Dr. Tegnelia has been a great asset to the DTRA and to the protection of our Nation. My wife Nancy and I wish Dr. Tegnelia and his family the best in his retirement and subsequent return to our great State of New Mexico.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, in Iowa and across the United States, a new school year is well underway. As you know, Iowa public schools have an excellent reputation nationwide, and Iowa students’ test scores are among the highest in the Nation.

I would like to take just a few minutes today to salute several dedicated public servants at the Iowa Department of Education, and to report on their successful involvement in a unique Federal partnership to repair and modernize school facilities.

This fall marks the 10th year of the Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program. That is its formal name, but it is better known among educators in Iowa as the program of Harkin grants for Iowa public schools. Since 1996, I have been fortunate to secure a total of $121 million for the Iowa Department of Education, which selects worthy school districts to receive these grants for a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools to modernizing existing facilities. In many cases, this Federal funding is used to leverage public and/or private local funding, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect in a local school district.

The Federal funding has made a real difference for the 304 Iowa school districts that have received Harkin grants over the past decade. The grants have helped school districts from Waukon to Glenwood and from Keokuk to Rock Rapids build new schools, add new classrooms, renovate facilities and bring buildings up to fire codes.

The progress we have witnessed is due, in large part, to the hard work and leadership of the Iowa Department of Education. When this program began, the department did not have experience in administering a grant program of this kind, but key personnel stepped up to plate to create and implement the successful program we have today.

In this, department staff have received, reviewed, processed and scored 1,370 grant applications which resulted in 820 grant awards and completion of 773 projects. The department processed thousands of payment requests for project costs, conducted more than 300 site visits to more than 200 school districts, and provided the professional administration that taxpayers deserve.

I salute the entire staff, administration, and governance of the Iowa Department of Education for their excellent work this year and for their continued leadership.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to commend William D. Wagoner of Royal Oak, MI, who last week retired from a long and distinguished career in public service. For the past 35 years, Dr. Wagoner dedicated his career to the public good, working to establish innovative and sustainable practices in urban planning, emergency management, and teaching the next generation of planners and emergency responders. His extraordinary career spanned the entire spectrum of government service, from the local level to the Federal level.

Dr. Wagoner began his career in service by teaching history and political science at a public high school in Clarkston, MI. He went on to earn his master’s degree in urban planning and his doctorate in public administration. For 18 productive years, he served as assistant city manager in Berkley, MI, a large suburb of Detroit, and for the past 16 years has been director of planning and community development for Livingston County, the fastest growing county in Michigan. Dr. Wagoner has written several books on urban planning and emergency response, and has served for decades as an instructor for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

President Kennedy asked a generation of Americans to give of themselves for our country and for its future. Dr. Wagoner answered President Kennedy’s call and has inspired countless others, who have worked with him or who have been his students, to do the same. I congratulate Dr. Wagoner for his remarkable public service, and I wish him a long and healthy and happy retirement. He has served America well.

CONGRATULATING THE WASHINGTON PAVILION OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

- Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I honor the board of directors and dedicated staff at the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science in Sioux Falls, SD, on their accreditation by the American Association of Museums.

Mr. President. I am deeply grateful to the professionals at the Iowa Department of Education. There is no question that a quality public education for every child is a top priority in our state. I salute them and wish them well.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM D. WAGONER

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TRIBUTE TO STANLEY E. REED

- Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and recognize over 25 years of service by Stanley E. Reed to our great State of Arkansas. A third-generation cotton farmer from Marianna, AR, Stanley has served the Arkansas agricultural and food community with steady leadership for over 20 years as a member of the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation board, including the last five as president. At the upcoming Farm Bureau State Convention on December 4, Stanley will hand over the gavel as president, and I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize his many contributions to our State.

Born in Marianna in 1951, Stanley attended the University of Arkansas where he graduated in 1973 with a degree in Agricultural Economics and was awarded Highest Honors. Although Stanley was a tremendous student, he also displayed his leadership skills...