

Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) would have voted "yea," and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 57, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 43 Ex.]

YEAS—57

Banks	Grassley	Moreno
Barrasso	Hawley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hoeben	Murkowski
Boozman	Husted	Ricketts
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Budd	Johnson	Rosen
Cantwell	Kaine	Rounds
Capito	Kelly	Schatz
Cassidy	Kennedy	Schmitt
Collins	King	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Warner
Ernst	McCormick	Welch
Fetterman	Moody	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	Young

NAYS—33

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Peters
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kim	Schiff
Blunt	Lujan	Shaheen
Booker	Markey	Slotkin
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Smith
Duckworth	Murphy	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murray	Warnock
Gallago	Ossoff	Warren
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden

NOT VOTING—10

Coons	Hassan	Tuberville
Daines	Justice	Whitehouse
Graham	Paul	
Hagerty	Schumer	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

REMEMBERING LAMARR  
FRANKLIN

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the distinguished career

and life of LaMarr Franklin. Mr. Franklin was born in 1945 in Milwaukee and passed away on February 11, 2026, at the age of 80. Mr. Franklin was a pillar of the Milwaukee community and left an enduring legacy that will continue to shape the city and the lives of its residents for years to come. He was known for dedicating his life to uplifting the city's youth and African-American community.

Born and raised in Milwaukee, Mr. Franklin attended Messmer High School before being drafted at 21 into the Army during the Vietnam war, where he earned the rank of sergeant. Following his military service, he returned home and attended Roosevelt University in Chicago, earning a bachelor of science in sociology before beginning a successful career in corporate sales. After many fruitful years, he retired as vice president of sales at Computec Integrated Solutions, Inc.

Mr. Franklin talents were not only in sales but in his remarkable ability to lift up those around him. Throughout his career, he was highly regarded for his contributions and service to his community, earning commendations at the Federal, State, and local levels.

In 1973, Mr. Franklin founded the Milwaukee Chapter of the Black Achievers Program at the YMCA, which expanded college and career exploration opportunities for the city's youth. He also played a pivotal role in launching the Martin Luther King Economic Development Corporation, which focused on expanding affordable housing and commercial facilities throughout the historic King Drive corridor for nearly 30 years. Additionally, he served numerous State and community boards, including more than 40 years of service on the board of the Northcott Neighborhood House, as well as the LaVarnway Boys and Girls Club Scholarship Board.

As board president of the Northcott Neighborhood House, Mr. Franklin spearheaded some of Milwaukee's most significant cultural milestones, including one of the Nation's largest Juneteenth celebrations and the beloved Garfield Days. Through his leadership on the Boys and Girls Club Booster Club and Scholarship Board, he opened doors for thousands of young people, many of whom have since ascended to prominent leadership roles spanning government and industry.

Beyond these many exceptional accomplishments, even in retirement, Mr. Franklin's commitment to mentorship never faded. He continued to tutor students in Milwaukee schools and, alongside lifelong friends, co-founded The Breakfast Club M.K.E. This 500-member organization provides a vital social space for African-American men and community leaders to foster youth engagement. To this day, the group continues his mission, meeting every second Friday at the Family Table Restaurant on Brown Deer Road.

In honoring Mr. Franklin's truly indelible mark on the great city of Mil-

waukee, his name officially became part of the city with the dedication of the LaMarr Franklin Lofts in October 2025. The building now remains as a true testament to the towering legacy which he left behind. Throughout his work, he built—both literally and metaphorically—the scaffolding to support our coming generations' successes.

Mr. Franklin's life was nothing short of remarkable. As a visionary leader, changemaker, and tireless advocate, the impacts of his dedication to Milwaukee's youth and African-American community will continue to be felt for generations to come. While we mourn his passing, I am honored to join our community in celebrating a life defined by service. We recognize his extraordinary contributions not only to Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin but to the Nation as a whole.

REMEMBERING WALTER JEROME  
"JERRY" FRAUTSCHI

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Walter Jerome "Jerry" Frautschi. Jerry was a lifelong Madsonian, a successful businessman, and a remarkable philanthropist.

Born in Madison in 1931, Jerry served honorably in the U.S. Navy as a code breaker during the Korean conflict from 1951 to 1954. Later, he attended the University of Wisconsin—Madison, graduating in 1956. Alongside his brother John, he ran the family business Webcrafters and continued the family tradition of service and philanthropy within their community. Jerry was devoted to his family—his three sons, four grandchildren, and wife Pleasant Rowland—were the center of his world. He enjoyed tennis and golf with childhood friends and spending days sailing, fishing, swimming, and skating on Lake Mendota and at his family cottage on Pine Lake in northern Wisconsin.

Jerry's commitment to the arts was unmatched, and he and Pleasant were often found at musical and theatrical performances. He made one of the largest single donations to the arts in U.S. history, giving a \$205 million gift to establish and build the Overture Center for the Arts in downtown Madison. He made a \$20 million gift to the Madison Youth Arts Center Starlight Theater, a \$2 million gift to the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra's Center for Music, and contributed to the arts in so many other ways throughout the years.

His generosity extended far beyond the arts, giving \$37.1 million for the Wisconsin History Center currently being developed on Wisconsin's Capitol Square, where generations of Wisconsinites will learn about their history. Jerry gave widely to schools, hospitals, student centers, community colleges, civic organizations, and environmental groups.

Jerry's own words are inscribed in the Overture Center's rotunda and they

read: "Overture Center, my gift to Madison, continues the tradition of civic pride and responsibility that my family has honored since 1867. It is given in appreciation of the good life Madison has given us."

