One year ago, July 24, 2000, the Federal debt stood at $5,668,098,000,000, five trillion, six hundred sixty-eight billion, ninety-eight million.

Five years ago, July 24, 1995, the Federal debt stood at $5,173,226,000,000, five trillion, one hundred seventy-three billion, two hundred twenty-six million.

Ten years ago, July 24, 1985, the Federal debt stood at $3,653,868,658,043.75, three trillion, six hundred fifty-three billion, eight hundred sixty-eight million, forty-three dollars and seventy-five cents.

Fifteen years ago, July 24, 1975, the Federal debt stood at $2,071,116,000,000, two trillion, seventy-one billion, one hundred sixteen million, dollars and ninety-two cents.

The Jubilee therapy for our Nation's military. He is a proud son of the sixth generation of Waite's to serve the military to his son, who is now a Missourian who makes our State proud. He began his career by enlisting in the Missouri Military Academy Officer Candidate School as a Second Lieutenant in 1972. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Missouri State University, Missouri Military Academy, and the Army War College.

Colonel Waite is a fifth generation Missourian who makes our State proud. He began his career by enlisting in the Missouri Army National Guard in 1969 and continued to excel as he climbed the ranks to his position today. He imparted his love of the State and to the military to his son, who is now the sixth generation of Waite's to serve our Nation's military. He is a proud Missourian and American.

Colonel Waite completed his initial training at Ft. Bragg, NC and Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD in the spring of 1970 and was commissioned through the Missouri Military Academy Officer Candidate School as a Second Lieutenant of Field Artillery in 1972. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Southwest Missouri State College and a master of science in business administration from Boston University. In addition, his military education includes the Ordinance Officer Basic and Advanced courses, U.S. Marine Corps Staff Course, U.S. Army Command and General Staff Course, the Air War College, and the Army War College.

Throughout his career, Colonel Waite has held a variety of positions at nearly every level of the Army National Guard. He entered active duty with the National Guard “Captains to Europe” program where he served abroad in Giessen, Germany with the 19th Maintenance Battalion as an Armament Maintenance Officer and Battalion Logistics Officer. Colonel Waite is also to be recognized for his service as Assistant Professor of Military Science, Hofstra University, an important program for developing the soldiers of our future.

Throughout his career, Colonel Waite's level of commitment and service has been recognized and rewarded through numerous decorations and awards. Colonel Waite has demonstrated the utmost patriotism and dedication and has consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Colonel Waite's retirement represents a loss to the both the National Guard Bureau and the Department of Defense. Throughout his career, Colonel Waite has made long-term, positive contributions to both the military and our Nation. On behalf of the citizens of Missouri and a grateful Nation, we wish Colonel Jeffrey A. Waite, his wife Lori, and four children all the best for a happy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MOUNTAIN VALLEY MEDICAL CLINIC

Mr. JEFFR EY A. WAITE

Mr. JEFFREY A. WAITE, Mr. President, right now in my home state of Vermont, a very special institution, the Mountain Valley Medical Clinic, MVMC, in Londonderry, VT, is celebrating 25 years of service. Rural clinics such as Mountain Valley, play a critical role in delivering health care, especially in States as rural as Vermont.

Twenty-five years ago, it was not unusual for communities such as Londonderry, to receive health care through a single practitioner, who serviced the entire town. Mountain Valley's sole practitioner, Dr. Elizabeth Pingree, was retiring, the impending lack of health care in the area became a real concern. A group of involved citizens recognized that people would either be forced to drive great distances to be seen by a physician, or they would go without care. The entire community responded by coming together to create the Mountain Valley Medical Clinic.

The founding fathers, and mothers, of Mountain Valley recognized the rapidly expanding need for improved and broader health care services in the area. With tireless energy, enthusiasm and dedication, these key individuals succeeded in generating widespread support throughout the neighboring communities. They raised funds, developed plans, created a board of volunteers, and opened a state-of-the-art, comprehensive, health care facility to serve area residents and visitors. Additionally, they created an infrastructure that allows Vermonters of all ages to have convenient, affordable access to health care.

Since opening its doors in 1976, more than 300,000 patients have visited this clinic for care. Over the recent decade, more than 11,000 per year have sought medical assistance. Much of the cost of the care has been curtailed by Medicaid, Medicare, or provided without reimbursement. Staying true to its mission, the dedicated staff and volunteer Board of Directors balanced financial losses, each and every year, with the generous support of the community.

As a model rural health care facility, Mountain Valley reminds us that bigger, faster, cheaper, and fancier, do not necessarily translate to better health care. In fact, many part-time residents in this community consider Mountain Valley to be their primary care provider, even though, or perhaps because, they reside in large cities up and down the east coast. I wish other institutions could follow the example of Mountain Valley Health Clinic.

As this issue, He is recognized celebrates its 25th anniversary, it remains one of a kind. It is unique among its peers throughout the country for its philosophy and independence, but most of all, because it is the product of so many remarkable people. It is truly part of the communities it serves. Residents and visitors in the Mountain Valley service area have much to be proud of, and grateful for, with the steadfast medical care given by the professionals and staff at Mountain Valley Medical Clinic.

TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER ROBERT W. VARNEY

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an esteemed colleague and dear friend, Robert W. Varney, Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, NHDES, on being appointed Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA—New England.

Mr. Varney has served the Granite State as Commissioner of NHDES since July of 1989, having been appointed by three Governors, JUDD GREGG, Steve Merrill and Jeanne Shaheen, with the unanimous approval of the Executive Council. Mr. Varney was responsible for the great task of overseeing all of New Hampshire's air, water and waste programs issues. He is recognized nationally as an environmental leader, and has presided over countless prestigious environmental committees and organizations, including President of the Environmental Council of the care, Medicaid, or provided without reparation of State Environmental Commission and has served on the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council.

While his national recognition is commendable, Mr. Varney's prowess in the New England region has been demonstrated by his high ranking positions on numerous regional organizations such as the Gulf of Maine Council on