In 1998, Ms. Bennett left the LCB to start her own legislative and policy research services company. She went on to represent such clients as the Nevada Broadcasters Association, the Nevada State Medical Association, the Associated General Contractors of Las Vegas, and many more. Ms. Bennett successfully ran this company, Research by Design, from 1998 to 2004, before being offered the position of director of government affairs at R&R Partners—one of Nevada's premiere public relations and government affairs firms.

In 2006, Ms. Bennett left R&R to pursue a graduate degree at Arizona State University, ASU. During her time in graduate school, Ms. Bennett served as a policy analyst at the Morrison Institute for Public Policy; a research assistant at the ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies; and a research historian at the Arizona State Archives.

In January 2011, Ms. Bennett returned to Nevada to once again serve, this time as senior researcher for Governor Sandoval, eventually becoming the Northern Nevada regional director for the Governor's Office of Economic Development. As regional director, Ms. Bennett was a catalyst in the overhaul and redevelopment of that State agency, where she created the new State plan for excellence in economic development and worked to improve collaboration between the State and its regional development authorities to better facilitate economic growth in Nevada.

In December 2014, Ms. Bennett was named president of the Nevada Mining

Association. Through this role, Ms. Bennett has worked tirelessly to advocate for the mining industry in Nevada and educate people about the importance of mining and its impact on both the State and global economies. From her time at LCB, to becoming the first woman President of the Nevada Mining Association, Ms. Bennett has been a trailblazer for women in Nevada, helping break the glass ceiling in industries often dominated by men.

Through all of Ms. Bennett's incredible work and public service, she has gained an intimate understanding of the policy and initiatives that aim to improve the lives of all Nevadans. It is my sincere hope that Ms. Bennett will continue to be an advocate for the people of Nevada and their interests. Today, I celebrate the many contributions of Ms. Dana Bennett. Nevadans are fortunate to have had her leadership, knowledge, and voice during her service to both the State and the country.●

TRIBUTE TO JIM BYRUM

● Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to honor someone who has dedicated his entire career to promoting Michigan agriculture and someone I am proud to call my friend.

I have always said that, in Michigan, we don't have an economy unless we make things and grow things. For more than 40 years, Jim Byrum has been helping Michigan do just that.

That is a big deal for our State. From West Michigan's fruitbelt, to the forests of Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula, to sugarbeet and dry bean fields in the Thumb, to biofuel production providing good jobs in rural communities, to dairy and food processing businesses in cities and towns of all sizes, agriculture is our State's second-largest industry, supporting one in four jobs.

During his nearly 25 years with the Michigan Agri-Business Association, Jim has been a powerful advocate for those one in four jobs and for his organization's more than 400 members. His vision, insight, hard work, and great sense of humor have played a strong role in the association's success.

It is no surprise that Jim knows exactly what his members need; he has his own lifetime of experience to rely on.

Jim is the fourth generation of Byrums to live on his family's farm in Onondaga. Before he joined the Michigan Agri-Business Association, he was State executive director of Michigan's Farm Service Agency and executive director of the Michigan Bean Commission.

Jim may be moving on, but the imprint he has left on the agribusiness industry will live on. I know that Jim is particularly proud of the work he has done to expand markets internationally and to build the Michigan Agri-Business Leader Program, which has been bringing together different sec-

tors of agriculture and training the next generation of leaders since 2008.

I have been especially grateful for the culture of cooperation and bipartisanship Jim has helped cultivate in our State during a very challenging time for the industry.

As Jim told Russ White of MSU Today back in September: "There's going to be more change in the next 20 years of this industry than there has been in the past 50. And that change is coming at light speed . . . it's going to benefit consumers . . . it's going to benefit producers . . . but folks better be ready to embrace it."

I know for a fact that Michigan's agricultural industry is better positioned to embrace change thanks to Jim's hard work and dedication. Speaking of change, I am so happy that Jim will have more time to spend with his wife Dianne, who is a leader in her own right, and his two children and grandchildren.

Jim, thank you for your friendship, your leadership, and your lifetime of work on behalf of Michigan agriculture. It has been my honor to be your partner in helping Michigan make things and grow things.

Thank you.●

TRIBUTE TO WICK SLOANE

● Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, it is my deep honor and privilege to celebrate the career and legacy of Massachusetts resident, Wick Sloane of Bunker Hill Community College, or BHCC, as he retires this year.

Wick Sloane came to BHCC in 2006 and retires this year from his "official" job of helping students transfer to 4-year colleges. Wick leaves behind an unwavering commitment to the students—from their success in the classroom to ensuring that all of their basic needs are met.

Wick has worked tirelessly over the years to address even the most basic needs of low-income students, like student hunger and homelessness. His work touched the BHCC community in Massachusetts but also college communities far beyond BHCC throughout Massachusetts and across the country.

Due in large part to Wick's steadfast advocacy and voice, I successfully led several of my Senate colleagues in requesting the Government Accountability Office, or GAO, to conduct a study on food insecurity at colleges and universities. The GAO agreed to complete the study, which it published in January 2019. The groundbreaking study confirmed that food insecurity is a widespread issue on American college campuses and made recommendations for Federal action to address hunger issues for students in higher education. This study led lawmakers at the local level and at the national level—myself included—to introduce legislation to address hunger on college campuses.

Wick saw a problem impacting his community in Massachusetts and took action, resulting in immediate support