

### JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, on February 15th, I was pleased to join Senator THURMOND in introducing a bill that would remove current restrictions preventing the expansion of the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps, JROTC. This bill would also address the shortage of JROTC instructors by expanding the qualifying criteria to National Guard and Reserve Officers. There is nearly unanimous agreement that JROTC is turning today's children into tomorrow's leaders. Additionally, high school performance measures consistently indicate that JROTC cadets attend class more frequently, are responsible for fewer disciplinary infractions, and are more likely to graduate. JROTC's blend of local, State, and Federal involvement has also been a model for good government, and it has sponsored teamwork not just in its cadets but also in the agencies responsible for the program. As many members know, I have long been a supporter of the JROTC program, having secured \$27 million in supplemental appropriation for JROTC in 1999. By removing the current limitations on its expansion, we are enabling more students to participate in what has proven to be an exemplary program. The legislation would remove the congressionally-mandated ceiling of 3,500 JROTC units. It would also allow the Marine Corps to continue to expand their program which had previously been capped at 210 units. All together the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps have more than 2,700 school units totaling over 425,000 cadets, with hundreds of schools nationwide on waiting lists for a JROTC program. JROTC has carried bipartisan support since Congress established it in 1926.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

### NAVAL RESERVE'S 86TH BIRTHDAY

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, on March 3rd we honor the 86th birthday of the United States Naval Reserve. Since 1915 the Naval Reserve has exemplified the highest virtues of loyalty, service, and sacrifice. They have served and fought alongside their active duty comrades from the Atlantic to the far reaches of the Pacific, to the jungles of Vietnam and across the vast expanse of the Arabian desert as a battle-tested and skilled force that is the envy of the world.

Back in 1915, no one could have imagined the role that fledgling naval reserve would play in supporting the Navy today. The term "Weekend Warrior" no longer applies to these citizen-soldiers. As a trained, professional and well-equipped cadre of dedicated men and women, they are a key component of everything the Navy does, both in

peacetime and in war. Many of them have made the ultimate sacrifice in the cause of freedom and we honor their memory.

They serve on ships, in squadrons, on staffs, and in hospitals performing a myriad of tasks essential to mission accomplishment. Seamlessly integrated alongside their active-duty shipmates you cannot tell the difference between them. This is the reality of today's total force and what enables our marvelous military to remain engaged around the world.

They have a proud heritage and a bright future. In the spirit of the Minutemen of Lexington and Concord these great Americans stand ready to answer their Nation's call at any time, and the world is a better place because of the sacrifice they and their families make.

In my hometown of New Orleans, we are fortunate enough to be rich in Naval history and tradition. We are the proud home of the Naval Reserve Headquarters where Rear Admiral John Totushek commands more than 88,000 reservists across the United States and around the world.

As we set out in this new century, the importance of the Naval Reserve has never been more clear. Tomorrow, as today and for generations past, the razor sharp readiness of the United States Navy serves as a beacon to America's friends and a warning to our enemies, promising swift action, great victories and richer traditions yet to come.

On this day, I offer warmest regards to all members of the Naval Reserve, and to the families who also serve by supporting them. You represent all that is wonderful about our Nation.

### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

#### TRIBUTE TO LEON KENISON UPON HIS RETIREMENT

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Leon Kenison, an exemplary public official who dedicated himself to serving the people of New Hampshire for almost four decades. As Commissioner of the Department of Transportation since 1996, he has brought to the office the professional skills and knowledge of the politics and practice of road building so vital to an agency that touches the lives of every person who lives in or visits the Granite State.

Leon began his career with the Department of Transportation in 1963, a week before graduating from the University of New Hampshire. He is widely respected for his transportation expertise at state, regional and national levels, and has chaired several key committees for the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials. During his tenure with the DOT,

Leon approached his work with a can-do attitude, and balanced what needs to be done with what can be done.

Throughout his career, Leon accomplished a great deal for transportation in New Hampshire. The people of this state look upon him with tremendous gratitude and admiration for all that he has done. I have often sought Leon's support and expertise on transportation issues. We worked closely together to make sure that New Hampshire's needs were met in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. Under his leadership, the DOT not only secured funding to complete major highway projects including Route 101 and I-93, but also placed more emphasis on environmental protection, car pools, express bus, rail and other new programs.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve Leon Kenison in the U.S. Senate and I wish him and his family godspeed in his retirement and in all of their future endeavors. •

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-681. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Weighted Average Interest Rate Update" (Notice 2001-15) received on February 13, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-682. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disclosure of Return Information to the Bureau of the Census" ((RIN1545-AY51)(TD8943)) received on February 13, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-683. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "CPI Adjustment for Below-market Loans for 2001; Correction" (Ann. 2001-19) received on February 13, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-684. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue