Barbara Boxer

U.S. SENATOR FROM CALIFORNIA

TRIBUTES

IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES





Barbara Boxer

Tributes Delivered in Congress

Barbara Boxer

United States Congresswoman 1983–1993 United States Senator 1993–2017



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BIOGRAPHY

A forceful advocate for families, children, consumers, the environment, and her State of California, BARBARA BOXER became a U.S. Senator in January 1993 after 10 years of service in the House of Representatives and 6 years on the Marin County Board of Supervisors. In November 2010, she was reelected to her fourth term in the Senate.

A national leader on environmental protection, Senator BOXER was the ranking member on the U.S. Senate's Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW).

Senator BOXER was also the ranking member of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics. She was a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where she chaired the first subcommittee ever to focus on global women's issues.

Senator BOXER was also a member of the Democratic leadership in the Senate, serving as the chief deputy whip since 2005.

In 2012, as chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, she led efforts to pass a bipartisan transportation bill that would save or create nearly 3 million jobs nationwide. In 2010, she spearheaded the effort in the Senate to extend the highway trust fund to help protect 1 million jobs in transportation nationwide.

A leader in efforts to improve America's infrastructure, she secured passage of the Water Resources Development Act, which authorized \$1.3 billion for 54 flood control, ecosystem restoration, and navigation projects in California. The bill had languished for 6 years until she led the fight to pass it and override a veto by President George W. Bush.

Senator BOXER won numerous awards for her efforts to create a cleaner, healthier environment and for her dedicated work to address the threats of climate change. She fought to remove arsenic from drinking water and authored an amendment ensuring that drinking water standards protect children. She led efforts in Congress to protect California's coast from offshore oil drilling and fought to end the unethical use of human subjects in pesticide testing by Federal agencies.

A champion of quality public education, Senator BOXER wrote landmark legislation establishing the first-ever Federal funding for afterschool programs. Her law covers 1.6 million children. She continued to work to expand afterschool programs nationwide as chair of the Senate Afterschool Caucus.

To ensure that future generations of Californians will be able to enjoy our natural heritage, Senator BOXER wrote laws designating more than 1 million acres of California wilderness. She wrote the Senate bill that elevated Pinnacles National Monument into America's 59th national park. She helped champion the creation of the Fort Ord National Monument and Cesar Chavez National Monument, as well as efforts to expand the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries. She also authored the California Missions Preservation Act to protect and restore California's 21 historic missions, and led the effort in the Senate to create the Manzanar National Historic Site.

To protect children from dangerous toys, BARBARA BOXER authored a provision in the 2008 consumer product safety commission law requiring children's products sold over the Internet to list cautionary warnings in their advertisements. She also led efforts to protect children from lead and other dangerous chemicals.

Senator BOXER was a champion of airline passengers' rights, and her legislation with Senator Olympia Snowe (R—ME) to protect passengers from being stuck on planes for hours without food, water, or access to restrooms, became the centerpiece of Department of Transportation rules that have reduced tarmac delays nationwide.

In 2010, she founded the Senate Military Family Caucus to help address the challenges faced by families of U.S. servicemembers who sacrifice so much for our country. She worked to establish the West Coast Combat Care Center in San Diego to ensure that severely wounded servicemembers in the West have access to the highest quality care. She also helped create the Defense Task Force on Mental Health and secured millions in Federal funding to improve medical care for severely burned soldiers.

Senator BOXER wrote the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act, which President Obama signed into law in July 2012, reaffirming our country's special relationship with Israel and strengthening economic and security cooperation between the two nations.

She was the author of the Syria Accountability Act, which strengthened sanctions against Syria over the country's support for terrorism. She also wrote a bipartisan measure to ensure that POWs who died in captivity would be eligible to receive the Purple Heart.

In response to the September 11 attacks, Senator BOXER wrote the law requiring that air marshals be on board high-risk flights and the law allowing airline pilots with special training to carry guns in the cockpit.

A strong supporter of the 1994 crime bill, she worked to fund antigang programs, pass the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and the Community Policy "COPS" Program. Her bill to prevent the criminal use of personal information obtained through motor vehicle records was signed into law and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.

A leading defender of a woman's right to choose, Senator BOXER helped lead the floor fight for passage of the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. In the Senate, she fought back against repeated attacks on women's health and a woman's right to privacy.

A strong proponent of life-saving medical research, Senator BOXER wrote bipartisan legislation to accelerate America's contribution to combat global HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

In 2010, she wrote a measure to end taxpayer bailouts of Wall Street by ensuring that financial firms—not taxpayers—will pay all the costs of liquidating failing Wall Street firms. She also cowrote legislation to increase lending to small businesses through community banks.

Senator BOXER has worked to revitalize the economy by supporting targeted tax cuts, a permanent research and development tax credit, accelerated depreciation of new business equipment, and tax credits for broadband investments focused on rural and underserved areas.

To help homeowners defend against foreclosure, Senator BOXER wrote a measure requiring that homeowners be alerted within 30 days if their lender sells or transfers their home mortgage loan. She wrote a bipartisan measure to ensure that banks cannot act as real estate brokers to prevent conflicts of interest. Additionally, in October 2011, the Obama administration announced new efforts based on the bipartisan Boxer-Isakson Helping Responsible Homeowners Act to help homeowners who are current on their loans to refinance at historically low rates. These changes, along with others taken from the Menendez-Boxer Responsible Homeowners

Refinancing Act, have helped over 1 million borrowers save thousands of dollars a year on their mortgages.

Senator Barbara Boxer met her husband of over 50 years, Stewart Boxer, at Brooklyn College. The couple moved to California in 1965 to raise their two children, Doug and Nicole. They have been blessed with four grandchildren—Zachary, Zain, Sawyer, and Reyna.

Farewell to the Senate

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, this is a moment for me that, I think it is fair to say, I will never ever forget.

I am so honored. I am so honored to have members of my family here, staff from past and present from both my personal office and committee, extraordinary colleagues whom I adore and love, whom I worked with, fought with, and debated. I am so honored that Senator McConnell and Senator Reid have said really nice things about me. I think, in Senator Reid's case, we go back so long, and I will talk a little bit more about that. In Senator McConnell's case, we didn't talk for a long time, and then we did get together and we did some great work together. But I think he was here just to make sure I am leaving. My leader over in the House is here—Nancy Pelosi. I will talk about her more. My colleagues from the House came over in the midst of all their work. I love them. I have enjoyed working with them.

I look around this Chamber, and I realize the reason I am able to actually leave is because I know each of you and your passion to make life better for people, and that is what it is all about.

When I decided not to run for reelection, you know how the press always follows you around. They said: "Is this bittersweet for you?"

My answer was forthcoming: "No way is it bitter. In every way it is sweet."

Why do I feel that way? It is because this has been a dream, to be in a profession that I think is noble, no matter how beaten up it gets, for 40 years—for more than half my life—and I was able to do every day what I always wanted to do, which is simply to make life better for people. I didn't always succeed. Were there frustrations? Yes. Were there disappointments? Yes. Were there defeats? Yes, many, but every morning when I woke up, I knew I had a chance to do something good.

As a first generation American on my mother's side, and, most particularly, as a woman, I never in my wildest dreams

imagined that I could be in the U.S. Senate. It was an uphill battle, and I know I speak for a lot of people sitting right here who know what I am talking about.

When I first ran for the Marin County Board of Supervisors in 1972, it was a Republican landslide year. It was more than tough. I will never forget one woman I spoke with after knocking on her door. I introduced myself and said, "Hi, I am BARBARA BOXER. I am running for county supervisor."

She greeted me by saying, "I never thought you would be so short." Then, she said she wasn't supporting me because, "You have four kids, and you are going to neglect them if you are elected."

Well, never mind that this was a part-time job just a few minutes from the house. Never mind that the man I was running against had a family and a full-time job. Never mind that I actually had two kids, but she insisted. She said, "I know you have four kids because I read it in the newspaper."

I said, "Lady, when you give birth, you never forget it, and I did it twice."

Well, I lost that seat, but two things helped get me through it. The first was an article by Gloria Steinem, who essentially said women tend to take losses too personally. We have to understand that we could be just a little bit ahead of our time, and we can't give up.

Second, my son Doug, only seven at the time, ignored any attempts to cheer me up by saying, "Mom, can you make me a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for lunch?"

The point is that life goes on no matter how deep the disappointments. You pick yourself up, and you keep fighting because this is your country. It is our country, and it is worth fighting for. I ran again 4 years later and won. I was eager to get to work on issues such as: afterschool for kids; protecting the natural beauty of my county; and ensuring that a child walking to school would be safe. I put up so many stop signs to protect kids that I soon became known as the "Stop Sign Queen."

It was local government, and the world was changing. The Vietnam war was raging. The women's movement was ramping up. The oil companies wanted to drill off the pristine coast of California. Even from my position as a local county supervisor representing only 40,000 people, I was exposed to these national issues that would soon require all of my attention.

Tip O'Neill, one of Nancy Pelosi's great predecessors, was known for his saying that "All politics is local," but the global became local when Marin County got a Federal grant saying the threat of nuclear attack is real, and you have to have a plan to evacuate the county in case there is a bomb dropped in San Francisco. This was in the 1980s.

