

Henry Wyatt Measells IV, of Virginia
 Michael A. Middleton, of Virginia
 Amy J. Mills, of Virginia
 Kyle G. Mills, of Virginia
 Eric K. Montague, of Virginia
 Grant Hanley Morrow, of Pennsylvania
 David Jeffrey Mouritsen, of Utah
 Peter D. Mucha, of Virginia
 Amy P. Mullin, of Virginia
 Paul W. Neville, of the District of Columbia
 Albert Francisco Ofrecio, of California
 Jung Oh, of Virginia
 Stephanie Nicole Padgett, of Virginia
 Benjamin Parsell, of the District of Columbia
 Vikas C. Paruchuri, of Pennsylvania
 Michael Pennell, of Tennessee
 Severin J. Perez, of Virginia
 Robert A. Perls, of New Mexico
 Andrea Lyn Peterson, of the District of Columbia
 Charles Saunders Port, of Virginia
 Kern R. Provencio, of Virginia
 Michael Joseph Pryor, of California
 Michael G. Ramsey, of Virginia
 Charles Anthony Raymond, of Virginia
 Amy Nicole Reichert, of Colorado
 Anthony S. Ridgeway, of Virginia
 Edward Lewis Robinson III, of Maryland
 Seth R. Rogers, of South Carolina
 Jared D. Ross, of Maryland
 Alison Roth, of Virginia
 Craig Anthony Rychel, of the District of Columbia
 Anne G. Saunders, of Virginia
 Tamara L. Scott, of Maryland
 Timothy James Scovin, of the District of Columbia
 Elizabeth Sellen, of the District of Columbia
 Michael R. Shaw, of Virginia
 Roger Lanier Shields, of Virginia
 Craig M. Singleton, of Florida
 Thomas Michael Slayton, of the District of Columbia
 John Thomas Woodruff Slover, of Colorado
 Paulette C. Small, of North Carolina
 Barry Daniel Smith, of Oregon
 Don J. Smith, of Virginia
 Jason A. Smith, of Virginia
 Scott M. Smith, of Virginia
 William Catlett Solley, of Virginia
 Michelle Sosa, of California
 Judith C. Spanberger, of Maryland
 Kenneth Sturrock, of Florida
 Rudranath Sudama, of Maryland
 Janel Lynn Sutton, of Colorado
 Peter J. Sweeney, of New Jersey
 Drew Tanzman, of California
 Alper A. Tunca, of the District of Columbia
 Tommy Vargas, of Virginia
 Gareth John Vaughan, of the District of Columbia
 Eric Vela, of Virginia
 Christopher Volpicelli, of Virginia
 John Phillips Waterman, of Massachusetts
 Mark A. Wilkins, of Virginia
 Christal G. Winford, of Virginia
 Joanna K. Wojcik, of Virginia
 Hsueh-Ting Wu, of California
 Heather Louise Yorkston, of Maryland

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the Senate has lost its most talented, dedicated, and best-informed Member about the precedents, rules, and customs of the Senate, when the distinguished President pro tempore, ROBERT BYRD, passed away to join his beloved wife Erma in the heaven he was confident existed for those who were true believers.

I had the good fortune to work closely with ROBERT BYRD as a fellow member of the Appropriations Committee for 30 years. I served as the ranking minority member when he was chairman and as chairman when he was the ranking minority member. I preferred being chairman. But I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunities to conduct the hearings, schedule the committee markups, and negotiate with our House colleagues to formulate and pass the bills that funded the departments of the executive branch, the judiciary, and the Congress.

One of the highlights of my experience with ROBERT BYRD was a trip we took to several European capitals. He was comfortable discussing our mutual interests and differences with the leaders of other nations. His mastery of European history and politics was as impressive as his well-informed understanding of American history and politics.

On one leg of our trip, Senator BYRD asked my wife Rose to come sit by him. He wanted to dictate something to her. He started a recitation with names that were not familiar to me, but eventually Rose realized that he was reciting from memory the names of the monarchs of Great Britain, the United Kingdom as we know it, and in the order in which each had served throughout the entire history of that great country. It was an unbelievable performance, reflecting an awesome ability of recall, and a reverential appreciation of a nation which has been our closest ally in recent history.

ROBERT BYRD was not only my friend but a mentor, an example of dedicated, disciplined, and determined leadership. I will miss him, but I will always remember his legacy of seriousness of purpose, and his love for the Senate, its role in the legislative process, its powers of advise and consent, and its continuity that has helped make our government the most respected in the world.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I want to take a few moments today about one of the best teachers I have ever known: Senator ROBERT C. BYRD.

The man we lost this week is known for many things: as the longest serving member of Congress in the Nation's

history; as an accomplished legislator; as an author and historian; as a self-made man who reached exalted heights, yet never forgot the coal miners and the families of the mountain home community from which he came. I think of him as a teacher, one who began teaching me from the moment I came to the U.S. Senate, and one whose lessons I sought right up to the time he was taken from us this week.

Serving as a new Senator in the majority means, among other things, hours spent in this Chamber, presiding over the Senate. I was fortunate that for many of my early years here, I spent much of that time in the Presiding Officer's chair listening to Senator BYRD speak on the history of this body, its traditions and practices, and its historic debt to another great body that played a major role in mankind's march toward democratic government, the Roman senate.

I was learning from him two decades later, when Senator BYRD led a small group of us who filed a lawsuit and later a legal brief challenging a law we believed to be unconstitutional: the law granting the President the so-called line-item veto. He, like I and many others, saw this law as bending the Constitution in ways that usurped Congress's constitutional authority and responsibility. In 1998, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed. The majority in that case, citing its "profound importance," concluded that the line-item veto "may or may not be desirable," but that it was surely not consistent with "the procedures designed by the Framers of article I, section 7 of the Constitution" the so-called presentment clause.

I remember standing next to Senator BYRD at a press conference celebrating that victory for the Constitution, as he pulled out of his pocket the copy of that great founding document he always carried with him. A copy of the Constitution that sits today on my desk, in front of me at all times, was inscribed to me by Senator ROBERT C. BYRD.

I had hoped to visit with him this week to again listen and learn. In February, Senator BYRD sent all of us, his Senate colleagues, a letter setting out his position on preserving the ability to engage in extended debate in the Senate. It was yet another powerful defense of both the enduring traditions of the Senate, and the need for thoughtfulness in invoking those traditions. Senator BYRD's letter sparked some thoughts of my own, and last week, I discussed with his staff scheduling a meeting with him this week to get his take. Once again, I was in need of the insight and wisdom of Senator ROBERT BYRD.

How I wish he were here today, to continue teaching us. While that was not to be, the lessons of Senator BYRD's life and long service will endure.