

(d) Proxy votes may not be considered for the purpose of establishing a quorum.

7. PROXY VOTING.—Proxy voting shall be allowed on all measures and matters before the Committee. The vote by proxy of any member of the Committee may be counted for the purpose of reporting any measure or matter to the Senate if the absent member casting such vote has been informed of the matter on which the member is being recorded and has affirmatively requested that he or she be so recorded. Proxy must be given in writing.

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF VOTES.—The results of all roll call votes taken in any meeting of the Committee on any measure, or amendment thereto, shall be announced in the Committee report, unless previously announced by the Committee. The announcement shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor and votes cast in opposition to each such measure and amendment by each member of the Committee who was present at such meeting. The Chairman, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, may hold open a roll call vote on any measure or matter which is before the Committee until no later than midnight of the day on which the Committee votes on such measure or matter.

9. SUBPOENAS.—Subpoenas for attendance of witnesses and for the production of memoranda, documents, records, and the like may be issued, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, by the Chairman or any other member designated by the Chairman, but only when authorized by a majority of the members of the Committee. The subpoena shall briefly state the matter to which the witness is expected to testify or the documents to be produced.

10. HEARINGS.—(a) Public notice shall be given of the date, place and subject matter of any hearing to be held by the Committee, or any subcommittee thereof, at least 1 week in advance of such hearing, unless the Committee or subcommittee determines that good cause exists for beginning such hearings at an earlier time.

(b) Hearings may be initiated only by the specified authorization of the Committee or subcommittee.

(c) Hearings shall be held only in the District of Columbia unless specifically authorized to be held elsewhere by a majority vote of the Committee or subcommittee conducting such hearings.

(d) The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee shall consult with the Ranking Minority Member thereof before naming witnesses for a hearing.

(e) Witnesses appearing before the Committee shall file with the clerk of the Committee a written statement of their proposed testimony prior to the hearing at which they are to appear unless the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member determine that there is good cause not to file such a statement. Witnesses testifying on behalf of the Administration shall furnish an additional 50 copies of their statement to the Committee. All statements must be received by the Committee at least 48 hours (not including weekends or holidays) before the hearing.

(f) Confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented in a closed hearing of the Committee or subcommittee or any report of the proceedings of such hearing shall not be made public in whole or in part or by way of summary unless authorized by a majority vote of the Committee or subcommittee.

(g) Any witness summoned to give testimony or evidence at a public or closed hearing of the Committee or subcommittee may be accompanied by counsel of his own choosing who shall be permitted at all times during such hearing to advise such witness of his legal rights.

(h) Witnesses providing unsworn testimony to the Committee may be given a transcript of such testimony for the purpose of making minor grammatical corrections. Such witnesses will not, however, be permitted to alter the substance of their testimony. Any question involving such corrections shall be decided by the Chairman.

11. NOMINATIONS.—Unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, nominations referred to the Committee shall be held for at least seven (7) days before being voted on by the Committee. Each member of the Committee shall be furnished a copy of all nominations referred to the Committee.

12. REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.—Each member of the Committee shall be furnished with a copy of the proposals of the Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, submitted pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2662 and with a copy of the proposals of the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, submitted pursuant to 50 U.S.C. App. 2285, regarding the proposed acquisition or disposition of property of an estimated price or rental of more than \$50,000. Any member of the Committee objecting to or requesting information on a proposed acquisition or disposal shall communicate his objection or request to the Chairman of the Committee within thirty (30) days from the date of submission.

13. LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR.—(a) The clerk of the Committee shall keep a printed calendar for the information of each Committee member showing the bills introduced and referred to the Committee and the status of such bills. Such calendar shall be revised from time to time to show pertinent changes in such bills, the current status thereof, and new bills introduced and referred to the Committee. A copy of each new revision shall be furnished to each member of the Committee.

(b) Unless otherwise ordered, measures referred to the Committee shall be referred by the clerk of the Committee to the appropriate department or agency of the Government for reports thereon.

14. Except as otherwise specified herein, the Standing Rules of the Senate shall govern the actions of the Committee. Each subcommittee of the Committee is part of the Committee, and is therefore subject to the Committee's rules so far as applicable.

