State toward Wallace at that time and expressed his opinion that I could win such a race. One of the motivating reasons that caused me to give serious consideration to the race was that I felt that Alabama should be represented by a senator who believed in the improvement of race relations and progress in the area of civil rights.

I met with Senator Sparkman in Washington, and he told me about how he had entered his first race for Congress. Archie Carmichael was then the Congressman from Senator Sparkman's district, and Sparkman had been his campaign manager when he was elected. Congressman Carmichael did not enjoy being a Congressman, only serving two terms. He called John Sparkman to Washington and told him that he ought to get ready to run for his congressional seat; that he had not made up his mind yet, but that there was a strong possibility that he would not offer himself for reelection and that Mr. Sparkman should get ready to run in the event he did not seek his congressional seat again. He said to me, ''I am telling you that story because I think you ought to get ready to run for the Senate against Wallace.'' I thanked him and told him I would follow his advice. I also relayed to him that Congressman Archie Carmichael was my wife's grandfather. Sparkman said he knew that and that was one of the reasons he wanted to tell me the story.

A few weeks later, Senator Sparkman announced that he would not be a candidate for reelection, and I announced the next day that I would be a candidate for John Sparkman's seat in the U.S. Senate.

My race against George Wallace was heated for several months. And then, while speaking to the Alabama League of Municipalities Convention in Mobile, he announced his withdrawal from the Senate race, giving no reason for his decision. In advance of his announcement, I was told of several polls that showed I had pulled ahead of Wallace, including a poll conducted by the Wallace campaign itself.

I attracted other opponents, but won in a run-off race against Congressman Walter Flowers by a 2-to-1 margin.

As I think back over the reasons I entered the race for the U.S. Senate, certainly the issue of racial progress in Alabama was a motivating factor, and I was fearful that if George Wallace was in the Senate, it could deter needed changes in the civil rights laws.

In 1982, he ran again successfully for Governor. His last administration was one in which race relations were far more harmonious than they had been in his previous terms in office, with Wallace appointing a number of blacks to key positions in his administration. He publicly stated that his segregation stand had been wrong. At a recent meeting of southern black Democratic leaders in Atlanta, Dr. Joe Reed, head of the Alabama Democratic Conference, said I was the first U.S. Senator from Alabama who believed in civil rights and who took positive steps to advance the individual rights of all persons.

Mr. President, despite all the progress in race relations and civil rights over the years, there is still much to be done. Our work remains unfinished, as the church burnings illustrate. When I reflect on these horrifying arsons and the death of Judge Bob Vance just a few years ago, I am again reminded of just how much remains to be done.

Perhaps it is unrealistic to believe that we can ever have a truly colorblind society. As long as fear, ignorance, and emotion guide some peoples' thinking, there will be prejudice and bigotry. But we can look at the great progress we have made—just in the 18 years since I came to the Senate—and say that we are doing better.

Members might differ on their approaches to civil rights issues. These approaches will take on different forms based on the region of the country we come from, our personal philosophical beliefs, and our political parties. My approach has been to do as much as possible in the public arena to advance opportunity and justice. At times, this has meant working behind the scenes to secure progressive judicial nominations, to craft compromise legislation that could pass and be signed into law, and working with both sides of an issue to cool passions and promote harmony. At other times, it has meant taking strong symbolic stands aimed at education and putting the past behind us, such as the case with the United Daughters of the Confederacy issue.

Regardless of what approach we take as leaders, it is our duty to work in every way we possibly can to see that each and every American citizen enjoys the same liberty, freedom, and equality of opportunity as all others. The fulfillment of the promise of the Constitution demands that we always remain diligent in fulfilling this responsibility.

THE PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT, H.R. 1833

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I supported passage of the bill to ban partial birth abortions when it was approved by the Senate on December 7 and I voted last week to override the President's veto of this measure.

My position on abortion issues is clear. I have consistently stated that I would not support overturning the Supreme Court's decision in Roe versus Wade. I support a woman's right to have an abortion. I do not think we should turn back the clock 25 years and make abortion illegal, but we should work in every way to reduce the number of abortions that are performed. I have also cast votes here in Congress to oppose using Federal funds to pay for abortions except in cases of life endangerment, rape, or incest.

