

highly successful 1993 helicopter logging study which produced recommendations for changes that implemented safety plans without Federal regulation. NIOSH recommended crew rest and crew duty schedules along with changes in helicopter logging equipment, and that has all but eliminated helicopter logging fatalities since those recommendations were implemented.

It is my hope that the NIOSH study on aviation can produce the same results—industry-led improvements to commuter aviation safety operations in Alaska—again, without the need for new Government-imposed mandates. The industry itself I believe will implement the NIOSH recommendations.

As the Senate knows, my family has known fatalities from airplane crashes. And I have many friends who have been involved in such crashes. As one who was lucky enough to walk away, it is my hope that these studies will lead to greater safety considerations for all who fly in Alaska. I am grateful to the chairman and the ranking member, Chairman SHELBY and Senator LAUTENBERG, for including in this bill these great, new safety initiatives.

I am happy to report on another matter. This bill ensures completion of the pedestrian footbridge that will span the Chena River in Fairbanks. Fairbanks is Alaska's second largest city.

The Alaska River Walk Centennial Bridge is the brainchild of Dr. William Ransom Wood. He is really the sage of Alaska. He is the executive director of Festival Fairbanks. This bridge is a small piece of an overall plan that Dr. Wood and the rest of the festival have developed to beautify Fairbanks and make it pedestrian friendly.

At 95, Dr. Wood has been one of Alaska's major players. He served as the president of the University of Alaska, mayor of Fairbanks, and on so many community councils and State task forces that I cannot here name them all. In honor of Dr. Wood's contribution to Fairbanks, the State of Alaska, and our Nation as a naval commander in World War II, Senator MURKOWSKI and I join together in introducing a Senate resolution which will urge Secretary Slater to designate this footbridge the William R. Wood Centennial Bridge.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to respond to some of the things the distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee just said, particularly his acknowledgment of the hard work done by the staff on both sides, the majority staff and the minority staff, and to say that I watch Senator STEVENS in action; I see how difficult it is to get some of these allocations in the shape we would like.

We are pleased that the Transportation bill was, if I may use the word, hammered out because there are still a lot of needs with which we have to be

concerned. One is the FAA, of course, and our safety programs. I was pleased to hear the Senator mention that.

The other is the U.S. Coast Guard, in which Senator STEVENS has such an active interest. I share that interest. The State of New Jersey has a great deal of dependence—as well as the entire country—on the activities of the Coast Guard. And the fact is that their funding is presently on the short side. But decisions are made when resources are too spare, and, inevitably, some hard decisions have to be made.

I commend the chairman of the Appropriations Committee for being able to ensure that the Transportation bill was moved along. I know how hard he is working with some of the other bills that are still pending.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE CONCERNING DR. WILLIAM RANSOM WOOD

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I send this resolution to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 195) expressing the sense of the Senate concerning Dr. William Ransom Wood.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I express my gratitude to the secretary for the minority for clearing this resolution so quickly, and I ask for its consideration.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the resolution and its preamble are agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 195) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 195

Whereas Dr. William Ransom Wood's tireless dedication and wisdom have earned him honorable distinction for his work in the city of Fairbanks, the State of Alaska, and the Nation;

Whereas Dr. Wood served his country with distinction in battle during World War II as a captain in the United States Navy;

Whereas Dr. Wood served the people of Alaska as president of the University of Alaska, chairman of the American Cancer Society, vice president of the Alaska Boy Scout Council, Member of the Alaska Business Advisory Council, Chairman of the Alas-

ka Heart Association, and numerous other organizations;

Whereas Dr. Wood served the people of Fairbanks as mayor, chairman of the Fairbanks Community Hospital Foundation, President of Fairbanks Rotary Club, and in many other capacities;

Whereas the city of Fairbanks, the State of Alaska, and the Nation continue to benefit from Dr. Wood's outstanding leadership and vision;

Whereas Dr. Wood is the executive director of Festival Fairbanks which desires to commemorate the centennial of Fairbanks, Alaska with a pedestrian bridge which shall serve as a reminder to remember and respect the builders of the Twentieth Century; and

Whereas it shall also be in Dr. Wood's words, "a memorial to the brave indigenous people. Who came before and persisted through hardships, generation after generation. The Centennial Bridge is a tribute to their stamina and ability to cope with changing times." Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States Senate urges the Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater to designate the Fairbanks, Alaska Riverwalk Centennial Bridge community connector project as the Dr. William Ransom Wood Centennial Bridge.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, pursuant to the consent agreement of Friday, October 1, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of judicial nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The nominations will be stated.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

THE JUDICIARY

Ronnie L. White, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri; Brian Theodore Stewart, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah; and Raymond C. Fisher, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, we have a number of judges to discuss tonight:

There is Brian Theodore Stewart—I see the distinguished Senator from Utah on the floor, who I am sure will be speaking of him.

There is Justice Ronnie L. White—I see the distinguished Senator from Missouri, who will be speaking about him and has specific reserved time for that.

And there is the nomination of Raymond C. Fisher.

Utilizing some of the time reserved to me and the distinguished chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I will make sure that whatever amount of time the distinguished Senator from Utah wishes will be available to him.