

I join with all of the people from Delaware and all of the colleagues in the Senate in paying tribute to Bill Roth, saying goodbye to him for his service, and extending my warmest sympathy and condolences to Jane for the loss of her husband as well as recognition of her service to this country. What a remarkable couple. America, as well as the State of Delaware, has been very well served for their willingness to participate in the public arena.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I join my colleagues in paying tribute to Senator Roth. I had the privilege of working with Bill Roth in the Senate for some 20 years.

On the route from Washington to Philadelphia I frequently road with Bill Roth as far as Wilmington. Frequently when I would catch the train in Philadelphia, I would see him board in Wilmington. During the course of 20 years, we had very many long and fascinating discussions.

Bill Roth was an outstanding Senator. He served in the House of Representatives in advance of coming to the Senate and was a native of the State of Montana. He was Harvard Law School educated. He was chairman of the Finance Committee. He had very deep insight into finances and taxes. He was a coauthor of the famous Roth-Kemp bill or Kemp-Roth bill—it depends on whether you accentuate the House or the Senate—with very substantial tax cuts in the early days of the Reagan administration. He later served as chairman of the Finance Committee, known for the Roth IRAs, so people could set aside funds and make a real contribution to the Nation.

My wife and I had the occasion to attend the memorial service for Senator Roth in Wilmington recently. As noted, his wife Jane is a very distinguished judge of the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, the circuit which covers Pennsylvania as well as Delaware and also New Jersey.

When Senator Roth finished his term at about his 80th birthday, it marked a very outstanding contribution to the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the pending resolution?

The resolution (S. Res. 284) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

Mr. SPECTER. I 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. SPECTER. I ask unanimous consent the next remarks be in morning business under the introduction of legislation.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

Mr. SPECTER. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. SPECTER pertaining to the introduction of S. 2008 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

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

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

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the attached statement from the Office of Compliance be printed in the RECORD today pursuant to section 4(c)(4) of the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 ("VEOA") (2 U.S.C. 1316a(4)), and section 304(b) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1384(b)).

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

U.S. CONGRESS,
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE,

Washington, DC, December 8, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER:

WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE OF PROPOSED SUBSTANTIVE RULE MAKING, AND ADVANCE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

On November 13, 2001, the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance submitted proposed substantive rules for comment, pursuant to section 4(c)(4) of the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 ("VEOA") (2 U.S.C. 1316a(4)), and section 304(b) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1384(b)). The proposed substantive rules would implement section 4(c) of the VEOA, which affords to covered employees of the legislative branch the rights and protections of selected provisions of veterans' preference law. The Notice of Proposed Rule Making was printed in the Congressional Record on December 6, 2001 at H9065, et seq., and S12539 et seq.

In response to that Notice, the Board of Directors received comments which addressed the difficulty in promulgating regulations applying substantive veterans' preference rights in the absence of formal civil service merit personnel systems in the legislative branch. In view of the comments, and upon further consideration, the Board has decided to withdraw the notice of proposed rule making of November 13, 2001, printed in the Congressional Record of December 6, 2001.

The Board of Directors has initiated a new process of drafting proposed substantive regulations which would implement section 4(c) of the VEOA. The Board invites the informal input of interested parties in advance of the Board's completion of new draft regulations and publication of a new Notice of Proposed Rule Making in the future. Interested parties are invited to contact the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance, Room LA-200, 110 2nd Street, SE., Washington, DC 20540; 202-724-9250, TDD 202-426-1912.

We request that this notice be published in the Congressional Record. Any inquiries regarding this notice should be addressed to the Office of Compliance at our address above, or by telephone or TDD.

Sincerely,

SUSAN S. ROBFOGEL,
Chair.

TRIBUTE TO LEE LEIGHTON

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate a man who is a husband, a father, a grandfather, a friend, and a hero.

Chief Lee Leighton is retiring after a remarkable career of 34 years with the fire department of Sparks, NV.

From the time Lee was born in Lynn, MA, he can never remember a time when he did not want to follow in his father's footsteps as a public servant. After the family moved to Nevada, his father joined the Washoe County Sheriff's office, and he showed Lee through example how important a job and a life's work can be.

Lee looked up to his dad. And as he looked toward his own future, he hoped to become either a policeman or a firefighter. As fate would have it, the fire department called him first, so he became a fireman.

Being the oldest of four children, Lee has always been a leader. He began his career in the fire department in August of 1969, and a few years later became the pump operator driver. The department, recognizing his ambition, promoted him to Captain in 1977. Over the years, Lee's dedication to the fire department was acknowledged and he was appointed battalion chief and then department chief. For the past 3½ years he has been the fire chief of the Sparks Fire Department.

When Lee joined the department, it had about 30 people. Now there are almost 100. He is leaving the department in good shape, with response times that are as good as any in the Nation.

His commitment to Nevada is evident not only through the years he spent working for the Sparks Fire Department, but through his passion and love for his job and life. This passion has also inspired his four sons to become firemen. They are serving Nevada through the Reno Fire Department, Storey County Fire Department, and Nevada Division of Forestry.

Lee's life as a public servant went beyond the Fire Department. He served 6 years in the Marine Corps Reserve, and Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn appointed him as a member of the Board of Fire Services. In addition, Lee participated as a member of the Department's Honor Guard, former chairman of the Sparks Fire Department Commendation Review Committee, and chairman of the Sparks Fire Department History Book Committee.

Sixteen years ago he met his future wife, Roberta Leighton. Roberta, or "Bobbi," was working as a police and fire dispatcher. Lee with his four sons, and Bobbi with two daughters and one son, became good friends. Over 8 years,