

make it possible for more of the young people who go to these schools to get to graduation. Her amendment would help identify the struggling schools and provide some fresh approaches to help turn them around—a smart idea that I believe warrants bipartisan support.

Finally, I have just a couple other approaches that I think are particularly valuable in terms of this debate and particularly how we can use the machinery of the Federal Government to play a constructive role in terms of education at the local level.

Senator BOOKER and I have worked for an amendment that tries to help homeless children and foster youngsters graduate from high school. Once again—and we can see it in kind of what undergirds my remarks here—the focus is on trying to create opportunity for young people who constantly are out there swimming upstream. The hurdles these youngsters face are obviously large. Many of them move frequently, constantly, from one place to another throughout their lives. As a result, it is hard for them to feel any connection to the school, to feel some sense of stability. What Senator BOOKER and I would seek to do is to make it easier for school districts and policymakers to try to help those school districts provide additional support for those youngsters who are homeless and those children who are in the foster care system.

Finally, Senator FRANKEN has offered an important proposal—the Student Non-Discrimination Act—that provides strongly needed protection for LGBT students. Schools ought to be safe and welcoming places that assist every child in getting ahead and thriving. If schools—particularly for the youngsters I have talked about in my remarks—aren't challenging enough, it is hard to imagine how much harder it gets for a youngster who faces harassment or discrimination because of their sexual orientation. The Franken amendment goes a long way to protect LGBT students and their friends at school and prevent them from feeling they have to skip class to avoid bullying.

In wrapping up, the kinds of proposals I have outlined—starting with the effort to try to prevent students from dropping out and getting up the graduation rates—this is all about helping students get ahead through education, to expand opportunities for these young people throughout their lives through education.

What the focus of the Senate ought to be is to make sure that no matter where a child lives or how much his or her parents earn or what obstacles they face—the message ought to be, here in the Senate, with every Democrat and every Republican, picking up on what Chairman ALEXANDER and Senator MURRAY have said, that this bill will help to drive home the principle that hard work in school leads to success. I believe the Every Child

Achieves Act is a good step in that direction. I urge my colleagues to support these important amendments.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SECRET SERVICE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the U.S. Secret Service and to commemorate its 150th anniversary.

In 1865, Congress created the Secret Service to combat the production and distribution of counterfeit currency in post-Civil War America. At the time, currency counterfeiting was a fast-growing and serious threat to our Nation's financial and economic stability.

In 1901, following the assassination of President William McKinley, Congress further directed the Secret Service to take responsibility for the protection and safety of the President of the United States.

Today, 150 years after the Secret Service's founding, the men and women of the Secret Service continue to serve with quiet confidence across the United States and around the world as they protect our Nation against threats both foreign and domestic. From ensuring the security of the President, other senior government officials, and events of national significance, to protecting the integrity of our currency and investigating crimes against our financial system, the U.S. Secret Service plays a critical role in our Nation's safety and continued success. The contributions, sacrifices, and achievements of the Secret Service over the last 150 years have made the agency an indelible part of our Nation's identity.

The five points of the Secret Service star represent the Service's core values of duty, justice, courage, honesty, and loyalty. These values have been the Secret Service's foundation for the past century and one-half and will continue to be the foundation on which the Service's next 150 years—and the Nation's security—are grounded.

On this, the 150th anniversary of the U.S. Secret Service, I call upon my colleagues and upon all Americans to recognize the tremendous contributions the Secret Service has made to our Nation's safety and well-being. I also express my thanks to the thousands of dedicated Secret Service agents and employees who devote their time and energy to keeping our Nation, and our leaders, safe and secure.

REMEMBERING PRESIDENT BOYD K. PACKER

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the memory of Presi-

dent Boyd K. Packer—a man of integrity, kindness, courage, and candor whose commitment to Christ defined a lifetime of service. President Packer passed away peacefully in his home last week with his loving wife and children gathered at his bedside. Along with his family, I join millions of Christians worldwide in mourning the loss of a man who served faithfully for many years as the president of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. As an apostle, President Packer's teachings brought strength to the weary and hope to the hopeless. For those of us who mourn, we turn to these teachings to find peace amid the sadness of his passing.

Even as we grieve the loss of a leader, we celebrate the life of a friend. President Packer was a man whose selfless nature often masked his greatness, but not even his humility could hide a lifetime of achievement. From humble beginnings in Brigham City, UT, President Packer developed as a teacher and later as a leader in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

President Packer's upbringing was modest to say the least—his father was a service station operator and his mother was a homemaker. Raised against the backdrop of the Great Depression, he learned from an early age never to take anything for granted, especially the freedoms we enjoy as Americans.

President Packer would later defend those freedoms when he enlisted in the Army Air Corps during World War II. As a pilot serving in the Pacific Theater, President Packer flew dozens of dangerous missions and continued to serve after the war when he and his fellow soldiers worked to rebuild the shattered nation of Japan. Although President Packer dreamed of flying planes as a young boy, it was during his military service that he discovered his true life calling: to become a teacher.

When he returned to the United States, President Packer pursued that goal through his studies, eventually earning a doctorate in education administration from Brigham Young University. He quickly distinguished himself as an LDS Seminary teacher and later became the chief supervisor over the Church's seminary programs and Institutes of Religion. When President Packer was just 45 years old, he became an apostle—a calling he would serve in and magnify until the day he died. Even as an apostle, President Packer still saw himself as a teacher, and he endeavored to expound truth in simple ways that all could understand. The candor and clarity of his teachings touched the hearts of millions, as did President Packer's genuine love for those he served.

As a soldier and an educator, an administrator and an apostle, President Packer served in many different capacities throughout his life. But first and foremost, he served as a husband and a