The Reagan administration, I think, missed the obvious. Getting in a car on a narrow road to evacuate to Napa or going under your desk was not going to protect you, so all five supervisors—three Republicans and two Democrats—rejected the grant. Instead, we mailed an informational booklet to every household, telling them there was no way to evacuate from a nuclear bomb; you have to prevent it in the first place.

During that same period, James Watt wanted to drill off the coast of California. We put together business people, environmentalists, farmers, and we said no. The tourist industry joined us, and we stopped it.

That was my first attempt at very broad coalition building. As national issues unfolded before my eyes, I had to do more if I really wanted to stay true to making life better for people.

When John Burton's seat for Congress opened up in 1982, I jumped in. It was a long shot. I will always be grateful to the people who brought me to that dance: working people, environmentalists, children's advocates. They put me over the top.

After I won that election, I began hearing about the mysterious disease that was stealing the lives of so many in my congressional district. I remember feeling so helpless because we didn't know what it was and what caused it. One thing was clear: AIDS was devastating, and too many in Washington were not taking action.

When we found out it could be transmitted sexually, I had to go up against the far rightwing who didn't want to provide any information about the disease. Yet here I was, a middle-aged mother of two from the suburbs, talking about condoms. It was uncomfortable, but this would become my way. In the face of a crisis, never look away, never back down, and never be afraid.

In the case of AIDS, I got to work with the chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, a Southern gentleman. He had never heard of AIDS. He said to me: "If people are sick, then we must help." We got the first double-digit Federal AIDS funding, and we established an AIDS Task Force and brought in people such as Elizabeth Taylor and Elizabeth Glaser, and we fought back. We took it under our wing to solve this crisis—both adult AIDS and pediatric AIDS.

By that time, I had an extraordinary new partner in the House, Nancy Pelosi. We immediately bonded. I was so impressed with her passion and her energy. We remain the dearest of friends to this day. I am so proud of her. Nancy has changed the face of politics in America, and she will go down in history as one of the most influential leaders of our time.

Recently—on a recent issue—I was expressing deep disappointment, and Nancy told me: "Don't agonize. Organize!" This was 2 nights ago. She is right. When things get tough, that is what you do.

Over the years, the issues kept coming my way and came the way of a lot of people in this room: the Violence Against Women Act, LGBT equality, protecting a woman's right to choose, workers' rights, protecting the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act. Those are all examples. These fights continue, and they keep coming whether you are in elected office or not. They come to you if you are a single parent trying to raise a child and struggling to make ends meet on a minimum wage that is not fair. They come to you if your kid gets asthma. They come to you if your job has been outsourced and you have nowhere to turn. They come to you when college tuition gets out of reach.

Whether it is happening to you or someone else, the great thing about our participatory democracy is each of us has a chance to make a difference. You can make a difference by holding an elected office or working for someone who does. You can make a difference by working for a campaign. You can make a difference by starting a business and employing good people to help you build it. You can make a difference by becoming a teacher, a nurse, a firefighter, or a police officer.

There are so many noble ways to make a difference in America. The one thing you cannot do, even when it is tempting: You cannot turn away—never. The forces and the people who shape you cannot be ignored. I say to everybody within the sound of my voice that you have it within you to step out and make your mark.

A lot of young people come up to me and say, "I would love to do what you do. How do I become a U.S. Senator?"

I am sure a lot of us get that question.

I always say, "It is not important to be something; it is important to do something."

If you choose my path and the path of many in this room, I want to be clear: You will need mentors and you will need friends like two of mine—John Burton and Barbara Mikulski. John encouraged me to run for the House, where he had always been a fighter for those without a voice.

Barbara had been my friend in the House and encouraged me to run for the Senate. When I went to see her, she said, very simply, "Go for it." That and \$40 million—that was good advice. I did. Senator Mikulski is everything a Senator should be. She is intelligent, caring, always focused, and as an added bonus, she can have you in stitches. I am so grateful for her guidance and, most important, her friendship.

I launched my campaign for the Senate. It was very difficult. No one predicted I would win. I was less than an asterisk in the polls. I was filled with doubt. Coming to my aid was my senior Senator, Dianne Feinstein. She stood by my side, even though it could have cost her votes. I will never, ever forget that. Thank you, Dianne.

I also need to pay tribute to Anita Hill because without her, I never would have been elected to the Senate. Anita Hill courageously told her story to the all-male U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, breaking the silence on this painful issue. In addition, people saw there were only two women in the Senate.

Anita Hill, you showed us all that we must never be afraid to take on the powerful. It certainly isn't easy, but if you learn to be tough in the right way, you can find the sweet spot, even in this atmosphere where the parties have grown so far apart. This is one of my biggest regrets—how far the parties have grown apart, especially when it comes to the environment.

Remember, Richard Nixon created the Environmental Protection Agency. He signed the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act. George H.W. Bush signed the extension of the Clean Air Act. Many Republicans led the charge for environmental protection. Now, unfortunately, protecting the environment has become a divide where we truly duke it out.

As I leave here, I intend to do everything in my power to work to bridge that divide because we all live on one planet. It doesn't matter what party we are. We all breathe the same air. We all want our families to be healthy and live on a planet that can sustain us and all of God's creations. In

this time of deep division, we have to find areas to work together.

I think I found a proven formula in my relationship with my friend and chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator Jim Inhofe. We never surprise each other, even where we disagree—ever. Our word is our bond to each other. We found that we could work as a winning team to build and strengthen our Nation's infrastructure, and we have made incredible progress for the American people on those issues—long-term highway bills, long-term water bills and the first update on the Toxic Control Act. That was a doozy for us. I will never forget that battle.

Transportation turned out to be a sweet spot between Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and me. We hadn't talked seriously for 20 years because of the Packwood case. It was: Hello, hello. That was it. But we did come together to save the highway trust fund at an urgent time.

Our work together surprised so many of our colleagues, but I think it surprised the two of us more than anything else. It worked because we set aside all of our past legitimate divisions in order to rescue America's transportation system. We took a risk, and the risk paid off. Of course, all of my colleagues helped make that possible.

Also, I want to mention my Republican counterpart on the Ethics Committee, Senator Johnny Isakson, because when it comes to ethics, we have proven there is no room for partisanship. All we want to do is make sure the Senate is a respected institution. Friendship and trust with Members on both sides and in the House of Representatives—I am so proud so many of you are here—that is the only way to get things done.

Having a leader who has your back is essential. A good leader knows and understands each member of his caucus and where they draw the line. Harry is so humble. Whenever you talk about him, he puts his head down.

Harry, could you just look at me for a second?

A good leader knows when to speak up and when to listen. A good leader knows when to pick up the gloves and fight like hell. That is what Harry Reid has done. He is not a show horse; he is a workhorse.

He is a soft-spoken man. How many of us have to say, "Harry, could you speak up?" He is a soft-spoken man of a few words, but he chooses his words wisely, and he chooses his fights wisely. He doesn't seek the spotlight. When it

comes to standing up for what is right, he is right there when others try to slip out of the room.

Harry has not only been an extraordinary leader and colleague, he and his wife, Landra, have been close and treasured friends of me and my husband, Stewart. I call him the brother I never had, and he calls me the sister he never had. He treats me like a sister; he always hangs up on me when I call him. He never calls on me when I madly wave my hand at caucus. You know, I am like a sister. You don't have to worry, the love will be there. I am forever grateful for his leadership and his friendship.

Another quality of Harry Reid is that he encouraged women to run for the Senate. Once we got here, he made sure we had major responsibilities. Harry, you will go down in history for that.

I am, of course, ecstatic that my successor is Kamala Harris, who served as attorney general for my State with great distinction and who will continue the tradition of having a strong, progressive woman in this seat.

Kamala, you heard it here—a strong, progressive woman in this seat is what we need.

As I wind down my remarks, I must be completely honest about my broken heart. I worked hard, along with so many millions of Americans, so that we would have our first female President. It was not to be this time, but we made history with Hillary Clinton, the first female nominee of a major party, who, I might add, won the popular vote by millions and still counting. She truly shattered the glass ceiling and showed that women had the ability to take it on the chin again and again.

My message to everyone who supported Hillary is, the work goes on. Yes, you build on success and you learn from failure, but you never stop working for human rights, civil rights, women's rights, voting rights, children's rights, and the environment. I certainly don't plan to stop.

I am not only fortunate to have had this extraordinary career, but I am also so fortunate to be going home to a State that stands for everything I believe in.

I wish to thank every one of my staffers—those who worked for me in Washington, either on my personal staff, committee staff, those who worked for me in the State, and those who helped me get elected. A lot of them are here today. Without them, I never ever could have done my job, and I never could have accomplished the things I have accomplished that I am proud of.

I also wish to thank the floor staff. The floor staff never gets thanked enough because they deal with us when we are very nervous. They have to deal with us when we are about to have an amendment come up or about to vote on something and need to understand the rules and our rights.

To Gary and his team, Trish, Tim, and all of you—thank you.

When I look back on everything I fought for, there are more than a thousand accomplishments, and I am certainly not going to talk about all of those, but I am going to, briefly, very fast, go through 10 of my favorites. The first afterschool programs that were funded by the Federal Government, covering more than 1.6 million kids every day; 1 million acres of California wilderness preserved; the first-ever comprehensive combat casualty care center in California for our most wounded warriors: ensuring that our transportation programs remain in place for years to come with millions of jobs protected; upholding our landmark environmental laws, and I hope that continues, but I will not go off on that; setting clean drinking water standards to protect pregnant women, children, and other vulnerable people; the dolphin-safe tuna label; protecting victims of rape in the military from irrelevant, harassing questions that have already been barred in civilian courts; establishing the first-ever subcommittee to oversee global women's issues, which Jeanne is going to carry on; and recommending a diverse group of supremely qualified judicial nominees who are carrying out our laws in California's Federal courts. There are many more I could talk about, and we all know this because each one of them is like a child to us and we remember how hard it was to get it done, but let me be clear, you don't get anything done here unless your colleagues help you from both sides of the aisle.

My biggest regret is that I couldn't end the war in Iraq. It hurt my soul. I came down to the floor every day and read the names of fallen soldiers. I was accused of being too emotional. I asked probing questions in committee to expose the fact that we were in the middle of a civil war. Day after day I made my case, but the war went on. It took President Obama to finally end that war, and I will always be grateful to him.

Of course, there is unfinished business, and I know my colleagues are going to carry on. We must restore the Voting Rights Act. We need to restore trust between our communities and law enforcement. We have to continue to protect

and provide affordable health care. We must take action on climate change or we are in deep trouble as humankind. We must protect the DREAMers and immigrants who contribute to our communities every day. We must raise the minimum wage and ensure equal pay for equal work. We must protect reproductive freedom and work across party lines for a safe world.

I have often joked about some of the things that have been said to me over the years that are too colorful, in a negative way, to repeat here, but I want everyone to know, whether friend or foe, whether critic or admirer, I do appreciate the fact that you let me know how you felt about my work one way or the other.

To close, I will read a handwritten letter I received in October from one of the greatest jazz musicians in our country, Sonny Rollins, into the Record. He was recently honored at the Kennedy Center. He wrote in longhand the following:

Greetings—so so sorry that we are not going to have you for us anymore. I've always been interested in politics, marching as a 6 year old with my activist grandmother for civil rights. It has been such a joy and inspiration knowing that BARBARA BOXER was there for us.

God bless you, your family, and loved ones-And thank you.

You will be missed and we all love you.

Have a beautiful life, just like you have made life beautiful for so many citizens.

I wish to thank Sonny Rollins. I don't know him personally. I met him once, but what he said is all I wanted to do make life beautiful for people. I didn't always succeed. I didn't always prevail. I felt the pain of losing many times, but I can honestly say I never stopped trying. I was able to do it because of the love, understanding, and support of my husband of 55 years, Stewart, who is here today. He gave me so much, including the best political name ever. I did it because of my son Doug, my daughter Nicole, my daughter-inlaw Amy, my son-in-law Kevin, and four incredible grandchildren, Zach, Zain, Sawyer, and Reyna, and because of the people of California who sent me here time and time again-10 years in the House and 24 years in the Senate. I had the opportunity to never stop trying. I had the opportunity to speak out, and no matter how many times I had to try, I did. Here is the thing. I have this platform, which is an extraordinary honor. This is a sacred position, and I say to my colleagues that no matter who says what about it, it is a sacred position. Hold your head high.

So many here have fought the good fight and will continue to fight the good fight, and I will always treasure my time serving the people. They gave me a purpose in my life that I will always cherish. They made me a better person. They made my life more beautiful than I ever could have imagined, and for that I am forever grateful.

I thank the Presiding Officer and yield the floor. (Applause, Senators rising.)

TRIBUTES

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BARBARA BOXER

Proceedings in the Senate

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have served in Congress now for 34 years. Throughout that time, I have tried to be pleasant and helpful to my colleagues. I feel very fortunate to have become personally close and friends with Members of Congress from all over this great country. Barbara Boxer and I were members of the House class of 1982. Such fond memories do I have of that class—Tom Carper, Dick Durbin, and scores of others. We had a huge class.

At first glance, BARBARA BOXER and Harry Reid had very little in common. She was from California. It is a heavily populated and liberal State. I was from Nevada, a much smaller State in area and in population. I was the only Democrat in my State's congressional delegation. I was stunned when I was asked to join this huge California congressional delegation. Being from Nevada and being part of the largest congressional delegation in America was extremely helpful to me.

The Californians were good to me in so many different ways, just allowing me to be part of their meetings every Wednesday morning. I was flattered when I was asked to be secretary-treasurer of that large delegation. I have so many memories of the work we did together, California and Nevada.

Howard Berman, who was the leader of that freshman class from California, was the head of the steering committee. Don Edwards was the chairman of the delegation at those meetings we had every morning. The Burton brothers and just so many others went out of their way to help me.

I came to know quickly that BARBARA BOXER was no ordinary public servant. She was relentless—I mean relentless—and dedicated and very principled. She was raised by hardworking, first-generation immigrants in Brooklyn, NY. She attended Brooklyn College, graduated with a degree in economics. Over the decades, we have gotten to know each oth-

er's families very well. We talk about each other's children. We have exchanged family experiences many times.

My favorite story of BARBARA BOXER's family is the time when she was a girl coming home from elementary school, with her mom, from a window that was up high, yelling down to her little daughter coming home from school—excitedly yelling out the window of the upstairs apartment, "Daddy passed the bar."

BARBARA knew that her dad did not go to bars. But she quickly learned from her excited mother that she was talking about her dad having passed the very difficult New York bar examination. I always remember that story.

In 1965, BARBARA moved to northern California from far-away New York. In California, they sat down their roots and raised their two children, Doug and Nicole. Stew became a very prominent lawyer and BARBARA, a stockbroker.

It was in California where BARBARA began to make her mark very quickly as a trailblazer. In 1976, after having been in California not very long, in that very big county, part of the metropolitan area of San Francisco, she became a member of the Marin County Board of Supervisors. She was elected to that post. She quickly became the board's first woman president.

Shortly thereafter in 1982, BARBARA ran successfully for Congress. Her campaign slogan tells us all you need to know about her because that year her slogan was: "BARBARA BOXER Gives a Damn." That was on all of her campaign literature, posters, everything. So I guess with a slogan like that, it should not be any surprise that she won handily.

In 1992, she was elected to the Senate. She stood no chance to win. Everybody told her that—all of the editorials, not only of the California papers but all over the country. Barbara Boxer was in with the big time, and things were going to change for this upstart Member of the House of Representatives. She had tried to move too quickly. She should have stayed in the House, but she won by a really nice margin. This surprised everybody except her.

In 1992, she was elected to the Senate—the year that was popularly referred to as the "Year of the Woman," and rightfully so. She was part of the memorable class that came here in 1982: Dianne Feinstein, Patty Murray, Carol Moseley Braun, and, of course, the underdog, BARBARA BOXER.

In the Senate, BARBARA and I have worked together on matters of importance to Nevada, California, and our Nation. I have watched BARBARA BOXER lead on so many important issues. I am going to name only a handful of them. She worked to designate more than 1 million acres in California as a wilderness, keeping that land in a pristine condition for our children, our grandchildren, and generations to come. I say "our" because the wilderness in California or in Nevada does not belong to California or Nevada, it belongs to the people of this country. She fought for the Pinnacles National Monument to become America's 59th national park. It became such.

She helped lead the fight to stop drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and, of course, along the California shoreline. She has spoken about that so many times. It succeeded. We have had no oilspills on the coast of California because of a number of reasons, but there is no one more responsible for that nondegradation than BARBARA BOXER.

She advocated to eliminate government military waste as a Member of the House of Representatives and the Senate. It was her first breakthrough where she exposed the outrageous, exorbitant cost of purchases made by the military. She did that while she was in the House. Why was she taking on the establishment? Well, that is who she is; that is who she was.

She discovered that our military paid defense contractors unbelievable amounts of money: for a hammer—a claw hammer—\$430; for a toilet seat, \$640; for a coffeemaker, \$7,622. That is quite a coffeemaker. For an aluminum ladder, which must have been one that would get you over the fence that Trump is going to build between Mexico and the United States, it cost \$74,165.

It is legendary what she has done with the military. Ever since she did that, the military was no longer untouchable. Barbara Boxer proved that. She put an end to all of the wasteful spending. Yes, she did—Barbara Boxer—not all of it; some things slipped through the cracks, but she sure headed everyone in the right direction.

Maybe of lesser importance, but something we all watched very carefully in the House—it did not happen overnight, but she caused the all-male House gym to admit female Members of Congress. She went up against some big people to do that—the very well-known Dan Rostenkowski, the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and others—but she won.

BARBARA and I have worked together to protect Lake Tahoe. We share that. The States of California and Nevada share that alpine glacial lake. There is only one other lake like it in the world, and that is in Siberia, Lake Baikal. We feel good about what we have been able to do to promote the richness of this beautiful national treasure, Lake Tahoe.