The Senate's vote last week was on whether to override the President's veto of legislation which would prohibit a physician from performing a partial-birth abortion, a procedure in which a fetus is delivered into the birth canal before its skull is collapsed and delivery is completed. This legislation contains a provision which would make an exception for partial-birth abortions that are necessary to save the life of the mother in cases in which no other medical procedure would suffice.

I simply cannot justify the use of this procedure to terminate pregnancies in which the mother's life is not at stake. For this reason, I voted to override the President's veto and to support the ban on partial-birth abortions.

OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, yesterday I was one of a handful of Members of the Senate to vote against the FY97 omnibus appropriations bill.

This was a difficult vote and I have mixed feeling about passage of this bill.

While I am pleased a Government shutdown was avoided, I am disappointed in the way the process was handled.

Various measures that warranted separate consideration, ranging from the immigration bill, to amendments to the age discrimination law to banking legislation, were wrapped into this massive bill. The measure was hundreds of pages long, and few Members of either body were fully aware of the wide range of items shoved into this must-pass bill at the 11 hour. It has been pointed out by a Member of the other body that you could get a double hernia just trying to lift this omnibus spending bill.

I predict that over the course of the next several weeks, there will be many surprises discovered in the package. Some of the special interest pork provisions are buried deep within the various titles, as well as policy changes that should have been debated in public and voted on without the pressure to keep the government running.

Moreover, although we succeeded in avoiding a massive new tax cut that would have set us backward on the road to deficit reduction, this omnibus spending bill represents a missed opportunity to cut Government waste and stop the unnecessary spending. The fact that this bill was loaded up with special spending provisions for individual Members indicates that it is business as usual in Congress when it comes to spending Federal dollars. While we have made significant progress in reducing the Federal deficit, much of that work was done in the last Congress and we missed the opportunity in the 104th Congress to finish the job and truly get the Federal budget into balance.

This bill adds a whopping $9 billion in deficit spending for defense systems above what Department of Defense requested. When all of the fiscal year 1997

appropriations bills are lined up together, excessive spending on things like sending Russian monkeys into space and massive out-dated water projects out West continues to drain the Treasury. I voted against this bill because I think we could have done a much better job at curbing unnecessary spending, government waste, and reducing the Federal deficit.

SENATOR BILL BRADLEY

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, nothing is typical about BILL BRADLEY, but some things are characteristic. As, for example, his article on the front page of the Washington Post's Outlook section this past Sunday. Just before the scheduled adjournment of the 104th Congress, bringing to an end for now his brilliant 18-year career as a U.S. Senator. The article is characteristically bipartisan: ''It's Government by Tax Break Again: Clinton and Dole Should Be Talking About Fairness and Loopholes, Not Cuts and Credits.'' It is our pleasant custom to ask that such articles be reprinted in the RECORD, and I make that request, with the text to be placed at the conclusion of my remarks. But the Senate will take the meaning from the title. BILL BRADLEY harkens back to the great 1986 tax reform bill, of which he, above all his colleagues, conceived, inspired, and helped to enactment. The principles were simple. First of all, above all, simplify. Two low rates. In that sense, cutting taxes. But paying for the lower rates by closing loopholes in the existing code which had acreted like a coral reef as Congress after Congress responded to the tiny this and the tiny that special interest, until a vast barrier separated the privileged from the people. I happened to be one of the core group that put together this legislation. We would meet early each morning in the office of Senator Bob Packwood, who was then chairman of the Finance Committee. My informal task was to provide a brief inspirational reading as the meeting commenced. It was then a simple task. I would simply glance through the previous day's Wall Street Journal looking for the best advertisement.

Typically, it would have a headline: ''Guaranteed Losses'' In finer print one would learn that a sheep ranch in Idaho, an alligator ranch in Florida, an ostrich ranch in Kansas would assure investors immediate losses that could be offset against other income, which losses would be recouped at some future date. And that was where entrepreneurial energy was flowing. To guaranteed losses that the Internal Revenue Code would turn into profits. BILL BRADLEY changed that. But the work is never done, and so he leaves us still talking the responsibilities of citizenship and legislation.

