

place than he found it. Judge Malone is retiring at the end of his current term this January, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this first-rate public servant for his contributions to Kentucky.

Judge Malone didn't start off his career in government. Rather, he spent four decades in the private sector, building his businesses in Carter County. He developed a keen understanding of the role of public officials and the ways they could either help—or harm—business growth. Realizing he could put that knowledge to work on behalf of his family, neighbors, and friends, he threw his hat into the ring and filed to run for judge-executive. As he says, “The rest is history.”

Promoting businesses and jobs was always at the top of Judge Malone's to-do list from his first days in office. But he was also forced to deal with some of the more unexpected duties of his role. Those started early on when, during Judge Malone's first year in office, ice storms and flooding crippled Carter County's infrastructure. Just 2 years ago, a winter storm hit the county again. Judge Malone worked around the clock to reconnect his constituents to accessible roadways and the power grid. He led an effort that removed thousands of cubic yards of debris and helped repair millions of dollars in damage to public utilities.

Following this most recent storm, I visited Judge Malone in Carter County to discuss his community's recovery and help direct Federal aid to the region. As a former judge-executive, I know the importance of Judge Malone's work, from the financial assistance he helped residents access, to the moral support he offered storm victims. I was impressed by his leadership and his ability to unite community members from all sides of the political spectrum around the common cause of helping their neighbors. As he says, “it's not Democrat or Republican. It's ‘what's the problem and how do we fix it?’”

Judge Malone has stood by his constituents' side in good times and bad, twice earning their trust and votes in his election to be judge-executive. At the end of this term, though, he is taking a step back from the political arena, opting to spend more time with his family and enjoy his hobbies after decades of hard work. I thank Judge Malone for his service to Carter County and the Commonwealth and wish him the best in the next stage of his life.

Mr. President, the Daily Independent paid tribute to Judge Malone's career in a recent article. I ask unanimous consent the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Daily Independent, Sep. 15, 2022]

MALONE MOVING ON FROM CARTER JUDGE-EXEC.

After eight years of serving as Carter County Judge-Executive, Mike Malone is off

the ballot. Opting for a simpler life of retirement filled with fishing and his grandchildren, Malone said, “I did the best I could do, I'm glad I did it, but I don't want to do it again.”

Before his current gig, Malone started out as a funeral director and later decided to work alongside his brother at his research business. Malone said he did compliance and purchasing, and his experience in business adds up to about 40 years.

“I filed to run for judge and the rest is history,” Malone laughed.

It hasn't been an easy job for Malone by any means.

In just his first year as judge-executive, the county was slammed by Mother Nature with crippling ice storms and resulting flooding, leaving behind utter destruction and an overwhelmed Malone.

“It was hard to step into,” he said. He had the business background, which helped, but Malone doesn't believe anyone is truly prepared for the responsibility the position holds.

Malone explained that the seat requires one to deal with a “duty dumping ground.”

“If it doesn't fit anywhere else, it goes on the county judge,” he added.

Malone mentioned he was surprised to have to deal with some of the issues he's run across as judge-executive.

“Animal control, solid waste issues and the scope of making sure your 911 system is functioning because people die if it doesn't,” he said.

When asked his favorite accomplishment, Malone stated he brought civility back to Carter County saying, “You gotta work with what you've got.”

Malone said he'll miss the people he's worked with the most and extended his gratitude to the fiscal court, magistrates, sheriff, clerk and attorney.

“I'm lucky to have such great people,” Malone said.

Despite polarizing beliefs, Malone said party never played a role.

“We don't always agree, but there's never been a fight or a fuss between them,” he said. “. . . It's not Democrat or Republican, it's what's the problem and how do we fix it?”

In 2020, a late winter ice storm smacked the area, knocking Carter County down for two to three weeks and causing Malone and his team to struggle under the weight of the aid required after such events.

Malone said during that time frame the citizens of the county went without power, electricity and accessible roadways.

Malone said 159,000 cubic yards of tree debris were removed and \$10 million worth of damage was done to county roads and infrastructure.

“Everybody stepped up,” Malone said, referring to office workers that headed out with chainsaws to cut timber and deliver water.

“It was our most trying time,” Malone said, “but my office really shined.”

Malone recalled lighter memories, remembering a time he got a call that a roadway had been blocked preventing a bus from passing through. When Malone inquired about what was blocking the roadway, he said a grand piano had been abandoned in the middle of the road.

