

Over the next 21 years, he was detailed a number of times to both the House and the Senate.

Fifteen years ago, the Senate was fortunate enough to convince Tom to join us full-time, as member of the Office of the Senate Enrolling Clerk. Since 1995, he has headed that office and served this institution with great distinction.

“Enrolling clerk” is one of those curious Senate titles that even devoted C-SPAN watchers might have a hard time defining.

It is the enrolling clerk’s responsibility to proofread and prepare for printing every page of legislation the Senate passes, and then transmit those pages to the House of Representatives, the National Archives, the Secretary of State, the United States Claims Court, and the White House.

It is also the enrolling clerk who transmits Senate messages to the House, and arranges for the delivery of all Senate-enrolled bills and resolutions to the White House.

The job demands diligence, intelligence, enormous attention to detail and often incredibly long hours.

When legislation needs to be moved quickly to the House, or prepared for pre-conferencing, the enrolling clerk and his staff work until the job is done.

I know that, many times, Tom has had only enough time to go home and take a shower before coming right back to face another workday. He and his staff have also worked through weekends, recesses, and holidays, and they have done so without a word of complaint.

As enrolling clerk, Tom worked closely with the Secretary of the Senate and the Senate Legislative Counsel’s Office to establish policies regarding the proper form and language of legislation.

He also worked with the Legislative Counsel’s Office to develop software that will soon allow the enrolling clerks and legislative counsel offices to share data electronically. These projects—and others—will ensure that Tom’s influence will continue to be felt in the Senate for years to come.

As some know, Tom was actually scheduled to retire 16 months ago but he stayed on to help train his successor and ensure a smooth transition. That’s how committed he is to this Senate.

More than once in these last 16 months, Tom has reminded his successor, “We need to be 100 percent right, not just 99.9 percent.” In 36 years of service to the people of the United States, Tom Lundregan has held himself to that same high standard. With Tom, there is no such thing as “good enough for government work.”

We could not have a Government “of the people, by the people and for the people” without the extraordinary devotion and skill of people such as Tom. He is a public servant in the best sense of that term and an important and valued member of our Senate family.

Today, on the occasion of Tom’s well-deserved retirement, I join the rest of

the Senate family in thanking Tom. I also want to thank Tom’s wife Yanjie Xu for sharing her husband with the Senate at least 16 months longer than she had planned.

We wish them well as they finally begin those travels they have looked forward to for so long, and we want them to know that they take with them the thanks, admiration, and best wishes of the entire Senate.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I would also like to spread across the Record of the Senate our congratulations and appreciation for the work that Tom has contributed to this institution. Especially late in the session, when we are at home, he and the other enrolling clerk are working long, long hours after we have left, long after we have left, very tedious, very difficult, but a very important job to make sure the work we do here winds up in the final record—in the law books, in effect—the way it is supposed to be. It is an art that has been developed over these many years, and we are very appreciative of all that Tom Lundregan has done for not only the Senate but the country.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD at the appropriate place.

The resolution (S. Res. 347) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 347

Whereas in 1967, Thomas J. Lundregan became an employee of the Government Printing Office, and since then has devoted his career to the service of the United States Government;

Whereas in 1989, Thomas J. Lundregan joined the Office of the Enrolling Clerk in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate;

Whereas in 1995, Thomas J. Lundregan became the Enrolling Clerk of the Senate and has always performed the duties of that office with great dedication, perseverance, and humor;

Whereas Thomas J. Lundregan has performed a critical role in ensuring the technical accuracy and legal sufficiency of legislation passed by the Senate;

Whereas Thomas J. Lundregan has been in the forefront of the modernization of the operations of the Senate Enrolling Clerk;

Whereas Thomas J. Lundregan has faithfully discharged the difficult duties and responsibilities of Enrolling Clerk of the United States Senate with great pride, energy, efficiency, dedication, integrity, and professionalism;

Whereas Thomas J. Lundregan has earned the respect, affection, and esteem of his colleagues and the United States Senate;

Whereas Thomas J. Lundregan has for 36 years ably and faithfully upheld the high standards and traditions of service to the United States Government; and

Whereas Thomas J. Lundregan will retire from the United States Senate on April 30, 2004, with 36 years of Service to the United States Government and 15 years Service to the United States Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States Senate commends Thomas J. Lundregan for his exemplary service to the United States Senate and the Nation, and wishes to express its deep appreciation and gratitude for his long, faithful, and outstanding service, and extends its very best wishes upon his retirement.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Thomas J. Lundregan.

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 376.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statement relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) was agreed to.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 4181

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 4181 is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4181) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the marriage penalty relief provided under the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001.

Mr. FRIST. I now ask for its second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under rule XIV, object to further proceedings on this matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The measure will remain at the desk and receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2370

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand that S. 2370 is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2370) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

Mr. FRIST. I now ask for its second reading and, in order to place the bill