So I am glad the Senator saluted the Happy Hooligans. I salute the Happy Hooligans and all those Air Guard pilots who scrambled to our Nation’s defense, with complete risk to their lives, possibly having to give their lives to protect others.

They will be called upon again, undoubtedly, in service to our interests, our freedom, and our allies. We do salute them and their families and their employers, whether they may be in North Dakota, Virginia, Minnesota, Wisconsin, or anywhere else in this country because they are patriots. We have all seen the patriotism that defines our country.

TRIBUTE TO THE PAGES

Mr. DAYTON. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to our pages, who serve our young Americans, day after day with extraordinary dedication—as do all of our staff—but especially for their exemplary performance last week. They continued their service on the Senate floor in the midst of crisis that had even adults in some alarm. Not only did they return to their work after the horrific events of last Tuesday, September 11, but also again last Thursday.

As you recall, Madam President, that evening the Senate Chamber had to be evacuated because of a bomb threat. One of our distinguished Senators said it was the first time the Senate floor had been cleared in his 25 years of service. A security guard told me it was the first time in the 33 years of his service that the Senate Chamber had been cleared. Yet that very night our pages were back working as scheduled to conclude the Senate’s business, and they returned again last Friday. Today, they are once again assembled, and are working hard on our behalf.

For pages of any age to respond with this kind of courage and dedication in this situation is exemplary. For these young men and women—teenagers who are high school students—to have shown this kind of courage is just extraordinary.

I ask unanimous consent that their names be printed in the RECORD. I wish to pay tribute on behalf of all the Senate to them for their dedication and their courage. They are truly outstanding young Americans.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

UNITED STATES SENATE PAGES—FALL 2001


CONFIRMATION OF BRUCE COLE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ENDOVEMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to express my strong support for the nomination of Bruce Cole to be Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Dr. Cole is a noted art historian and a Distinguished Professor at Indiana University. He served as Visiting Professor at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and previously held the John H. Hopkins Chair of Excellence at the University of Memphis. Dr. Cole is a former member of the National Council on the Humanities, and he will bring impressive stature and experience to the Humanities Endowment.

We have been fortunate over the past three decades to have many distinguished academics and humanists lead this agency. I believe that Dr. Cole will serve in that tradition and be an impressive leader for this important agency.

In conjunction with the consideration of his nomination by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, I submitted a number of questions to Dr. Cole, and I wanted to share his answers with my colleagues. I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

QUESTIONS BY SENATOR KENNEDY FOR DR. BRUCE COLE, GEN.

1. Do you support the mission of the National Endowment for the Humanities and believe that there is a federal role in support of the humanities?

Answer: Yes. I believe firmly that the NEH plays a crucial, and necessary role in our democracy. Although the NEH is a small agency, its impact is great. As the only federal program dedicated exclusively to the national dissemination of the humanities, it affirms our government’s support for the humanities. This support is essential because the humanities make us aware of our shared human condition and enlarge our worldview. The humanities are the principal means of transmitting our shared democratic values to future generations. As a pivotal civilizing force in human life, the humanities are essential to the well-being of any democracy and every citizen.

The importance of the humanities is recognized in the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act establishing the NEH. This act states: “That a high civilization and culture firm in its citizens’ and the government’s support for the humanities requires constant dedication and support to the other great branches of scholarly and cultural activity in order to achieve a better understanding of the past, a better analysis of the present, and a better view of the future.” The legislation also states that “democracy depends on the study of the humanities and on the integrity of its citizens” and that “the study of the humanities requires constant dedication and devotion.” These words remain as true and meaningful today as when they were written more than three and a half decades ago. If confirmed I hope to serve the nation by furthering the NEH’s mission to make the humanities part of the lives of all Americans.

2. Are there any circumstances under which you would support the elimination of this agency?

Answer: No.

3. Due to budget cuts and the impact of inflation, the NEH’s spending power is about 30% of what it was in 1980. This decline in funding has reduced the agency’s reach and