She has also promoted clean energy. I can remember her going after a substance that was in gasoline to put in a car that ruined the environment. She came out strongly against that. Again, she prevailed. We no longer do that. She has also done a lot to protect our public lands.

I mentioned just a little bit of what she has done. I can say without any hesitation that BARBARA BOXER has been one of the best and most effective environmental leaders in the history of this country. That says a lot. She has made California and the entire country a cleaner, healthier, and a better place, especially as chair and ranking member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works. I loved that committee. It was a committee I was placed on when I first came to the Senate. I had the good fortune to be chairman of that committee twice.

She has done so much in her advocacy. For a lot of the things she was not able to declare a legislative victory, but she certainly declared a victory in the minds of the American people because she took on the big guys without any fear.

BARBARA is also a champion of women. She has been a groundbreaker on issues like sexual harassment and women's rights in the workplace, access to women's health, and clinic violence. She took that on. BARBARA BOXER has worked to protect women's access to health care and make sure that Planned Parenthood continues to help millions of women who depend on their services every year.

I lament the fact that BARBARA will not be here because, as you know, the new Republican majority has threatened to do away with Planned Parenthood. I don't know what they expect to do with the 2 million women who go there every year for help, but that is what they have said they are going to do.

I can remember, oh so clearly, because it was such a difficult time, working on the Affordable Care Act in my office just a short distance from here. BARBARA was there the better part of 2 days. We were facing incredibly contentious issues regarding women's health, and this required close attention. But it worked out. We were able to accomplish this in spite of some people who said we couldn't do that.

BARBARA has always been ideological, pure but with a sound mix of pragmatism on Obamacare and other issues relating to women. I told her personally—and I said it publicly,

but I wish to say it again—that I have enjoyed working with her. She has helped and mentored me and led me to understand issues important to the women of America like no one else, and I appreciate it very much.

I can remember writing her a letter in my longhand, my cursive. In that letter I told her a number of things, but this is something I said—a direct quote: "BARBARA, I have three brothers. I've never had a sister. You are the sister I've never had."

That was what I said. To this day, we still refer to each other as brother and sister.

Stew and BARBARA are an exemplary team. They are partners in every sense of the word. Landra and I have been guests in their southern California home. We have been together many times in Nevada.

For decades, BARBARA and I have worked together politically, campaigning in different parts of the country, different parts of California, and different parts of Nevada. We have raised money together for the cause of Democrats. We have raised money for each other. It has always been a pleasure to work with her on this and other issues.

BARBARA and I came to Washington together in 1982, 34 years ago. BARBARA and I will be leaving Washington together after 34 memorable years together.

Senator BARBARA BOXER, congratulations on your historic career as a Senator for 40 million Californians and 300 million citizens of the United States.

BARBARA, remember, you are and always will be my sister. Godspeed, BARBARA.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Senator REID, my leader, I can't tell you how humble I feel to hear you talk about my career and to put it, in many ways, in a historic place.

I am going to have a lot to say about your career, what you have meant to me. Today I won't get into it, but you are a man—you just don't throw words around. I know how humble you are because every time I try to praise you, even in a situation with just a few people around you, you look down like you are doing now. It makes you uncomfortable. I don't want to make you uncomfortable. So here is what I am going to say today. I am going to make you uncomfortable in the near future when I talk about your career and what it has meant to me. But today, hearing you talk about what you

just said, weaving our friendship, our work together, and our family friendship has meant a lot to me.

Obviously, I am going to miss you, but I will say this. As we enter into uncharted territories in terms of politics, I know you and I are not going to lose our voices. We will have a platform. We are not leaving because we are tired of the fight. We are not leaving because we have nothing more to say, we are leaving because we think it is time for the next generation. I look forward to working with you in the future—and I mean that sincerely—just fighting for the things we care about, whether it is Lake Tahoe or whether it is clean air, whether it is fighting against the ravages of climate change, whether it is fighting for the right of the American people, from children to seniors, to have affordable health care. We are not going into the wilderness. That I was able to protect more than a million acres—I am so proud you mentioned that.

Today you have humbled me with your words. I will always be your sister. Thank you very much.

I yield the floor.

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, in the interest of time, I will limit my remarks.

I rise this afternoon to commend and salute three Senators from the Democratic caucus who are leaving the Senate this year. I will have longer written statements for the Record to appropriately pay tribute to their service. In alphabetical order, Senator BOXER of California, Senator Mikulski of Maryland, and Senator Reid of Nevada.

I will offer some specific remarks about Leader Reid, in the interest of time, but I do want to commend and salute Senator BOXER for her service to the people of California and to our Nation, as well Senator Mikulski for her great work—two great advocates, two individuals whom we are going to miss terribly here in the Senate. As I said, I will put longer statements in the Record. . . .

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, for the 10 years I have been in the Senate, I have been privileged and have had the pleasure to serve alongside the Senator from California, BARBARA BOXER, on the Committee on Environment and Public Works and on the Committee on Foreign Relations. She is

the ranking member of the Environment and Public Works Committee and previously chaired the committee, the first woman to do so.

Senator BOXER has spent the last 40 years in elective of-fice—24 years here in the Senate, 10 years before in the U.S. House of Representatives, and 6 years on the Marin County Board of Supervisors. She was the board's first woman president. Earlier, she worked as a stockbroker while her husband Stewart, whom she met at Brooklyn College, attended law school. Senator BOXER has been a journalist and is the author of two books.

The first time Senator BOXER ran for the Sixth Congressional District seat, in 1982, her campaign slogan was "BARBARA BOXER Gives a Damn." Her constituents have agreed. She ran for reelection four times and never received less than 67 percent of the vote. In 2004, when she was running for a third term in the Senate, she received 6.96 million votes—the most votes any candidate has ever received in the history of the U.S. Senate.

Oscar Madison and Felix Unger may have been the original odd couple, but Senator Boxer and the Senator from Oklahoma, Senator Inhofe, have been the Senate's odd couple. An unabashed liberal and unabashed conservative working together to pass some of the most important legislation of the last quarter century—our periodic surface transportation bills and the Water Resources Development Act reauthorizations. These bills have put millions of Americans to work and made our economy more efficient.

Senator BOXER understands the importance of building, and she also understands the importance of preserving. She has helped to set aside more than 1 million acres of Federal land in California as wilderness. The omnibus public lands package, which became law in 2009, includes three Boxer bills to protect 57,000 acres in Big Sur and the Los Padres Forest and another 273,000 acres of California coast as wilderness. She wrote the Senate bill that elevated Pinnacles National Monument into America's 59th national park. She helped champion the creation of the Fort Ord National Monument and Cesar Chavez National Monument and was instrumental in expanding the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries. She also authored the California Missions Preservation Act to protect and restore California's 21 historic missions and led the effort in the Senate to create the Manzanar National Historic Site.

Senator BOXER's concern for the environment hasn't been just a parochial interest; no one has fought harder to defend and improve our Nation's landmark environmental laws, such as the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act. She fought to remove arsenic from drinking water. The air we breathe, the water we drink, and the food we eat are better because of Senator BOXER.

Senator Boxer's environmental bona fides are well known, but she has been a superbly effective legislator on so many other issues. She is a champion for women. In 1991, she led a group of women Members to the Judiciary Committee to demand that the committee, which was all-male and all-White at the time, take Anita Hill's charges seriously. Senator Boxer has defended women's reproductive health choices and privacy. She was involved in passing the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act and the Violence Against Women Act. She is a senior member of the Foreign Relations Committee, where she chairs the first committee to focus on global women's issues.

In a business meeting earlier today, the members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee unanimously passed a resolution honoring Senator BOXER's work on that committee and her work in the U.S. Senate. At that time, we noted that she was the ranking member on the subcommittee that provided help for women and girls globally, and her work in Afghanistan was most notable. She has made a difference around the world for young women.

Senator BOXER authored the first-ever specific authorization for afterschool programs, a bipartisan bill that then-President George W. Bush signed into law in 2002. Today's afterschool programs are funded at \$1.15 billion, allowing them to serve 1.6 million children. She was the author of another bipartisan bill to accelerate America's contribution to combat global HIV-AIDS and tuberculosis.

Senator BOXER wrote two laws to enhance economic and security cooperation with Israel. In 2012, she worked with the Senator from Georgia, Mr. Isakson, on the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act, which extended loan guarantees to Israel, increased the U.S. military stockpile in Israel, and encouraged NATO-Israel cooperation. In 2014, she worked with the Senator from Missouri, Mr. Blunt, on the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014, further strengthening economic and security cooperation between the two countries.

Senator BOXER has strong principles. She can be outspoken when the need arises, but she is also a consummate legislator, able to work across the aisle and across the Hill to get important things done. We are going to miss her skills and her leadership. I know we will continue to hear from her because she is not the retiring type, but she certainly has earned the right to spend more time with her husband Stewart, their children Doug and Nicole, and four grandchildren.

We wish her well, and we will miss her in the Senate. I yield the floor.

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, as each session of Congress comes to a close, both leaders traditionally pay tribute to the retiring Members of their own parties. This year is a bit different, of course, with the retirement of the Democratic leader. So in addition to what I will be saying about him tomorrow, I figured I might shake things up just a bit more, just this one time. I figured I would tell my colleagues about two colleagues from across the aisle who have made their own mark on this Chamber for many years. ...