“These sorts of things always came out of the blue,” he laughed.

Malone also recalled working with the late Judge Henry Wilhoit to bring the veterans park to the lot across from the justice center in Grayson.

A three-way battle will take place to fill Malone's seat—Democrat Dustin Howard or Republican Brandon Burton or Independent Duane Suttles.

“We have good men that are honest that are running to replace me,” Malone said, “They're capable of doing a great job. Whoever gets it, I'll do what I can to create a smooth transition.”

Malone said that although he's retiring, he wants to see Carter County succeed and will do what he can to help it even after he steps away from the political arena.

But for now, Malone looks forward to fishing as he said he hasn't had much time to do it in the last eight years.

(At the request of Mr. THUNE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### HURRICANE IAN

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, due to Hurricane Ian, which is a major hurricane, I am remaining in Florida. The impact of Hurricane Ian on Tampa Bay and Florida's gulf coast could be catastrophic. •

#### TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 117-1

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to commend the adoption of the resolution of ratification with respect to Treaty Document No. 117-1, amendment to the Montreal Protocol. Adopting the Kigali Amendment, as it is better known, will formalize the U.S. commitment to phase down the use of hydrofluorocarbons, or HFCs, under the global climate treaty. These industrial chemicals commonly found in air conditioners and refrigerators, insulating foams, and pharmaceutical inhalers are potent greenhouse gases. This historic achievement is the latest in a series by a Congress that will be remembered for its unprecedented action to combat climate change and future-proof our economy.

Fittingly, last week was Climate Week NYC, an event that has taken place every year in New York City since 2009. The summit takes place alongside the UN General Assembly and brings together international leaders from business, government, and civil society to showcase global climate action.

A working paper on HFCs produced for the New Climate Economy by Nathan Borgford-Parnell, Maxime Beaugrand, Stephen O. Anderson, and Durwood Zaelke of the Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development, highlights HFC phasedown as one of the greatest opportunities to mitigate climate change quickly.

Specifically, reducing HFC use in line with the Kigali Amendment to Montreal Protocol could avoid 0.5 degree Celsius—0.9 degree Fahrenheit—of warming by 2100. That will go a long way toward limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius under the Paris Agreement and avoiding the worst impacts of climate change. U.S. adoption of the resolution, which has been ratified by 137 countries, contributes to delivering on that commitment and cements the consensus on climate ambition as a complement to thriving economies.

I would like to reflect on how we arrived at this moment. Under the Montreal Protocol, participating countries

agreed to replace ozone-depleting products, such as chlorofluorocarbons—CFCs—found in refrigerants, aerosols, and solvents to help address the hole in the ozone layer. As a result, there has been a 97-percent reduction in the global consumption of controlled ozone-depleting substances, with minimal economic disruption.

Hydrofluorocarbons—HFCs—make up the majority of the ozone-friendly products being used today to replace CFCs. HFCs can now be found in nearly every home in the United States, namely in our air conditioners and refrigerators. Although HFCs were developed as an ozone-layer-preserving alternative to historical refrigerants, they are now known to be highly potent greenhouse gases—hundreds or thousands of times more so than carbon dioxide. This discovery challenged policymakers and manufacturers to keep innovating.

On October 15, 2016, in Kigali, Rwanda, more than 170 countries negotiated an amendment to the Montreal Protocol to include a global phasedown of HFCs. The goal of the Kigali Amendment is to achieve an 80 percent or greater reduction in global HFC consumption and production by 2047.

Five years and three Presidential administrations later, on November 16, 2021, President Biden transmitted the Kigali Amendment to the U.S. Senate, which was referred to the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where I am proud to serve. The Foreign Relations Committee voted the Kigali Amendment out of committee by voice vote earlier this year.

Today, U.S. businesses stand to benefit tremendously from the global phase-down in hydrofluorocarbons—HFCs—and, thereby, the ratification of Kigali. This includes chemicals manufacturers such as Honeywell, air-conditioning and refrigeration companies, and major retail companies like Walmart. Honeywell, headquartered in North Carolina, has a safety product manufacturing presence in Silver Spring, MD. I applaud the U.S. businesses at the forefront of innovation and development of commercially viable alternatives to HFCs that have already invested billions of dollars in developing alternatives to HFCs, including in anticipation of U.S. ratification of Kigali. This investment in research and development and new capacity, mainly in the U.S., will advance our ability to produce next-generation refrigerants, insulation materials, aerosols, and solvents here at home, insulating our economy from supply chain disruptions.

In fact, the United States is already implementing domestic authorities to phase down the use of HFCs in a manner entirely consistent with Kigali, under the American Manufacturing and Innovation—AIM—Act that I am proud to have supported as a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. During the challenging early days of the COVID-19 pandemic,

the committee gathered information from stakeholders on legislation introduced by Senators KENNEDY and Chairman CARPER to establish a domestic phasedown of hydrofluorocarbons—HFCs—consistent with the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. We heard from an extraordinary range of industry and environmental stakeholder groups supporting this legislation, particularly those most directly affected.

It was through this process that I learned that a Maryland academic institution had contributed to the consensus around the economic benefits of ratification. INFORUM, or Inter-industry Forecasting at the University of Maryland, produced an analysis cited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers, and many of the firms and industry associations that support the AIM bill. The University of Maryland study found that the phasedown of HFCs will create 33,000 new U.S. manufacturing jobs. When the indirect and induced effects were added to estimate the total impact, the number of jobs gained rose to 150,000.

On December 27, 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 was enacted, which included the American Innovation and Manufacturing—AIM—Act. The legislative language was nearly identical to the bipartisan legislation introduced by Senators KENNEDY and CARPER, which had broad bipartisan backing in the Senate, with 16 Republican cosponsors. EPA has already started implementing the AIM Act, with the first regulations issued in October 2021.

Even before the Federal action taken in the last 2 years, States were acting in their interests to reduce HFCs. In November 2020, the Maryland Department of the Environment—MDE—finalized regulations to phase out the use of HFCs and reduce methane emissions to help meet the State's aggressive climate and environmental goals for reducing greenhouse gases.

This sub-national action was designed to help Maryland meet its requirements under the State's emissions reduction target, which was subsequently made even more ambitious when the Climate Solutions Now Act became State law. The act set a new target of net zero by 2045, while continuing to have a net positive effect on the economy and job creation. Maryland participates in the U.S. Climate Alliance and is a member of the multi-State Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative—RGGI.

Maryland is also a leader for green building in the U.S., having been included in the Top 10 States for LEED list every year since 2011. The U.S. Green Buildings Council community has long shown leadership on refrigerants, with key studies issued in the early 2000s probing the balance between ozone layer and global warming.

In fact, since 2010, 63 percent of LEED-certified projects have achieved

the enhanced refrigerant management credit, which is intended reduce ozone depletion and support early compliance with the Montreal Protocol while minimizing direct contributions to climate change. Embracing energy efficiency, including through the use of modern refrigerants, across these properties has a tangible impact in their home communities.

The Federal Government given its real estate footprint needs to lead by example. Fortunately, there is major new Federal funding included in the Inflation Reduction Act for the General Services Administration—GSA—to do just that, including funding to improve the environmental performance of Federal buildings and implement emerging and sustainable technologies.

The next generation of coolant technologies is extremely energy efficient. This means the transition to HFC alternatives will generate billions of dollars in energy savings for American businesses and consumers over the next decade. In total, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—EPA—has estimated that the economic benefits from implementing the AIM Act alone will be more than \$270 billion. Clearly, phasing down HFCs in favor of environmentally safer alternatives and more energy-efficient cooling technologies benefits the climate and the economy.

Nearly 1 year ago, I returned from my trip to Glasgow, Scotland, for COP26, the 2021 United Nations—UN—Climate Change Conference, where the need for concerted action at every level—State and local, national, and international, and nongovernmental—was undeniable.

I was privileged to have 18 Senate colleagues join me to bolster President Biden's agenda and the U.S. leadership role on the world stage. The Glasgow Climate Pact established a clear consensus that all nations need to do much more, immediately, to prevent a catastrophic rise in global temperatures. Thursday's Senate action by a comfortable margin of 69–27 is a signal to the world that together we can protect our economic interests and improve quality of life. While our work to combat the climate crisis is hardly complete, we can build on the momentum generated by this hopeful, strategic victory.

I will conclude by applauding my colleagues for their actions in support of adoption of the Kigali Amendment, and for our years' long efforts along the path to this historic moment.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent