

there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." And, now, as the 106th Congress is coming to a close, the hour has come to pay tribute to five distinguished colleagues—Senators with whom I have had the honor and pleasure of working. These gentlemen of the Senate have decided that it is now time to embark on a new chapter in their lives.

Each in his own way has left behind a part of their vision for America and has influenced the course of our country.

The Senate Finance Committee is seeing a great exodus as four of the five Senators retiring served this Committee. I will certainly miss their participation on this committee and the leadership on key issues.

DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN and I were elected to the Senate from our respective states in the same year—1976. So we two freshman learned the ways of this august body at the same time. And, I have to say to my colleagues who have more recently been elected to this body, that was no minor education. We began our Senate service with giants like James O. Eastland, Barry Goldwater, Hubert Humphrey, and Howard Baker.

The difference was that PAT MOYNIHAN had already had a distinguished career in public service having served as urban affairs advisor to President Nixon and as Ambassador to India and the United Nations. I have always had great admiration for his strong character, great intellect and exceptional diplomacy—particularly on those occasions when it was between warring political parties, not countries.

Senator MOYNIHAN is famous for spotting emerging issues long before anyone else. He has been warning for years that Social Security needs reform. He has urged reform of the alternative minimum tax, and worked tirelessly in the effort to reform a broken welfare system.

On the candor scale, Senator ROBERT KERREY would rank near the top. That is a commodity sadly lacking in many circles—and not just in government, but in business and academia as well. BOB KERREY has been as courageous about sharing his opinions as he was when serving in the Vietnam war, during which he was awarded a Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and our nation's highest honor, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

He left the governorship of Nebraska with a 70 percent approval rating, which tells us something about his record of employing common sense and exercising integrity in governance. Nebraskans are no nonsense, hard-working people. They would not have tolerated any less.

BOB KERREY has put those same virtues to work in the Senate, particularly in our bipartisan efforts to reform Social Security and Medicare as well as the IRS.

I am going to miss my colleague from the West, Senator RICHARD BRYAN. Though we have not agreed on every issue—who does?—we have a common appreciation for the impact of federal policy on the western states.

I was also most appreciative and grateful for his honest, straightforward, and thorough leadership of the Senate Ethics Committee—no doubt one of the more thankless jobs in the Senate. But, every senator, regardless of political party, could be assured that, if wrongs had been committed, they would certainly be found out. If allegations were false, the verdict would be made clear to all.

Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG, like me, is living proof that the American dream can come true. His hard work, determination, and ingenuity brought him from humble beginnings to build with two partners the Automatic Data Processing (ADP) Company, which became the world's largest computing services company.

I was pleased to work with Senator LAUTENBERG on legislation to prohibit smoking on public transportation. He has been a tireless worker in the war to prevent teenage smoking.

To my Democratic colleagues, Senators LAUTENBERG, MOYNIHAN, BRYAN and KERREY: We have battled through many issues, each of us committed to doing what we believed was best for America and for our respective states. There has never been a dull moment. It has been a privilege to work with you.

Last but not least, I have to bid farewell to my fellow Republican and Finance Committee member, Senator CONNIE MACK. His friendship, leadership, and dedication to furthering the causes of fiscal responsibility, governmental accountability, and medical research will be greatly missed.

Senator MACK has successfully fought for Florida's concerns and kept his campaign promise of "less taxing, less spending, less government and more freedom," which resulted in 70 percent of the vote in 1994, more than any other Republican Senatorial candidate in the Nation.

The Roman politician Cicero states, "It is the character of a brave and resolute man not to be ruffled by adversity and not to desert his post."

I believe Senator MACK has been this exemplary leader; and, instead of faltering like most men, Senator MACK had the ability to rise above not one, but three, personal battles with cancer—his wife's, his daughter's and his own. Senator MACK lost his mother, father and younger brother to cancer. This history makes the Mack's the poster family for early detection, a role they have indefatigably played.

Drawing from this experience, Senator MACK has fought to double the funding for National Institute of Health (NIH) in order to step up the search for a cure for cancer as well as

other diseases that plague our families and society today. This is a goal I will continue to support not as a legacy for CONNIE MACK, but inspired by him and his family.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve with these men, and I want to take this opportunity to bid farewell and best wishes to our colleagues as they begin what I hope will be a very rewarding retirement.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, the General Accounting Office recently concluded that formal software management policies at eight of the sixteen U.S. Federal agencies they investigated were found to be inadequate and that controls over access to software codes were weak. I am convinced that the information systems used by the Department of Defense are critical components of the warfighting capability of the United States. Off-the-shelf and customized software is critical to the functioning of these systems. I rise today to express my concern that the security and integrity of critical government systems could be at great risk if their operational software has been procured or developed outside the United States or without proper oversight and control. I have read, with growing concern, a number of news articles that suggest that foreign software acquisitions can have potentially catastrophic consequences on both classified and unclassified national information management systems used by Federal agencies for sensitive applications.

I would like to cite just few examples to illustrate my point. An article in the February 16, 2000, Washington Post discussed the State Department's purchase of an unclassified, but sensitive, business operations system with software code developed by former citizens of the Soviet Union. According to the article, State withdrew the system from their embassies worldwide because they were concerned that hidden code might have been added during development and fielding. The final paragraph of the article states: "The lesson of State's fiasco is simple—but so important it should be hard-wired: As people and organizations grow more dependent on computers, they become more vulnerable. It's easy to forget that every line of code can be a potential spy or saboteur."

On March 2, 2000, the New York Times reported that Japanese software suppliers associated with the terrorist sect responsible for the Tokyo subway nerve gas attack had sold software programs to several Japanese government agencies, to include their Defense Ministry. According to the article, the agencies and companies that ordered the software were unaware that the sect was involved because the principal