15. POWERS AND DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEES.—Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it. Subcommittee chairmen, after consultation with Ranking Minority Members of the subcommittees, shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective subcommittees after consultation with the Chairman and other subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

YOUTH ART MONTH

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I recognize Youth Art Month and congratulate Samantha Kenaston of Mitchell, SD, on designing the winning State entry for the national student flag design program. Each March, the Council for Art Education sponsors National Youth Art Month. I appreciate the importance of arts education for children of all ages and am pleased with the work being done across South Dakota to promote and spotlight student artwork.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of National Youth Art Month. This month, schools across our country will partner with local businesses and communities to support the arts and display students' art work. In South Dakota, the Dakota Discovery Museum in Mitchell, the Aberdeen Recreation and Culture Center, and Presentation College in Aberdeen are just a few of the partners that will be hosting galleries and shows to display the artwork of South Dakota's many talented student artists.

This is the first year South Dakota has participated in the Youth Art Month flag design competition. Students from across our State designed flags to creatively represent the essence of our great State. I congratulate Samantha "Sam" Kenaston on designing the winning flag for the inaugural South Dakota Youth Art Month flag design competition. Sam is a seventh grade student at Mitchell Middle School. According to Sam's teacher, Ms. Renee Berg, Sam is a talented student and art is her favorite class. Sam also has a love for animals, which is often reflected in her artwork, and she aspires to become a veterinarian when she grows up.

Sam's winning flag features a drawing of a pheasant, the State bird of South Dakota. Sam's flag will be displayed on March 9, 2011, at a ceremony in Washington, DC, to honor the winners of the State flag competition, and her flag will then be displayed in Seattle, WA, at the National Art Education Conference.

As a member of the Senate Cultural Caucus, I recognize the importance of promoting arts and humanities in our communities and schools. I am pleased that Youth Art Month activities in South Dakota and across our country are highlighting the importance of art for our children's education. I am proud of Sam and the many talented student artists in our State.

REMEMBERING SEAN PATRICK MCGEE

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I come to the floor with the hardest speech I have ever made, to pay tribute to Sean Patrick McGee, a member of my staff who passed away suddenly over the weekend at the very young age of 26.

There really are no words to describe the tragedy of losing somebody so young, especially someone like Sean, who was so smart and so filled with promise. His death is painful for all of us who knew him, but the way he lived his life is really a source of hope and inspiration for us.

Every single day, Sean worked hard to help others. Before coming to my office, he was a congressional liaison at the American Legion Auxiliary, where he was an advocate for veterans, servicemembers, and their families. He joined my team in April of 2009, and quickly impressed everyone with his

work ethic and his dedication. It didn't take long before he was promoted and took on additional responsibilities, working on some of the most difficult and complex issues that in which we have been involved.

He was really the heart of my staff working on finance issues. He spent a lot of time with retirees who lost their pensions when our auto companies went through bankruptcy, and he talked with them all the time to keep them updated on what we were doing to help. He took the lead on housing issues, working with families whose dreams were shattered when their homes were lost to foreclosure. He spent his final days working on an amendment that I cosponsored to help retired pilots who lost their pensions when the airline they worked for went bankrupt. He was so proud that we were able to include that amendment in the Federal Aviation Administration bill.

During our work last year on the Small Business Jobs Act, Sean's help was absolutely invaluable. He put together information for small business owners letting them know how to take advantage of the new law. He grew up in Farmington Hills, MI, and he was a very important part of our team working on issues related to the automobile industry, so critical for Michigan's future and for our economy.

He took great pride in his work for our great State. Through hard work and service, he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout—the highest rank in scouting. When he applied for a job in our office he wrote, "At a young age, I was volunteering to do community . . . service in Metro Detroit to better the community and that work shaped my desire to serve Michigan." And he served Michigan well.

In college, he secured a coveted internship in the office of the Governor, working in constituent services. After graduation, he worked on a congressional campaign and for Senator LEVIN's campaign, always willing to lend a hand and make a difference.

What really stands out about Sean is how good he was with people. On Capitol Hill, patience is sometimes a rare commodity, but Sean had more than enough to go around. When everyone was running a mile a minute, Sean was a beacon of calm. When his coworkers were stressed to the point of breaking, Sean could diffuse it with a wonderful one-liner that brought everything back into context.

He was also an amazing friend and had a quiet, charming sense of humor. His favorite day of the week was when the cafeteria served chicken wings. He would get a group together and go down to lunch on "wing day"—he looked forward to that day all week long.