So here is what we have come to know about Senator Mikulski: Her word is her bond, she is a passionate advocate for the causes she supports, and good luck stopping her once she puts her mind to something.

You could say the same thing about another BARBARA I know too. Senator BOXER, like her colleague from Maryland, is hardly the tallest Member around here, but she is not in the habit of getting overlooked either. The Boxer box helps with that, of course. It is what she stands on at press conferences to give her just a little more height. Yes, if that sounds familiar, that is because it is that box which once served as inspiration for an episode of HBO's "Veep."

It is a good thing our colleague has a sense of humor. She understands how far that can go around here. She has often relied on it through her years in the Senate, in fact, including when she announced her retirement via rhyme: "More than 20 years in a job I love," she wrote, "thanks to California and the Lord above." You get the picture. It goes on, but here is the key line: "As long as there are issues and challenges and strife, I will never retire, 'cause that's the meaning of my life." That sure sounds like the Senator BOXER I know.

It is not always easy to find common ground around here. It takes hard work. It takes negotiation. It often takes those intangibles too—like comic relief. So enter Senator Inhofe. I am really going to miss the Jim and BARBARA show when it comes to an end next year, especially after such a storied run over at EPW. One day, she is the boss; the next day, it is he. They are the best of pals; they are the fiercest of rivals. They work together on everything; they agree on almost nothing. It sounds like the premise for some buddy comedy from the 1980s, but here is what it really is: a political masterstroke.

This unlikeliest of partnerships led this year to the first significant environmental reform law in decades. It also led this year to Senate passage of a waterways infrastructure bill that will support important projects across our country. While some may refer to BARBARA BOXER and Jim Inhofe as the "oddest of Senate odd couples," here is what I would call them: pretty smart.

I remember Senator Inhofe always telling me how much he enjoyed working with Senator BOXER and how there were things they could actually agree on, so I made a note of it and kept an eye out for an opportunity of my own. It finally happened in this very Congress. Senator BOXER and Senator Inhofe and I worked together to pass the longest term highway transportation and infrastructure bill in nearly two decades. This isn't something the critics thought could be done. We each harbored our own doubts. Yet, a bill that repeatedly threatened to come apart actually never did. As Senator BOXER put it, it was "the impossible dream." It succeeded because we worked in good faith, because we came together, and because we focused on the areas where we did agree and not just the ones where we didn't.

That is what happens around here when the Senate is working the way it should. We see colleagues from opposite sides working through political differences and coming together on solutions for the American people. Perhaps that is one reason why nearly a quarter of a century later, Senator BOXER says she is leaving the Senate with a full heart. I know she is leaving with the respect of many of her colleagues, too, including some she might not have expected when she first came.

Let me finish with some advice Barbara Mikulski gave to young BARBARA BOXER as she contemplated her first Senate run. "If you run," Senator Mikulski said, "it will be the toughest thing you will ever do," but, she added, it will also

be "the best thing you will ever do." I think this is something we can all relate to regardless of which party we belong to and regardless of which State we come from. At the end of the day, we all came here to accomplish things for the people we represent, even if we have different ideas on how to do them.

So, thankfully, there should be no disagreement over this next task. I ask all Senators to join me in recognizing our colleagues for their service and to join me in wishing them good luck as they begin the next chapters of their lives.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Coats). The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, that was a very emotional and heartfelt speech [Mrs. Boxer's farewell address, see p. ix]. As I look around, I know there are a lot of people who want to respond and be heard, but I grabbed it first. This will be real short.

I believe it was the majority leader who gave me a quote this morning. He made the comment that the two of you agree on nothing, but you get everything done.

Mrs. BOXER. That is right.

Mr. INHOFE. There is a reason for that. If you stop and think about it, we came to the House and Senate at about the same time. There are no two people in this body who are further apart from each other than BARBARA BOXER and Jim Inhofe. Yet we have something beautiful. I hesitate to show this AP picture of our embrace, but it has to be in the Record here somewhere.

For 12 years, we swapped—back and forth—being chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee. I always remember when the Republicans were in the majority back in—let's see. We lost it in 2006. I remember seeing BARBARA, Al Gore, and all these other people danced in and out the door saying the world is going to come to an end unless we do all of these things.

At that time, she said something very profound that I never forgot, and I thought about it for the next 8 years. She said that we look at things differently. We had an election and elections have consequences. Remember that elections have consequences. Well, 2 years ago, the Republicans took over, and I gave her a T-shirt that said: "Elections have consequences." During all that time, we didn't really change in terms of what we were doing together. I have a list of the

things we have done that I left someplace, but, nevertheless, we did the highway bill in 1998 and 2005. All of the things we did actually worked. I remember when we had a news conference on TSCA. When I looked around, I saw all of my very liberal Democratic friends and me, and I thought: Wait a minute. How did this happen?

We have been able to work together and get things done, and I have been very proud of that. In fact, I shouldn't say this because I am going to divulge our confidence, but we have meetings just as Democrats have their meetings. All the chairmen get together, and when it was my turn to make a statement, I said, "Now, from the committee that gets things done." Anyway, that is the way it has been.

I disagreed with Senator BOXER on a lot of the regulations, and I have told her many times she has every right to be wrong.

Mrs. BOXER. You do.

Mr. INHOFE. But on the things that were really important, we did manage to get things accomplished. There is an awful lot of hate around here, and it is so unnecessary. You can disagree with someone and love them anyway. I have to say that confession is good for the soul, but I want my good friend to know I am truly going to miss her around here.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank the Senator from Oklahoma so much.

Mr. INHOFE. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, the relationship we felt was based on trust and honesty. We never ever misled each other. I just love the Senator's staff. I really do. Our staff developed the same type of relationship that we developed—disagreeing on many things but understanding that we can work together and find common ground. I just hope, as I step out the door—Lord knows when that will be, given this place—that others will form this type of bond across party lines because without it, things just don't work right.

I want my friend to know it has been a great pleasure to work with him in every way, shape, and form. One of us is from Venus and one of us is from Mars, and that is just the way it is. We just see the world differently, but it hasn't stopped us from putting aside those disagreements. We were never bitter with each other.

We had a pretty big divide. One person said climate change is a hoax and the other said it is the biggest threat we have to deal with, but we knew there was no way we could come together so we kind of put it aside and didn't let it spoil our friendship or our ability to work together in any way.

So I think it is a very important message to many chairmen and ranking members that if there is honesty—set it aside if you can't work together, but where you can find those sweet spots, do it because everyone wants—they are cheering us on from the outside. I can't tell you how many people at home tell me: We don't know how you do it, but it is great what you and Senator Inhofe get done.

Fortunately, we never lost an election over our friendship, which could have happened, you know. They could have said: I am not going to vote for him; he talks to her. But we were able to prove that we can do it.

So, Jim, I am honored that you came down to the floor. I am honored that Senator McConnell said such nice things. I am so honored that so many came to the floor to hear my farewell remarks.

Again, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I thank the gentlelady from California (Mrs. BOXER).

Mrs. BOXER. I like "gentlelady."

Ms. MIKULSKI. That is the way we talk here. I thank the gentlelady from California for her kind words [about me]. We have been together through thick, thin, and the attempt to get thin, and that story about bending at the waist is a true one.

I am not the person with the best hairdo or sleek or chic, but one of the things I have so admired about my friend is her authenticity. We first got to know each other in the House, and then I encouraged you to come to the Senate, which certainly was the right thing to do. You are yourself. You are true to your self, you are true to your beliefs. You are true to your constituents, and you are true to the Constitution. You are such a true blue person. There are many words to describe you, such as outspoken, feisty, and all of that, but I would say the word that describes you best is "authentic." You are who you are. The people of California have loved you for it and sent you to the Congress.

We started out together basically in city council roles, sometimes called the pothole parliament. It has been a pleasure to serve with the Senator from California. I have watched you stand up for your beliefs, and along the way, as you stood up for your beliefs, you made believers of us all.

Godspeed to you, BARBARA. We are friends forever.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I wish to speak about Senator Mikulski and then also Senator BOXER, the two great Senator BARBARAS who have been such giants in the Senate. We are so grateful to both of them. . . .

It really is an honor to stand here. I can't imagine the Senate without Senator Mikulski and Senator BOXER. . . .

Madam President, as her name suggests, Senator BOXER has always been a fighter, a champion for the people of California, and a good friend.

Though Senator BOXER began her life in Brooklyn, California has always been her home.

It is where she got elected to the Marin County Board of Supervisors, becoming the first woman to hold the board's presidency.

It is where she first got elected to the House of Representatives, where she quickly rose and became a leader we could all aspire to be.

As Senator, she has worked tirelessly for families, children, consumers, everyone in the State of California, and Americans everywhere.

Senator BOXER has always been a wonderful mentor to me, and she has been relentless on moving forward on some of the most critically important issues of our time.

As the first woman to chair the Environment and Public Works Committee, she has provided the support that has kept America's air and water safe and to fight climate change. She defended mercury and lead standards and installed choking warnings on packages.

