

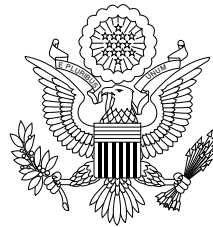
TRIBUTES TO HON. KAY R. HAGAN

Kay R. Hagan

U.S. SENATOR FROM NORTH CAROLINA

TRIBUTES

IN THE CONGRESS OF
THE UNITED STATES





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Kay R. Hagan

S. Doc. 113–29

Tributes
Delivered in Congress

Kay R. Hagan
United States Senator
2009–2015



*Compiled under the direction
of the
Joint Committee on Printing*

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BIOGRAPHY

Senator KAY R. HAGAN and her husband, Chip Hagan, have lived in Greensboro, NC, for more than 30 years, where they raised their three children: Jeanette, Tilden, and Carrie. After 10 years in the North Carolina State Senate, Senator HAGAN was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2008 by North Carolinians seeking an active, effective leader who would bring North Carolina ideas and values to Congress.

After coming to the Senate in January 2009, Senator HAGAN worked tirelessly for North Carolinians. She served on four Senate committees that were integral to the needs of the State: Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP).

Hailing from a proud military family, Senator HAGAN was committed to maintaining North Carolina's status as the "most military-friendly State in the Nation." Senator HAGAN's father-in-law was a two-star Marine general, her father and brother both served in the Navy, and her husband, Chip, a Navy Vietnam veteran, attended Wake Forest Law School with help from the GI bill. Senator HAGAN has two nephews who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Senator HAGAN regularly visited North Carolina military bases and traveled to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait to meet with North Carolina troops on the ground and to Pakistan to meet with military personnel.

As the chair of the Senate Armed Services Emerging Threats Subcommittee, Senator HAGAN made it a priority to ensure Federal policies work for our active duty military, veterans, and their families. Legislation she cosponsored ensures partisan budget battles will never again interfere with funding for veterans' health care. In addition, she backed a law to give necessary support to family caregivers of veterans. Along with her North Carolina colleague Senator Richard Burr, Senator HAGAN fought to get the families who were affected by water contamination at Camp Lejeune the answers they deserve.

Senator HAGAN understood that small businesses drive economic growth in North Carolina and across the country.

She was committed to creating a better climate for businesses to create jobs and grow. While traveling the State as a Senator, she saw first hand the determination and innovative spirit of North Carolina’s small business owners. As a member of the Senate Small Business Committee, Senator HAGAN supported legislation to put North Carolinians back to work.

Senator HAGAN focused on making her Senate office as open and accessible as possible and ensured constituent service was a hallmark of her office. She had five offices across North Carolina to serve constituents—in Greensboro, Charlotte, Raleigh, Asheville, and Greenville. She also regularly hosted “Conversations with KAY” in towns across the State. This provided an opportunity for members of the community to talk with her directly about their concerns and get help from her staff to navigate any issues they had with Federal agencies. Every Wednesday the Senate was in session, she hosted North Carolinians in her Washington office for “Carolina Coffee” where constituents could meet Senator HAGAN and her staff over coffee and Krispy Kreme doughnuts.

Senator HAGAN was a champion for education throughout her career in public service. As a member of the Senate HELP Committee, she worked to include her first piece of legislation, the Financial Literacy for Students Act, into education reform. The bill builds on her work in the State senate by incentivizing States to incorporate financial literacy into student curriculums for grades 6–12. Senator HAGAN also led a group of moderate Members to improve education in public schools to ensure the United States remained competitive in the global economy.

A mother of two daughters, Senator HAGAN is proud that the first piece of legislation she cosponsored in the U.S. Senate was the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which reestablished a fair rule for filing claims of pay discrimination based on race, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability.

Senator HAGAN was also a leader in the successful fight for justice for African American farmers—including more than 4,000 North Carolinians—who were discriminated against when applying for financial help in the 1980s and 1990s. Along with Senator Chuck Grassley, she introduced bipartisan legislation to ensure these farmers received their due settlements, and worked tirelessly with her colleagues to right this wrong for our farmers.

Senator HAGAN was born in Shelby, NC. A graduate of Florida State University and Wake Forest Law School, she

worked at North Carolina National Bank (a predecessor to Bank of America) for 10 years, becoming a vice president in the estates and trust division. She left the bank to spend more time with her children and was an active participant in her Greensboro community, becoming involved in local charities, and shuttling carpools to soccer practices.

Senator HAGAN got an early start in public service when she helped her uncle, “Walkin’ Lawton” Chiles, the former Governor and U.S. Senator from Florida, paste bumper stickers on supporters’ cars. Senator HAGAN and her husband were both active in Guilford County Democratic politics, and in 1992 and 1996, Governor Jim Hunt asked her to run his gubernatorial campaign in Guilford County. In 1998, Senator HAGAN ran for the North Carolina State Senate, where she served for 10 years and cochaired the budget committee. She was named one of North Carolina’s “Ten Most Effective Senators” three terms in a row by the nonpartisan North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research.

Farewell to the Senate

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mrs. HAGAN. Madam President, it is with great honor and gratitude that I rise to reflect on the last 6 years, which have been some of the most rewarding and transformative of my life, and to thank the people who have been by my side as we worked to make our great State and this great country even better.

First and foremost, I wish to thank the people of North Carolina for allowing me to serve them in the Senate. Six years ago you sent me to Washington to fight for the priorities that make our State great, and I have put North Carolina first every single day. I have been honored to stand up for our teachers, our students, to fight for our seniors, to help create a business climate that promotes job growth, to build an economy that works for everyone, and to make sure we keep our promises to our servicemembers and to our veterans.

I am extremely proud of what we have been able to accomplish, and I am forever humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve.

I also wish to thank my family; my husband Chip, who is my rock, and my three children, Jeanette, Tilden, and Carrie, and my two great sons-in-law, Will and Martin.

These past 6 years have been extremely full of exciting milestones for the Hagan family. Since my term began, my two daughters have both gotten married and they both had babies. I have a 1-year-old grandson Harrison and a 1-week-old granddaughter Christine. So when I said earlier that these past 6 years have been transformative, I wasn't kidding.

I also wish to thank my dad Joe Ruthven, who is one of my most trusted advisers and a constant source of inspiration for me, and his wife Judy, my stepmom, for all of her love and support.

I wish to thank the Capitol Police here in Washington. I don't think we recognize these people enough for the incredible work they do to keep us safe.

And, of course, I wish to thank my unbelievably hard-working staff whom I consider to be a part of the official Hagan family. These folks are topnotch. Their commitment to our State and the people we serve is unmatched. They are passionate and compassionate, and I am so grateful to have had them by my side over these last 6 years. I ask unanimous consent that a list of their names be printed in the Record.

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

STAFF OF SENATOR KAY R. HAGAN

Michelle Adams, Ayo Adeyeye, Tyler Aiken, Natalia Aldana, Stephanie Allen, Patrick Ayers, Devan Barber, Micah Beasley, Caroline Brantley, Patrick Brennan, Nancy Brenner, Emorie Broemel, Christopher Cannon, Angelo Caravano, Bess Caughran, Marshall Cesena, Justin Clayton, Molly Conti, Carrie Cook, Perrin Cooke, Travis Cooke, Ashley Copeland, Kathryn Davidson, Curtis Davis, Andrew Devlin, Sage Dunston, Ashley Eden, Brittany Ellis, Karen Evans.

John Fain, Elizabeth Farrar, Sharon Fisher, Colleen Flanagan, Margaret Freshwater, Amanda Gabriel, Tiffany Germain, Jennifer Gradnigo, Mary Hanley, Simone Hardeman-Jones, Mike Harney, Freddie Harrill, Jenny Hartsock, David Hartzler, Christopher Hayden, Christina Henderson, David Hoffman, Julie Holzhueter, Cristina Jacome, Jennifer Johnson, Michael Jones, Rosemary Kennedy, Meenal Khajuria, Crystal King, Catherine Kuerbitz.