I join Jerry's family and friends in celebration and remembrance of his remarkable life and impact. His philanthropy had a truly transformative impact on his hometown of Madison, and throughout Wisconsin, and will continue to live on as an enduring legacy.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN McCLAUGHRY

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize John McLaughry, who will serve as the town moderator of Kirby, VT, for the 60th time this town meeting day.

John's journey toward this milestone began in 1963, when he first moved to Vermont. In 1965, John built a log cabin in Kirby, a small town with about 500 residents tucked away in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. He quickly became an important member of the community. Though he lived just part of the year in Kirby—he spent the rest of the year in Washington—he was elected town moderator in 1966. As town moderator, John is responsible for facilitating Kirby's annual town meeting. He ensures that voters' voices are heard, and he shapes compromises that keep the town running.

John moved permanently to Vermont in 1970, on the same plot of land where he built his log cabin, and has lived there since. John was elected to represent Kirby in the Vermont House of Representatives from 1969–1973, where he advocated for his constituents and every Vermonter in the Northeast Kingdom.

After working on President Reagan's 1980 Presidential campaign, John joined the President's team at the White House Office of Policy Development. Despite his busy schedule in Washington, John always made it back to Kirby for town meeting day in March.

In 1989, John would return to the Vermont General Assembly, this time in the State senate representing Caledonia County. John later established the Ethan Allen Institute, a think tank named for Vermont's own hero of the American Revolution. Here, John advocated for limited government and free markets. In 2023, he stepped down from the Ethan Allen Institute to allow for a new generation of leadership, but John has undoubtedly left a mark on Vermont.

From the moment I met John in the 1970s, I admired him. John represents much of what makes Vermont's political culture unique: a devotion to localism; a belief in strong Vermont values; and a "live and let live" approach to governing. John's commitment to local governance and democracy runs through his life's work. From a life that has ranged from hitching rides on railcars, to serving in Vermont's State

House and the White House, it is commendable that John has, for 60 years in a row, served as town moderator for Kirby, the beloved home of John and his wife Anne.

#### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL CHESLEY L. DYCUS

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a great American and an exceptional member of the U.S. Air Force, Col. Chesley Dycus.

As the chief of the Air Force Senate Legislative Liaison Division from July 2024 to July 2025, Chesley performed his duties well and without reservation supporting the 118th and 119th U.S. Congresses. Hailing from Waverly, TN, and a graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy, where he also played baseball, Chesley has served in the Air Force for over 25 years. He is a command pilot with over 3,800 hours of flight time in a variety of aircraft. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated exceptional and unrivaled officership in a myriad of positions from wing command to Acting Deputy National Security Advisor to the Vice President of the United States, all critical to U.S. defense and national security world-wide.

Chesley distinguished himself through his professional character and dedication by serving this Nation in uniform as chief of the Air Force Legislative Liaison Division to the Senate. In this role, he advised Department of the Air Force senior leaders and helped develop strategic engagement opportunities to advance U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force priorities. His leadership facilitated seamless collaboration on behalf of the Department of the Air Force across 63 congressional offices. He supported numerous engagements and delegations for 150 Senators, Congressmen, and staffers to showcase Department equities in the United States and abroad. Most notably, Chesley's advice shaped support for the Department of the Air Force's efforts to optimize for near-peer conflict and drove hearing engagements with 27 Senate Armed Service Committee members in support of Department leaders. These briefings effectively communicated the Department's modernization and resource requirements to address pacing challenges abroad. His efforts helped ensure the Department of the Air Force's support of the National Defense Strategy in the return to Great Power Competition.

With steadfast dedication, Chesley connected Members of Congress with key decision-makers, including the Secretary of the Air Force, leading to significant progress on critical Department of the Air Force initiatives. He secured critical funding for Air Force and Space Force birthday celebrations and the Secretary of the Air Force's Capitol Hill Holiday Reception, successfully executing all three events. These initiatives fostered strategic engagements between 32 Members of Con-

gress and 24 Department of the Air Force senior leaders, strengthening congressional support for crucial national security priorities.

Finally, Chesley, as a master of relationship building, cultivated a service-oriented culture within the Department of the Air Force's Senate liaison team. His leadership ensured the delivery of strategic, prompt, and precise communications to Senators. Under his direction, the team facilitated 88 Department of the Air Force engagements on Capitol Hill and 12 congressional and staff delegation trips of great national security significance, including the Reagan National Defense Forum, bolstering the Department of the Air Force's 2025 National Defense Authorization Act priorities and 2026 budget request. These engagements helped U.S. Senators and their staffs understand defense equities and their impact on national security. Due to his direct involvement and stewardship, Members of Congress were able to make informed decisions and ensured the Department of the Air Force was properly resourced and funded.

After serving in this crucial role and becoming a fixture on Capitol Hill, Col. Chesley Dycus will continue to work in the Department of the Air Force Legislative Liaison as its deputy director. Chesley and his wife Jenna have instilled a legacy of service for their children Chesley and Lila. They have sacrificed much as a family in service to our Nation. I am thankful for Chesley's service and his work with my office and the Senate over the past year on issues of vital importance to the defense of the United States. I salute this American patriot whose selfless service has kept our country safe and strong.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING NOBLE-T ARBOR

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am proud to honor Noble-T Arbor of Lewiston as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for February 2026.

Founded in 2023 by U.S. Marine Corps veteran Tyler Wolff, Noble-T Arbor tackles tree trimming needs across the Lewis-Clark Valley. Named after Tyler's three sons, the business embodies strong family values and expert craftsmanship. Rooted in military discipline, character, and service, Noble-T has become a trusted name for local, high-quality, integrity-driven arbor services.

After 4 years of military service, including a deployment to Iraq and stationing in Okinawa, Tyler returned home to Lewiston to further his education. While exploring several trades,