TRIBUTE TO JOHN CROSIER

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor John Crosier for his outstanding service to the State of New Hampshire’s residents and business community.

John retired as president of our State’s largest business association, the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire, in 2004 after 16 years. He has served the residents of my State as a trustee of the University System of New Hampshire, a position with which he first appointed him to, as a member of the board of governors for the New Hampshire Forum on Higher Education, as a member of the executive committee of the Whittemore School of Business and Economics, and as a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Committee representing State chambers of commerce.

Before he came to New Hampshire, he worked in Massachusetts as the head of the Massachusetts Business Roundtable and as Commissioner of Employment for neighboring State. He was appointed him to, a Republican Governor and reappointed by a Democratic Governor.

John has been a board leader at numerous other groups, including the best in his energy, intellect and voice to some of New Hampshire’s most influential and important organizations: the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, Junior Achievement, Leadership New Hampshire and the American Cancer Society.

Throughout his years as the head of the Business and Industry Association, and through his nonprofit board leadership, John’s guiding principle has been what’s best for New Hampshire.

When I was Governor of New Hampshire, John Crosier was one of my most trusted advisors. A gentleman always, his courage of conviction and pragmatic optimism for our State’s future has always trumped ideology. He has been, and continues to be, a role model for civility in public discourse.

John’s commitment to New Hampshire was evident in his visionary work on the State’s most extensive research project, which resulted in a statewide economic strategy in 1996—An Agenda for Continued Economic Opportunity in New Hampshire. That plan set forth by John has been credited with my State’s recent strong economic recovery in the Northeast.

Pieces of it are still being used today as a framework for New Hampshire, and it served as the foundation for a similar report by my administration during my second term as Governor. His belief that the health of the business sector is closely tied to issues of education, environment, and the nonprofit sector has contributed to the leadership of our State and will continue to guide our State in the future.

I thank John Crosier for his service to New Hampshire, and I commend him for his well-deserved retirement. I am grateful for his friendship, leadership and advice throughout the years.