

He went on to serve as the Deputy Director of the Johnson Space Center, the Center Director of NASA's Stennis Space Center, and then the Center Director at the Kennedy Space Center in 2007, where he led its transition from retirement of the space shuttle to a multi-user spaceport once again launching NASA astronauts to low Earth orbit and, for the first time, doing so with commercial partners. He served for more than a decade at the Kennedy Space Center until Senator Nelson called him up to headquarters in 2021.

And as Associate Administrator of the Agency, Bob has led NASA's 10 Center Directors, as well as the Mission Directorate Associate Administrators at NASA Headquarters in Washington. He has been the Agency's chief operating officer for more than 18,000 employees and oversaw an annual budget of more than \$25 billion.

Bob's many achievements have been recognized with induction into the Astronaut Hall of Fame and being named an associate fellow in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and a fellow in the Society of Experimental Test Pilots. He has received numerous personal awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Presidential Distinguished Rank Award. He also is a recipient of the Rotary National Award for Space Achievement's National Space Trophy.

Thank you and congratulations to Bob for your many years of service, your dedicated leadership at NASA, your contribution to our Nation's spaceflight program, and your inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLI A. KILEY

Mr. HICKENLOOPER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a great American and a U.S. Air Force civil servant, Ms. Charli Kiley.

Charli distinguished herself through her outstanding service as the office manager and scheduler for the U.S. Air Force's Senate Legislative Liaison office. For the last 13 years, Charli delivered exceptional service through her professionalism, attention to detail, and continued commitment to serving this Nation as a civil servant. Total service included, Charli honorably served a combined 38 years in the U.S. Air Force and civil service.

Throughout her career, Charli demonstrated exceptional work ethic. As a bipartisan volunteer, Charli was responsible for escorting guests for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to two Presidential inaugurations. In 2022, Charli directly supported a bicameral congressional delegation in support of the Reagan National Defense Forum, as well as the unveiling of the Department of Defense's newest bomber aircraft, the B-21 Raider.

As the manager and scheduler for the Air Force Senate Legislative Liaison office from April 2010 to June 2023,

Charli performed her duties well and without reservation supporting the 111th Congress through the 118th Congress. Her subject matter expertise, professional relationships, and in-depth knowledge of the inner workings of Capitol Hill directly strengthened and improved our national security. Charli was singularly responsible for scheduling thousands of engagements between Congress and the Department of the Air Force. These engagements helped U.S. Senators and staffers understand defense equities and their impact on national security. Due to her direct input and stewardship, Members of Congress were able to make informed decisions and ensured the Department of the Air Force was properly resourced and funded. Additionally, Charli's efforts helped establish the U.S. Space Force, she assisted with the confirmation of eight Air Force Secretaries, three Air Force Chiefs of Staff, two Chiefs of Space Operations, and gained the Department of the Air Force support for multiple National Defense Strategies. Last, Charli helped train nine incoming Senate Legislative Liaison division chiefs, nine deputy division chiefs, and dozens of action officers, ensuring seamless transitions, office continuity, and efficient performance.

After serving in this crucial role for the past 13 years and becoming a fixture on Capitol Hill, Ms. Charli Kiley will be retiring and moving to the great State of Colorado. Charli has given her all in service to our Nation. I am thankful for her service, her work with my office, and her work with the Senate on issues of vital importance to this great Nation. I salute this American patriot whose selfless service has kept our country safe and strong.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the Center for Excellence in Education, CEE.

When Admiral Rickover and Joan DiGennaro founded CEE in 1983, they set out on an ambitious mission to nurture high school and university scholars towards esteemed careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics—STEM. Since its founding, CEE's renowned Research Science Institute has collaborated with brilliant scholars from all 50 U.S. States and an impressive 61 countries. Further showcasing CEE's impact, the USA Biolympiad competition has had over 10,000 students participate, with the U.S. team achieving many gold medals. Additionally, the Teacher Enrichment Program and STEM Lyceums provide transformative learning opportunities for teachers, especially those in underserved and rural areas.

As an honorary trustee of CEE, I am consistently impressed with the organization's unwavering commitment to

advancing STEM education. Through my lens as a legislator, I recognize the critical importance of STEM education as we navigate the challenges posed by global competitors in domains spanning advanced mathematics, artificial intelligence, and biosecurity. STEM will undeniably shape the future economy, and I wholeheartedly commend CEE's efforts to inspire and equip our youth with the necessary skills for a flourishing future.

It is my honor to recognize and congratulate the Center for Excellence in Education on its 40th anniversary.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JIM DEREMEIK

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of a dear friend Jim Deremeik who dedicated his career to supporting low-vision rehabilitation care and education.

Jim and I first met at the New York Lighthouse Guild. I was finishing my optometry studies and doing an externship with the lighthouse program, and Jim was working at the Arkansas School for the Blind. Our work at the New York Lighthouse Guild involved learning how to better enable people who are blind, but still had partial vision, to use this remaining vision through magnifiers and other devices so they could better navigate a sighted world. Through Jim's persistence, I began volunteering in Little Rock at the Arkansas School for the Blind and developing a low-vision program. Working together and with the great team at the school, we were able to make a big difference in the lives of many students. Our working relationship turned into a deep friendship.

