

other recipients gathered on this stage tonight and all the others enrolled in colleges and universities across the country. On our behalf and on behalf of our families and communities, we thank all the companies, businesses, individuals, and events that donated the funds that helped us afford a college education. And, I am especially grateful to Sprint for making my scholarship possible. This scholarship is not only monetary assistance but also an investment in a woman with great potential for realizing future success. I have struggled with economic and social issues and I firmly believe that education is the key that will unlock our full potential as Latinos and ultimately contribute to the economic prosperity of America. Let us continue to pursue a better future for our and future generations.●

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID M.
LANEY

● Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mr. David M. Laney, who soon will complete his term as a member of the Texas Transportation Commission. Governor George W. Bush appointed Mr. Laney to the commission in April 1995, designating him chairman and Commissioner of Transportation. In April 2000, he stepped down as Commissioner of Transportation, serving the remainder of his term as a member of the commission.

During his term on the commission, Mr. Laney has been the champion of the state's efforts to increase the state's share of federal transportation dollars returning to Texas. As chairman, he was a partner to the Texas Congressional delegation's efforts to develop fairer highway funding formulas, promoting the efforts of a coalition of "donor" states to work with Congress toward achieving at least a 90.5 percent return on payments into the Highway Trust Fund. As a result of our efforts, Texas received an increase of more than \$700 million annually in federal highway funds and David Laney deserves a great deal of the credit.

In addition, he promoted increased federal funding for the nation's general aviation and reliever airports, which Congress provided in the Aviation Investment Reform Act for the 21st Century (AIR 21). Finally, Mr. Laney has been a strong advocate for the state's small urban and rural transit systems, working with Congress to provide much needed discretionary funding to address the vehicle replacement needs of these vital transportation systems, the most extensive in the nation. With these additional funds for Texas transportation programs, the commission will be better able to meet the tremendous transportation demands of the growing regional and international trade traffic in Texas.

With a look to the future, as Commissioner of Transportation Mr. Laney led the Texas Department of Transportation in its efforts to obtain the flexible financing tools it needs to help ad-

dress transportation needs in Texas. He was successful in working with the Texas Legislature to create the Texas Turnpike Authority Division of the department, which provides toll-funding options for the state's major transportation projects. With his strong support and encouragement, the division has applied for and expects to receive an \$800 million loan under the federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act for a major Central Texas turnpike project. Under Mr. Laney's leadership, the commission has used the Texas State Infrastructure Bank, authorized under the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995, to provide needed assistance to localities to help move forward important transportation projects.

Mr. Laney also initiated a major Texas border strategy to address the demands of international trade traffic.

Throughout his tenure on the commission, Mr. Laney has provided strong and confident leadership to the Texas Department of Transportation, promoting the development of a first-class Texas transportation system. His legacy is a transportation agency with a menu of solid financial and operational tools providing a safe, effective, and environmentally-sensitive transportation system for the people of Texas and the nation. His dedication to transportation and his strong leadership on the commission will be missed.

Mr. President, I know my fellow Texans join me in this expression of appreciation to David Laney for his exemplary leadership on the Texas Transportation Commission.●

RETIREMENT OF THE HONORABLE
CLAYTON E. PREISEL

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Clayton E. Preisel, who is retiring on December 31, 2000, after an extraordinary career spanning over 50 years. During this time, he has served in the Marine Corps, been a teacher and school administrator, and, for the past 18 years, presided over the Lapeer County Probate Court. Whatever the forum, Judge Preisel has been a leader and an inspiration to those around him.

Judge Preisel was born on January 29, 1927. He graduated from Imlay City High School in 1945, and departed for the Marines in July of that same year. He served until August of 1946, and then returned to the State of Michigan to attend Michigan State University. He graduated from MSU in 1951 with a degree in Agriculture.

After graduation, Judge Preisel moved to Carson City, Michigan, and began teaching. After four years, he returned home to Imlay City, where he continued his teaching career. He taught in Imlay City until 1969, and spent the final two years of his tenure there as both a teacher and a school

administrator. During this time, Judge Preisel also doubled as a student, obtaining a Master's of Science degree in 1956, and, in 1968, receiving a Jurist Doctorate degree from the Detroit College of Law.

Upon receiving his law degree, Judge Preisel entered into private practice, where he stayed until 1982, when he was elected to serve as Lapeer County Probate Judge. He has held this position for the past 18 years, and during his time on the bench has become respected not only for his knowledge of the law but also for his sensible approach to its application. Individuals leave Judge Preisel's courtroom with the knowledge that they have been treated fairly, which in my mind is the most worthy thing that can be said of a Judge.

Judge Preisel has always found time to partake in community service. He was a member of the Imlay School Board from 1969–1983. He has also been involved in 4-H, the Lions Club, the Community Foundation, United Way, Kids In New Directions (KIND), Big Brothers-Big Sisters, and the Lapeer County Bar Association.

Judge Preisel's retirement will allow him to spend more time with his family. He and his wife, Beulah Joann Anderson, who celebrated their 50th Anniversary on September 9th, 2000, have four children (Kathleen, Janet, Karen and James), and five grandchildren (Heather, Jason, Alysha, Katelyn and Steven).

I applaud Judge Preisel for his extraordinary service to Lapeer County and the State of Michigan. His leadership in all phases of his career has been exceptional and will be dearly missed. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate and thank the Honorable Clayton E. Preisel on a wonderful and successful career, and wish him the best of luck in retirement.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:17 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 11. An act for the relief of Wei Jingsheng.

S. 150. An act for the relief of Marina Khalina and her son, Albert Mifakhov.

S. 276. An act for the relief of Sergio Lozano, Faurico Lozano and Ana Lozano.

S. 785. An act for the relief of Frances Schochenmaier.

S. 869. An act for the relief of Mina Vahedi Notash.

S. 1078. An act for the relief of Mrs. Elizabeth Eka Bassey and her children, Emmanuel O. Paul Bassey, Jacob Paul Bassey, and Mary Idongesit Paul Bassey.

S. 1513. An act for the relief of Jacqueline Salinas and her children Gabriela Salinas, Alejandro Salinas, and Omar Salinas.

S. 2000. An act for the relief of Guy Taylor.

S. 2002. An act for the relief of Tony Lara.