hard pressed to find one, a sad statement on us.

As to what I do? No trips during the week except to work and back. If I can do any errand or go out, otherwise this is till the weekend. I plan one trip, one circle. If something is missed, too bad, it is missed. The real clincher is this, I tithe to my church and the Lord 10% of my income. It costs me almost as much, $10 less, to keep my car in gasoline between paychecks. Now I think it is pretty awful when I have to think of my company as much as I give the Lord. He gives me everything I have, the gas company gives me nothing except anger when I hear of the profits they make. And I think that pretty well sums it up, 10% to the Lord vs. almost as much to the gas company!

DIANNI, Hayden Lake.

I am a taxi driver here in Boise. In a year's time, the cost to fill my tank has increased nearly 100% but my average fare has remained static. If it were not for my military retirement, I would no longer make enough to cover basic costs and make a profit. I am 61 years old and am not practicing in a marketable skill so the company as much as I give the Lord. He gives me everything I have, the gas company gives me nothing except anger when I hear of the profits they make. And I think that pretty well sums it up, 10% to the Lord vs. almost as much to the gas company!

RETIREMENT OF WAYNE RIDDLE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to pay tribute to Wayne Riddle, who is retiring at the end of this year from the Congressional Research Service. Wayne is the model of a dedicated and talented public servant. He has spent his career working out of the public eye for the greater good, providing excellent assistance to all of us in Congress for over three decades, and always taking time to mentor younger staff.

Wayne is a graduate of the University of Virginia. He earned a master's degree in economics from George Washington University while working at the Congressional Research Service, where he has spent the past 36 years serving as a key analyst on elementary and secondary education, and as head of the Education and Labor Section at CRS. Throughout that time, Congress has given high priority to strengthening the Nation's schools, and Wayne has been helping us immensely every step of the way. He began not long after the passage of the original Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 — the Federal Government's major program to improve educational opportunities for low-income students. Wayne has been indispensable in our work on every subsequent reauthorization of the act and on all our other efforts on elementary and secondary education, including the Goals 2000 Act during the Clinton administration and the No Child Left Behind Act during the current Bush administration. His guidance, support and knowledge on issues big and small have been invaluable to us time and again.

As Wayne retires to devote more time to his family, I know that his colleagues at CRS will miss him, and so will we. I wish him a long, healthy, and happy retirement. He certainly deserves it, because he has served our country well, and made a very real difference in the lives of countless children who have benefited in their education because of his expertise and dedication.

REMEMBERING TONY DEAN

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the passing of a very close friend of mine, Tony Dean. As one of this Nation's foremost conservationists, one would be hard put to find someone who cared more about wildlife and the environment. Tony passed away on October 19.

I had known Tony for years with his regular television broadcasting, but I was fortunate enough to get to know him much better in my 2002 Senate campaign. He told me that he was willing to do whatever I needed him to do, and he was honest to his word. With his natural and effective delivery to television viewers, Tony starred in two commercials that were critical to the success of my 2002 campaign. I have no doubt that Tony's support was crucial, though it resulted in many tests to his courage. Even amidst the backlash of his supporting my campaign, he said, "Tim, I know I did the right thing, and I'd do it again in a second." Tony stared down the people who threatened him, and he refused to blink.

During Senator Ted Kennedy's eulogy of his brother Robert, Senator Kennedy stated that, "Few are willing to brave the disapproval of their fellows, the censure of their colleagues, the wrath of their society. Moral courage is a rarer commodity than bravery in battle or great intelligence. Yet it is the one essential, vital quality for those who seek to change a world that yields most painfully to change." Tony had all those qualities, though most importantly, moral courage. And Tony Dean had moral courage.

It was my pleasure to have worked with Tony and I would like to offer my condolences to his family, friends, and fellow advocates. They have much to be proud of, and it is my hope that their memories will be rich with the great many accomplishments he achieved during his career. Those of us who loved him pray that what he was to us and what he wished for others will someday come to pass for the wonderful human being, Tony. More than any of us can say.

FORT POLK BARRACKS PRIVATIZATION PILOT PROGRAM

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, on September 27, the Senate passed the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, which the President signed into law on October 14. The legislation includes critical provisions that will directly improve the quality of life for our men and women in uniform, support needed reforms in the operations of the Department of Defense and provide our soldiers and sailors, Air Force personnel and Marines with the tools they need to defend our freedom. I thank and commend Senator Levin and our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee for the thorough work on this detailed legislation and their perseverance in crafting the legislation in a difficult and at times uncertain process.

There were a number of filed floor amendments to the bill that were not
able to be considered because of the procedural situation on the floor in September. The managers of the bill, Senators LEVIN and Senator WARNER, stated that they had prepared a set of over 90 cleared amendments in a management package for the Armed Services Committee to consider. While they had an unanimous consent to include the amendments in the bill, it is my understanding that one of those amendments was the provision I had filed to expand the existing pilot authority in title 10, to authorize the Army to carry out a pilot program employing the private sector for the acquisition or construction of military unaccompanied housing for all ranks in an arrangement similar to what we have carried successfully with the privatization of family housing and senior unaccompanied soldiers. While I was very disappointed that the amendment could not be adopted because of the procedural situation, I want to thank Senator LEVIN and the other members of the committee for their willingness to include the public-private sector partnership approach for ensuring improved housing for all ranks of our single soldiers.