I will personally always be grateful for her tireless advocacy and support for the 100,000 Flint citizens who have been poisoned by lead in their water.

We have her to thank when we know that children and families all over the country can be safer and more secure in their own neighborhood.

She has been an incredible supporter of transportation, extending the highway trust fund, helping protect over 1 million jobs. Or her Mat Map–21 transportation bill, which modernized Federal highway, highway safety, and transportation programs.

She has fought for children and families, her work in the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act—providing extra services for young adults under 21 and helping some of America's young people who need it most.

On a personal note, I have greatly enjoyed sharing a love of music with my friend, BARBARA. Her creativity and passion for song has been a special part of who she is.

Her retirement, while well earned, will be a loss for all of us.

Thank you so much for your service.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, this is one of those weeks where, every 6 years or 4 years or 2 years, we pause and pay tribute to those who have been elected to the Senate and have served with us and will be retiring or were possibly defeated in the last election. . . .

At this point, I wish to pause and pay attention to Barbara Boxer from California. A lot of my colleagues will say: "Wait a minute. Why are you talking about Barbara Boxer? You are a Republican. She is an icon in the Democratic Party. She is a liberal, and you are a conservative."

She is a great Senator, and I will tell you why. BARBARA and I served on the Ethics Committee for the last 9 years. When I was asked to go on the committee, she was the chairman. Later on, I succeeded her as the chairman. I am the chairman today, and she is still a member until she retires.

The Ethics Committee is the one assignment nobody wants to get. But when you get it, you want to have somebody who will do what is right. Regardless of their party, you need somebody who will do what is right for the Member, the institution, and will carry out their responsibilities under the Constitution, which all of us are obligated to do in the Senate.

In the last 9 years, I worked with BARBARA BOXER on any number of complaints, allegations, and cases against Members of the Senate for unethical conduct or conduct unbecoming of a Senator. We have admonished some, cleared some, and recommended the expulsion of some, and some have resigned because of our investigation. I take no pride in anyone leaving the Senate because of the actions of the committee, but I take great pride in the fact that no one in 9 years has questioned the integrity of the Senate Ethics Committee, the job it has done, or the final decision it has made, and I give most of the credit for that to BARBARA BOXER. She is a liberal Democrat, and I am a conservative Republican, but when it comes to calling balls and strikes in terms of

ethics, we call them down the middle. That is a credit to the institution, a credit to her, and a credit to the Ethics Committee.

At this moment, I want to pause and say to my retiring friend BARBARA BOXER: Thank you for your service to the country, thank you for what you have meant to the State of California, and thank you for what you have meant to the institution of the Senate and the commitment to ethical behavior by our Members. Thank you for making it a standard that you and I stood for. It was a pleasure for me to serve with you and be called one of the members of the odd couple. Isakson and BOXER, the two Senate chairs that love our country, are committed to ethics and will always try to do what is exactly right.

God bless you, BARBARA. Best of luck to you. I yield the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in 1922, Rebecca Latimer Felton was the first woman to sit in the U.S. Senate. She served in this body for only 1 day, but during those 24 hours she made a bold prediction for her time about the future role women would play in the Senate. She said: "When the women of the country come in and sit with you ... you will get ability, you will get integrity of purpose, you will get exalted patriotism, and you will get unstinted usefulness." I will second that.

BARBARA and I served together in the House—and we have served together in the Senate for 20 years. Let me tell you, no one embodies Senator Felton's prediction better than BARBARA BOXER.

Throughout the years, I have loved getting to know BARBARA as a colleague, but more important, as a friend. Loretta and I joined BARBARA and her husband, Stew, on official trips, personal vacations, and countless dinners. We have eaten, drank, joked, and bonded. As her career in the Senate comes to an end, keeping those bonds of friendship strong as she heads west is one my life goals.

BARBARA made quite an impact on the Senate Chamber before she even entered this body. On October 9, 1991, the Senate Judiciary Committee was set to vote on the nomination of Justice Clarence Thomas to serve a lifetime appointment on the U.S. Supreme Court, without listening to Professor Anita Hill's allegations of sexual harassment. At the time, there were two women in the Senate, Barbara Mikulski and Nancy Landon Kassebaum. Now, while this was going on in the Senate, the women of the House tried speak-

ing out in that body. They were censured. And they had enough. So they marched out of the House and over to the Senate—29 women House Members, led by Congresswoman Pat Schroeder from Colorado and BARBARA BOXER from California. American politics has never been the same.

The following year, a number of esteemed women were elected to the U.S. Senate. Several reporters deemed 1992 the "Year of the Woman." Senator Mikulski, the dean of women, as she is often referred to, said: "Calling 1992 the Year of the Woman makes it sound like the Year of the Caribou or the Year of the Asparagus. We're not a fad, fancy, or a year." She was right. But California made history. For the first time, one State sent two women to represent them in the Senate: Dianne Feinstein and BARBARA BOXER.

BARBARA often reminds me of the line from Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream": "Though she be but little, she is fierce." In 1994, when Republicans took control of Congress, one of the first things they did was go after environmental regulations, including rules to limit the amount of arsenic in the drinking water. BARBARA immediately launched a good old-fashioned, 3-day "Ms. Smith Goes to Washington" filibuster. Like most of the fights she takes on, she won.

BARBARA is a call-it-as-you-see-it kind of person. Maybe it is because she grew up in the no-nonsense, working class town of Brooklyn. Or maybe it is because her parents and Jewish grandparents, who immigrated to this country from Russia instilled in her a deep love for America's Constitution and freedoms—a sense of obligation to give something back and a determination to fight for underdogs, truth, and justice.

She has sponsored or cosponsored more than 1,200 pieces of legislation and helped lead the fight on issues ranging from women's rights to health care to protecting California's natural wonders to keeping lead and other potentially lethal hazards out of children's toys.

The vote that sealed our spiritual kinship took place in October 2002 when she and I voted against the Iraq war resolution. One of our dear friends, Paul Wellstone, also voted against the resolution. Paul was in a tough reelection fight that year. A reporter asked him if it was a hard choice to vote against the war. Paul said it was a risk, but not a choice. His conscience wouldn't let him vote any other way. It seems to me that is how BARBARA BOXER approaches every one of her votes in Congress: It might be a risk, but it is not a choice. She listens to her conscience, and the people of

California respect her for it. Let me be clear: that doesn't mean she will not work hard to find a compromise.

She proved that in recent years when she and Jim Inhofe—the unlikeliest of odd couples—worked together to pass important legislation updating regulations on toxic chemicals and shepherding through a surface transportation bill that no one thought could be done.

I will close with this. Early in BARBARA's political career, people used to come up to her and say, "How did you get so strong, how did you get so tough?" BARBARA would humbly respond, "Oh, not tough. I am just an ordinary person, and I do what I think is right." I agree with most of that, but let me tell you—BARBARA is as tough as they come. She can't be bullied or intimidated, and she never loses her courage. I want to thank BARBARA for sacrificing so much time with her own family to make the families of America safer, healthier, and more hopeful. For that and a thousand other reasons, I will miss her in the Senate. I know I can count on her to keep pushing those of us who remain to listen to our consciences—to fight for change and do the right thing.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor our colleagues who are leaving us at the end of this Congress, six individuals who have done a lot to shape how the Senate operates today.

First I would like to thank my three Republican colleagues who are departing. Thank you not only for your service to our country but your willingness to work with me and other members of my party on a number of issues. . . .

I would also like to speak to three of my closest colleagues on our side of the aisle.

Over the past 24 years, I have had the pleasure of serving in the Senate with Harry Reid, Barbara Mikulski, and BARBARA BOXER, and I am grateful not just for our working relationships but for the close friendships I have formed with each of them. . . .

Mr. President, finally, I would like to talk about my partner from California, BARBARA BOXER.

Senator BOXER and I were elected to the Senate on the same day in 1992, the "Year of the Woman."

The day BARBARA was sworn in was historic; it was the first time two women represented their State together in the Senate. That is an honor I am grateful to have shared with my good friend.

From the Marin County Board of Supervisors, to the House of Representatives, to the U.S. Senate—Senator

BOXER has been a champion for families, children, consumers, and the environment.

She rose to become the chair and now ranking member of the Environment and Public Works Committee. I have great respect for Senator BOXER's passion, dedication, and enthusiasm for protecting the environment. No one does it better.

She led an effort to protect California's coast from offshore drilling. She authored the California Missions Preservation Act to restore and protect the 21 historic missions in California. She helped create Pinnacles National Park, Fort Ord National Monument, and Cesar Chavez National Monument. She led the effort to expand the Gulf of Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries.

In California, there are now more than 1 million acres of protected wilderness thanks to Senator BOXER.

But she was more than just a champion for our environment.

In the Senate, BARBARA was a staunch advocate for issues related to children.

She pushed to protect children from dangerous toys by removing lead or other dangerous chemicals and requiring cautionary warnings on children's products sold over the Internet. She fought to remove arsenic from drinking water to protect children. As chair of the After School Caucus, she wrote legislation to secure Federal funding for afterschool programs. Thanks to Senator BOXER, 1.6 million children now have a safe place to go after school.