John Labban, Tasmaya Lagoo, Stephen Lassiter, Samuel Lau, Margaret Lawrynnowicz, Caitlin Legacki, Jason Lindsay, Travis Manigan, Elizabeth Margolis, Shaniqua McClendon, Patrick McHugh, Will Medley, Kathryn Merrill, Forest Michaels, Melissa Midgett, John Minor, Joyce Mitchell, Amber Moon, Christopher Moyer, Sara Mursky-Fuller, Brian Nagle, Adeline Noger, Thomas O'Donnell, Emily Osterhus, Elizabeth Outten, Allison Parker, Tyler Patrick, Joseph Peele, Roger Pena, John Pfeiffer, Benjamin Piven, Stanley Purple.

Cierra Raleigh, Rikkia Ramsey, Hanna Raskin, Jean Reaves, Ryan Regan, Matthew Rumley, Leo Schmid, Tatyana Semyrog, Christopher Sgro, Lindsay Siler, Valarie Simpson, Leland Slade, Hannah Smith, Tremayne Smith, Aaron Suntag, Joshua Teitelbaum, Clayton Thomas, John Tillman, Karen Wade, Brittany Wakefield, Muthoni Wambu, Brandy Warwick, Timothy Webster, Alissa Sadie Weiner, Mesha White, Andrew Wilkins, Johnnie Williams, Sue Wink, Margaret Winslow, Abigail Youngken, Tracy Zvenyach.

Mrs. HAGAN. My staff knew how important it was to me that my office be as open and as accessible as possible to the people of North Carolina, and my team worked every single day to help us reach that goal. Over the last 6 years, we held a townhall in each of the 100 counties across North Carolina. In DC, we have held a Carolina Coffee every Wednesday and we welcomed thousands of North Carolinians to come visit us. We have also resolved more than 36,000 constituent

cases for the people of North Carolina, from helping veterans access their benefits with the VA to helping families struggling with high mortgage rates to be able to stay in their homes, to helping small businesses cut through the bureaucratic redtape.

While my North Carolina staff was there for the folks in our State day in and day out, my DC team was helping me fight for North Carolinians in Washington.

North Carolina is proud to be the most military-friendly State in the Nation. As a member of a military family, it is important to me to work every single day to keep our State the most military-friendly State. My husband is a Vietnam veteran. My dad and my brother served in the Navy. My father-in-law was a major general in the Marine Corps. I have two nephews on Active Duty. One is an F-15 fighter pilot and the other one is a Navy seal. So when I say one of my top priorities was ensuring Federal policies worked for our veterans in Active Duty military, they are not just words, it is truly a personal obligation.

That is why nearly 6 years ago, when Jerry Ensminger, a retired marine, shared with me the story of his daughter Janey, my heart broke for him. Janey died of leukemia at the age of 9 because of contaminated water on the base at Camp Lejeune. He dedicated his life to seeking justice for his daughter and other Camp Lejeune victims. I found it absolutely unconscionable that the Federal Government had denied this man, who served our country, the answers he needed after all he had been through. I wanted to do whatever I could to help, and it was one of the greatest honors of my life to work alongside my North Carolina colleague Senator Burr to pass the Janey Ensminger Act, to help Jerry and the servicemembers and families affected by water contamination at Camp Lejeune and to give them the answers and the health care they deserved.

It was also important to me that all Americans remembered and understood the sacrifices made by our military and their families. During my time in the Senate, I had the opportunity to speak on this very floor about some of the brave servicemembers from North Carolina, many of whom made the ultimate sacrifice, and many of whom lost their lives while trying to make the world a better place and safer for the rest of us. I had the opportunity to speak with many of their families and their stories were both moving and heartbreaking.

I spoke with Terry Marquez, whose son Justin died from small arms fire wounds he received while on foot patrol in the Wardak Province in Afghanistan just 1 month after he arrived in theater. He was only 25 years old when he died.

According to Justin's mom Terry, as Justin grew up in the Army, he was like a fine wine, he just kept getting better with age. He believed in protecting others. He believed in making the world a better place. He believed in standing up so that others might not have to. Justin embodied the selflessness and courage that defines the men and women of our armed services.

Shortly after sharing Justin's story on the Senate floor, I invited his mother to be my guest at the State of the Union Address. Her presence reminded not just me but so many of the Senators that she met that night—and she knew them all—how important it is that we uphold our promises to the men and women who put their lives on the line for each and every one of us. It has been an honor to help be one of those voices for our servicemembers, veterans, and their families in Washington.

As one of 20 women in the Senate, I have also enjoyed being a voice for women and children. As women Senators, we bring a unique perspective to the policymaking dialog. We understand the issues facing women and families because we have been there. Some of us are moms and some are grandmoms. We know what it is like to balance that family checkbook and simultaneously run the business and a carpool, and to want the best possible future not only for our children but for all the children throughout the United States.

More important than that, the women of the Senate know how to bridge the partisan divide to get the job done. Together we passed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, the first bill I cosponsored as a U.S. Senator. We kept student loan rates from doubling. We pushed for initiatives such as my newborn screening bill to ensure that every child has a healthy start in life. I am proud of the work we have done together to support our families and to set this country on a path to a brighter future.

But the fact is we need a lot more of that in Washington. If we are going to address the biggest challenges facing our country, we have to break through the political gridlock and confront these issues together—head on, united; not as Republicans and Democrats, but working together on behalf of the American people. We need to work together to tackle the

rising cost of college that is putting higher education out of reach for too many students and then burdening them with unsustainable debt. We need to reform our education system to ensure that every child has the tools and the technology we have to have today and that we have to understand and be an expert in that technology in order to be successful in this competitive environment.

The economy is improving, but wages are stagnant. We must find ways to ensure that Americans working full time are not living in poverty.

We need to help middle class families get ahead and ensure that working women are receiving the support they need, whether it is fair pay, affordable childcare, or time to care for new babies or seriously ill family members. There is so much work to be done. It is my hope these issues can be addressed in the 114th Congress, but doing so is going to take cooperation from all 100 Members of this body.

The men and women I have worked with during my time are some of the most dedicated, passionate people I have ever met. And though there are so many, I am only going to name a few.

Barbara Mikulski was my first mentor, the dean of the women. She walked me down the aisle to get sworn in. She is one of the greatest advocates for women and for families. I know that Patty Murray, the mom in tennis shoes, is a dynamite negotiator. Mark Warner, one of my 2008 classmates, is a leader in seeking bipartisan solutions. Susan Collins is a great friend and a proven consensus builder. Chuck Schumer is a trusted adviser who embodies what it means to be a fighter.

There are so many to name, and I love them all. I know the Members of the Senate can make progress on these issues that matter so long as we put politics aside and work together.

One of my guiding principles is “to whom much is given, much is expected.” Six years ago, North Carolinians gave me an opportunity to be a voice in Washington, and I have put North Carolinians first every single day. I urge my colleagues to do the same—to remember who they are fighting for, not who they are fighting against, to see past the *D* or the *R*, to work together in a bipartisan fashion as I have tried to do to move this country forward.

Working with all of my colleagues and serving North Carolina in the U.S. Senate is a huge honor.

God bless you all, and God bless the U.S. Senate. Thank
you.

I yield the floor.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

TRIBUTES

TO

KAY R. HAGAN

Proceedings in the Senate

TUESDAY, *December 9, 2014*

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I would like to take a few minutes to salute my colleagues who are departing the Senate at the end of this year with the conclusion of the 113th Congress: Mark Begich of Alaska, Saxby Chambliss of Georgia, Tom Coburn of Oklahoma, KAY HAGAN of North Carolina, Tom Harkin of Iowa, Mike Johanns of Nebraska, Tim Johnson of South Dakota, Mary Landrieu of Louisiana, Carl Levin of Michigan, Mark Pryor of Arkansas, Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia, Mark Udall of Colorado, and John Walsh of Montana.

They have all worked hard, ceaselessly giving their energy and considerable time and service to their constituents, to their home States and to our country. I want to thank them for their service and for their kindness to me over many years in so many cases. In particular, I want to say a few words about these colleagues. . . .

I have served with KAY HAGAN on the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee and on the Armed Services Committee. We have worked together on a number of initiatives, including efforts to keep student loan interest rates low. We traveled together to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan in 2010. She has been a tremendous advocate, especially for our military families and for small businesses. . . .

Along with all of my other colleagues who are leaving us at the conclusion of the 113th Congress, let me thank them for their service, their dedication to improving the lives of Americans, and on a very personal level for their friendship. I wish them all well.

WEDNESDAY, *December 10, 2014*

Mr. DURBIN. I have some tributes here for my colleagues who are retiring, leaving the Senate. It is a lengthy list of tributes. . . .

KAY HAGAN, my colleague from North Carolina, has done an amazing job. In her one term in the Senate, she really made a name for herself when it came to public service. She stepped up time and again and took tough votes. I know it because as whip I asked her to take on some important issues that would make this a better and stronger nation.

When KAY entered the Senate in those perilous days, America was in crisis. The economy was in free-fall. Millions had lost their homes to foreclosure. America was fighting two wars—and though our military is the finest in the world, many of its members were exhausted from multiple deployments.

Six years later, we have made progress in all of these areas. Historians will record that Senator KAY HAGAN helped to make America stronger and better.

Senator KAY HAGAN comes from a family that knows a great deal about serving and sacrificing for America. Her maternal uncle, Lawton Chiles, was a Korean war veteran who represented Florida in the U.S. House and Senate and served as Florida's Governor. Her father-in-law was a two-star marine general, her brother and father both served in the Navy, and her husband is a Vietnam veteran who used the GI bill to help pay for law school.

Senator HAGAN first learned the ups and downs of Congress—literally—by operating the Senators-only elevator while interning for her uncle.

Senator HAGAN is a former ballet dancer—a discipline that demands great discipline and hard work. As a Senator, she has used those same qualities to benefit her State and our Nation.

She served 10 years in the North Carolina State Senate and in those 10 years, she earned a reputation as a common-sense hard worker interested in results, not partisan fighting. As cochair of the State Budget Committee, she increased the State's "Rainy Day" fund and balanced five straight budgets. You heard that right—five straight budgets. She also helped make record investments in education, raised teacher pay, and increased the minimum wage.

Here in the U.S. Senate, she has continued to be a leader on education issues, most notably helping to lead a group of Senators to start fixing No Child Left Behind. With her family's military background, it is no surprise that Senator HAGAN has fought hard for military families and veterans. She introduced another bill that is close to my heart and that I will continue to work for. It would prohibit for-profit

colleges from using the phrase “GI bill” in aggressive marketing efforts aimed at separating veterans and service-members from their hard-earned education benefits. And she led the successful effort to provide health care to those affected by water contamination at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, the largest Marine Corps base on the east coast.

KAY HAGAN will leave this Senate with a proud record of dauntless accomplishment and I am proud to have had the privilege to call her colleague. I thank her for her friendship and service, and I wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

Mr. COONS. . . . As I close, I would also like to thank those of our colleagues who will be leaving the Senate after the New Year.

It is an incredible privilege to work in this Chamber and to represent the people. Every day I am awed by the dedication and talent of many of my colleagues, public servants who come to work to fight for their States and their government.

To those who are ending their service in the Senate, know that I value your friendship and partnership. It has been an honor to work with you, and I thank you for all you have done for our Nation.

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF SENATE DOCUMENT

Mr. BENNET. I ask unanimous consent that the tributes to retiring Senators be printed as a Senate document and that Senators be permitted to submit tributes until December 23, 2014.

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

THURSDAY, *December 11, 2014*

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, first let me commend my colleague from North Carolina, KAY HAGAN, who has been an extraordinary asset in the U.S. Senate. She has shown political bravery to the highest degree over and over again, taking what she knew were the right votes even when they were politically tough votes. I just listened to her farewell address and I couldn’t agree with her more, that she put the people of North Carolina ahead of everything else in terms of her service in the U.S. Senate. It has been an honor to serve

with her, to get to know her husband Chip and her family, and I wish her only the best for whatever her future undertakings may be.

Ms. HEITKAMP. Madam President, I rise today to honor my colleague from North Carolina, Senator KAY HAGAN, who is departing from the Senate at the end of this year. Senator HAGAN has been a strong voice for North Carolina's families, first during her decade in the North Carolina State Senate and during her service here in the U.S. Senate. Over the last 2 years, I have been consistently impressed with Senator HAGAN's compassion for and advocacy on behalf of her constituents and her willingness to forge the tough, bipartisan compromises that our country needs.

KAY actually first came to the Senate in the 1970s as an intern in the Capitol, where she operated the elevator that continues to carry Senators to and from the Chamber. After finishing her college education and pursuing her law degree, KAY became an attorney for North Carolina National Bank and eventually became a vice president in the estates and trust division.

