

Mexico's two-year and four-year institutions as executive director of the Associated Students of New Mexico (ASNEM). ASNEM is a non-profit student organization that represents the interests of 100,000 students members enrolled in two-year and four-year institutions of higher learning before the New Mexico Commission on Higher Education, State Legislature and Office of the Governor. This organization has brought forth some of New Mexico's current and former state legislators, county commissioners, and public servants. Two of my current Washington DC staffers and one of my state staffers are former executive directors of this association. While serving as executive director, Tom always encouraged those he met to reach for their goals, pursue their dreams, and turn any rejection into motivation. He believed that what one does now to enhance their life will impact others in the future. He lived what he preached and what he did to enhance his life has left a lasting impact for students and their education throughout New Mexico.

Tom received his Masters of Criminal Justice from New Mexico State University in 1996. He was also appointed by Governor Gary Johnson to serve a two-year term from 1994-1996 as the first voting student regent in the history of New Mexico State University. One year later in 1997, he was appointed by Governor Johnson to serve a full six-year term on the New Mexico Commission on Higher Education where he served until the time of his death.

Mr. President, I would like to extend my condolences to his parents Clyde and Eileen and the entire McDonald family. I ask that my colleagues in the Senate join me in honoring the achievements and contributions in the life of this young and outstanding New Mexican.●

MENTOR A CHILD WEEK

● Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the efforts of those working to make a difference in the lives of today's youth. The last week in October is "Mentor a Child Week" in my home State of Oklahoma. I encourage all of us to participate.

Big Brothers, Big Sisters is an organization whose mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of children and youth. Focusing on the challenges single parents face, this organization provides professionally supportive one-to-one relationships with a positive and caring adult volunteer, and assists these children in achieving their greatest potential as they grow to become responsible citizens in the community.

Children with mentors are 46 percent less likely to use illegal drugs, 27 percent less likely to use alcohol, and 52 percent less likely to skip school. Youth with mentors have better relationships with their peers and family members.

I encourage all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to support efforts that will promote the mentoring of children and youth throughout our community.●

WOMEN'S BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Women's Business Development Center in their efforts to help female entrepreneurs establish their niche in the corporate world. The WBDC helps train and provide technical assistance to entrepreneurial women. These are the same women who own your neighborhood dry cleaner, run your child care center, and assist with your taxes.

Mr. President, I would like to call special attention to the women who have dedicated their time expanding child-care availability in Illinois. The WBDC sponsors the Child Care Business Initiative (CCBI) in cooperation with the Hull House Association that will provide information, resources, and guidance to women seeking entry into this important and growing industry. Over 250 women have utilized CCBI to gain critical business skills and key industry information about child care.

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs estimates that over 1,000 child care centers would need to be created to meet the projected demand for child care in Illinois alone. In light of the fact that only 20% of the 162,000 children who are in working families receive full-day, licensed child care, the role that the CCBI plays in helping women establish day care centers may have a significant impact on the availability and accessibility of child care in Illinois.

Again, I would like to take this time to commend the WBDC for creating and expanding opportunities for ambitious, women entrepreneurs.●

SENATOR LEAHY'S 10,000TH VOTE

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise to recognize one of my colleagues, Senator PAT LEAHY, who has cast his 10,000th vote. I congratulate him on his tenure in the Senate.

Senator LEAHY and I have worked together in the past on many agricultural issues and legislation as members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. Most notably we worked closely together on two farm bills, both in 1990 when Senator LEAHY served as chairman of the committee and in 1996 when I served as chairman. Senator LEAHY joined with me in reviewing the organization of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and developing legislation to streamline its operations. We both share an interest in conservation issues and have worked together to provide opportunities for farmers to preserve and protect their natural resources.

We have both recognized the importance of a bipartisan approach on

major legislation originating in the committee. I value the partnership that we formed to move important agricultural legislation through the committee and through the Senate.

My colleague, Senator PAT LEAHY, deserves commendation for his service and tenure in the Senate. I am proud to serve with him and look forward to working together in the future on issues of mutual interest.●

IN RECOGNITION OF TPL, INC.

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I am pleased today to recognize TPL, Inc. in Albuquerque, NM who is a 1999 Tibbetts Award recipient and will be honored by the U.S. Small Business Administration at a congressional reception on Tuesday, October 26, 1999 here in Washington DC.

The Fourth Annual Tibbetts Award is presented by the Small Business Administration to firms that have attained high levels of success in research and development under the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program and to organizations and individuals who have supported technological innovation. Moreover, those groups are judged on the economic impact of their technological innovations and overall business achievements.

I feel that it is fitting that I recognize the 1999 Tibbetts Award recipient TPL, Inc. and its CEO Mr. H.M. (Hap) Stoller for their hard work that has led them to receive this prestigious national award. TPL, Inc. is a leading contractor for the Army and Navy in the demilitarization of conventional munitions as well as the development of economically viable processes for the commercial reuse of recovered energetic materials. TPL, under sponsorship of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency in the Military Capacitor Program, has developed the state-of-the-art in high energy density dielectric materials for capacitive devices and has begun their manufacture for advance weapons system programs. The technologies underlying these accomplishments were initiated under the SBIR Program.

TPL was recently awarded a \$38.4 million sub-contract from General Dynamics Ordnance Systems as part of their five-year, \$145 million operational demilitarization contract from the U.S. Army's Industrial Operations Command. TPL will be totally responsible for three out of nine families of conventional munitions contained in the largest demilitarization program ever funded by the Army. Concurrently, through the Tri-Services Demilitarization Technology Office, the Navy is supporting three Phase III efforts to transition energetic materials resource recovery and reuse processes to pilot plant facilities, such processes designed to lower the cost of demilitarization activities as well as protect the environment by allowing demilitarization material reuse. These contracts reinforce TPL's position as an