

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CLINTON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate my colleagues on the passage of the unemployment extension bill which we just did by unanimous consent.

This really was a bipartisan effort by the Senator from Oklahoma and from two of our colleagues, the Senator from Illinois, Mr. FITZGERALD, and the Senator from Pennsylvania, Mr. SPECTER, who played a very important role in communicating the needs of unemployment benefit extensions in their States.

I thank the Chair, the Senator from New York, Mrs. CLINTON, who has since July advocated passage of this legislation, talked about the importance of making sure that as our economy has faced a downturn, we continued to make sure the opportunities for income and stimulus in our economy were there.

As she fought for the State of New York, which has been gravely impacted by the events of 9/11 and the downturn in the economy where jobs are just not being created, the Senator got all of us in the country to realize how critical the issue was for us moving forward at a time when the economy has not returned to positive growth.

Obviously the State of Washington has been greatly impacted by that same downturn, in the aerospace industry, in high tech. This legislation will actually help over 75,000 Washingtonians who will get the benefit of having an extension of a program and, being a high unemployment State, will qualify for the benefits of that program. This is actually something I think a few Washingtonians tonight, maybe a few Seattlites, will be sleeping a little bit better from, knowing that in the impending months, as we struggle to get the economy going again, they will actually be able to meet those mortgage payments, pay those health care bills, and continue to move forward.

Economists have said this kind of stimulus has a two-to-one effect; that for every dollar spent on unemployment benefits, it generates about \$2.15 into the local economy. We have done a good service for my State's economy and for New York's and Pennsylvania and Illinois, for the whole country, because we will be stimulating those individuals' disposable income.

Again, I thank the Senator from New York for her hard work and vision, pointing out last summer the need to do it, being diligent in this process. And tonight, because of this bipartisan support, there will be more Americans sleeping better as we approach the tough challenges ahead in getting our economy moving but knowing that we have not left workers behind, workers who would rather have a paycheck than an unemployment check, but at least now they will be continuing to add to the economy.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CANTWELL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak therein for a period not to exceed 5 minutes each.

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

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF PAUL WELLSTONE

Mr. CHAFEE. Madam President, today I offer my condolences to all the friends, family members and admirers of Paul Wellstone. As has been said many times, Paul Wellstone was fiercely proud of the causes with which he associated himself. Certainly, to have Paul Wellstone articulately and strongly arguing on one's behalf was a great asset. His many friends are forever grateful for his wrestler's tenacity as he advocated for those issues in which he so emotionally believed.

Several years ago a candidate for Congress in Rhode Island retired from the campaign because of a shortage of funds, declaring that no longer could "Mr. Smith go to Washington." Paul Wellstone proved that yes, indeed, Mr. Smith could go to Washington. In 1990 he challenged an incumbent who possessed a huge financial advantage in what many assumed to be a quixotic and hopeless campaign. In November of that year Paul Wellstone was the only challenger to beat an incumbent, providing inspiration forever to long shots.

Three cheers for the people of Minnesota who have shown a propensity for embracing people of divergent philosophies. In the last few years Minnesota has elected Rod Grams, Jesse Ventura and Paul Wellstone; public servants with very different approaches to the issues of the day. I join Minnesotans and Americans in mourning the death of the passionate and good-natured Paul Wellstone.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATOR MAX CLELAND

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I am honored to pay tribute and recognize the leadership, dedication to public service and hard work of my colleague from Georgia, Senator MAX CLELAND. Few Members of the Senate have sacrificed so much for their country.

Senator CLELAND has had a remarkable 30-year career in public service including a tour of duty in Vietnam in 1967 in which he was awarded the Bronze and Silver Stars for meritorious service. MAX started his career in the military soon after graduating from Stetson University, where he was a member of the Army ROTC. In 1967, he volunteered for duty in Vietnam. He quickly worked his way up the ranks, earning a promotion to Captain in 1968. In April of the same year, he was seriously wounded in a grenade explosion, which cost him both of his legs and his right arm. One month before his tour was up, he was sent home to recover from his injuries.

His dedication to public service continued when he won a seat in the Georgia State Senate. As the youngest state senator, he pushed for a State law making public facilities accessible to the disabled. In 1975, Senator CLELAND began his lifelong mission of improving the lives of the men and women in the military. MAX was asked to work for the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, and 2 years later he accepted the position to head up the U.S. Veterans Administration. He was the youngest administrator and only Vietnam veteran to ever head up the agency. During his time with the Veterans Administration, MAX instituted the "Vets Center Program," which for the first time provided psychological counseling to combat veterans. This program has now led to over 200 Vet Centers around the country.

Senator CLELAND continued his public service for the people of Georgia in 1982, when he was elected Secretary of State. During his time in this position, he fought relentlessly for campaign finance reform and to reduce telemarketing fraud. Senator CLELAND also played a key role in the implementation of the National Voter Registration Act, or Motor Voter, in the State of Georgia. This in turn allowed an increase in access to government by getting nearly 1 million citizens of Georgia registered to vote.

MAX was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1996; he filled the spot that was vacated by the retiring Sam Nunn. The 6 years that he spent in the Senate were marked by his passion and drive to accomplish what was of importance to the people he served. He was a proponent for the Patients' Bill of Rights and doggedly battled for the improvement of education by way of increased resources for teacher training and certification.

As a former military man who served his country in Vietnam, Senator CLELAND brought an understanding to the Senate Chamber, of the sacrifices made by individuals in the armed forces. This understanding led him to champion military causes. As chairman of the Personnel Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee, he fought for improvements in the quality of life of our active-duty, reserve, and retired military personnel through enhancement of the Montgomery G.I. Bill