Senator HAGAN's business and banking experience has been a tremendous asset during her time as a member of the Banking Committee, where we serve together. Senator HAGAN's understanding of the housing finance system and commitment to affordable housing was invaluable as she and I worked together with a bipartisan group of committee members to draft and advance legislation reforming the system to make sure the American taxpayer is protected and made whole. During the debate Senator HAGAN used her expert knowledge of the industry to craft a commonsense, bipartisan solution. Our proposal makes sure taxpayers are never left holding the bill again, while preserving the 30-year mortgage and supporting affordable housing—a huge accomplishment.

Senator HAGAN comes from a family and a State with a rich military history. Her father and brother both served in the Navy, and her husband, Chip, is a Navy Vietnam veteran. She has diligently supported and honored servicemembers and veterans as a member of the Armed Services Committee. She visited North Carolina troops in the Middle East to better understand their mission and needs, and she helped found the Military Family Caucus to raise awareness of the difficulties faced by those with loved ones abroad. In conjunction with her work on the small business committee, she introduced legislation to reduce veteran unemployment

by providing employers a work opportunity tax credit for hiring a member of the National Guard.

As a member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and chair of the Subcommittee on Children and Families, Senator HAGAN has consistently fought to make sure America's children have the education, tools, and resources to build a better tomorrow. In fact, Senator HAGAN's first bill was on a subject very dear to me—financial literacy. Far too many young Americans fall victim to financial scams or take out too many loans because they haven't been given an adequate education on personal finances. Senator HAGAN's legislation—which she has pressed every Congress—would have helped States integrate financial literacy into middle and high school curriculums. That is the kind of commonsense legislation Senator HAGAN is known for and Congress should be passing.

Senator HAGAN has been an outstanding public servant for the people of North Carolina. Although I am saddened to see such a well-respected female colleague depart from the Senate, I know KAY will continue to be a champion for North Carolina's families in the years ahead, and I wish her all the best.

MONDAY, *December 15, 2014*

Mr. REID. Madam President, North Carolina's official motto is a Latin phrase which means, simply translated, "To be, rather than to seem." "To be, rather than to seem" means don't talk about being a hard worker—be a hard worker. Don't just pretend to be honest—be honest. If you talk about being sincere, be genuine about it. Senator KAY HAGAN, a native of Shelby, NC, embodies her State's motto. She is as genuine and honest as anyone could be. It is no wonder that in 2008, when the country was seeking change, the people of North Carolina elected KAY HAGAN to the Senate. From the moment she arrived, she got to work. The very first piece of legislation she cosponsored was the Lilly Ledbetter Act. Having worked as a corporate executive, KAY is aware of the difficulties working women face. This legislation was personal to KAY, and she saw it through until completion. The daughter of a veteran, KAY spent her time in the Senate creating sound policies to protect and benefit members of the U.S. armed services and their families. She has done this by vir-

tue of her position, not only as a Senator but as a member of the important Armed Services Committee.

As a former executive of North Carolina National Bank, KAY knows all of the challenges facing businesses in her State and how women have a little different view of how difficult it is to work their way through the corporate world. She has fought tirelessly to create a better climate for small businesses to create jobs and grow. On any given issue, at any given time, KAY HAGAN has advocated her position and has done it well. She refused to give up until meaningful solutions were discovered.

While I am sure Senator HAGAN will take some well-deserved time off to think about her future, I am convinced that her service on behalf of the people of North Carolina and the American people is not going to end.

Senator HAGAN has a lovely family. We all like Chip very much. He is a Navy Vietnam veteran. She has three children—Tilden, Jeanette, and Carrie. I wish her family the very best as they transition into a new chapter of their lives.

On a personal basis, no one has impressed me more as being a hard worker. We are so disappointed that she is now going to have to find different public service. I have no inside information, but she could be back in this body. I have no doubt the people of North Carolina are going to miss her dearly.

I applaud KAY HAGAN for serving the American people with conviction, and I look forward to the great things she will accomplish for North Carolina and our country in the future.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, back when I was in law school, I tried to get an internship here on Capitol Hill, with no luck. Senator KAY HAGAN has a different story. She first walked these Halls as an intern in the 1970s.

Her tenure here in the Senate has been too short, but she has represented her constituents in North Carolina with vigor and dedication. She has been a tireless advocate for women and children and was a key ally in my efforts to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act in 2013. I have long felt that she has placed conscience above politics. She has shown a willingness to take tough votes on difficult issues, from LGBT rights to gun safety.

Senator HAGAN comes from a strong military family. North Carolina has one of the highest per capita enlistment rates in the country, and Senator HAGAN has understood that behind every officer, behind every enlisted member of the mili-

tary, is a family that needs our appreciation and support. She was an active partner in our efforts to strengthen the National Guard, and she authored such important legislative initiatives as the Hire a Hero Act.

After decades of public service, I know that North Carolina can expect more service from Senator HAGAN. I wish her, her husband Chip, and their wonderful children the best.

TUESDAY, *December 16, 2014*

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, as we wind down the final days of the 113th Congress, it is a good time both to reflect on the past and to look toward the future. I have been very moved as I listened to the farewell speeches of our departing Senators, and I wish I had time to pay tribute to each one of them. They have all been wonderful colleagues, and I enjoyed working with and getting to know every one of them. I wish them all the very best in all their future endeavors. They will most certainly be missed. . . .

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, before this Congress ends, I wanted to pay tribute to several of my colleagues who will not be here when we convene next year. Some chose not to run again, and others unfortunately lost their reelection campaigns, but we will miss them all next year. I begin in order of seniority. . . .

Mr. President, Senator KAY HAGAN spent 10 years serving in the North Carolina State Senate before being elected to the U.S. Senate in 2008. I have had the pleasure of sitting next to KAY on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and working with her on issues such as medication therapy management to help ensure our seniors are taking the prescription drugs that help keep them healthy and the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Reauthorization Act that provides funding for the screening of newborn babies for heritable disorders, allowing them the earliest possible access to treatments. Through her position on the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee, Senator HAGAN has pushed to protect and grow North Carolina jobs. On the Armed Services Committee, she has fought for North Carolina's military families. I wish KAY and Chip well in the years ahead. . . .

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, Senator HAGAN and I came to the Senate 6 years ago with a shared commitment

to bipartisan problem solving reflective of the independent spirit of the States we represent. I am glad to say that in Senator HAGAN I found not only a strong partner in policy-making but also a good friend.

Born in Shelby, NC, Senator HAGAN got her start in politics, as many of us do, at the State level. During 10 years in the North Carolina Senate, she built a reputation as a committed public servant, and that reputation would eventually propel her to the U.S. Senate.

In Washington, Senator HAGAN has used her position on the Senate Armed Services Committee to support the military families stationed at Fort Bragg, Camp Lejeune, and other military installations in North Carolina. Thanks to her efforts, Congress passed legislation in 2012 to provide health care and compensation to military families impacted by water contamination at Camp Lejeune. Also a member of the Small Business Committee, Senator HAGAN's private sector experience has been a tremendous asset to the legislative work of the committee.

I would like to wish the very best to Senator HAGAN, who I know is looking forward to the opportunity to spend more time with her family, especially her grandchildren.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I thank my colleague KAY HAGAN for her service in the Senate. KAY has spent every day of her 6 years fighting for North Carolina's families.

KAY's father, brother, husband, and father-in-law are all veterans. She has two nephews on Active Duty. Their experiences—and the stories of thousands of North Carolina servicemembers and veterans—have helped guide KAY's work on the Senate Armed Services Committee, SASC, where I have been privileged to serve with her.

As a member of SASC, I have seen first hand KAY's deep knowledge and commitment to our servicemembers, veterans, and military families—in North Carolina and around the country. North Carolina, like Hawaii, has a large number of servicemembers and veterans, and KAY has worked to make sure our troops get the support they need while they are in harm's way and when they get home.

Making sure veterans get the benefits they have earned and are treated with respect is another area where KAY has been a strong leader. She has worked to make sure veterans are able to transition to civilian life and prepare for college and career. Whether that means protecting veterans from scams or making sure colleges are serving veterans effectively, KAY has their back.