She fought for our servicemembers.

She founded the Military Families Caucus to provide support for the families of servicemembers. She helped establish the West Coast Combat Care Center in San Diego, so that southern California veterans with traumatic wounds would have access to quality care.

Senator Boxer fought for consumers.

She authored a bipartisan measure to prevent a conflict of interest with banks acting as real estate brokers. After the housing crisis, she wrote measures to protect homeowners whose mortgage is transferred or sold. She pushed for legislation to help homeowners refinance with lower rates—thanks to that effort, 1 million borrowers were able to save thousands of dollars in interest payments each year.

Finally, BARBARA was a staunch defender of women's rights.

She led the floor fight to pass the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act and pushed back against repeated attacks on women's health and a woman's right to privacy. Her efforts led to the passage of the Violence Against Women Act that protects women from domestic and sexual abuse.

She worked closely with then-Senator Joe Biden to pass that landmark bill. After she announced her retirement, the Vice President said, "You always knew in the Senate if you had BARBARA on your side, you didn't need much more."

Well, I have been lucky to have BARBARA by my side for the past 24 years.

She has been a strong advocate for the people of California, and I am grateful to have served with her.

I am also grateful for the friendship we have shared over the years.

BARBARA and her husband, Stewart, are two of the kindest, most caring people I have had the pleasure of knowing. Their marriage of more than 50 years has brought them considerable joy. Together they raised two wonderful children and are now blessed with four grandchildren.

I am sure she is looking forward to spending more time with them.

While she may be retiring from the Senate, the passion BARBARA displayed for public service will not end.

I know she will continue to advocate and remain a powerful voice for the causes she championed here in the U.S. Senate.

I look forward to seeing what she is able to accomplish in the next phase of her life and offer her best wishes in a welldeserved retirement.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Senator BARBARA BOXER, who has served her State and country with boundless energy, enthusiasm, and exuberance.

Senator BOXER'S 24 years in the Senate are only part of her legacy of leadership and accomplishments. Previously, she served for 10 years in the House of Representatives for California's Sixth Congressional District and before that as the first woman president of the Marin County Board of Supervisors.

That remarkable record of service includes another record. In her reelection in 2004, Senator BOXER received nearly 7 million votes, the most in Senate history until that time and a mark that stood for 8 years.

During her service in the Senate, Senator BOXER has established herself as a champion of the environment, infrastructure, and medical research. Along with Senator Inhofe, she authored a 5-year transportation bill that many thought

was an impossible task in a gridlocked Senate. But she worked across the aisle and did it. The United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act she authored in 2012 reaffirmed the special relationship between our two countries and is another of Senator BOXER's accomplishments.

It has been especially rewarding to work with her on legislation to better protect women from violence in our country and around the world.

In her first campaign for Congress in 1982, she ran under the slogan, "BARBARA BOXER Gives a Damn." She always has and always will. It is a pleasure to thank Senator BARBARA BOXER for her years of service and to wish her and her husband, Stewart, many more years of good health and great happiness.

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I want to take an opportunity to salute and thank and commend my colleagues who are departing. . . .

We also have other colleagues departing: Senator Ayotte from New Hampshire; Senator BOXER of California, Senator Coats of Indiana; as I mentioned, Senator Kirk of Illinois; Senator Mikulski of Maryland; Senator Reid of Nevada; and Senator Vitter of Louisiana. Each has brought passion in their work to best serve their constituents, and the institution of the Senate and the Nation are better for this service. I am better for knowing them, working with them, and having the opportunity to share with them, and I want to thank them for their service. Let me mention a few words with respect to all of these distinguished Senators. . . .

Mr. President, Barbara Boxer and I had the privilege to serve both in the House and the Senate together. My first term in the House of Representatives was Barbara's last term in the House before she was elected to the Senate. She is an extraordinary, tenacious fighter—remarkably so. She has fought for women's rights. She has fought for the rights of families, for people who needed economic assistance, and for people who needed a chance because she realized that the essence of America is opportunity—opportunity for all, not just for those who are privileged or who have the benefit of wealth or power but for all. She has done this extraordinarily well.

A great deal of her energy was directed to environmental protection because that is something that benefits all of us and that is something that is really the biggest legacy we will give to the next generation and the generations that follow. No one has more fiercely defended the environment—not just for a narrow interest, not just for a temporary expedient but for the long-term health and wealth of the American people. . . .

I have been very fortunate. I have had the privilege to serve with these ladies and gentlemen, and I want to thank them for their service.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, mountains, rivers, cities, and plains separate Vermont and California, two States as different as any in the country. But here in the U.S. Senate, we are on equal footing. It is one of the hallmarks of our Constitution and representative government. For over three decades, Barbara Boxer worked to advance the priorities of Californians. Thankfully, in many ways, those priorities, despite the diversity of our States, have mirrored those of Vermonters.

A trailblazer in her own right, Senator BOXER rose to become the first woman to chair the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, where she fought to protect and preserve our environment, promote clean and safe drinking water, update our antiquated infrastructure, and improve public safety.

Senator BOXER was an early and vocal supporter of our efforts to reauthorize and expand the important Violence Against Women Act. Her passionate pleas to Senators and Members of the House to approve this critical—and life-saving—bill was essential to the Senate's debate.

Of course, most important in Senator BOXER's life is her family. Like many, I was touched when she announced her retirement in an interview with her grandson. She has been a tireless advocate for her home State and for the country. Now, in retirement, I hope she enjoys even more time with Stewart and her wonderful family. Far from finished fighting, I know BARBARA's voice will not be one soon forgotten in the U.S. Senate.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, at the end of each Congress, the Senate takes a moment to express our appreciation and acknowledge the efforts of those Members who will be retiring in just a few weeks. This year one of our colleagues who will be returning home is Senator BARBARA BOXER.

BARBARA will be leaving us after a career of over 30 years in the House and Senate. During her service, she has impressed all those with whom she has worked with the strength of her views, her courage, and her determination to fight for the things in which she truly believes. Regardless of the circumstances that drew her into each legislative battle, she has always held true to the principles that have guided her in her life.

For Barbara, her early career work as a stockbroker soon found her heading to California with her husband after he had completed his work in law school. She then got interested in politics and became a strong voice for the political views of the people who resided in the area she now called home. Her constituents liked what they heard from Barbara—and the way she expressed her views on the issues and proposals she wanted to work on.

Her style of speaking soon became her trademark in Congress. She has a convincing way of presenting her case, and that is one reason why it was always good to be on her side. She calls it speaking "extremely candid and straight from the shoulders, and not to be mealy-mouthed or waffle." Anyone who has had a chance to come to know her—or to tackle an issue either with her or opposed to her—knows how accurate that description is.

Right after the tragedy of 9/11, I joined BARBARA as ranking member of the subcommittee she chaired regarding terrorism financing. I was proud to join her in that work, and I have appreciated the significant role she has played on a number of highway bills, which are important to both of our home States.

Over the years, there have been some other issues that we could discuss and work on with an eye toward compromise. For each of us, however, there were other issues that were of such importance to our constituents it would have been hard for either of us to move too far from the path that we had been following from our early days in politics.

BARBARA and I both have a strong touch of the West in our hearts that we express every day in everything we do. That is why I was not surprised when she mentioned as she spoke about her retirement that she felt that it was time for her to return home—as she said so well—"to the State I love so much, California."

BARBARA, Diana joins me in sending our congratulations for your hard work and your dedication to your home State. You have left your mark here in Congress, and I think it is safe to say you will not be forgotten. Thanks again for your willingness to serve and work so hard for what you believe in. You have helped to encourage and inspire the next generation of leaders from your State. In that way and so many others, you have made a difference.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about my longtime friend and colleague BARBARA BOXER, who is retiring from this body along with me this year.

Senator BOXER will be remembered as an inspiration to young women across our country. Her career is a textbook of how to get involved in public service. Starting at the local level, she came out of the antiwar movement and got involved in the environmental movement and local causes. Taking lessons from grassroots organizing, she ran for the Marin County Board of Supervisors. She lost that first race, but she didn't give up. She ran again and won and became the first female chair.

Eventually, she made her way to the U.S. House of Representatives. Along the way, she heard a lot of "no," but always turned it into a "yes." She never quit, never lost faith in herself, and never stopped trying.

When it looked like the accusations of Anita Hill would be swept under the rug, I spoke out in the Senate against it, but I was only one female voice. BARBARA BOXER came to my aid. Even though she was in the House, she led a troop of fierce House women running up the steps to the Senate to face down the Judiciary Committee and demand they shed light on the accusations of sexual harassment. BARBARA had the crack team of Eleanor Holmes Norton, Pat Schroeder, Louise Slaughter, Nita Lowey, Jolene Unsoeld, and Patsy Mink to back her up. They marshaled the press and marched right up these steps. They knocked on the door and were going to be turned away because they weren't Senators. But they pointed to that group of photographers and said, "We are going to tell them that you turned us away, what do you think will happen then?" So they were let in and made their case. Those Senators couldn't face the calculation and fury of BARBARA BOXER and the House women, and those hearings were convened. The Anita Hill hearings made an indelible mark on this country.

