

TRIBUTES TO HON. TED STEVENS

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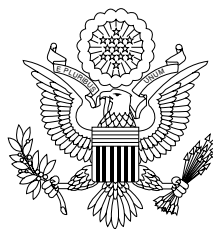
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Ted Stevens

U.S. SENATOR FROM ALASKA

TRIBUTES

IN THE CONGRESS OF
THE UNITED STATES



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Ted Stevens

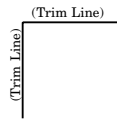
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S. Doc. 110-4

Tributes Delivered in Congress

Ted Stevens
United States Senator
1968–





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BIOGRAPHY

TED STEVENS' career in public service spans more than six decades. During World War II, he joined the Army Air Corps and flew support missions for the Flying Tigers of the 14th Air Force. For his service, STEVENS was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Air Medals and the Republic of China's Yuan Hai Medal.

After returning home from the war, Senator STEVENS completed degrees at UCLA and Harvard Law School. In the early 1950s, he practiced law in Alaska before moving to Washington, DC, to work in President Eisenhower's administration.

Senator STEVENS subsequently returned to Alaska and was elected to the Alaska House of Representatives in 1964. In his second term, Senator STEVENS became the House majority leader.

Mr. STEVENS was appointed to the U.S. Senate in 1968. Two years later, Alaskans chose Senator STEVENS to finish his term in a special election mandated by State law. He has since been re-elected six times.

Today, Senator STEVENS is the senior member of Alaska's congressional delegation, the senior Republican in the U.S. Senate, and the longest serving Senator in the history of the Republican Party. He serves as the Senate's President pro tempore emeritus; vice chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; cochairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee; and ranking member of the Disaster Recovery Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee.

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TRIBUTES
TO
TED STEVENS

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Proceedings in the Senate

THURSDAY, *April 12, 2007*

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to honor a colleague and a friend, Senator TED STEVENS, who this week becomes history's longest serving Republican Member of the Senate. This is an outsized accomplishment for a man whose name is virtually synonymous with the Nation's largest State. Yet no one who ever crossed paths with Senator STEVENS is surprised that he has achieved it.

The long list of things he has done for the people of Alaska in the course of a remarkable 38 years in the Senate traces an arc as vast as the State itself. His love for that State and this country is legendary. This milestone is merely an occasion to recall and retell that legend. As the Republican leader, an admirer, and a friend, I welcome it.

It is a story that takes us back to a day when transistor radios were new to the White House and construction workers had just cleared a space in the Bronx for Yankee Stadium. America was changing quickly, and THEODORE FULTON STEVENS would take as much of it as he could.

Born in Indianapolis, he moved to Redondo, CA, as a boy and learned to surf along the beaches of the South Bay. His pioneering spirit took him to Oregon and Montana for college and then to even more exotic places as an Army Air Corps pilot in World War II. At 19 years old, he was flying C-46 transport planes over the Himalayas and into China supporting the legendary Flying Tigers. He left the Army after achieving the rank of lieutenant and in recognition of his bravery received two Distinguished Flying Crosses and two Air Medals.

A decorated war veteran in his early twenties, TED returned to California to resume his studies and later enrolled at Harvard Law School. A consummate tough guy, the man who would one day prepare for tough legislative fights by donning ties that featured the Incredible Hulk helped pay his way through law school by tending bar and selling his own blood.

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After law school, TED showed up in Washington to practice his trade. He married a girl named Ann, and together they set out on yet another adventure. With an appetite for risk and a passion for service, TED would carve a life for himself and his young family out of the vast expanse of the Alaska territory. He would devote the rest of his life to helping people there achieve the same rights and privileges that those in the lower 48 took for granted. As a result of decades of work in the service of that goal, the name "Ted Stevens" would one day be synonymous with an area one-sixth the size of the entire United States.

He was there at the creation. As a young lawyer at the Department of the Interior, TED STEVENS stood over a map with President Eisenhower and traced out the borders of the 49th State. He returned there in 1961, started a law firm of his own, and soon won a seat for himself in the Alaska House of Representatives. Four years after that, Democratic Senator Bob Bartlett passed away, and on Christmas Eve, the State's Republican Governor chose TED to replace him.

Now, TED STEVENS wasn't well known outside his home State, but curious folks in Washington could have found this brief description of him in *Newsweek*. Here is how they summed him up:

STEVENS is a 5'6" cigar smoker who hunts moose and earned a reputation as a scrapper in the Alaska House of Representatives.

It was brief, but it wasn't far off. TED didn't leave his scrappiness in Juneau. He would bring it to Washington.

A story about the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 illustrates the point. TED was a first term minority Senator at the time, but he was determined to find a way to get this piece of legislation enacted into law.

The story goes that TED was carpooling into work one morning with the Democratic chairman who could make it happen, and he got him to agree to a vote on his amendment that day.

Well, the day passed without any action. They called the bill up on the floor, and the thing went through second reading, third reading, and then onto a final vote. No amendment.

TED ran right up to the chairman and yelled at him right to his face: "You SOB, you promised me a vote!" Hearing the commotion, the Democratic leader, Mike Mansfield, came over to chastise TED. "Nobody swears in this Chamber," he said.

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But then TED told Mansfield what had happened, and how important the bill was to his State. Mansfield turned to the chairman and asked whether the story was true. When he found out it was, he took the bill back to a second reading, offered the Stevens amendment in his own name, and the amendment passed.

This was just one of the major pieces of critical legislation TED has fought for on behalf of Alaskans. There have been many others. TED never tires of fighting for the people of Alaska. But if you ask his staff, they'll say he just never tires.

His chief of staff, George Lowe, remembers his first trip to Alaska with the boss. A staff assistant at the time, George was a little taken back when he picked TED up at 6 a.m. and the Senator had already gone through the briefing book he'd been given the night before, already read the papers, and already been on the phone to Washington for a couple hours.

"I needed a vacation after doing for 2 weeks what he'd been doing for 38 years," he said.

After Ann's tragic death, TED met his beloved Catherine. They would add a sixth child to TED's brood, Lily, who many of us remember running around the Senate as a little girl.

Catherine had to get used to TED's tenacity early on. The day after their wedding, he agreed to fill in for a colleague on a trip to tout Reaganomics in China. She had never let him live down that "honeymoon."

As chief of staff, George says nothing's changed. He's learned to put his Blackberry in the basement when he goes to bed at night, or the boss would keep him up with e-mails.

TED will tell you he works so hard because there's so much work to do. Alaskans don't have the benefit of centuries of infrastructure and planning that much of the rest of the country does. Of the giant State's more than 200 villages, only a handful had running water when TED came to the Senate. But largely thanks to him, roughly half of them do now.

He's tried to make sure that people on the outside understand the challenges. And turning down an invitation to Alaska from TED STEVENS isn't recommended if you ever expect to appear before him at a committee hearing. An entire generation of Federal officials has trekked up there at TED's invitation.

Elaine and I have spent six of the last seven July recesses at the Kenai River King Salmon Classic and, like everybody else who's been there, we never leave without being im-

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pressed by two things: the magnificence of the scenery, and just how much of Alaska's progress is a direct result of TED STEVENS.

It starts at the airport: Ted Stevens Anchorage International. It runs through the pipeline; the land settlement claims; the double-hulled tankers that move along the shore; and through all the homes in the remotest reaches of Alaska that have radio and television because of TED. And it continues with his epic battle to open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

"They sent me here to stand up for the State of Alaska," TED once said. That's just what he's done. And Alaskans love him for it: on March 22, 2000, the Alaska State Legislature named TED STEVENS Alaskan of the Century.

But he's done a lot more for the rest of us besides. Thanks to a remarkable 35-year tenure on the Appropriations Committee, no one has done more for the U.S. military than TED STEVENS. Never one to deny or delay materials or supplies to troops at home or in the field, he's secured funds to continue funding the F-117, to replace Air Force One, for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles like the Predator and Global Hawk, and for a replacement Coast Guard Icebreaker and the F-16 Program.

He was instrumental in ensuring funds for early military research on everything from breast cancer to AIDS.

I remember asking myself when I first arrived in the Senate whether STEVENS was ever in a good mood.

But I learned, as everyone else who knows him does, that, like Hamlet, TED STEVENS "speaks daggers but uses none." And in this, "his tongue and his soul be hypocrites."

Those who weren't convinced of this changed their minds during that sad week in September 2003, when we learned about the death of Senator Gordon Smith's son, Garrett. Senator Smith opposed TED on ANWR, the biggest issue of his life. And a lesser man might have held a grudge. Yet it was TED who arranged to fly himself and his colleagues in the Senate to the funeral.

They say the only way to have a friend is to be one. And TED's friendship with Senator Inouye is one of the great models of bipartisanship this building has ever known. We all know the two men call each other brothers. But some might not recall that TED has actually donated money from his own political action committee to Senator Inouye's re-election campaign.

How does TED do all this?

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He's always looking forward. Thirty-nine years in the Senate, and he doesn't reminisce. He hasn't slowed down a bit. He plays tennis and enjoys fishing. He tries to get in an hour at the Senate gym every day. And when he says he's a fighter, he means it: his staff assures me he still trains on a speed bag.

When TED got to the Senate, he had a motto: "To hell with the politics, do what's right for Alaska." Over the years, he changed that motto, just slightly. Now it's: "To hell with the politics, do what's right for the Nation." But in one of the most distinguished careers in the history of this body, he's done both.

The people of Alaska and this Nation are better for having TED STEVENS around. We'd hardly know what to do without him. And in appreciation of his friendship and his noble service to State and country, I honor him today for his historic achievement and wish him many more years of good health and service.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii is recognized.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I am a proud Democrat. TED STEVENS is a proud Republican. People have said, how can you two ever get together? Well, as the leader has indicated, we call each other brothers.

I know this is a violation of our party rules, but I have contributed to TED's campaign, and he has contributed to my campaign. Last election was one of the most negative and partisan ones that I have ever experienced. The issue was Iraq, as it is today. TED STEVENS came up to me and said: "You know, this election is sending a bad message to the fellows and the women in Iraq. We should send another message." So he proposed that we do our very best to pass the defense appropriations bill in a timely fashion unanimously. The record will show that the subcommittee came out and voted unanimously for the defense appropriations bill. The full committee responded by unanimously voting for it, and the Senate, for the first time in history, voted 100 to 0.

That is bipartisanship, Mr. President. We have demonstrated that it can be done, and it has been done many times. We have many things in common, but I think more things uncommon. He represents glaciers; I represent coconut trees. But we do have many things in common. We fought in World War II—he in China with the Flying Tigers,

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and I was in Europe fighting the Germans. We represented territories. So we came in as new Members of the Senate, and he and I have received the crown of being "pork men of the year." We are No. 1 in add-ons in the U.S. Senate.

Mr. President, I am proud to call TED STEVENS my brother. I hope we can continue this brotherhood for as long as we are here. We have just given him a new title: the Strom Thurmond of the Arctic Circle.

(Applause.)

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I want to join my colleagues in recognizing Senator TED STEVENS upon this milestone of his serving longer in this body than any other Republican Senator. This is a significant moment and our former President pro tempore of the Senate has set an impressive, historic accomplishment.

I think this is most significant not because we are recognizing TED STEVENS for his length of service in this body, but rather because we are recognizing what TED STEVENS has accomplished in this institution as a U.S. Senator. There are few individuals who can equal his service and accomplishments as a true leader.

As Alaska's senior Senator, his steadfast and tenacious advocacy of his State and constituents is widely known. His career transcends Alaska's transition from a frontier and U.S. territory to an important and vibrant State.

After earning his law degree at Harvard University, TED STEVENS moved to the heart of Alaska, the Chena River and Fairbanks, where he became a prosecutor and a U.S. attorney in the early 1950s.

TED quickly became a leader in the statehood movement and in 1956 he served his first assignment in Washington as the Department of Interior's legislative counsel and later Solicitor General. He later returned to Alaska and was elected to the Alaska House of Representatives where he became the majority leader and speaker pro tempore. In 1968 he was appointed to fill Senator Bartlett's seat in the U.S. Senate. He was elected to retain that seat in 1970 and has been a part of this institution ever since.

TED is a forceful and dedicated advocate for the people of Alaska. He has brought about significant economic development, be it clearing the way for North Slope petroleum development and the construction of the Alaska pipeline, the upcoming natural gas pipeline, countless small airports and aviation improvements, or overall basic infrastructure. He has been a tenacious advocate for the Alaskan fishing indus-

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try, including creation of the Exclusive Economic Zone to allow the sustainable harvest of the largest and most valuable fishery in the United States. It is not by chance that the basic law governing fisheries in this Nation is called the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Like most Alaskans, TED is a true sportsman with a rich appreciation for the unique and special environmental resources of his State. Men and women fishing on the Kenai River or trolling off Cape Chacon or other waters need just look next to them, through sunshine or inclement weather, to see the senior Senator from Alaska fishing for kings, or reds or silvers or halibut.

TED STEVENS is an American Senator who has made tremendous contributions to U.S. security policy and defense posture since the 1960s.

TED STEVENS left college to fight in the Second World War. He served in the Army Air Corps and flew support missions over the Himalayas to General Stillwell and our forces in the China/Burma theater.

Since 1981, Senator STEVENS has served as either chairman or ranking member of the Senate's Department of Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. The aircraft, the ships, the missiles, the tanks and combat vehicles, and the weapons systems that are manned by our dedicated men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces have been developed, procured and supported under TED STEVENS' steady and pragmatic leadership. The training, pay and support of our personnel have been carried out by programs that he championed and shepherded through the Congress. The "operating tempos" and readiness levels are items of personal interest for him. He is a champion of research and development to ensure our Nation's leadership is not diminished, and that America remains prepared to take on threats to its national security.