Sean McGee was a young man who brightened so many of our days, and he will be terribly missed.

I offer my sincerest condolences to his parents Tom and Sharon, to his

brother Tom, and to his girlfriend of many years, Katie Kulpa, whom Sean loved so much. Sean was a gift to all of us, and we will always be thankful for the precious time we had with him.

Next Tuesday would have been Sean's 27th birthday. It is hard to believe we won't be able to celebrate with him. But we can honor him by living our lives as he did.

William Penn, one of the founders of our great Nation, said, "I expect to pass through life but once. If therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, and not defer or neglect it, as I shall not pass this way again."

That is how Sean lived his life, and that was the gift that he gave to all of us who knew him.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO VICTORIA MALOCH

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I recognize Victoria Maloch from Magnolia, AR, for being selected for participation in the annual United States Senate Youth Program.

Created in 1962, the United States Senate Youth was organized to encourage an understanding of our government with an emphasis of how its three branches work and how elected officials work for their constituents and create policies that impact our Nation and the world. The weeklong visit to Washington, DC, allows students to meet and interact with lawmakers, appointed officials and staff who are involved in crafting legislation and making decisions that influence our laws.

This program brings together some of our Nations top youth leaders, like Victoria, who show a commitment to public service. An outstanding student at Emerson High School, Victoria excels both in and out of the classroom.

She serves as president of the 4-H Club and Future Farmers of America; vice president of Arkansas Junior Brangus Breeders Association; secretary of the Science Club and captain of Quiz Bowl. Victoria is a member of the Beta club, Future Business Leaders of America, and Family Career and Community Leaders of America. She was a People-to-People ambassador and volunteers in her community with the Youth Advisory Council and Today's Youth Tomorrow's Leaders program. Victoria plans to attend the University of Arkansas and continue her education in law school.

Victoria is very deserving of this honor. I congratulate her for her determination, dedication, and service and encourage her growth as a leader.●

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARIN AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize the 30th anniversary of Marin Agricultural

Land Trust, MALT. Located in Marin County, CA, MALT was the first land trust in the United States to focus explicitly on farmland preservation. Since its founding in 1980, MALT has successfully protected more than 41,800 acres of California's land on 66 family ranches and farms.

Thirty years ago, in response to a changing economy and increasing urban expansion, biologist Phyllis Faber and dairywoman Ellen Straus recognized that in order to preserve Marin's 150-year-old tradition of family farming and protect the county's tremendous natural resources, ranchers and environmentalists would need to work together. Phyllis and Ellen co-founded MALT, bringing together a diverse coalition of ranchers and environmentalists who came together to pursue their vision for conserving Marin's pristine farmlands. By providing an alternative to the sale of farmland, MALT has protected thousands of acres of open grasslands, fertile floodplains, oak woodlands, and mixed evergreen forests that would otherwise have been sold or developed.

Working in areas stretching from the salt marshes of Tomales Bay to the Douglas-fir forest crowning Hicks Mountain, MALT continues to be an environmental and community leader. In addition to establishing easements, MALT runs a variety of stewardship and educational programs, including its Farm Field Studies Program in which more than 1,700 students from 35 schools recently participated. MALT also coordinates hikes and tours, giving residents opportunities to explore and experience Marin's stunning agricultural landscapes first hand.

MALT is also doing its part to reduce greenhouse gases and integrate the agriculture industry into the fight against climate change. As a founding member of the Marin Carbon Project, MALT is working with project partners in an attempt to sequester carbon in Marin's rangeland soil using agricultural management strategies.

Due to the dedicated efforts of its 5,000 members, staff, volunteers, funders, and partner agencies, MALT has helped revitalize local agriculture while preserving the ecological value of the land. Each year, Marin County produces millions of dollars in livestock, livestock products, feed, and crops, without diminishing the county's biological vitality.

Over the past year, despite difficult economic times, MALT achieved permanent protection for a goat dairy, a small-scale sheep ranch, and a grade A Holstein dairy that has been in operation since 1933. These crucial projects were funded through a combination of grants from public agencies and donations from private individuals.

The Marin Agricultural Land Trust's vision and commitment to protecting California's ecological, environmental, and agricultural endowment should be commended. Please join me in congratulating MALT for its three decades