It really woke America up as to what was going on in the workplaces around the country for women and how little representation women really got in Congress. Watching that allmale Judiciary Committee tear into Professor Hill for daring to accuse her boss of sexual harassment, the women of

America took action and elected BARBARA BOXER, Dianne Feinstein, Carol Moseley Braun, and Patty Murray to the U.S. Senate.

I was thrilled when BARBARA came to me thinking about running for the Senate. I told her it was the perfect time: she can do more in the Senate and be heard in the Senate. I said it would be worth the fight to get her here with me, even if just to have someone I could see eye to eye with on a daily basis.

BARBARA even started an exercise program in the House when we were there together. She showed up in colorful leotards, and Geraldine Ferraro came looking like a photo op for Vanity Fair, and Olympia Snowe wore this gorgeous outfit. I show up, chunky yet funky, and the instructor is yelling, "Go for the burn! Put your hands on your waist and bend, bend, bend!" I turned to BARBARA and said, "If I had a waist, I wouldn't be here." Well, those exercise classes may not have lasted long for me, but her energy just couldn't be beat.

Her zip and zest is pure California sunshine, and Californians have more sunshine in their spirit because of her work. Her energy has brought light to California and light to the sometimes dreary Capitol hallways.

I am going to miss my good friend and irreplaceable political partner. Democrats have had a lot of tough fights over the last 25 years, and the two Barbaras have always been there, side by side. We voted against the war in Iraq, both believing it was a mistake. We were in the minority, but both of us still believe it was one of the best votes we have ever taken as Senators. We stood up for what we believed in and what we thought was right—which is exactly what our constituents sent us here to do.

BARBARA BOXER has been there for our children, leading the way for afterschool programs and making sure they are kept safe. She has fought against wasteful spending in the Pentagon—the \$400 hammer and the \$7,000 coffeepot. She has defended women's right to choose and protected women against domestic violence. She has held the feet of polluters to the fire as the champion of clean air, clean water, and our natural resources. It is too hard to pinpoint just one thing the Senate will miss about her: her political prowess, her dedication and determination, her undying loyalty and friendship. All of those and more will be missed.

As we end this session of Congress and our careers in the Senate, I wish BARBARA and her husband, Stewart, many happy days ahead as they start writing this new chapter in their lives. Even if we are on opposite sides of the country, I know I will always have a friend in California.

Friday, December 9, 2016

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. ... Madam President, I will close my remarks by turning to some of our retiring Senators and speaking briefly on each one of them. ...

Finally, there is Senator BARBARA BOXER, who joined the Senate in 1993. When I got to the Senate, I was on the Environment Committee. She was the new chair. I got to see first hand her advocacy—her advocacy on climate change, her advocacy on transportation and waterway infrastructure—and the way she would just never give up when she decided something was right for her State and right for the country.

The one thing that everyone talks about is BARBARA BOXER's fiery advocacy and her incredible humor and tenacity. Sometimes, I think people forget how productive she has been when she worked across the aisle. I saw first hand how she was able to work with Senator Inhofe on the transportation bill and then later with Senator McConnell on the last transportation bill.

She is someone who has credibility on our side of the aisle. When she says she is willing to make a compromise with the Republicans, people listen. She never gave up. She would have dinners at Italian restaurants. She would find ways, in kind of a mom's way, to get everyone together. She passed some really incredible legislation, including water infrastructure legislation with Senator Vitter over the last few years.

That is what she has done. I can't think of anyone whom we are going to miss more in terms of that presence and that kind of hardscrabble advocacy, which is always coupled with the pragmatic way of getting important bills done. So we are going to miss Senator Reid, Senator Mikulski, and, also, Senator BOXER.

Mr. McCONNELL. . . . It goes without saying that keeping the Capitol running is a vast undertaking. It requires a passion for service, round-the-clock work, and great sacrifice by everyone employed. The legislative process simply wouldn't be possible without the dedicated work of so many. On behalf of the Senate, I would like to acknowledge their efforts and say thank you to the following:

To my leadership team for their wise counsel; to our committee chairs and ranking members for so much great work over the past 2 years; to the many colleagues in both parties for working so hard to make this Senate a success; and, to those we are saying farewell to—Senators Coats, BOXER, Mikulski, Reid, Vitter, Kirk, and Ayotte—for your service to our country, I say thank you. ...

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the contributions of my colleague and friend, Senator BARBARA BOXER. While her distinguished time in the House and Senate comes to a close at the end of the 114th Congress, she will continue to be engaged and serve her community.

During her more than 30 years in the House and Senate, BARBARA worked tirelessly to create a better future for all Americans. When she first announced that she would run for the Senate in 1990, BARBARA declared, "I will be running based on issues of the environment, a world of peace, economic prosperity, individual freedom of choice and freedom of the arts."

This declaration defined her time in Congress.

Becoming the first woman to chair the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works reflected her decades of dedication to protecting the environment. BARBARA was unafraid to take on big oil, and fought to block oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. She also led the effort in the Senate to invest in the development of clean energy technology and to strengthen protections for our oceans.

BARBARA knew that, for many, achieving "economic prosperity" meant attaining a college education. But the soaring cost of college keeps them from attaining a degree. Each year, BARBARA was one of the strongest leaders to ensure that college students have access to Pell grants, which nearly half of college students in our country depend upon. BARBARA's advocacy moved the ball forward, and I was proud to join her in crafting a caucuswide bill that included our provisions to strengthen and protect Pell grants, and lower interest rates on student debt.

BARBARA also never forgot her promise to protect "freedom of choice." She authored the Freedom of Choice Act of 2004, which would have affirmed that "every woman has the fundamental right" to make her own reproductive health decisions. Without fail, BARBARA leads us each and every time that access to reproductive health care comes under attack.

While BARBARA's departure leaves the Senate without one of its strongest champions for the environment, college affordability, and reproductive rights, we will continue to fight for these core priorities as she would have done.

It has been a privilege to serve alongside a steadfast champion like BARBARA.

She has served California with utter conviction, and I know she will continue to be a progressive force in this new chapter of her life.

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

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I want to pay tribute to two colleagues who are retiring at the end of this year, Senator Boxer and Senator Mikulski, two remarkable Democratic women Senators leaving the Senate as four new women come in.

Mr. President, for more than 40 years, BARBARA BOXER has committed her life to public service, over 30 of them in Washington, first in the House of Representatives and, since 1993, in the U.S. Senate.

When asked what advice she would give to her successor, Senator BOXER said she should not be afraid to fight the good fight every single day.

That is what Senator BOXER has done. Over the past four decades, she has been an advocate for medical research, women, workers, the environment, and infrastructure.

As ranking member of the Environment and Public Works Committee, BARBARA BOXER urged Congress and the country to confront climate change, creating the Climate Action Task Force with Senator Sheldon Whitehouse.

In closing, I am reminded of what Robert Kennedy once said: "The purpose of life is to contribute in some way to make things better."

Senator BOXER has told us that, while she is leaving the Senate to return to California, she does not intend to end her life of service. She will continue to work to make things better. We wish her well and we thank her for her public service in the House and here in the Senate.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, as this eventful 114th Congress draws to a close, today I wish to honor a number of our colleagues who will be ending their service in the Senate. I was a newcomer to the Senate at the beginning of this Congress and the only Democrat in the freshman Senate class of 2014. I am eternally grateful for the guidance and wisdom of my fellow Senators, particularly those with decades of ex-

perience fighting for the American people. Constituents, colleagues, and historians will recount their accomplishments for years to come, but I will take a few minutes now to convey some brief words of praise and gratitude. ...

Mr. President, Senator Barbara Boxer is also a trail-blazing woman and a fierce advocate for what is best for her State, and I have been honored to get to know her through our work in the Senate. Throughout her career, Senator Boxer has fought for commonsense consumer and environmental protections to make us safer. She has been an incredible partner in our fight this year to end the water crisis in Flint, MI, and to reduce the threat of drinking water contamination in cities across the Nation.

Senator BOXER knows that we must protect our children and communities from the grave effects of environmental contamination by investing in our aging infrastructure and maintaining vigilance. We must also provide the extra care, education, and health care services that these children and communities need to recover.

She has always been a champion for children, from establishing the first federally funded afterschool program to protecting children from contaminated products. Just as important, Senator BOXER has been a leader in protecting the natural resources these future generations will inherit. Her victories for clean water, job-creating smart infrastructure projects, and environmental protections should inspire us to keep looking toward the future as we help our great States thrive today. . . .

It has been a privilege to work with such talented and committed colleagues. I wish them all the best in this next chapter of their lives and thank them for their work. Thank you.

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF SENATE DOCUMENTS

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be printed as a Senate document a compilation of materials from the Congressional Record in tribute to retiring Members of the 114th Congress, and an additional Senate document a compilation of materials from the Congressional Record in tribute to the President of the Senate, Joe Biden, and that Members have until Tuesday, December 20, to submit such tributes.

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

ORDER FOR PRINTING

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that any tributes submitted by December 20, 2016, as authorized by the order of December 10, 2016, be printed in the January 3, 2017, Congressional Record of the 114th Congress.

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

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