As an appropriator, TED STEVENS has often focused on the business of national defense. Like others, he has been a champion of the "top line" for the defense budget, seeking to ensure that national security remains a priority and receives appropriate funding. He has also dedicated long hours to ensuring that funds are not wasted and that priorities are addressed.

Finally, TED STEVENS should be recognized for his work as a legislator in this body. TED STEVENS has authored and championed legislation far too numerous to list. He has left his mark on so many laws, policies, and programs that ben-

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efit Americans across this Nation. For example, TED STEVENS has played a leadership role in our national space programs, and it was his personal effort that allowed NASA to recover from the Challenger disaster in 1986. He helped create the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and has been the sponsor or cosponsor of countless significant pieces of environmental legislation. He has championed remote sensing satellites that protect our Nation from severe weather and is the author and foremost supporter of our Nation's ocean exploration program.

TED STEVENS has also left his mark on every piece of telecommunications legislation over the past 20 years. He has put forward legislation that provides for our airports and air transportation systems, and terrorism countermeasures. He is a strong advocate for the Coast Guard and has overseen fleet, aircraft, and system modernization during the 1980s and 1990s.

TED STEVENS has been a leader on issues as diverse as reform of U.S. civil service retirement programs, to the rules governing the operation of the U.S. Senate. So often it is Senator STEVENS' style to be the workhorse and moving force behind legislation, but to let others receive the credit. He is a Senator who pulls up his sleeves and works, and he is a man of his word.

TED is a dedicated family man—to his wife Catherine and his daughter Lily, and his children from his first marriage to Ann Stevens. TED STEVENS is a Senator who lives every day to the fullest. He is tireless.

So Mr. President, it is very appropriate that the Senate convene here today to recognize and congratulate our Republican President pro tempore, the vice chairman of the Commerce Committee and the former chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. We are here today to recognize the length of his service and the accomplishments of his Senate service.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and colleague, Senator TED STEVENS of Alaska. Today, Senator STEVENS has the distinct honor of becoming the longest serving Republican Senator in this Chamber.

I know of no greater patriot and lover of freedom than TED STEVENS. Whether flying his C-47 with the Flying Tigers in World War II, or serving in the Alaska House of Representatives, Senator STEVENS' life is a model of heroism and personal integrity.

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TED's tenure in the Senate has been equally impressive. He chaired the Senate Appropriations Committee for 6 years, the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee for 2 years, and served as the Senate President pro tempore for 4 years. In each and every one of these high offices, TED served with dignity and distinction.

As one who has had a stewardship over our Nation's military for many years, there is no greater friend to our men and women in the military than Senator STEVENS. No one in Congress has done more to make our Nation's military the great institution it is today. We all rely heavily on TED's expertise on so many defense-related matters, as I believe many in this body and throughout the Federal Government do. He is the Senate's greatest asset with regard to the needs of the military, and his knowledge about defense issues has proven invaluable every time this Nation has faced a crisis in the last four decades.

Although TED is not the tallest man in the Senate, my colleagues and I all look up to the senior Senator from Alaska. When he comes to work in his Incredible Hulk tie, you know he means business and is ready to do whatever it takes to ensure legislation which improves the lives of Americans gets safely shepherdded through the Senate.

It has been my privilege to know and work with TED for many years here in the Senate, and even though he has been described by some as gruff and grouchy, I have always found him to be very helpful and patient. Take for example a few months ago when I was meeting with several constituents from Utah in my DC office. During our conversations, we found that we needed some expertise that only TED could provide. I hurriedly called him at home in Alaska without pausing to calculate the time difference. Although it was midmorning where I was sitting in DC, it was quite early in the morning in Alaska where a groggy TED STEVENS courteously took my call, helped me with the information I needed, and—I hope—promptly went back to bed to finish his night's sleep. TED has shown similar types of courtesy and kindness to several Members of this body and he has always proven able to balance the delicate, yet competing, needs to maintain good friendships and still move the work of the country forward even when all sides are not in agreement.

TED's wisdom and his character have served as an example to everyone he meets, and I am grateful for the opportunity I have had to serve the people of the United States alongside my dear, dear friend, Senator TED STEVENS.

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So, from one old bull to another old bull, I would like to thank my good friend TED for his friendship and leadership. Also, I would like to thank his wife Catherine for her selflessness and willingness to share her husband. The hours kept by a hard-working Senator are long and can be very demanding on families, but Catherine has been extremely patient and our Nation is grateful.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I am embarrassed but very grateful to my friends, our leader, Mr. McConnell, and my great friend and brother, Dan Inouye. Dan and I have been here a long time. I was downtown with the Eisenhower administration when he arrived in the House of Representatives. I went home to Alaska after that Presidency ended and never expected to come back. But I did, and I am grateful for the outline of my service that our Republican leader has presented in the Senate.

I can only say two or three things. One is that I would not be here now if it wasn't for a really understanding family. My first wife was, and my current wife, Catherine, has been supportive beyond anyone's understanding. It is a long way to go home. I remember 1 year I flew home 35 times—1 day up and 1 day back, almost. But I have been away from my family a great deal. I have 6 children and 11 grandchildren and they have understood my commitment to the Senate. I do believe that it would be impossible to be here without that type of support.

I also have been privileged and ask that after my remarks, I be permitted later to have printed in the *Record* a list of the dedicated young Alaskans who have come down and worked with me in various positions; also, those who have worked with me at home. I have had a series of distinguished chiefs of staff who have gone on to other functions and have shown what training in the Senate can do for a young person. I think over a dozen of my chiefs of staff have gone through law school working full time in my office and going to school full time. We sort of run a separate adjunct of the Senate, and that is a law school on the side, I think.

I do believe I have had the honor of serving with many great people. I served with the people who were here when I came here—Senator Baker, Senator Mansfield, Senator Scott, Senator Magnuson, Senator Dole, Senator Jackson,

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Senator Cook, Senator Bible, Senator Bell, Senator Hollings—there are so many.

I remember the time when Senator McClellan, who was chairman of the Appropriations Committee, took the whole committee up to Alaska because he was tired of asking me why I was seeking so much money. He decided to take the whole committee up there. We traveled through the State for 2 weeks. That doesn't happen now.

I am surrounded by friends here on both sides of the aisle, and I am still very honored to be here.

Let me close by saying I really think I am here because of the mentors I had in Alaska. Two publishers—Bill Snedden, publisher of the *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner*, and Bob Atwood, publisher of the *Anchorage Times*—urged me to come to Washington to participate in the Eisenhower administration during our fight for statehood. I was lucky enough to tie into former Senator Fred Seaton who was Secretary of the Interior. I worked with him for a period of almost 4 years and left Washington as the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, his reward to me for our working together.

I was also honored to follow a good friend, a friend I got to know during the territorial days as we fought for statehood, and that was Bob Bartlett. He was my predecessor. He was, during the time we were fighting for statehood, the delegate from the territory of Alaska as a Democrat.

I think our relationship was almost as close as the relationship I have with Senator Inouye. He was a fine man, a great and distinguished public servant for Alaska. I am honored to hold what Alaskans call the Bartlett seat.

I thank my colleagues again for the courtesy all have shown me. I passed a milestone only because Strom made the mistake of being a Democrat for two terms. I am honored to have this recognition today.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Brown). The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, when I came to Washington, Senator Inouye—I am sorry, Senator STEVENS. They are like brothers, and it is easy to get them mixed up—Senator STEVENS had already been here 12 or 13 years. He has a distinguished service: 38 years in this Chamber, going on 15,000 votes, decorated pilot in World War II. But there are a number of instances that I want to spread on this record regarding Senator STEVENS.

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First of all, he has a relationship that has already been mentioned with one of America's great people, Senator Dan Inouye. Dan Inouye, of course, is a Medal of Honor winner. A gentleman describes who he is. But the relationship between Senator Inouye and Senator STEVENS, when the history books are written, will be legendary. They are friends, a Republican and a Democrat, who are like a couple of brothers.

They have traveled the world over many times, and the relationship is something we should all recognize as being possible in this Chamber. People of different parties from different parts of our United States can become friends. Party affiliation is secondary to their relationship.

For me, the example they have set has paved the way for the relationship Senator Ensign and I have. We are from the same State, with totally different political philosophies, but our friendship is, in our own minds, comparable to that of Senator STEVENS and Senator Inouye. Thank you very much, I say to Senator STEVENS and Senator Inouye, for the example you have set for us.

I also want to relate to everyone something that is remarkable to me. I was serving in the House of Representatives when Senator Alan Bible died. Senator Bible served in the Senate for 20 years. He was a great public servant from the State of Nevada and a dignified Senator who, because of illness, left the Senate after 20 years.

When he died, there was a plane available to take anyone who wanted to go to the State of Nevada to his funeral. I went, and the only other Member of Congress who traveled to Nevada was TED STEVENS. It was a long way to Reno, NV, where Senator Bible was buried, but TED STEVENS went. Why did he go? Because on a very important vote to Senator STEVENS that made the difference between Senator STEVENS carrying the day or losing the day, Senator Bible stepped forward, as Senator STEVENS said, courageously, and voted with this Republican Senator.

Think about that: Senator Bible was long gone, hadn't been in the Senate for many years. He died. But Senator STEVENS remembered Senator Bible doing something that he thought was beyond the call of his democratic duty. And so Senator STEVENS and I took this lonely flight to Reno, NV, to attend the funeral of my friend and Senator STEVENS' friend, Senator Bible. That speaks volumes about the kind of person Senator STEVENS is.

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One of the highlights of my congressional service has been the ability to travel all over the world. It is part of our obligation as Members of Congress to go see what American interests are doing around the world. On one of those trips, I signed up to go as a young Senator and was led by the great John Glenn and TED STEVENS. It was a memorable trip. I can remember—the Iron Curtain was down—leaving Austria and going into Czechoslovakia. They stopped the train. In came the KGB and other Iron Curtain soldiers. They looked under the train, in the train, and looked at all of us. We went into Prague, and in a little diner-bar, that evening a man came in wearing a flight jacket, a World War II flight jacket. Of course, Senator Glenn and Senator STEVENS had worn those flight jackets representing the United States as they flew airplanes: one a Marine, one a member of the Army Air Corps.

The conversation that night with that man, who probably was a KGB plant, as we talked later, developed into a great conversation. We were able to be regaled with conversations about Senator Glenn in World War II and Senator STEVENS in World War II flying airplanes for America's interests around the world. I always will remember that.

Finally, I say to Senator STEVENS, at this desk right here, you watched me manage a few bills. We were able to finish an appropriations bill. You thought I helped a lot. So you gave me the distinct honor of giving me one of your Hulk ties, which I still have.

(Laughter.)

We laugh and joke about that, but it meant a lot to me that Senator STEVENS thought enough of me to give me one of his ties.

So I say to Senator STEVENS, at this important occasion for you, of course, and our country, recognizing you, your service in this body, the longest serving Republican in the history of the Republic, I extend to you my appreciation and my friendship.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, the junior Senator from Alaska is on her feet. I wanted to make sure you saw her. She will be seeking recognition.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Alaska is recognized.

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Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, it gives me enormous pride to pay tribute to our senior Senator, to my senior Senator, Mr. STEVENS, and to listen to the comments, to listen to the stories from so many of you as colleagues and friends.

For so many years—I think my whole life—I have grown up hearing the stories about Senator STEVENS, and to understand how today—tomorrow, actually—he makes history as the longest serving Republican Senator.

What you all need to appreciate is that so much of the history of TED STEVENS is also the history of the State of Alaska. They are inextricably tied, and we know that. So to be able to share that with his friends and colleagues for so many years is so important.

I truly appreciate the words of the Republican leader outlining the history, the very storied military career that Senator STEVENS had, understanding how he went on to be the U.S. attorney for the territory at the time, his schooling through UCLA, through Harvard. Coming back to the State of Alaska is where we all kind of pick up with the history that is now legendary and is seen in so many places.

Someone mentioned the Ted Stevens International Airport. We look around to so many of the monuments in the State, whether it is the Trans-Alaska Pipeline that has been delivering oil to the lower 48 for the past 25-some-odd years—we look at those and we think: TED STEVENS.

I don't know how many of you are aware of the history of our State as it relates to our lands and knowing and understanding that it was TED STEVENS who moved these forward, whether it was ANILCA, our land conservation act, the Native Claims Settlement Act, the effort to build the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Act, the Denali Commission—these are living legends, if you will, through legislation that came about through the dedication, through the persistence, through the urging of Senator STEVENS.

We all want to believe, certainly, that we work on behalf of the people we represent, but as we look to these legislative victories, these legislative successes that Senator STEVENS has put in place over the years, I believe that truly demonstrates his commitment to the people of Alaska. When we think about providing the Native peoples with title to their lands, when we think about the educational challenges that face us in this enormous State with geographic and rural challenges that we can only imagine, when we think about how we provide health care in a State such as Alaska, all we

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need to do is look to the initiatives that have been put in place.

Senator STEVENS has always—always—kept Alaska first and has been very selfless in his efforts to put his State, to put the people of Alaska first.

We lovingly call him throughout the State “Uncle TED.”

And you chuckle, but I think it is fair to say. They might not say it to your face, TED, but behind your back they are always calling you Uncle TED, because I hear it. They love it. The people of Alaska love it when you put on your superhero tie, when you wear the Hulk tie, because that is your signal that you mean business on behalf of the people of the State of Alaska.