I will miss him as perhaps few others. We have served 18 years together on the Finance Committee. He has taught me; I have learned from him and followed him. And will continue to do so. Just last week, the Finance Committee convened for its last meeting of this Congress. BILL was asked to say a few words; which was all he ever will do. He recalled that in 1978 I came down to Princeton, NJ to campaign with him in that first campaign for the Senate. In the course of our stumping about, I urged him to try to get onto the Finance Committee, where so very much of the critical issues of American life are decided. He did and he showed why. I then recalled a passage from Woodrow Wilson at the time he was president of Princeton University. A student of the Presidency, Wilson was watching the growing intensity of presidential campaigns. Candidates did not, of course, did not then go to the conventions that nominated them, but after nomination were getting into the business of making speeches from the rear of railroad trains and all manner of stressful campaigning. Wilson wrote that if this should continue, we would be reduced to choosing our Chief Executives from ''among wise and prudent athletes: a small class.'' I thought that then; I think it now, as we say farewell to BILL BRADLEY—for now.

TRIBUTE TO DIANE BALAMOTI AND TERESA BRELAND

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, on several occasions over the past few days, I have taken the floor to express my appreciation to my fine staff for their loyal service to me and the committee over the years. Today, I want to say thank you to two staff members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Diane Balamoti has been with the committee since 1987. During this period she has served as the staff assistant to the Park and Public Lands Subcommittee. As many of my colleagues know, this subcommittee has always been one of the most active and prolific subcommittees in the Senate. During her 10 years with the committee, Diane has staffed countless hearings and business meetings and assisted in the preparation of bills, statements, and the drafting of committee reports. She has kept the subcommittee's voluminous bills files and tracked the work of the subcommittee through the Senate and House. Diane possesses truly outstanding clerical skills which are often tested, especially at the end of a Congress when the pace of the committee's business always quickens. Ms. Balamoti has been a dependable, productive, and important member of our committee staff for many years and I want her to know how much I appreciate her service to me and the country.

In addition, Mr. President, I want to thank Teresa Breland, the newest full time staff member on the Energy Committee minority staff. Terri, who has been with us slightly over a year, has served as our receptionist in the minority office and has more recently been the assistant to our staff director for the minority, Ben Cooper. Mr. President, Terri is one of those dedicated public servants who puts in a full day's work on the Hill and then goes to school at night. She is just about to finish her master's degree in psychology and I commend her for a job well done.

BIF/SAIF

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, would the Chairman yield for the purposes of a brief colloquy to clarify a provision of the banking title to H.R. 3610, the omnibus appropriations bill, addressing the Bank Insurance Fund and the Savings Association Insurance Fund?

Mr. D'AMATO. I would be happy to yield to the Senator from California.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Am I correct that the new prohibition on deposit shifting set forth in section 2703(d) of the bill, if not carefully applied by the federal bank regulators, could raise serious issues of interference with first amendment rights of free speech?

Mr. D'AMATO. We share the Senator's concern. In response, let me say that it is not our intent that the regulators implement the deposit shifting provision in a way that would raise constitutional free speech issues. The Supreme Court has made it clear that the first amendment protections do indeed extend to lawful and accurate business communications and we expect the regulators to abide by these decisions.

PARKS OMNIBUS LEGISLATION UPDATE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I want to assure my colleagues that we are continuing to have discussions with the administration relative to the disposition of the parks omnibus bill, and I hope that those bear some meaningful resolve before the day is out. Those discussions are going on now, and, I might say, Mr. President, I am somewhat encouraged, but I have been at that stage before, as well.

I know there is a lot of interest in it, and I want to at least advise my colleagues of the current status. It has been somewhat like how I would envision a Chinese torture chamber might be, had I ever been exposed to one—and perhaps I have been exposed to one and just do not know it.

In any event, the ultimate outcome of this still depends on the administration recognizing that we need some assurance on timber supply to supply our three existing operating sawmills in our State, and hopefully provide enough for the fourth one that has been shut down for 2 years. That is where we are on the issue of resolving our differences.

There are other differences. In fact, the State of Colorado, particularly, and the State of Virginia, we appear to be working some of those issues out, as well. Of course, it would require a process of amending the House bill which is