KAY also is a strong advocate for children and families. She has worked on reauthorizing newborn screening legislation to make sure illnesses are detected and treated early. Just last week she got her bipartisan newborn screening bill across the finish line, and it will soon head to President Obama's desk.

On education, KAY has worked on financial literacy in middle school and high school and turning around the highest-need K–12 schools. She has fought for minority-serving institutions and making sure job training and college help adults earn an associate's degree or industry credential as soon as possible.

As I was running for the Senate, I got a chance to get to know KAY, and upon my election, she was very helpful in showing me the ropes as a new Senator. The 20 Senate women have regular bipartisan dinners where we leave politics at the door, get to know each other, and relax. KAY is well known for her tireless work on behalf of her constituents, her graciousness as a host of Super Bowl parties, and her indefatigable positive attitude that rubs off on the rest of us.

I and the Senate sisterhood will miss KAY. However, I expect that she will continue the spirited advocacy on behalf of the people of North Carolina whatever she next undertakes.

Aloha KAY and a hui hou, "until we meet again."

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I wish to celebrate and thank the 13 outgoing Senators who have worked tirelessly to represent their home States in the Senate: Senator Mark Begich, Senator Saxby Chambliss, Senator Tom Coburn, Senator KAY HAGAN, Senator Tom Harkin, Senator Mike Johanns, Senator Tim Johnson, Senator Mary Landrieu, Senator Carl Levin, Senator Mark Pryor, Senator Jay Rockefeller, Senator Mark Udall, and Senator John Walsh.

I have worked side by side with these men and women for years—some for decades—and witnessed first hand their extraordinary commitment to public service and to the people they so proudly represent.

Even when we didn't see eye to eye on every issue, I always deeply respected and admired their service to our Nation and their dedication to fight for what they believe in.

It has been a privilege to serve alongside each and every one of these extraordinary colleagues. I will miss their lead-

ership and their friendship, and I wish them all the best as they embark on the next chapter.

FRIDAY, *January 2, 2014*

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to my dear friend and colleague, Senator KAY HAGAN from North Carolina.

KAY HAGAN has quite a collection of hats. There is the hat she wore as a lawyer in Greensboro. She wore one hat as a banker, another as a State legislator helping to write North Carolina's State budget. When she excelled in each of these roles, the voters of North Carolina gave her another hat to wear, as their U.S. Senator.

KAY HAGAN joined us in January 2009, which was a difficult time for our Nation's economy. With her background in the banking sector and her knowledge of the housing finance system, she got right to work on rebuilding our economy, with a stronger foundation.

At the same time, she never allowed herself to be distracted from the needs specific to her North Carolina constituents. She recognized that North Carolina workers and small businesses were being threatened by unfair trade practices abroad, and she sought to address it.

She recognizes how vital military bases are to North Carolina's economy and to its culture, so she worked to protect them from cuts and closures. She was a leader for military families who care for disabled children, seeking to provide payments for them from the Survivor Benefit Plan. It was Senator HAGAN who stepped up to help families at Camp Lejeune get access to health care, following one of the worst cases of water contamination in American history.

With two daughters of her own, Senator HAGAN knows about the demands of balancing child care with a career, and as chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Children and Families, she called attention to the need for paid leave. Senator HAGAN and I share important health care priorities: she co-sponsored a bill to improve the care of mothers and babies by establishing higher quality standards for maternity care through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. She has been a valuable ally on the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act, which would help doctors detect this disease earlier and provide more support for those taking care of a family member with Alzheimer's.

I had the distinct honor of teaming up with Senator HAGAN earlier this year to help pork farmers get disaster assistance after a deadly virus devastated their livestock. We worked together to sound the alarm on student loan debt and to try to stop interest rates on Federal loans from rising.

We both come from States where hunting, fishing, and wildlife are important components to residents' quality of life. So I was pleased this past year to help Senator HAGAN push for her Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act, which sought to expand access to Federal lands while taking significant steps toward conserving the land we use for recreation.

I deeply regret that I will not be able to work with Senator HAGAN in the next Congress. But knowing how dear public service is to her, and how deeply that tradition is established in her family, I have no doubt that she will find new ways to serve the people of her beloved home State, and our Nation.

Senator HAGAN, thank you for your service and thank you for being a wonderful friend. I wish you the very best of luck in all your future endeavors.

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