You know, talk about people who have minds as sharp as a tack, TED will come up to me and we will be talking about something and he will say, “You remember back in 1973 when so-and-so said something to so-and-so?” And I am thinking, I was still in high school back then; no, I don’t remember that. But he has such a grasp of the history and the facts. I appreciated his comment that he doesn’t reminisce, but he is not going to let go of the factual background that has gotten us to where we are today.

Senator STEVENS mentioned those who have worked for him, and he and I have a unique relationship in that I was an intern for him. I credit him as my first political mentor here. Whether that means your staff will go on to succeed both you and me, who knows, but I look to what you have provided me as I have joined the family of the Senate here. I could not have asked for a better mentor, a better colleague to work side by side with as we move forward to advance the interests of the State of Alaska.

I know I will have you to work together with for years to come, and I join my colleagues again in acknowledging you on this truly historic occasion. I think it is fair to say, as an Alaskan, I feel personally blessed to have you and your leadership for our State and our Nation, and for that I thank you very much.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the list of family and Senate staff to which I previously referred, be printed in the *Record*.

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

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FAMILY

My wife, Catherine Ann Stevens, my deceased wife, Ann Cherrington Stevens, who left us due to our 1978 accident. We have six children, Susan, Beth, Walter, Ted, Ben, and Lily; and our eleven grandchildren, Susan, Ben, Augustus, Theodore II (Ben and Elizabeth Stevens' family); Sally Masako (Ted and Junko Stevens' family); Ann, Rachel and Elizabeth (Walter and Debbie Stevens' family); Laura Beth, John Peter, and Sara Ann (Susan and David Covich family).

SENATE STAFF

CHIEFS OF STAFF

Ron Birch; George Nethercutt; Tim McKeever; Rebecca Cox; Bill Phillips; Greg Chapados; Lisa Sutherland; Mitch Rose; Carol White; Dave Russell; George Lowe.

FORMER STAFF IN THE WHIP OFFICE

Susan Alvarado—one of the first professional female staff assistants to leadership.

Larry Burton—whip office.

DeLynn Henry—long term scheduler.

STAFF DIRECTORS

Appropriations—Steve Cortese, Jim Morhard; Commerce—Lisa Sutherland, Christine Kurth; Government Affairs—Wayne Schley, Al McDermott; Rules—Al McDermott; Ethics—Bill Canfield; Whip—Rebecca Cox; President Pro Tempore Office—Jennifer Lowe; President Pro Tempore Emeritus Office—George Lowe.

ALASKA STAFF

Barb Andrews Mee; Marie Nash; Edie Opinsky; Jim Egan; Gloria McCutcheon; Ruth Burnett; Mike Dalton; Diane Hutchison; Connie McKenzie.

CURRENT AND FORMER STEVENS' PERSONAL OFFICE STAFFERS

FROM 1969 TO APRIL 12, 2007

(*CURRENT STAFF MEMBER)

A

Albrittain, Nancy A.; Alexander, David M.; Allen, Dorothy M.; Alowa, Allen D.; Alvarado, Susan E.; Alvord, Melanie A.; Andrews, Barbara A. (now Andrews-Mee); Andrews, Christina; Angerman, Lillie; Arai, T. Juliette; Aravosis, John G.; Arness, Peggy M.; Arnold, Susan L.; *Arthur, Will.

B

Bahmer, Barbara A.; Bahmer, Gale O.; Bailey, Helen S.; Baker, Bridget L.; Baker, Elizabeth Anna-Marie; Baker, Laurie; Ballash, Heather L.; Banks, Gary S.; Barbagallo, Nelly E.; Barnes, Mark; Bartosik, Curtis J.; Bass, Sandra R.; Bates, Gwendolyn J.; Behm, Yvonne D.; Beighle, Jon J.; Belcher, Janet B.; Belon, Valerie L.; *Bennett, Doris C.; Bennett, Patricia A.; Bergstrom, Minta C.; Bertson, Todd; *Bertrand, Joel; Binns, Mahalia J.; Birch, Ronald G.; Blackwell, Michelle; Blanchard, Virginia; Boatman,

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Robert W.; Bolton, Jerry K.; Bookout, Cynthia R.; Bombeck, Tui; Boone, Courtney; Bourassa, Phillippe H.; Boyer, Robert L.; Brandman, Sonja; Brandt-Erichsen, Svend A.; Braniff, Mimi; Brewer, Martha J.; Bridenbaugh, Kathleen A.; Briggs, Michael G.; Britt, Gloria; Britt, Sharon M.; Brown, Benjamin E.; Brown, Charlie L.; Brown, Lauren E.; Brown, Sylvia H.; Bryant, Julie; Bullock, George D.; Bundy, Elliot; Burnett, John S.; Burnett, Ruth E.; Burnett, Suzanne; Burnett, Wally; Burton, Larry D.; Butzlaff, Nathan B.

C

Cabaniss, Virginia Dale; Call, Kay L.; *Campbell, Nikki; Carlisle, Margo D.B.; Carlson, Thomas L.; Castillo, Florence A.; Causey, Janel (Anderson); Chaffins, Katherine E.; Chapados, Greg; Chapek, Rebekah A.; Christian, Diana F.; Christie, Monica A.; Chomski, Kathleen (Brown); Ciccone, Christine M.; Cipra, Fredesvinda K.; Clancy, Lynda E.; Clark, Jane B.; Clements, Barbara; Clements, Charles; Cole, Brent; Collins, William L., III; Colver, Jane D.; Comstock, Earl W.; *Connell, Elizabeth J.; Covington, G. Dianne; Constantine, Janet A.; Cook, Caroline W.; Cook, Cora J.; Corbin, Lelani; Corthell, Lisa L.; Costello, Earle E.; Covington, G. Dianne; Cowen, James S.; Cowen, Joseph D.; Cox, Rebecca (Gernhardt); Craddick, Elaine L.; Craddick, Jan O.; Crawford, James M.; Crews, Darcy L.; Crittenden, Benjamin R.; Crittenden, Evelyn M.; Crittenden, Harriet C.; Crosley, Margy M.; Crossman, Sally J.; Crow, Michelle (now Maher); Cullen, Ann P.

D

Dalton, Kathleen F.; Dames, Edna M.; Dames, John C.; Daniels, Lorna; Darnell, Joseph; Davidge, Ric; *Davis, Mark; Dearing, Barbara G.; *Demopoulos, Nocolia; Derr, H.J.; Devore, Jon M.; Devore, Michelle (Butler); Dewhirst, Mary K.; Dickey, H. Gen; Dietz, Suzanne; Dinneen, Mark K.; Dittman, David; Dittman, Terry; Dixon, Karen G.; Donahue, Helen S.; Doogan, Laura; Dow, Wendi; Drager, Philip J.; Droege, Phillip; Dunbar, Henry T.

E

*Eames, Seth; Egan, James B.; Eklund, Nancy A.; Elerding, Mary Jane; Elliott, Norman H., IV; Elwell, Dan; *Engibous, Robyn; Evans, Ernest H.

F

Farr, Meghan; Farrell, Alycia; Fate, Julie Y.; Faunce, Mary L.; Feind, Gena M.; Ferguson, John D.; Ferguson, Pamela G.; Fessenden, Lori Ann; Fink, Joshua; Fitch, Karen M.; Flanders, Barbara; Flannigan, Michael J.; Fradley, Dennis C.; Franz, Joan L.; Fraser, Robert C.; Frazier, Ernest M.; Freitag, Renee; Friehlke, Ann; Fromuth, Peter J.; Fuller, Douglas S.; Fuller, Kimberly A.

G

Gallagher, Hugh G.; Gayman, Carol (Steiner); German, Penelope S.; Gibson, Duane R.; Gilman, Bradley D.; Gilman, Lisa C.K.; Gilman, Margaret; Gimm, Viola M.; Glasmann, Michael J.; Godwin, Agnes C.; Goodman, Stuart A.; Gore, Mary; Grane, Kimberly; Grant, Ian; Graves, Roger K.; Gray, Louise A.; Green, Isaac A.; Greisen, David; Gregg, Samantha C.; Griffiths, Leslie O.; Groseclose, Robert B.; Gruenberg, Max F., Jr.; Gustufson, Carol.

H

Haggart, Richard G.; Halcomb, Patricia M.; Henry, Diana L. (now Diana H. West then Diana H. Barnhart); Hall, Lisa C.; Halvarson, Janet M.; Hansen, Paul G.; Hanson, Ingrid C.; Harrison, Ardine; Haugen, Leif; Hayes, James; Hayes, Lindsay; Hays, Dorothy A.; Hefke, Nancy L.; Hegg, Ruth E.; Hegyi, Karen R.; Henry, Diana; *Henry, Martha DeLynn; Henthorn, Deborah T.; Herman, Margaret G.; Hess, Carol (Logan); Hess, Kelly A.; Hett, Susan Elaine; Hickling, Elizabeth M.; Highbaugh, Rita K.; Hill, Cynthia L.; Hilscher, Hilary J.; Hinkley, Jeanette (Nichols); Hobbs, Mary Jo; Hodson, Lona M.; Hogan, John J.; Hozey, John; *Hughes, Brian; Hultberg, Rebecca L.; Hutchison, Diane.

I

Iani, Frances S.; Irrigoo, Connie; Ivko, Terri L.

J

Jaehning, Leslie; Jeffress, R.D.; Jennings, Malin T.; Jessup, Carolyn R.; Johansen, Gary L.; Johnsen, Krag A.; Johnson, Louise L.; Johnson, Myrtle F.; Johnson, Rhonda; Johnson, Robert W.; Johnston, Martha R.; Jolly, Claire Anne; Jones, G. Kevin.

K

Kaplan, Gregory D.; Katongan, Adeline R.; Katz, John W.; Keller, Kristen L.; Kelly, Ernest B., III; Kemppe, Denali A.; Kerezy, John D.; *Kerley, Patrick J.; Kerttula, Anna M.; Kidd, Margaret L.; King, Sara L.; Kirchoff, Scharine; Kloster, Kendra; Konigsberg, Charles S.; Kozie, Michelle; Kron, Stephanie A.; Kurth, Christine.

L

Lack, Jonathon H.; Ladd, Priscilla D.; Lahmeyer, Lillian A.; Lahmeyer, Michelle E.; Landry, Jeffrey; Lang, Cheri A.; Lang, Deborah S.; Langton, Michal; Lappi, Karen D.; Larson, Dean M.; Larson, Michelle R.; *Laudenberger, Theresa A.; Layton, Mark; Lawrie, Heather A.; *Leathard, Scott; Lee, Claire K.P.; Leonard, Lindsay; Lewis, Irene C.; Lock, Kathleen M.; Loewen, Reuben M.; Logan, Douglas M.; Longnecker, Barbara A.; Louis, Claudia J.; Lounsbury, Joel; *Lowe, George H., IV; Lowe, Jennifer (Mies); Lund, Thomas R.; Lundquist, Andrew.

M

Macaulay, Margie M.; Maculay, Gail C.; Magnusson, Lori M.; Mai, Audra M.; *Maitlen, Brandon; Maloney, Wayne; Martin, Bernadette V.; Martin, Guy R.; Mason, Paisley; Matsuno-Nash, Marie; May, Terence; McAlpin, Jay A.; McCabe, John T.; McClees, Charles J., Jr.; McCuthcheon, Gloria; McGuire, Lesil L.; McInerney, Anne E.; McInturff, Janell A.; McKeever, Timothy A. McKenzie, Connie; McLeod, Phillip W.; Menduno, F.M.; Messina, Gary S.; *Michalski, Nathan; Miller, Alexis R.; Miller, Terrence B.; Mock, Lisa C.; Moore, Elizabeth M.; Moran, Margaret A.; Moran, Michael P.; Morgheim, Jeffrey S. Motley, Allison H.; Motznik, Lavonne L.; Murdey, Phyllis M.; Murphy, Ann Marie; Murphy, Lynne F. (now Hill); *Musgrove, John; Musko, Tonja J.; Myers, Joanne.

N

Nelson, James B.; Nethercutt, George R., Jr.; Newman, Kathryn C.; Nichols, Steven; Nicolet, Katherine L.; Niemi, Celia B.; Nikzad, Cheri A.; Norton, Katherine H.; Nosek, Peter C.

O

O'Hara, Kristina D.; O'Leary, Michael S.; Odom, Jane H.; Odom, Milton W., III; Oliver, Lori Ann; Olson, Lori A.; O'Keefe, Sean; O'Keefe, Shannon B.; Opinsky, Celine; Opinsky, Edith M.; Osborne, Jason M.; Otierney, Daniel P.; Oursler, Susan J.; Owletuck, George N.

P

*Palmer, Suzanne; Parker, Carole A.; Parsons, James; Patton, Penny E.; Paxton, Matthew; Pence, Randall G.; Perdue, Karen R.; Perles, Steven R.; Peterson, Darwin; Peyton, Leonard James; Phillips, William D.; Pierce, Rosemary D.; Pignalberi, Marco A.; Pillifant, Thomas H.; Pinnolis, Barry R.; Plunk, Karen S.; Powers, Penny S.; Pugh, Kristen; Pusich, Shannon M.

Q

Quam, Dana C.; Quinlan, Clarissa M.; Quisenberry, Jack B.; Quist, Linda A.