The Army already has five similar privatization projects underway for senior unaccompanied enlisted personnel or officers. The business case for these projects shows that they are not only less costly than traditional government-funded construction and sustainment, but more importantly, the living conditions are vastly improved as soldiers have access to larger, modern apartments on post. The living conditions for these soldiers and officers will be enhanced to the same level as that of military members with families.

Given our Nation’s current financial crisis, defense spending is likely to come under great stress over the next few years. Historically the Army and the other services have had great challenges in maintaining even minimal levels of housing sustainment and revitalization funding to keep our barracks fit for our soldiers. I can speak from personal experience about the serious deficiencies in the barracks at Fort Polk in Leesville. Despite the recent increase in Army funding for barracks revitalization there, I worry that needed long-term funding will be difficult to secure under the traditional model to prevent deterioration in the longer run. Providing fundamental changes to the quality of life, including living housing, is critical to the retention of our enlisted soldiers, and critical to keeping our All Volunteer force strong. Partnerships between the Army and the private sector for this segment of our military housing will be needed as a fundamental long-term solution to providing the best housing for our soldiers.

Despite the procedural setback in September, I appreciate the support we received for our amendment and am committed to continue working with the Armed Services Committee to advance this issue in 2009. We are also hopeful that the Army will use its existing authorities to begin extending the successful privatization model to construction and revitalization of barracks for all of our soldiers.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. XIAOMING TIAN

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the outstanding achievements of Dr. Xiaoming Tian. For many years, Dr. Tian has been recognized as a leading practitioner of Chinese medicine, acupuncture and alternative medicine in the United States. I am very pleased that Dr. Tian’s recognition was extended worldwide when he received the prestigious World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies, WFCCMS, world award for distinguished physician earlier this year.

This award is the highest honor the WFCCMS can bestow, and it is only presented to a handful of physicians each year. This year, only 10 clinical physicians worldwide were honored and Dr. Tian received the distinction of the only recipient in the United States. The World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies was founded in 2003 and is headquartered in Beijing. Currently, the federation is chaired by Dr. Shie Jing, Vice-Minister of Health and Director of the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine of the People’s Republic of China. The WFCCMS includes 174 Chinese medical associations from 55 countries and is the highest global organization of Chinese medicine.

In honoring Dr. Tian, the WFCCMS reports, “Dr. Xiaoming Tian’s great contributions include many different areas such as clinical medicine, research, new Chinese herbal medicine development, education and health care policy. Dr. Tian is highly respected by medical professionals and patients in the United States.”

As the WFCCMS noted, in May of 1991 Dr. Tian established the first Chinese acupuncture clinic at the National Institute of Health, NIH, Clinical Center. This clinic represented the first time that the NIH had formally recognized acupuncture as a routine treatment and had developed a procedure code for it. Dr. Tian became the first clinical consultant on acupuncture within NIH’s National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine since 1997 and has been an integral part of its many accomplishments.

Prior to his appointment as the Director of the DTRA, Dr. Tegnelia was the vice president, Director of Defense Sciences Programs, at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM, starting in 1998. He has been involved in defense-related fields since 1971 and has a long and distinguished career in championing innovative causes. From increasing the DTRA’s efforts in science and technology investment in nuclear detection, nuclear forensics and advanced energetic capabilities to working on the global stage in the international effort to counter WMD—in part through the establishment of international and global nonproliferation partnerships—Dr. Tegnelia has been a true leader in protecting our great Nation.

In addition to his leadership in securing our country and its allies from the threat of WMD, Dr. Tegnelia has worked to strengthen the capabilities of the DTRA, transforming the Agency into a combat support-focused, technically agile and operationally relevant organization.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES TEGNELIA

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Dr. James Tegnelia who will be retiring from his position as the Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, DTRA, in February 2009 and returning to New Mexico.

The DTRA is charged with safeguarding the United States and its allies from the threat of weapons of mass destruction, WMD, and consists of a 2,000-member staff. Dr. Tegnelia has been the Director of this prestigious Agency since February of 2005 and has been an integral part of its many accomplishments.

Prior to his appointment as the Director of the DTRA, Dr. Tegnelia was the vice president, Department of Defense Programs, at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM, starting in 1998. He has been involved in defense-related fields since 1971 and has a long and distinguished career in championing innovative causes. From increasing the DTRA’s efforts in science and technology investment in nuclear detection, nuclear forensics and advanced energetic capabilities to working on the global stage in the international effort to counter WMD—in part through the establishment of regional and global nonproliferation partnerships—Dr. Tegnelia has been a true leader in protecting our great Nation.

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