

Men who serve not for selfish booty;
But real men, courageous, who flinch not at
duty.

Men of dependable character;
Men of sterling worth;
Then wrongs will be redressed, and right will
rule the earth.

God Give us Men!

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Tennessee is recognized.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I thank the Senator for giving me this opportunity. I am glad to join with the President pro tempore and the majority leader in cosponsoring this resolution. I would like to add a few words about Howard Baker.

When Howard Baker left for Japan, there was an enormous ceremony hosted by the President of the United States in the East Room. It was a signal of the importance of our country's relationship with Japan. It was a demonstration of the long list of distinguished United States Ambassadors to the country of Japan. It was a reminder of the importance of the job Ambassador Baker would have at this listening post and action post in Asia.

Howard Baker's coming home deserves a little bit of fanfare, too. The relationship between Japan and the United States has never been better. A good bit of that credit goes to President Bush and Prime Minister Koizumi for their close relationship, but Howard Baker had a lot to do with it, too. His homecoming helps to bring to a close, as Senator STEVENS and Senator FRIST have said, another chapter in one of the most distinguished public careers in our country.

Howard Baker was a very successful Senator. There would not have been a Reagan Presidency, as we know it, without Howard Baker. I remember Howard Baker told me that when the tax cuts passed in the early 1980s, after the Republican majority was elected, he, Senator Baker, the majority leader, took the tax cuts and walked them over to the House of Representatives and handed them to Tip O'Neill. Then, of course, Senator Baker put his own Presidential aspirations aside a few years later and served as Chief of Staff for President Reagan. I was living in Australia at the time, and I remember the relief the Australians had in 1987 hearing on the radio that Howard Baker was going to the White House to help straighten out some problems.

I saw him up close, and I have seen him up close for a long time. I came here to this body in 1967, as his legislative assistant, 1 year before the Presi-

dent pro tempore became a Member of this Senate. Howard Baker was not a shy first-termer. We sat around in staff seats in the back of the Chamber and waited until he and TED KENNEDY, then another young Senator, took on Everett Dirksen and Sam Ervin on "one man, one vote." The youngsters beat the oldsters on that vote.

He ran for leader twice, I think, in the first 6 years. In 1977, he changed the name "Minority Leader" to "Republican Leader" on the wall out here. He began to talk about the second-best view in Washington being in the leader's office. And we knew he was thinking about trying for the first-best view in Washington, which is from the White House.

When he accepted this post in Japan, at President Bush's request, some people said to me: Why in the world would Howard Baker do that, with all he has already done in his life? I was not one bit surprised that he did. Howard Baker has always had the bit in his teeth. He has done everything he has ever done with consummate skill.

He is the reason I am in public service today. We once said there was a whole generation of us—former Senator Thompson, the late Howard Liebengood—a number of us who were a generation of people inspired by Howard Baker. Now there is a second generation, including our majority leader.

There really would not be a two-party system in Tennessee without Howard Baker.

We used to say the best thing about Howard was that when people saw him on TV, he always made Tennesseans look good. We can now say that about the country. When people see Howard Baker around the world, he makes us Americans look even better. He represents the best of us.

We welcome him home just in time for his 80th birthday on November 15, and just in time, I am quite confident, to prepare for another sparkling chapter in one of our country's most distinguished public careers.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID NEXON

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this week marks the end of the career of a dedicated public servant. David Nexon will be leaving the staff of the HELP Committee after 22 years of remarkable service. He is the minority staff director of the Health Subcommittee, and over the years he has ably served the Senate and the Nation. Senators get the credit for successful legislation, but the public does not see the many thousands of hours of work that staff put in crafting the final legislative work product.

David was instrumental, for example, in the passage of the Children's Health

Insurance Program legislation, which brought health care to 6 million children. He was also deeply involved in the passage of legislation which permits workers to maintain health insurance when they change or lose their job. These are just two of the many ways where David's work has enriched the lives of millions of Americans. Indeed, the bill we pass today dealing with genetic nondiscrimination is just one more example of his imprint on this Nation's health care policy.

Mr. President, I spent 6 years on the Senate floor, and I got to know Senate staff really well, because sometimes they spend hours and sometimes days getting ready for legislation that comes to the Senate floor. David is someone whom I got to know. When I saw him, I always knew Senator KENNEDY was nearby, or would be here soon. Senator KENNEDY, of course, can speak for himself, but this man was invaluable to Senator KENNEDY, the committee, and, I believe, the Senate and this country.

As David leaves the Senate, we thank him and his family for all of his sacrifices. He is the epitome of what a public servant should be. I wish him well. I wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALEXANDER). The majority leader.

GENETIC INFORMATION NONDISCRIMINATION ACT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in a few moments, the Senate will pass the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act. When this legislation becomes the law of the land, it will prevent health insurers from denying coverage to healthy individuals, or charging higher premiums based on genetic information. It will also prohibit employers from using genetic information when making hiring, firing, job placement, or job promotion decisions.

I thanked them earlier this morning, but once again I thank Senator OLYMPIA SNOWE, the lead sponsor of this legislation, and one of its leading champions over the years, as well as Senator MIKE ENZI, Senator KENNEDY, and Senator JUDD GREGG. So many people have been involved over the last 7 years on this legislation. I am gratified we are on the cusp of seeing it pass in the Senate and look forward to working with the House of Representatives to have it pass as soon as possible there, so we can get it to the President of the United States.

I think it is a model demonstration of how we are leading today on tomorrow's problems, problems we know increase over time.

Just 2 years ago, the Human Genome Project completed the sequencing of the human genome one year ahead of schedule. With this historic achievement, the pace of scientific discovery