R

*Raabe, Aprille; Radakovich, Keith K.; Raffeto, John C.; Randall, William T.; Range, Kimberly D.; Rawson, Debra; Raymond, Patricia A.; Reeve, Mary; Reeves, Katharine E.; Rice, Eugenie A.; Richard, Ryan R.; Richards, Bonnie E.; Richardson, Linda L.; Richmond, Kristen K.; Rickett, Robert R.; Rideout, Anita; Rigos, Chris J.; Robbins, Jane A.; *Robbins, Mark; Roberts, Laury; Rogers Candice; Rogozinski, Janet L.; Roots, John; Rose, Mitchell F.; Rosenquist, Jane S.; Rosenquist, Matthew; Rosenwald, Cynthia M.; Rubinstein, Pamela A.; Ruff, Richard; Rugg, William J.; Rushton, A. Lyell, III; Russell, David C.

S

Sandahl, Virginia; *Saunders, Aaron; Schabacker, Chris; Schaefermeyer, Darryl J.; Schafer, Jennifer A.; Schemmel, Cheryl A.; Schley, Wayne A.; Schneider, Mark; Schroer, Jo Anne W.; Schultheis, Bruce E.; Schwartz, Judith A.; Scott, Shirley A.; Seekins, Kerri L.; Seelbaugh, Patricia A.; Shaftel, Douglas; Sharp, Amy R.; Shaver, Victoria L.; Shaw, Douglas B.; Shepherd, Leslie C.; Sherbert, Eva M.; Shore, Mary E.; Shoup, Sharon; Silver, Steven W.; Simpson, Maryann; Slick, Sherrie A.; Slovikosky, Beverly A.; Smith, Robert B.; *Sorensen, Ray; Southall, A. Doris; Spaan, Michael R.; Sparck, Amy; Sparck, Michelle; Spencer, Mark E.; Spils, Carol A.; *Spinelli, Lindsey; Springer, Mark A.; St. Sauver, Beverly K.; Staser, Jeffrey B.; Stealey, Katherine; Stealey, Mary L.; Stenehjem, Connie M.; Stengl, Susan P.; Stepovich, Antonia M.; Stepovich, Laura M.; Stepovich, Melissa M.; Stevens, Elizabeth (Engelken); Steverson, Judith (Garnett); Stiefel, Justin; Stokes, Robert C., III; Stone, Michelle A.; Stone, Sandra; Sullivan, H. Paul, Jr.; Sumpter, Gerri; Sunne, Anne C.; Sutherland, Lisa; Sutherland, Scott A.; Swan, Lulu; Sykes, Gwendolyn;

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T

Taft, Margo L.; Tanner, Patrick; Terlesky, Juanita S.; Tess, Terry L.; Todd, James M.; Todd, Karen G.; Tony, Paul D.; Trimble, Mary H.; Thompson, Pamela S.; Trump, Marsha V.; Teeley, Sandra E.; Turner, Lewis N.; Tyser, Sue E.

U

Utter, Brian.

V

Vallet, Paul P.; Vaughn, Philip; Vanderjack, Andrew; Verble, Saga O.; Von Gemmingen, Brett; Vrem, Lisa S.

W

*Wackowski, Steve; Wagoner, Norman B.; Wallace, John Foster; *Waller, Karina; Weaver, Karen; Weaver, Robert C., Jr.; Weddle, Aaron; Wahto, Heidi A.; Weddle, Justin; Weidlein, Patricia M.; Weiss, Kelly S.; Webster, Patricia S.; West, Jade C.; Wheeler, Ruth B.; White, Carol M.; Wilken, Alan W.; Williams, Cynthia G.; *Williams, Kate N.; Winn, Robert L.; Wold, Joanne; Wolek, Gail A.; Williams, Anne M.; Wonder, E. Paul; Wesley, David H.; Wood, Sarah A.; Woodrow, Shirley A.; Woodworth, Glen E.

Y

Yarmon, Joel; Yauney, James A.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. Klobuchar). The Senator from West Virginia is recognized.

Mr. BYRD. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. BYRD. Madam President, Senator TED STEVENS is not on the floor at the moment. I am going to wait, if I may. I have the floor, do I not, Madam President?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator does.

Mr. BYRD. I am going to wait. I understand that Senator STEVENS is on his way. He will be here in a couple of minutes. I will await the arrival, if the Chair will allow me, of Senator TED STEVENS. I understand he is on his way, and I want him to be present to hear what I am going to say.

Madam President, tomorrow, April 13, the very distinguished senior Senator from Alaska, my dear friend, Senator TED STEVENS, will become, if it is the good Lord's will, the longest serving Republican Senator in the history of these United States. It will mark his, Senator TED STEVENS',

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13,990th day as a Senator. Senator STEVENS, on tomorrow, if the Lord lets him live, will surpass the late Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, who served 13,989 days as a Republican Senator. Tomorrow, Senator STEVENS will serve, the good Lord willing, 13,990 days.

This is a great honor and an important milestone in the Senate career of our esteemed colleague, my friend, TED STEVENS. I congratulate Senator TED STEVENS for this monumental, historic achievement. As the longest serving Democratic Senator in the history of the Senate, I, Robert C. Byrd, welcome my friend, Senator TED STEVENS of Alaska, into this most exclusive club. In fact, it is probably the most exclusive club I know. There are only two of us, one Democrat and one Republican, in it.

I have served in this Chamber with Senator TED STEVENS for nearly four decades. He came here in 1968. Senator STEVENS and I have served together on the Senate Appropriations Committee since 1972. I was on the committee a long time before that, but we, Senator STEVENS and I, have served together on the Senate Appropriations Committee since 1972. During these years of service together, we have developed a profound respect and admiration for each other. We now share many memories, both on and off the Senate floor.

One of my favorite memories is a very special personal one. I recall how Senator STEVENS would bring his baby daughter Lily with him to the Senate and carry her around the Capitol in a basket. Over the years, I have become very close to Lily as well as her father. Lily is all grown up now. As a matter of fact, she will finish law school this year. But Senator STEVENS remains the proud, loving father he always has been.

A couple of years ago, when the Senate was working into the late hours of the night and tensions were running high, as they occasionally do around here, Senator TED STEVENS took me by the arm and pulled me aside because he had something he wanted to show me. It was an article that Lily had written about the U.S. Capitol that had just been published by the U.S. Historical Society, and he, Senator STEVENS, wanted to share it with me. I remarked at the time how touched I was by this. It was a father's pride in his child's accomplishment. I recall it now as a loving reminder that the Senate is a family—the Senate is a family.

Senator TED STEVENS is a Republican. I am a Democrat. Of course, we have had a few differences in our lives. We

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have been here for a long time on this floor—right here on this floor. But, actually, some of them became quite heated. Senator STEVENS, as you know, says what he thinks. He is a man. He is a gentleman. He is a Senator. He says what he thinks. Oh, here he is, right here on the floor. I had to look around now to remind me he was there.

Now, some of these things have become quite heated. We both tend—Senator STEVENS and I—to be strong-willed persons, U.S. Senators, with different political philosophies. And each of us is determined to represent the best interests of his and my home State and the people—the people—who send us here. So, naturally, at times, we are going to disagree.

But I feel I can say before God and man and Senators—I feel I can say without fear of contradiction—that not once—not once—have we allowed our political differences to become personal ones.

I have come to admire Senator TED STEVENS as a man of immense integrity, high personal principles, and unqualified honesty.

I admire Senator TED STEVENS as a great American. He is a patriot. He is a patriot whose devotion for our country—this country, yours and mine—led him to join the Army Air Corps during World War II, where he, Senator STEVENS, flew support missions for the Flying Tigers of the 14th Air Force. For his service, Senator STEVENS—he was not a Senator then—but Senator STEVENS, for his service at that time, was awarded numerous medals, including two Distinguished Flying Crosses. Let me say that again. For his service, he was awarded numerous medals, including—including—two Distinguished Flying Crosses.

In the 1950s, after graduating from Harvard Law School, Senator STEVENS began his long and remarkable career in public service by serving in various positions in the Eisenhower administration.

Senator STEVENS is also a great legislator. In our nearly four decades in the Senate, Senator STEVENS and I have also worked together on numerous bills. We have even cosponsored some together. This includes S. 880, the Senate Family Leave Act, which is currently under consideration in the Senate.

I especially admire Senator STEVENS for his work on the Senate Appropriations Committee. During his years as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, he was bipartisan, cooperative, and respectful of everyone, just the way

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the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, or any Senate committee, ought to be.

While noting that Senator STEVENS has served as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, allow me to point out that I have always been impressed by the similarity of our careers.

As I have already mentioned, I am the longest serving Democratic Senator ever. Tomorrow, Senator TED STEVENS will become the longest serving Republican Senator.

Both of us have served as President pro tempore of the Senate and President pro tempore emeritus.

Both of us—Senator STEVENS and I—have served as our party’s whip in the Senate. The “whip” is an old term. When the fox hunters went out, and they brought the hounds in, they used whips, and they knew how to use them. So both of us—Senator STEVENS and I—have served as our individual party’s—his is the Republican Party; mine is the Democratic Party—each of us has served as his party’s whip in the Senate. The term “whip” goes back a long way. It goes back to England and the House of Commons.

Both of us—Senator STEVENS and I—have chaired the Senate Appropriations Committee, and each has served as ranking member on the committee.

Both of us have been honored with recognition as the “King of Pork”—the “King of Pork”—while I am sure the organization that gave us that title intended it to be something less than a compliment.

Madam President, I again congratulate this great Senator, this fine legislator, this outstanding American for his historic achievement. Senator STEVENS is truly the kind of man whom our country and this Chamber need.

I close with a poem. I know it by memory. I am going to read it into the *Record*:

Not gold, but only men can make a Nation great and strong; men who for
truth and honor’s sake, stand fast and labor long.
Real men who work while others sleep, who dare while others fly. They
build a Nation’s pillars deep and lift them to the sky.

Madam President, for the record, I will yield the floor soon, but for right now, I see on the other side of the aisle three very distinguished Senators. I see Senator TED STEVENS, I see Senator Cochran, Thad Cochran of Mississippi. Now, we are not supposed to say these things such as this—and I see the great Senator from Georgia, Senator Isakson. By the way, let me tell my colleagues, Senator Isakson comes over to my desk here every day I am here and he takes the

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time to shake my hand. He does. He takes the time to speak with me and to talk with me. One day I may make a little speech on the Senate floor, God willing, and I am going to talk about Senator Isakson. But today, I salute my friend Senator TED STEVENS.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, does the Senator yield the floor at this time?

Mr. BYRD. I do.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I regret I wasn't here at the commencement of the comments of the distinguished Senator from West Virginia, but I am overwhelmed and honored that he would make these comments, and particularly that he would reference his relationship to our youngest daughter Lily who has great love and affection for Senator Byrd. We have come through a lot of travails, each of us, during our times in the Senate, and I have always found Senator Byrd to be a warm and great friend in times of trouble and very gracious when in times such as this. We could stand here and I would tell the Senate some of the times I have spent with Senator Byrd, including the time once in Britain when we gathered together a group of British and United States members of the British-American Parliamentary Conference and we listened to Senator Byrd tell us about his life and some of the things he had done as a child, and we listened to him recite many of the great poems he knows. He has one of the most prodigious memories I have ever known, and he is the most gracious Member of the Senate. He always has been very kind and helpful.

I came here as an appointed Senator and took the position of—we called it the Bartlett seat, Senator Bob Bartlett's seat. Senator Byrd was very gracious to Senator Bartlett as Alaska's first senior Senator, and he extended greetings to me as Senator Bartlett's replacement, and throughout these nearly 40 years he has been a great friend. We have had differences of opinion, but we have never had a disagreeable word between us. God willing, that will never happen.

So I thank my friend. He honors me, he honors my family, and he honors the Senate by the remarks he made about the Senate itself. We are a family. This aisle ought not to be a canyon; it ought to be very easy to step across that aisle and shake hands with a friend as I have just done. I thank the Senator for what he has said and for giving me the opportunity to be here when he said it.

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The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia is recognized.

Mr. BYRD. Madam President, will the very able and distinguished Senator from Alaska yield so I might say a few words?

Mr. STEVENS. I am happy to do so.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the Senator, my friend, for what he has said. I salute him, my friend. I wish Erma, my darling wife, were here, sitting up in the gallery. We have rules that we don't speak to the gallery, but I wish she were here. She knew Senator STEVENS. She knew Mrs. STEVENS. She knew us, my wife, and Mrs. STEVENS, who is not here today, but my wife knew us, Senator STEVENS and me, her childhood sweetheart, Robert C. Byrd, she knew we were friends, Senator STEVENS and I, the closest of friends. Now, when I say the closest of friends, Senators know what that means. That doesn't mean Senator STEVENS and I go out together at night and drink booze together or anything such as that. We are the closest of friends. I don't have anything against Senators or anybody else who wants to go out and drink booze. I don't. I won't say what I have done in my lifetime, but I know a little bit about what booze is. I know what we are talking about.

Senator STEVENS and I are the dearest of friends. I happen to be, through the Good Lord's will, in my 90th year. I will be 90 in November, if it is the Good Lord's will and I live to see the 20th day of November. I don't mind talking out loud, because as Popeye the Sailor Man used to say: "I yam what I yam, and that is all I yam."

Now, Senator STEVENS—I am not supposed to address him, a colleague, like this, but I am going to do that with the Senate's permission. This is not in accordance with the rules. Senator STEVENS, I want to say to you—I want to say to you in the presence of Senator Cochran, who is a Senator on the Appropriations Committee, along with Senator STEVENS and me—I know the right grammar, you see—along with the Senator from Mississippi, and me. Some might think I should say the Senator from Mississippi and I.

I am supposed to say it, because I am talking in a different vein, but Senator Cochran serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee with me. And he and I—in other words, he, Senator Thad Cochran and I—serve on the Senate Appropriations Committee together, and Senator STEVENS has at times been the chairman of that Appropriations Committee.

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I was the ranking member. What I am going to say, Senator STEVENS and I—I am not supposed to talk in the first person. We usually in the Senate talk to the distinguished Senator from Alaska. I want to say to Senator STEVENS, though, in the Senate, he is my friend. He knows that. Senator STEVENS, I admire you. I respect you. You are a great Senator from a great State. Under the Constitution, he and I, as Senators, belong to the greatest deliberative body in the world. I respect the history of England and the House of Commons. That is a great body. The House of Lords, that is a great body. But the U.S. Senate is the upper House, the so-called upper House, and it is the upper House. There are two Houses, and the Senate is the upper House, because it used to be up there in the old days, and so the Members referred to the Senate as the upper House.

Senator STEVENS—I am going to speak to him as I shouldn't—I know what the rules are, but I am going to say to Senator STEVENS directly this may be the last time—who knows; it may not be—that I will ever speak to him on the floor like this. Senator STEVENS, I love you, I respect you, and I admire you. I hope God will always bless you and hold you in the hollow of his hand. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I pray and ask for the forgiveness of my own shortcomings. Senator STEVENS, you are my friend, and we will let it go at that.

Madam President, I am going to yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, all I can say to my friend is that I am already blessed by God to be your friend, and I thank you very much.

Mr. BYRD. Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Whitehouse). The Senator from Mississippi is recognized.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to be here to hear the remarks of the distinguished Senator from West Virginia, my good friend, and to join with others who have honored and paid tribute to Senator STEVENS on the occasion of his reaching a milestone where he has served in the Senate longer than any other Republican Member in history.

I had the privilege, when I was a new Member of the House of Representatives after my election in 1972, to observe Senator STEVENS as he worked with Howard Baker as

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the Republican leaders of the Senate and to come to respect him and know him and then to join the Senate body after the election of 1978. He has been a mentor and a dear friend throughout my career in the Senate, and I can say one could have no greater fortune than to serve in the presence of Senator Byrd and Senator STEVENS and others who were the true leaders of the Senate when I was a new Member.

I have come to appreciate and respect them more as time has gone on. I recall Senator STEVENS becoming chairman, after Senator Byrd had served as chairman, of the Appropriations Committee. It was my good fortune to become a member of that committee after only 2 years in the Senate. I have appreciated the opportunity to work closely with him ever since.

Senator STEVENS, of course, was our President pro tempore. I don't recall a more diligent and hard-working President pro tempore than Senator STEVENS. He had some big shoes to fill: Strom Thurmond, Jim Eastland from my State of Mississippi, and Senator Byrd; and all were dutiful. I recall Senator STEVENS personally being there every morning to open the Senate, usually a duty delegated to others; and he probably presided personally over the Senate as much as any person who has occupied that position of responsibility.

To be here today and to hear Dan Inouye talk about his early recollections of their service together in the Senate, and other Senators who have spoken on this special occasion in the life of our Senate, has made me happy to be here and to be able to observe and appreciate this day in the history of the Senate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia is recognized.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I wish to tell a quick story. I was in my office working and watching the beginning of Senator Byrd's speech about Senator STEVENS. I was reminded that I had a picture of two fellows who came up from Georgia to cook for the Senate at a barbecue. It is a picture of Senator STEVENS, myself, and those two gentlemen. The reason I ran over here is to say this: When I asked who the two gentlemen wanted to have their picture taken with, they said Senator TED STEVENS. I think that is a testimony to his reach, which is far beyond Alaska and to my home in Georgia.

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Also, when I saw Senator Byrd speak, I knew he was speaking about Senator STEVENS, and I realized the embodiment of history in the Senate that these two gentlemen represent. To come and sit down as Senator Thad Cochran came into the Chamber, I realized this 2-year rookie of the Senate was sitting among greatness.

My favorite book of all time is "The Greatest Generation" because it tells true stories of those great men and women who, in the most critical test in the history of our country, defeated the Axis powers in Germany and in the Pacific and saw to it that this democracy continued. Senator STEVENS fought bravely for this country in the Pacific. As I was born in 1944, his generation was seeing to it that I would have the opportunity to live the life I have and one day actually come to the Senate.

Senator STEVENS, I wanted to say, as a youngster in the Senate, thank you for what you have done. You sacrificed, and you have allowed me to be able to take advantage and eventually come to the Senate. I pass those same compliments on to Mr. Cochran and Mr. Byrd. These are three great Americans with whom I am honored to share a moment today. Congratulations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia is recognized.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I thank Senator Cochran, I thank Senator STEVENS, and I thank the great Senator from Georgia, Senator Isakson, for their kind words.

I thank the Chair and I thank God we were here today. I thank our Heavenly Father, especially, for this man, this Senator, TED STEVENS, and for his service to our country and to the Senate. I salute him as one of the great Senators of my time—and I have been here a long time.

I yield the floor.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, tomorrow our colleague and friend TED STEVENS will mark his 13,990th day as a Senator. It is an auspicious occasion because he will pass Strom Thurmond as the Senator who served longest as a member of the Republican Party.

I remember well when TED STEVENS came to the Senate in 1968. It seems like only yesterday. It is a great honor to say we have served together here for more than 38 years.

TED was appointed to fill the seat of a true giant of public service, Bob Bartlett, the architect of Alaska statehood, who had passed away just before Christmas in 1968. I can't help

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but think all these years later that Bob Bartlett would be the first to pay tribute to what his friend TED STEVENS has accomplished as his successor in the Senate.

I admire many things about my colleague from Alaska, the first and foremost being that he knows why he is here. He came to the Senate 9 years after Alaska was admitted to the Union, a State nearly a quarter the size of the continental United States and encompassing some of the most unforgiving geography and weather in the world. It is a State of tremendous natural beauty and indomitable spirit, but also enormous challenges brought about by its immense size, its distance from the lower 48, and its close proximity to the North Pole.

TED STEVENS came to the Senate to fight for the State of Alaska and the wonderful people who call it home. More than 38 years later, his purpose continues just as clearly and his determination just as strong. His skill and passion in championing the people of his State are a remarkable tribute to the bond he has formed with the people of Alaska and his colleagues in Congress.

In fact, TED STEVENS has given his entire career in service to others and to his country. He is a true public servant, a servant in the finest sense of the word. As a member of the Army Air Corps, he flew with the Flying Tigers of the 14th Air Force and earned two Distinguished Flying Crosses. The slogan of the Army Air Corps in those days was: We do the impossible immediately, but miracles take slightly longer.

That has certainly been true of his service in the Senate, too. He has been a respected leader on military issues and a strong defender of some of the bravest workers in the world, our Nation's fishermen. We share that love for fishermen and for the sea, as our two States are defined by their relationship with the sea, its bounty, its beauty, and its mystery.

He has answered the call of public service in countless ways time and time again. I saw his passion and determination to improve the lives of Native Alaskans when I traveled with him in his first year as a Senator to visit remote villages in Alaska back in April 1969, and it is the same passion and determination I see today.

TED, Walter Mondale, and I traveled over 3,600 miles throughout the State visiting Anchorage, Pilot Station, Arctic Village, and other villages. We traveled at times by ski plane and even by dogsled.

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We were traveling with the Senate Subcommittee on Indian Education, and I will never forget what we saw. There were no Native Alaskan teachers and few spoke native languages, making it nearly impossible for the schoolchildren to learn, many of whom had never even heard English. We saw villages where people had to walk 2 miles through frozen tundra to find drinking water and other villages where only 8 out of 100 Native Alaskans were graduating from high school.

I remember our subcommittee hearing in Fairbanks and the Pilot Station teacher who told us that the warmest she could ever get her classroom was zero degrees Fahrenheit. Imagine children trying to learn when it is that cold in the classroom.

More than anything else, I remember TED STEVENS' determination to improve the lives of the people and give them the opportunity to build a better future. We were able to pass legislation to improve water treatment facilities in Native Alaskan villages and improve education for the children as a result of that trip—and none of it would have happened without TED STEVENS.

I also feel a special closeness with TED because in addition to the many years we have served side by side, we both share the same soft-spoken and gentle approach for advancing our priorities and the many causes we care about so deeply. I only wish he were a Democrat.

I also pay tribute to TED's wonderful wife Catherine. She is an extraordinary woman, a person of enormous kindness and compassion who has been so understanding over the years of the demanding and often bizarre schedules we keep in this Chamber.

I have come to know her through her impressive service to the Kennedy Center, where she has made such a great impact on the Board of Trustees. This milestone is very much hers as well. We know the innumerable sacrifices a Senator's spouse has to make—especially those who make their home on the farthest side of the continent.

So I congratulate both TED STEVENS and Catherine Stevens on this extraordinary milestone. Well done, my friends, and best wishes for many more record-breaking days among us.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Nelson of Florida). The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

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Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, again, I am indebted to my friend from Massachusetts. We have spent many times together and, as he says, shared a great many goals. I am very pleased that he would make these remarks. I think that it sort of reminds me of a little bit of a little too much ado about nothing, but I do appreciate him being here. Thank you very much.

As Senator Kennedy leaves, I should repeat something I have told often, and that is, back in 1969, as a brandnew appointed Senator, I joined Senator Kennedy and others in going to the villages of Alaska. We found mold on the hospital walls in Bethel. When we came back, we started the process of replacing it, and it is a beautiful hospital today.

But we also went to the small villages. We went down to Pilot Station, and we were walking through this little village. All of a sudden, a little boy, baby boy, came running out, had a top on, but he obviously had lost his diaper.

My friend scooped him up, unzipped his parka, and put him inside. We walked around to find out where his home was. We came to this nice, small, well-kept native cabin. It was obvious that the mother was looking for her son.

We went in and Senator Kennedy gave her the boy, and there on the wall of that little cabin was his brother, President Kennedy's photograph. It is a small world. I will never forget it. Thank you.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

TUESDAY, May 15, 2007

STATEMENTS IN TRIBUTE TO SENATOR STEVENS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the tribute to Senator STEVENS in the *Congressional Record* be printed as a Senate document and that Senators be permitted to submit statements for inclusion in the *Record* until June 1 of this year.

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

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WEDNESDAY, *May 16, 2007*

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, on April 13, 2007, my dear friend and colleague Senator TED STEVENS became the longest serving Republican Senator in the history of this body. Today, I would like to pay tribute to my friend and his more than 38 years of service to our Nation and the people of Alaska.

I have known and worked with TED for over 34 years. We have served together on the Appropriations, Budget, and Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committees and many others. TED and I have been in the Senate together for so long some of the committees on which we served no longer exist. We have collaborated on more pieces of legislation than I can remember and worked to resolve many issues. Most recently, I was thankful for his hard work in the effort to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and increase the strategic security of the country.

I am happy to say TED has made the trip to New Mexico and I to Alaska so we could appreciate the needs of each other's home States. I have also had the pleasure of taking several trips with TED abroad, some more enjoyable than others. One that stands out in my mind is the fact-finding trip we took to North Korea several years ago to better understand the threat that nation poses to the world. I don't believe many people can say they have traveled there, even fewer can say they did it with TED STEVENS. I am very thankful I can.

I think it is safe to say TED has had a remarkable life and career. Born in Indianapolis, he has lived in California, Oregon, and Montana—finally settling in his beloved Alaska. During the Second World War, TED left college to join the Army Air Corps and became a decorated pilot. After the war TED attended Harvard Law School, became a U.S. attorney, worked in the Department of the Interior, started his own law firm, and was elected to the Alaska House of Representatives. For most individuals these accomplishments, all before he came to the Senate, would have marked a full and successful life. However, for TED it was just the beginning and I believe this Nation is lucky it was.

After serving with TED for so many years I know of no one who cares more about the people of Alaska and this Nation or serves either with more dedication and distinction. I would like to personally thank TED for his friendship and

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hope to have the honor of serving alongside him for many years to come.

MONDAY, *May 21, 2007*

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, look up Senator STEVENS' name in media reports and you will find a long list of adjectives: tenacious, temperamental, scrappy, gruff, hot-tempered, tireless. And you will come across a long list of nicknames: one of the Senate's "old bulls" for his institutional knowledge; "Uncle TED" to the people of Alaska who are grateful for his aggressive advocacy for their interests; pioneer for flying Army Air Corps missions during World War II and migrating to our rugged 49th State after law school; a mentor to up-and-coming elected officials; reportedly by his wife, a nutrition enthusiast for his devoted consumption of greens and whole grains; and in the case of his longtime friend, Senator Inouye of Hawaii, "my brother."

I would like to add a few adjectives of my own.

First, TED STEVENS is an Alaskan. It is impossible to think of Alaska without thinking of its senior Senator. Alaska and TED STEVENS are inseparable. Anyone who knows Senator STEVENS knows he wakes up every morning fighting for the people of Alaska and doesn't stop until he sleeps, which apparently isn't much. Their commercial industry, health care, electricity, water, transportation—even the cost of rural mail delivery—all earn his scrutiny. He has delivered again and again on policy to improve Alaskans' quality of life.

Second, and just as important, TED STEVENS is loyal. He is loyal to the institution of the U.S. Senate. Bipartisanship is natural for him. He understands that the art of compromise is critical to getting things done. For example, he is known to have helped reach a bipartisan deal on how to conduct the impeachment trial of President Clinton to minimize the partisan bickering that would have sullied the Senate and made a tense time even more tense.

He is more than willing to look across the aisle and find kinship with people of like interests. His friendship with Senator Inouye, a Democrat, is steadfast and legendary. They have found plenty of common ground in delivering good policy to the people of their uniquely situated States. Despite what seems like a gruff exterior sometimes, Senator STEVENS has a reputation for extending generous kindness to his

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colleagues, such as flying across country to attend the funeral of a former Senator whose vote had once been helpful.

Senator STEVENS' approach to policymaking is guided by Rotary International's "Four-Way Test," a copy of which is framed on his desk in the Senate Chamber. The test reads: "Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?"

That four-way test was written in 1932, but like Senator STEVENS—and here are more adjectives—it is common sense, inspirational, and timeless.

WEDNESDAY, *May 23, 2007*

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I seek recognition to congratulate my friend Senator TED STEVENS on becoming the longest serving U.S. Republican Senator in the history of the Senate. He has had a long and distinguished career in public service representing the State of Alaska in the Senate for over 38 years, casting over 14,000 votes, and never receiving less than 67 percent of the vote in any election.

My recollections of TED STEVENS, during the 27 years we have served together in the Senate, focus on his chairmanship of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, where he has done so much to promote our national security. For example, his management of the \$87 billion supplemental appropriations bill for fiscal year 2003 earned him high praise by President Bush during the signing ceremony.

TED's temper is generally misunderstood except by those who know him well. He doesn't lose it, but he does use it—and very effectively. However, it is true that on occasion he makes Vesuvius look mild. I recollect one all-night session during Senator Howard Baker's tenure as majority leader when TED expressed himself in an unusually emphatic way. As I recall it, the debate arose over Senator Proxmire's comments about submitting vouchers for travel expenses in Wisconsin on his contention that Washington, DC, was his home base. That prompted a reaction from TED, who was aghast at the thought of Washington, DC, being any Senator's home when he had the majestic Alaska to claim as his home.

Some thought that the middle-of-the-night incident might have cost him a couple votes, which could have been decisive, on his election for majority leader in November 1984, when the count was 28 to 25 in favor of Senator Dole, but it was

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reliably reported that his loss occurred because of the significant slippage in votes caused by the tobacco interests.

In any event, Senator STEVENS has had a profound effect on the Senate and the Nation in his roles as chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, chairman of the full Appropriations Committee, and as President pro tempore.

It is also important to note that Senator STEVENS' career in public service began even before he arrived in the U.S. Senate. He is a distinguished veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps, having flown support missions for the Flying Tigers of the 14th Air Force during World War II, for which he was awarded numerous medals, including two Distinguished Flying Crosses. He had a strong academic career, graduating from UCLA and Harvard Law School. In the 1950s, he practiced law in Alaska before moving to Washington, DC, to work in President Eisenhower's administration. He subsequently returned to Alaska and was elected to the Alaska House of Representatives in 1964 and soon became majority leader. Finally, in 1968, he was appointed U.S. Senator from Alaska and has represented his State ever since with pride and devotion.

His recognition as "Alaskan of the Century" is a real tribute, and I have no doubt that when the passage of time calls for the designation of "Alaskan of the Millennium," it will be Senator TED STEVENS.

TRIBUTES TO SENATOR STEVENS

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the deadline for Senators to submit tributes on Senator STEVENS for the *Congressional Record* be extended until close of business on Monday, June 4, 2007.

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

THURSDAY, May 24, 2007

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to honor one of the true stalwarts of this institution—an indefatigable legislator, a tireless advocate for his home State of Alaska, a public servant with a lifetime of contribution, and a treasured leader of this venerable Chamber, Senator TED STEVENS who, this past April 13, 2007, became the longest serving Republican Member of the U.S. Senate. Our good friend and

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colleague has received countless well-deserved accolades for a tremendous milestone indeed.

It is fitting that we pay tribute to an esteemed lawmaker whose ongoing legacy and longstanding record of accomplishment over a remarkable span of nearly 39 years of service in the U.S. Senate stand as a testament to the courage, vigor, and sense of duty he feels toward this country and the issues and policies shaping it. TED is a force of nature, steadfast and resolute, in this time-honored body and in our Nation's Capital. His constituents wouldn't have him any other way, and we wouldn't either.

His legacy of achievement on behalf of Alaskans is as large as the State they call home, and began even before he entered politics when he first moved to Washington, DC, to join the Eisenhower administration. While working for the Secretary of the Interior, he was not only present at Alaska's creation as a State in 1959, but was also instrumental in helping advocate for statehood. As a U.S. Senator, he was essential in championing the development of the Alaskan pipeline which was critical to his State and to the energy future of the country. He successfully advanced Alaska's infrastructure and transportation capabilities, especially vital to the State that is one-sixth the size of the entire lower 48. Alaska rightfully commemorated Senator STEVENS' indelible impact in these areas with the dedication of the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport in 2000. With a far-reaching litany of accomplishments too numerous to mention, it comes as little surprise that the Alaska State Legislature—where he served as House majority leader in only his second term in the mid-1960s would name him at the millennium, the "Alaskan of the Century."

The people of my State of Maine are especially grateful to Senator STEVENS for his landmark legislation that bears his name—the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act—our Nation's indispensable fisheries act, which was reauthorized this past January and signed into law. First as the chair, and now the ranking member on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation subcommittee handling fisheries issues, I had the pleasure of working with full committee Chairman and now Ranking Member STEVENS throughout the process to help bring this bill to fruition. From the 300-year-old fishing villages in downeast Maine to remote Aleutian Island outposts, Senator STEVENS has always been bound by a commitment to sustain both fish and fishermen.

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Through many Congresses, as both a chairman and ranking member, Senator STEVENS has spearheaded and done much to shepherd improvements in the largely uncharted world of telecommunications policy that have been historic and consequential, and which will reverberate for generations. On a personal note, I want to express my debt of enormous thanks to Senator STEVENS for his pivotal support in his universal service fund reform bill of the e-rate program which provides discounted telecommunications services to schools and libraries. Senator STEVENS has been a bulwark catalyst on this initiative, and, as we recently commemorated the 10th anniversary since its inception, I couldn't help but recall with gratitude his crucial role in the wiring of schools in my State and across the country.

It must also be noted that in an era of increasing partisanship, Senator STEVENS shares an unassailable bond with the senior Senator from Hawaii, a Democrat, Daniel Inouye, a friendship profoundly steeped in their mutual, heroic tours of duty in World War II, which continues to this day as a model example of collegiality, bipartisanship, and comity that transcends politics.

This decorated Army Air Force pilot in the storied "Flying Tigers," whose immense devotion to this land and its people extends across six decades, is not one to move to the side or step away when he is fighting for what he believes in or on behalf of his State or in defense of his country. That speaks volumes in explaining Senator STEVENS' well-known trademark as he prepares to debate on the Senate floor and he dons his infamous tie emblazoned with the Marvel comic book character, the Incredible Hulk!

With hallmark humor, strength, and aplomb, how could he approach his robust role any differently—a man whose larger-than-life tenure in the public arena reflects the enormity of his stunning and beloved Alaska, a State with a name that means literally "the object toward which the action of the sea is directed." For more than a half century, the action of the sea of public policy has always found its way to this great American and still does because he welcomes it, thrives on it, and seizes upon it in the name of the Last Frontier State and to the benefit of our Nation.

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FRIDAY, *May 25, 2007*

Mr. BOND. Madam President, in April, TED STEVENS became the longest serving Republican Member of the U.S. Senate in our country's 230-year history. I join my colleagues in congratulating the Senator and thanking him for his many years of service and our friendship.

Much has already been said about Senator STEVENS' sometimes grouchy and intimidating demeanor. But if we look past the Hulk ties, the scowling countenance, the vigorous defense of any and all attacks on Alaskan priorities, and the cowed staff who fear that they have fallen on the wrong side of our esteemed senior Senator, we see another, more compassionate side.

When I first arrived in Washington, DC, in 1987, my son was entering first grade at the same time as TED's beloved daughter. Sam and Lily became fast friends, and so did their parents.

TED and Catherine were very close friends of ours and like godparents to Sam. Anyone who knows TED well knows how important his family is and the high value he places on his children and their friends. He is truly a most kind, gentle, and readily approachable father, uncle, and godfather.

His concern about others' children and family members is equally heartfelt. As he exercises his many leadership roles, Senator STEVENS is always willing to take our family obligations into account. He realizes how important it is to schedule time for our families in the chaotic, hectic life we lead in the U.S. Senate.

In addition to the close personal friendship we have enjoyed with the STEVENS family, I have had the opportunity to work closely with Chairman STEVENS as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

As chairman, TED is solicitous of the concerns of even his most junior members. He is also a devoted friend of his partner—sometimes ranking member and sometimes chairman—Senator Dan Inouye.

While there is never any doubt that he and Senator Inouye control the Defense Appropriations call, Senator STEVENS is sensitive and receptive to the needs of other Members to the greatest extent possible.

He is a very passionate defender of the Appropriations Committee, its prerogatives, and its responsibilities. Woe unto the person who attacks the appropriations process or the work that he does. One soon learns that such a position

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is not one to be taken lightly. One had better be prepared for a bruising fight.

As President pro tempore, he was a faithful and dedicated leader of the Senate. Now that he is—temporarily—out of that position, he continues a close working relationship with his good friend and colleague Senator Robert C. Byrd, the current President pro tempore.

It is, indeed, an honor to have him as our leading senior Republican in the Senate.

The Senator's influence extends far beyond the Senate to Alaska, the Nation, and the world.

Many of the accomplishments of the Senate over the last four decades bear the mark of TED STEVENS. He has been tireless in his leadership to secure a strong military—and has funded a strong personnel system, the most needed, up-to-date equipment and the most promising research. The current strength and superiority of the U.S. Armed Forces is due in no small part to Senator STEVENS.

He has also been a leader in the natural resources, transportation issues, and climate change issues important to all of America but that particularly affect his home State.

TED is passionate about Alaska—its natural beauty, its people, its needs and its fishing. Many of us have enjoyed traveling to Alaska with Senator STEVENS and discovering first-hand the treasures it has to offer.

The many roads, parks and buildings named for him are but a hint of all he has done for the State. His contributions are extensive and lasting, from improving the infrastructure to safeguarding the wildlife and natural resources Alaska has in abundance.

Alaskans rightly dubbed the Senator the “Alaskan of the 20th Century.” I am sure Senator STEVENS would remind us that he is not done yet. Odds are he is a favorite to be “Alaskan of the 21st Century” as well.

It has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve with TED STEVENS. I look forward to many more years of working together.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Madam President, I wish to acknowledge an esteemed colleague and his long and storied service to the U.S. Senate. Senator TED STEVENS has given much to this great country of ours. Born in Indiana, he spent his college years in the West, his law school years in the East, and made significant contributions in a place far north of here. Yet he achieved much of this by heading south, to our Nation's Capital. His career reflects his dedication not only to

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Alaska but to all of America. He has touched every corner of this country—and beyond. Fighting in China during World War II, he served our Nation valiantly as a member of the Army Air Corps where he flew support missions for the Flying Tigers of the 14th Air Force. Now, more than six decades later, he is still serving our country.

Following work as an attorney in Alaska in the 1950s, TED STEVENS headed for Washington to work for the Department of Interior under the administration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower. It is worth noting that it was President Eisenhower who signed Alaska into statehood in July 1958. Not too long after Alaska found statehood, he decided to return to the home he had made in the Last Frontier. Soon, he was serving in the State house of representatives—a body of which he became the majority leader in 1964. While he may have initially found his way to the U.S. Senate by virtue of appointment in 1968, he soon had the weight of his State's voters behind him.

Now serving his seventh term in office, Senator STEVENS has been a reliable supporter of his home State's interests and has supported our country in many of its most trying times. The institutional knowledge and wisdom which Senator STEVENS brings to the Senate benefits this body greatly. All of us appreciate his work and contributions to America. Be it as the former chairman of the Commerce Committee, the former chairman of the Appropriations Committee, a strong voice and dedicated member of the Homeland Security Committee or for his work on the Rules Committee—we thank him for his leadership, past and present.

Congratulations to Senator STEVENS on becoming the longest serving Republican in Senate history. His more than 14,000 days in this body are a remarkable testament to his hard work, staying power, and skills as a Senator. I know the people of Alaska appreciate all that he has done for them over these numerous decades. On behalf of my fellow Floridians, I thank Senator STEVENS for his service to America and to the Senate.

MONDAY, *June 4, 2007*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, last August, TED STEVENS and Dan Inouye led a bipartisan group of Senators to China for a parliamentary visit. Dan, of course, was accorded great respect because of his winning the Congressional

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Medal of Honor during World War II. But it was TED STEVENS for whom the Chinese rolled out the red carpet. TED had flown with the Flying Tigers. He flew the first plane to land in Beijing after World War II ended, and the top Chinese leaders had not forgotten. They made more time for our delegation than they had for any other recent group of American visitors.

No one in our group, of course, was surprised to learn that TED STEVENS had flown risky missions and, for that bravery, earned two Distinguished Flying Crosses. TED still has the cockiness, adventuresome spirit and attitude that distinguish most pilots. And he has the love of country that permeates those who fought in World War II. We see both qualities every day in the Senate.

For example, 2 years ago, when we were considering how to maneuver through five Senate committees legislation based on a National Academies report that would help America keep its brainpower advantage, TED was both unconcerned about committee prerogatives and impatient about getting the job done. "Let's form a select committee," he said many times. "You be the chairman of it." He said this even though he was then the most senior Republican in the Senate and I was nearly the most junior. The Senate never formed that select committee, but TED made sure the legislation passed because he thought it was important for our country.

I was Legislative Assistant to Senator Howard Baker in 1968 when TED was appointed to the Senate. He hasn't changed much in all that time, even though he is now the longest serving Republican Senator. In his first year, he was pushing amendments that would help Alaska Natives maintain their fishing rights. This year, he is still busy working on legislation creating additional rights for Alaska Natives. And in the 38 years between, he has snagged every dollar that comes within 50 feet for his Alaskan constituents—and some dollars that were farther away than that.

TED STEVENS is, I would say, above all, an institutionalist in the U.S. Senate. In other words, he sees a unique role in our democracy for the Senate, and he is one of a handful here who is determined to respect that role and make it work.

I suppose TED will have opposition when he runs for reelection in 2008. But, if he does, I wouldn't want to be that person. Last week, walking side by side with him to vote, I

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took the escalator when we got to the Capitol and TED literally ran up the stairs, two at a time.

It would be hard to identify a "More Valuable Player" in the U.S. Senate than TED STEVENS.

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I would like to honor a colleague and a good friend, Senator TED STEVENS, for becoming the longest serving Republican Member of the Senate. I am honored to serve in the Senate with this great Republican.

TED STEVENS' career in public service began long before he became a U.S. Senator. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, practiced law in Alaska, worked in the Eisenhower administration, and served in the Alaska House of Representatives where he eventually became majority leader. He became U.S. Senator in 1968 and has served the State of Alaska in the Senate for over 38 years. His long-standing public service career truly demonstrates his devotion to this country.

Just like his famous Hulk tie, TED has a bullish tenacity that has made him one of the most effective Members in the Senate. He is a stalwart representative for his State of Alaska. Representing a State over 4,000 miles from the Nation's Capital, Senator STEVENS has sacrificed time with his six children and wife to serve in the Senate. Coming from a large family myself, I appreciate the strength and commitment his family has displayed over the years.

During my trips to Alaska, I always leave impressed by the spectacular landscape and TED STEVENS' hard work in his State. His work has helped many Alaskan towns receive clean running water and has enabled many children to receive a quality education. His persistence in the Senate also has provided Alaska with oil pipelines, which have brought tremendous revenue to Alaska and provided our Nation with a safe, domestic energy source.

TED STEVENS' work as a Senator has gone beyond the borders of Alaska. During his 35-year tenure on the Appropriations Committee, he has tirelessly persevered to keep America ready and prepared. He has ensured our troops have the good equipment, training, and pay they deserve. His efforts have also ensured funds for military research on some of our Nation's most pressing diseases.

I thank Senator TED STEVENS for his leadership and contributions to public service for the people of Alaska and all Americans. I honor him not only for his length of service but more important, his quality of service. I wish him and his

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loved ones the best of health for many years to come, and I congratulate him on his outstanding achievement.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, it is a great pleasure to offer my heartfelt congratulations to Senator TED STEVENS on becoming the longest serving Republican in Senate history. While this is a milestone to celebrate, the true cause for celebration is not TED STEVENS' decades of service to his party or to this Chamber but his lifetime of service to our Nation.

It is a record of service that began long before TED STEVENS came to the Senate nearly four decades ago, long before his contributions in the Alaska Legislature in the earliest days of statehood, long before he helped establish our 49th State at the Department of the Interior during President Eisenhower's administration. At just 19 years of age, with his country under attack and freedom in jeopardy around the world, TED STEVENS joined the Army Air Corps in 1943, flying support missions for the legendary Flying Tigers. That courage to take the risks and that willingness to step forward to meet the challenges are the foundation of his character and of his service.

I have been privileged to work alongside this Senator on the Homeland Security Committee. On every issue we confront, TED STEVENS demonstrates great knowledge and a total commitment to protecting our Nation and our people.

Alaska and Maine are separated by a great many miles, but our two States have much in common, including spectacular scenery, and rugged, self-reliant people. Our States also share a connection to the sea that is central to our history and our future. From the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act of 1976 to his work to better protect marine mammals, TED STEVENS demonstrates again and again a deep commitment to the hard-working people who sustain countless coastal communities and an abiding respect for the natural resources that bless us all.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I would like to honor an esteemed colleague with whom I have had the privilege of serving in this body for the past 9 years.

As many others have already observed, Senator STEVENS is an institution in Alaska, the Senate, and in the United States. Our President pro tempore, already the longest serving Republican in the Senate, served our Nation heroically in World War II and worked previously in the Justice and Interior Departments. In the latter position, Senator STE-

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VENS was an instrumental part of bringing statehood to Alaska—the State of Alaska literally is partly his creation.

Senator STEVENS and I share concerns about issues important to America but particular to the Pacific Northwest. Our States, with vast Federal land holdings, play a key role in energy resource exploration and development crucial to building viable and plentiful domestic energy supplies. We share views on ensuring local and State governments and communities have primacy in handling matters of direct impact on them. Both Idaho and Alaska are home to thriving indigenous populations, and we both work to ensure that they have their voices heard in Congress.

Idaho and Alaska have other similar Pacific Northwest resource and environmental issues. Senator STEVENS shares my care for and attention to these issues. He is an advocate for work to restore salmon fisheries and rural community development. I have had the pleasure to work with him on promoting the Pacific Northwest Salmon Recovery Fund and drinking water infrastructure needs for rural Alaska. He is a tireless defender of the interests of Alaskans and one of the greatest tourism promotion resources for the State.

I have always appreciated Senator STEVENS' strong voice and steady leadership in the Senate. He has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to our military and against terrorism. He understands the enemies we face here and abroad and has spent many decades standing strong for his convictions, relentlessly pursuing funding for a strong military to defend our country and our heritage of liberty and freedom.

I admire Senator STEVENS' strong history of bipartisanship highlighted by his long friendship with the senior Senator from Hawaii, Mr. Inouye. Their working and interpersonal relationship stands as a testament to what can be accomplished when we set party bickering aside and focus on our jobs to which we were elected—helping America remain the envy of the world.

We share an alma mater, and I am pleased to call him a colleague in the Senate. I am proud to honor the Senior Senator from Alaska, in his 39th year of public service as a Senator. Congratulations, and thank you for your service.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I wish to honor Senator TED STEVENS of Alaska for becoming the longest serving Republican Member in the history of the U.S. Senate. Senator STEVENS is a true leader in the Senate. Whether he is making sure our soldiers have the best equipment in the field of battle or developing dynamic legislation to transform our Na-

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tion's communications laws, Senator STEVENS has always been a man of action.

Service to the United States and to his home State of Alaska has been Senator STEVENS' lifelong mission. To put his dedication to our country in perspective, Senator STEVENS has been a public servant for longer than I have been alive. At no stage of his career has he ever shied away from confronting the challenging issues of the day. In 1943, at the age of 19, he left college to answer the call of his country. Flying transport planes over the Himalayas in support of the Flying Tigers of the 14th Air Force, First Lieutenant STEVENS proved himself as a leader. In recognition for his service and bravery, he was awarded several medals, including two Distinguished Flying Crosses.

Following the war, TED STEVENS returned to college where he received degrees from UCLA and Harvard Law School. In 1953, he was appointed U.S. attorney for Fairbanks. Three years later, he moved to Washington, DC, to serve in the Department of the Interior for President Eisenhower. In 1964, TED STEVENS was elected to the Alaska House of Representatives, and during his second term in office, he became the majority leader. In 1968, he was appointed to fill Senator Bartlett's seat in the U.S. Senate. In 1972, he was elected to serve a full term in that seat, and, as we know, the rest is history.

During the last 38 years, Senator STEVENS has done more for the people of Alaska and the United States than most could fathom. Always willing to address challenging issues in a bipartisan fashion, Senator STEVENS stands by his principles and does what he thinks is right regardless of which side of the aisle agrees with him. He led the charge for Alaska's statehood and has made remarkable contributions to the health and safety of the United States. As a testament to their belief in TED STEVENS' leadership, the people of Alaska have elected, and reelected, Senator STEVENS—never by less than 67 percent of the vote in any election.

When I came to Washington in 1994, it did not take me long to learn who TED STEVENS was and to admire him as a leader. When I joined the Senate 7 years ago, my admiration for Senator STEVENS grew. Who couldn't admire a man who dons a Hulk tie when he prepares for large legislative battles? On a serious note, since 2001, Senator STEVENS and I have worked closely on a number of important issues. For example, in 2005 when Senator STEVENS became chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,

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he recognized the need to address how to maintain U.S. competitiveness in today's global economy. I was honored that he selected me to chair the Subcommittee on Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness. Through the work of this subcommittee, Senator STEVENS, myself, and others developed bipartisan legislation to maintain and improve our country's innovation in the 21st century. This legislation, the America COMPETES Act, recently passed the Senate by an overwhelming vote of 88 to 8. Senator STEVENS' leadership on competitiveness legislation serves as a good reminder of how he has addressed important issues in a forward-thinking manner throughout his six decades of public service.

Addressing the Nation's competitiveness is just one example of Senator STEVENS' innovative thinking. When he became chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Senator STEVENS recognized that our communications laws were grossly outdated. Through a series of hearings, listening sessions, and a desire for bipartisan cooperation, Senator STEVENS developed a bill that would have encouraged competition in the communications market and fostered an environment conducive to future innovation. Although this bill did not become law, I am proud to have worked with Senator STEVENS on this important piece of legislation.

I greatly admire Senator STEVENS. He sets an example, for both Republicans and Democrats, of a successful Senator. He is a leader, a man of his word, and someone whom you know you can count on with nothing more than a handshake. I look forward to working with Senator STEVENS for many years to come and would like to congratulate him for a lifetime of accomplishments.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, it is a pleasure to be a part of this celebration of Senator TED STEVENS' service in the Senate. For those of us who know him, it is more than taking a moment to congratulate him as he becomes the longest serving Republican Senator in the history of the Senate. It is an opportunity to acknowledge all he has done to stand up for the State of Alaska. It is also a chance to take note of the example he provides of leadership and the way he has always put the needs of the people of Alaska at the very top of his work agenda in the Senate. That is why, in 2000, TED was named the "Alaskan of the Century."

TED is a remarkable guy, and I don't think any Senator is more tied to the day-to-day life of the States we represent and the hearts of the people back home than he is. There are

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a lot of reasons for that, not the least of which is the certainty Alaskans have that the needs of their State are in good hands because TED STEVENS is championing their cause.

TED is one of our great environmentalists and it is a philosophy he puts into practice every day in thought, word, and deed. Whenever I think of him, I think of all he has done and continues to do to protect and preserve the natural beauty of Alaska. It is a wonderful State that I have been privileged to visit at TED's invitation. I have always said that God saved some of his best handiwork for Wyoming. Having seen Alaska, I think he did a good job there too.

If you ask me and those who have come to know him through the years, we will tell you that TED is a man of action. He says what he means and he means what he says. He works hard for the things he believes in, and in the end, I don't think anyone is better at getting results. That is because TED knows it is a lot more important to get things done than to get them said. You won't find him content to just give speeches. After all is said, and said with great force, TED puts his time and effort where his mouth is as he rolls up his sleeves and gets to work.

TED not only knows and loves the terrain of Alaska, he loves showing it off too. That is why he puts so much of himself into promoting the Kenai Tournament. This great Alaskan tournament gives all who take part a chance to enjoy the fantastic fishing of Alaska, but it is also a great fundraiser that helps provide the funds that are needed to restore and improve the habitat of the salmon in Alaska.

Here in the Senate, TED has also worked quietly on many bills that were drafted to preserve wild salmon. Whether it is protecting his home State on the floor or promoting it here and back home, TED STEVENS is the voice of Alaska.

Another thing Wyoming and Alaska share is our rural environment. TED understands the unique needs of rural life better than any Senator I know, and he has been a tireless worker on transportation and communication issues. He worked hard to preserve universal service so people in both our States would have phone service at a reasonable rate. That effort meant a great deal not only to the people of our States but to those who live in other rural areas across the United States as well.

As I have come to know TED, I have developed a great appreciation for his ability to pick up on the nuances and details of the issues we take up on the Senate floor. He is a

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fast study, and he is not afraid of any issue, no matter how complicated and complex it is.

Another thing we all think of whenever we think of TED is that distinctive voice of his. His voice has the same power that his words bring to the debate, and it is that unique way of speaking of his that gets everyone's attention and usually their agreement too.

Through his years in the Senate, TED has compiled an incredible record for the people of his State. He has won the hearts of Alaskans, and on election day, people from all over the State make it a point to vote for him. He is not just their Senator, he is also a bit of a superhero, too.

Speaking of superheroes, which are near and dear to TED's heart, in the comics, whenever Dr. Banner faces a difficult challenge that requires superpowers, he turns into the Incredible Hulk. On the Senate floor, if the Incredible Hulk faced a challenge that required superpowers of persuasion and reason, he would probably turn into TED STEVENS.

Congratulations, TED. We are proud of the record you have established in the Senate. Thank you for your leadership, the unique strengths and abilities you bring to our work, and most of all, thank you for the gift of your friendship.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President. I am very pleased to help recognize Senator TED STEVENS as the longest serving Republican in the history of the U.S. Senate. Senator STEVENS has represented the Last Frontier for nearly 40 years, during which he has become one of the most respected lawmakers and gentlemen in Congress. For a large majority of his time in Congress, Senator STEVENS served with my predecessor, the late Senator Strom Thurmond, the Senate's previous longest serving Republican. Now that the record is broken, I am certain Senator Thurmond would be pleased to know his good friend, TED STEVENS, will carry on the great tradition of service to our Nation. I am honored to serve alongside Senator STEVENS and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I wish today to congratulate Senator TED STEVENS on becoming the longest serving Republican Senator in U.S. history. Senator STEVENS has served in the Senate for over 38 years, and this milestone is a lasting tribute to his outstanding record for the people of Alaska and for the people of America. On a personal note, I have always enjoyed working with Senator STEVENS, and it has been a true privilege to collaborate with

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him on some of the most important issues facing our great Nation—including energy, health care, and national defense.