My old football coach at the University of Arkansas Frank Broyles always used to say there are two kinds of people: givers and takers. I soon learned that Jim was the definition of a giver. Over the years, Jim has received many awards and accolades, but the thing he will be most remembered for is his servant leadership towards his students and clients, along with the example that he has set for his friends and co-workers.

I know Jim is retiring, but I can't imagine him not being involved in some way through various organizations and entities to continue helping others. My only regret is that life has taken us down separate paths, and we have not gotten to spend nearly as much time with each other as I would like. I wish Jim and Peggy, his wonderful wife, the best. The blind community is much better off as a result of the dedication and care of Jim Deremeik.●

TRIBUTE TO ALEX SANCHEZ

● Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I stand to recognize and congratulate Alex Sanchez, president and CEO of the

Florida Bankers Association, on his retirement. Mr. Sanchez is a Cuban immigrant and American patriot. Sanchez served in the U.S. Air Force from 1976–1981 and holds a juris doctorate from the Iowa College of Law.

Mr. Sanchez has served as president and CEO of the Florida Bankers Association for 30 years and will be retiring on December 31, 2023. Under his leadership, the Florida Bankers Association was instrumental in bringing to light and stopping harmful Federal legislation and regulation programs such as Operation Chokepoint and making non-resident alien account information public. He also oversaw the association's historic merger with the Community Bankers of Florida, combining the two banking organizations to better serve Florida's banking industry and the families and businesses it serves.

Mr. Sanchez was appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate as a board member to the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, where he served from 2003–2010. Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush nominated him to the Florida Schools of Excellence Commission, where he served from August 2006–April 2007. Later, he was chosen by the Financial Services Volunteer Corps for a mission to Tunis, Tunisia, to partner with the Tunisian Bankers Association and work with them on banking and priority regulatory reforms. He also led a mission to Arusha, Tanzania, in 2013 to lead a workshop on regional banking for the banking associations in the East African Community, including Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, and Burundi.

The Florida Bankers Association was established in 1888 to advocate on behalf of Florida banks and promote the banking industry in the State. The association provides unparalleled advocacy in Washington, DC, and Tallahassee, excellent educational programming, quality products, and valuable services for Florida's banking industry.

It is my honor to congratulate Alex on his many achievements and on his retirement.●

RECOGNIZING THE ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS FLORIDA EAST COAST CHAPTER

● Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the Associated Builders and Contractors—ABC—Florida East Coast Chapter and the many vital contributions to commercial, industrial, and infrastructural construction that contractors make, improving the quality of life for the people of Florida.

The ABC Florida East Coast Chapter was founded in 1968 and recognized as the leader of the merit shop construction industry and one of the oldest organizations representing the construction industry in Florida for 55 years. The ABC Florida East Coast Chapter is the single largest provider of appren-

ticeship education in the State of Florida, educating nearly 700 apprentices annually.

The mission of ABC Florida East Coast Chapter is the advancement of the merit shop construction philosophy, which encourages open competition and a free-enterprise approach that awards construction contracts based solely on merit, regardless of labor affiliation. It represents the profession responsible for the construction of commercial, industrial, and infrastructure projects such as schools, hospitals, office buildings, sports venues, factories, energy production plants, water systems, waste disposal and treatment facilities, roads, bridges, and other public and private facilities that are the foundation on which the economy of Florida stands and grows.

I recognize that the ABC Florida East Coast Chapter, through its education trust, is building tomorrow by recruiting, educating, and training approximately 8,500 skilled workers in the past decade who drive the construction industry forward with the merit shop principles of free enterprise and open competition. The ABC Florida East Coast Chapter's tireless collaboration with builders, contractors, and educators has contributed significantly to the resilience and growth of the construction industry. By providing quality education and fostering a diverse and skilled workforce, the ABC Florida East Coast Chapter is playing a crucial role in building a stronger America.

I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the ABC Florida East Coast Chapter and the ABC Institute for its unwavering commitment to apprentice education. As we look toward a future of economic growth and opportunity, their efforts serve as a shining example of the positive change that can be achieved through dedication and collaboration.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 3343. A bill to provide that United States citizens evacuating Israel shall not be required to reimburse the United States Government, and for other purposes.

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-2816. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period from April 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2023; ordered to lie on the table.

EC-2817. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to waiving the Full-Up System Level requirement for survivability and lethality testing for the Mk21A RV; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2818. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Evaluation of the Effectiveness TRICARE Program: Fiscal Year 2022 Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2819. A communication from the President of the United States to the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Resolution, a report relative to United States forces conducted targeted strikes against facilities in eastern Syria used by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and IRGC-affiliated groups; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2820. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Policy Statement Regarding the Scope of Methods of Unfair Competition Under Section 5 of the Federal Commissions Act" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 9, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2821. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Procedures for Submission of Rules Under the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 9, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2822. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Policy Statement of the Federal Trade Commission on Education Technology and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 9, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2823. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Telemarketing Sales Rule Fees" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 9, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

* Suzanne Elizabeth Summerlin, of Florida, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years.