PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE KNOLL MOTEL IN BARRE, VERMONT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Knoll Motel in Barre, VT, a pioneer establishment of the VT tourism industry. In April 2000, the Knoll Motel celebrated its 50th anniversary of offering warm and courteous hospitality to visitors of the Green Mountain State. Founded in April of 1950, it is the state’s first and longest operating motel.

During the period following World War II, the number of Americans traveling for recreational purposes increased dramatically. As more and more citizens traveled the country’s expanding network of highways, the touring public were in need of economical and conveniently located overnight accommodations. Responding to this trend, the Knoll Motel for this tourist industry established motels that catered to the needs of family highway travelers.

Recognizing the economic potential associated with the growing tourist industry in Vermont, Stanley and Minnie Sabens established the Knoll Motel on 1015 North Main Street in Barre. Located near the State Capital, Montpelier, and what eventually became Interstate 89, the original eight-room facility became a model for the motel industry in Vermont, where tourism is vital to the success of the state’s economy.

Keeping with Vermont’s proud tradition of family-owned businesses, Stanley Sabens II has assumed the management of the Knoll Motel, ensuring that future generations of visitors to Vermont will be able to enjoy the Sabens’ hospitality for years to come.

I congratulate the Sabens family and the Knoll Motel for their many years of service to Vermont and its visitors, and I wish them success in the future.

IN MEMORY OF ROSEMARIE MAHER

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in remembrance of a wonderful Alaskan, Mrs. Rosemarie Maher, the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Doyon Native Regional Corp. based in Fairbanks, Alaska.

On Monday, I attended the moving memorial service in Fairbanks in Rosemarie’s Maher’s honor, who tragically died quite suddenly last week at far too young an age—53. Along with my wife Nancy, I want to express my deepest sympathies to Rosemarie’s husband, Terry J. Maher, their children: Malinda and husband Jim Holmes, Warren J. and wife Angela Westfall, and Kerry-Rose and Kevin Maher, and all other family members.

I also want to express my condolences to the employees and all of the nearly 14,000 shareholders of Doyon Ltd. upon the death of a very dedicated and talented woman, who successfully advanced the cause of both Doyon members and of all Alaska Natives.

Rosemarie Maher showed uncommon grace and perseverance during her three decade career working on behalf of Alaska Natives. For 21 years, she served as a member of the Doyon corporation’s board of directors and assumed the role of daily leadership of the corporation under such difficult circumstances in winter 2000.

Rosemarie Maher began her involvement in Alaska Native organizations and public service while still in her 20’s. As a devoted wife and mother, she helped to steer development of several organizations, including the Interior Village Association and the Tanana Chiefs Conference where she was first elected to the Doyon Ltd. Board of Directors. Seven years later, she was elected Chairman of the Board, a position she held until her appointment as President and Chief Executive Officer after the tragic plane-crash death in January 2000 of long-time Doyon President Morris Thompson.

Mrs. Maher was born in a fish camp on the Nabesna River near her home of Northway along the Alaska Highway in Central Alaska. As a child she was raised as a traditional Athabascan Indian, but as a young teen she was educated at Sheldon Jackson School in Sitka and later at East High School in Anchorage. After graduating from high school, she trained at Alaska Business College and in 1969 moved to Fairbanks, working for several U.S. Government agencies.

During the mid 1970s, Mrs. Maher moved back to Northway where she was elected President of the Northway Village Council and helped form the Upper Tanana Alcohol Program in the Tok area. She also played a key role in the incorporation of Greater Northway Inc., the non-profit organization formed to administer local infrastructure and economic development projects in the region. She was a shareholder of Northway Natives Inc., the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act Village Corporation for Northway, serving as the first President of that organization. She also was President of Naabia Niign, a Northway Native subsidiary.

From 1976 to 1984 she entered governmental public service as a member of the Alaska Gateway School District Board and was a director of the North-west Regional Education Lab, a non-profit, federally and privately funded educational research organization based in Portland, Ore. She also was a member of the Teamsters Union, working summers in road construction and hazardous waste cleanup between 1992 and 2000.

At the statewide level, Rosemarie served as Co-Chair of the Alaska Federalization of Natives from 1997–2000 and was a member of the Alaska Board of Game. She also served as a member of the Governor’s Commission on Local Governance and Empowerment and on the Governor’s Highway and Natural Gas Policy Council.

Rosemarie truly did commit her life to the success of Alaska Native corporations and to the betterment of her neighbors and of all Alaska Natives. Her death is a great loss, not just to Doyon and her native culture, but to all who knew and loved her. Again our deepest sympathies to her family and friends. She will always be remembered with great fondness.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:


The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:


H. Con. Res. 170. Concurrent resolution encouraging corporations to contribute to faith-based organizations.

H. Con. Res. 174. Concurrent resolution authorizing the Rotunda of the Capitol to be used on July 20, 2001, for a ceremony to present Congressional Gold Medals to the original 29 Navajo Code Talkers.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2131. An act to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 168. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress in support of victims of torture; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with...