Senator STEVENS' service to the United States didn't begin when he stepped inside this Chamber; rather, his service began decades earlier—during some of the most harrowing days of World War II.

Senator STEVENS was part of the “greatest generation” who fought and won that global struggle for freedom—flying a C-47 in the China/Burma/India theater. Incredibly, over 1,000 of Senator STEVENS' fellow airmen died “flying the hump” and elsewhere in the Chinese/Burma/India theater—a sobering reminder of the high price of freedom. For his heroic efforts, Senator STEVENS later received two Distinguished Flying Crosses and two Air Medals, as well as the Yuan Hai Medal awarded by the Republic of China.

After the war, Senator STEVENS completed his education at UCLA and Harvard Law School and then moved to Alaska, which was then a U.S. territory. In the city of Fairbanks, Senator STEVENS practiced law for several years, until he came to Washington, DC, to serve in the Eisenhower administration and also to lobby for Alaska's admittance into the Union—a mission that succeeded in 1959.

When Senator STEVENS returned to Alaska, he ran for—and won—a seat in the Alaska House of Representatives and later became House majority leader. Then, in December 1968, Governor Walter J. Hickel appointed him to fill a vacancy in the U.S. Senate. In 1970, the voters of Alaska ratified that choice by electing Senator STEVENS to finish that term in a special election and then reelecting him six more times, always by overwhelming margins.

Senator STEVENS' achievements are legendary in this Chamber—including, but not limited to, chairman of the Senate Rules Committee, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate—putting him third in line for the Presidency from January 2003 to January 2007. For his many decades of service, Senator STEVENS has received and accepted numerous honors—including having the Anchorage International Airport named after him. Our entire country has been enriched and improved by his hard work, dedication, and leadership.

I say this not as a distant observer but as an up-close witness to his achievements. Back in 1993, when I first arrived in the U.S. Senate, I was one of only seven female Senators, and if the Senate was a men's club, then the Appropriations Committee was its inner sanctum. There was not a single

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woman on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, but that is where I wanted to serve.

I explained to Senator STEVENS—who was then the ranking member of the committee—that Texas has more Army soldiers than any other State, more Air Force air men and women stationed in Texas than any other State, and our defense industry builds everything from fighter aircraft to Army trucks to artillery systems to sophisticated electronics equipment for the Pentagon. Therefore, it was absolutely essential that a Senator from Texas serve on that committee. After some careful thought, Senator STEVENS agreed and welcomed me to the committee. Since that time, he has been a valuable mentor to me—not to mention a passionate advocate for Alaska and America.

And when I say passion, I really do mean passion. Senator STEVENS has been known to show dramatic performances on the Senate floor, keeping wandering eyes focused on the urgent issues that need to be addressed. One day, during a markup in the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator STEVENS, who chaired the committee at the time, grew very animated and laid down the law. When a frustrated senior Senator told Senator STEVENS that “there was no reason to lose your temper,” Senator STEVENS glared back and responded, “I never lose my temper. I always know exactly where I left it.”

But if Senator STEVENS has a temper, he also has a compassionate heart. I will never forget when a group of protestors gathered outside of the Appropriations Committee conference to demand increased funding for breast cancer research.

One particularly agitated advocate got in Senator STEVENS’ face and said, “If men were dying of breast cancer, you wouldn’t think twice about increasing the funding.” Needless to say, those words made quite an impact on Senator STEVENS, but probably not what this advocate anticipated.

When Senator STEVENS walked back into the conference, he repeated the charge and then looked around at his mostly male colleagues. He knew that at least six of them suffered from prostate cancer. He also noticed that the bill they were considering didn’t fund prostate cancer research. But thanks to the excellent suggestion of the woman in the hallway, he was going to advocate breast cancer research and prostate cancer research. Senator STEVENS was determined to become a leader on these issues, and over time, that is certainly what he has become.

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For all of these reasons, and many more, it has been a true honor to serve with Senator STEVENS. I congratulate him once again on becoming the longest serving Republican Senator in U.S. history. I look forward to serving with him for years to come.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, Senate colleagues of Senator TED STEVENS are grateful that a remarkable U.S. Senate historical landmark provides us an opportunity to honor one of the greatest Senators in history as he continues to supply vigorous and significant leadership for our country.

We recognize, today, that TED STEVENS has served longer than any other Republican Party Senator, and that record for longevity of service will continue to mount with each new day of Senate history.

I would like to believe that the early schooling of TED STEVENS at Public School No. 84 in Indianapolis was a strong foundation for his later success. I enjoyed School No. 84 for 2 years, a few years after TED had progressed.

Our lives came together again in 1976 when TED chaired the National Republican Senatorial Committee and I was the Indiana Republican candidate against a three-term incumbent.

Under TED's leadership, Jack Danforth, John Heinz, Jack Schmitt, Malcolm Wallop, Sam Hayakawa, John Chafee, Orrin Hatch, and I were elected: a class of eight freshmen Republican Senators. The overall Senate count after the 1976 election was 61 Democrats, 38 Republicans, and Independent Senator Harry Byrd, thus highlighting TED's recruitment achievement.

But times changed, and Howard Baker became majority leader after the Republican majority was established in the 1980 election. When Howard retired 4 years later, five Republicans sought the majority leader position in an election procedure requiring the candidate with the lowest vote to retire after each ballot. Senators Jim McClure, Pete Domenici, and I retired in that order before Bob Dole, another Senate lion, defeated TED STEVENS in a close vote.

All of us rejoiced when the GOP won a Senate majority again and Senator STEVENS became President pro tempore of the Senate. In this role, he became even more vigorous in boosting the Senate's institutional role and in underlying the responsibilities of each Senator.

Throughout his unflinching attention to overall Senate duties, TED has been a Senator for Alaska on every day of every year. His legislative achievements that have boosted

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Alaska are legendary and continue during each appropriations cycle.

Alaskans recognized Senator STEVENS as the most prominent Alaskan of the 20th century in a poll taken in his State.

He also led Alaskan and U.S. Senate attention to the interests Alaska and the United States have in the Pacific Ocean and in prominent Pacific rim countries such as China, Japan, and Russia.

I have been privileged to attend Aspen Institute conferences with TED and to participate in legislative meetings with Chinese delegates that he has organized in Washington.

He has long been an advocate for health and physical fitness. This encourages his friends to observe that he has the opportunity to serve with us for many years to come.

I thank my good friend, Senator TED STEVENS, for his personal thoughtfulness and for so many great experiences, together, during his recordbreaking tenure in the Senate. I look forward to many new opportunities to be with him and to work with him for the benefit of our country.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise to honor a distinguished colleague, Senator TED STEVENS, who is celebrating a major milestone—today becoming the longest serving Republican in Senate history.

Appointed to the U.S. Senate in 1968 and elected to finish out the term 2 years later, STEVENS has since been reelected to the Senate six times, never receiving less than 67 percent of the vote in any election.

During his 38 years in the U.S. Senate, Senator STEVENS has been chairman of four full committees and two select committees, assistant Republican whip, President pro tempore, and President pro tempore emeritus.

As one of the most effective Senators, Senator STEVENS has been an ardent supporter of our national defense, serving as either chairman or ranking member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee since 1980. A champion of our Armed Forces, he has ensured that our service members have the equipment, training, and pay necessary to be prepared to take on those who threaten our national security.

Mr. President, I congratulate Senator STEVENS on reaching this historic milestone today. I am honored to call Senator TED STEVENS my colleague but prouder to call him my friend.

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge a man who has dedicated almost 40 years of his life to the

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service of his constituency. Senator TED STEVENS was appointed to represent Alaska in the Senate in 1968 and has done so in a way that the citizens of his State have reelected him six times since. Senator STEVENS is currently the longest serving Senator in the history of our party and a steadfast representative for Alaskan conservative values.

As a young man Senator STEVENS served his country honorably during World War II. A member of the 322d Squadron, which flew support missions for the Flying Tigers of the Army Air Corps' 14th Air Force, he is also twice a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroism in aerial combat. Senator STEVENS is in excellent company as the first recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross was Captain Charles A. Lindbergh, who also set a few records in his own time.

I am especially thankful for the work Senator STEVENS has done to help aid the people of Louisiana. Through his position as chairman in the last Congress and currently vice chairman of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee he has worked tirelessly on important legislation to our State. Especially noteworthy are the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act, which included provisions dedicated to the aid of the fishing industry in Louisiana following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and his essential support of legislation to get Louisiana its fair share of Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas revenues.

It has been an extraordinary experience to work with as accomplished a legislator as Senator STEVENS in my time in the Senate. I thank him for his service to the citizens of this great country.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about my long-time great friend, advisor, and colleague, Senator TED STEVENS of Alaska, who just became the longest serving Republican Senator in the 218-year history of the U.S. Senate.

I have worked with Senator STEVENS on a wide array of matters, but none more closely than national security and defense issues. Senator STEVENS and Senator Inouye exemplify that extraordinary group of veterans, largely of World War II distinction and experience, who led the Senate I joined 28 years ago. They found the time to teach the new Senators, inspiring them to gain the experience to someday take their places of responsibility in the Senate. I owe a

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great deal of gratitude to that generation, and particularly to TED.

He has loyally served the men and women of the Armed Forces throughout his long Senate career, particularly through his leadership positions on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

My good friend has compiled a remarkable record on national security, ranging from complex issues of global strategy all the way down to the very basic pay and quality of life issues for the men and women in uniform and their families. His own distinguished record in World War II as an aviator provides special insights into military matters.

Military matters, however, are not the only field in which the senior Senator from Alaska has invested his time and passion. Senator STEVENS has also fought hard to find ways to meet America's energy needs, offering the extraordinary resources of his own State to meet these demands. I think back time and time again when Senator STEVENS has taken to the Senate floor urging his colleagues to fully address America's demand for energy. Dressed in his trademark "Hulk" tie, he was a sight to behold and quite a force to reckon with. If only Congress had listened to Mr. STEVENS a decade or two ago, not just limited to Alaska issues, but toward a broad world view on energy, America might not be so dependent on foreign oil today.

Senator STEVENS truly loves Alaska. I remember one codel trip in particular. A few years back, Senator STEVENS had escorted a small group of Senators, making stops along the way, up to Prudhoe Bay, one of the closest points to the Arctic. Senator Symms, our former colleague from Idaho, and I decided we had enough learning for the day. So, unwisely, we chose to play hooky and dashed from the group for an impromptu plunge in the frigid waters of Prudhoe Bay while the other Senators looked on in disbelief. We were quite a sight as we crawled ashore frozen to the bone.

Despite this experience, I am proud to say that Senator STEVENS hasn't held my rowdiness against me, as he has invited me back to Alaska over the years.

TED STEVENS is not only a great champion for Alaska, American energy, and our Nation's armed forces, but he is also a champion of the Senate. One of the most lasting legacies he has had on this special body, and one of the legacies he has imparted on me, is his remarkable record of work with new Senators from both sides of the aisle. Throughout many years, Senator STEVENS has voluntarily stepped for-

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ward to counsel new colleagues about the history and intricacies of the legislative process in the Senate.

I am particularly indebted to him for helping me. Therefore, Mr. President, it is my honor and privilege to today congratulate my good friend, Senator TED STEVENS, on becoming the longest serving Republican in the Senate. Carry on, dear friend.

TUESDAY, *June 5, 2007*

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I rise to join in this body's hearty congratulations to our colleague from Alaska, Mr. STEVENS, as the longest serving Republican Senator. The remarkable thing about TED STEVENS is not the number of years he has served but the amount of service he has put into those years.

The Founders did a unique thing when they created the Senate. They knew that democracy should both let the majority rule most of the time but also protect minority viewpoints from the tyranny of the majority. They created a House of Representatives based on proportional representation. Meanwhile, in the Senate, they gave every State, large and small, exactly two votes. They then went a step further, and created the Senate as a body that operates by consensus. The result is a place where one person with a good idea can impact the entire body.

TED STEVENS is a living embodiment of the wisdom of our Founding Fathers. He is precisely the kind of Senator they hoped for: forceful, persevering, principled and indefatigably devoted to his State's interests.

Alaska is a unique State and Senator STEVENS reflects its style and unlimited potential exceptionally. In every aspect, Alaska is a long, long way from Washington, DC, and its unusual bureaucratic culture. We all benefit from the independent, self-reliant spirit of Alaska that the Senator brings, reminding us of the pioneer heritage of the West. I am personally appreciative of the Senator's hospitality when visiting in his home State. I thought we had "wide open spaces" in Minnesota, but Alaska's are certainly both wider and more open.

When President Abraham Lincoln's Secretary of State, William Seward, finalized the purchase of Alaska, it was thought to be a folly. How blessed we all are as Americans

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to have its abundant wilderness and natural resources as part of our national experience.

I have found that when people want to learn something really important, they prefer an example to an explanation. As I have tried to learn my way around this institution, Senator STEVENS has been a role model, an example, and a friend. I thank him for his kindness.

But even more I thank him for his service which has made this Nation safer, stronger and freer for all. He makes his great State and all his colleagues proud to say they know TED STEVENS.

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