

to build a society that ensures equality and justice for all.

In conjunction with the congressional declaration, a coalition of organizations advocating for the well-being of women and communities of color will partner to elevate the stories, histories, and realities of Black women's lives, building off the momentum generated by Black Women's History Week in 2015. Our charge is to ensure that the lives of Black women and girls are not overlooked and that efforts to generate information about their well-being is widely shared across public agencies and partner institutions.

Thank you.

BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, today is St. Patrick's Day. It is a great day for those of us in this country whose ancestors came here to find a better life. And today, like many of us here, I got up and put on a green tie, but I switched it out for this one, a red one, to highlight support for those who suffer from serious conditions that many Americans don't speak much about or know much about.

This March is the first Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month. It also marks the 30th anniversary of President Ronald Reagan's one-time declaration of March as Hemophilia Awareness Month.

Tens of thousands of Americans have been diagnosed with bleeding disorders, including more than 100 Alaskan families. These families are spread all across my State, in Anchorage and Fairbanks, but also in rural communities like Chevak, Elim, Tuntutuliak, Kodiak, and Klawock. These Alaskans face serious health challenges with strength and grace and form a vibrant tight-knit community, and I want to thank those communities for supporting their fellow Alaskans.

Hemophilia is the most expensive chronic condition to treat. There are Alaskan children whose daily dose of medication exceeds \$1,800 per day. The good news is there is treatment that continues to improve.

I want to highlight the work done by the Alaska Hemophilia Association, a chapter of the National Hemophilia Foundation, which provides services and support for the Alaskan bleeding disorder community. They work to provide access to care and insurance and support our youth by hosting an annual summer camp for Alaskan children with bleeding disorders and their siblings. Camp Frozen Chosen allows these youth to interact with others with similar bleeding disorders. They are also able to learn to manage and take ownership of their condition and their lives, enabling them to be leaders of their generation.

The Alaska Hemophilia Association and the Alaska bleeding disorder community are the epitome of Alaskan grit and determination and are part of what makes Alaska such a wonderful place.

I would ask that we think of those this month who are suffering from

these disorders and that we continue to work together to find solutions and to offer support.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING TAMARA D. GRIGSBY

• Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life and legacy of Tamara D. Grigsby, whose untimely passing at the age of 41 has left Wisconsin without one of its greatest champions for equality and justice. Tamara committed her life to public service and making a difference in the lives of others. She was known for her honesty, dedication, and ability to see beyond partisan posturing to become a voice for those too often forgotten.

Growing up in Madison, WI, Tamara's path in life was shaped by her experiences confronting economic disparity and racial bias as a student in what is considered Wisconsin's most liberal city. When asked about the apparent dichotomy of this circumstance, she simply responded: "I'm a liberal. But liberal doesn't mean enlightened, and it doesn't mean informed." That statement embodies the essence of who Tamara was.

After earning a bachelor's degree at Howard University and a master's degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Tamara put her energy and skills to work as a social worker in the Milwaukee office of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families. Upon seeing the impact she could have on individual lives, she became convinced of the need for effective advocacy on a larger scale.

In 2004, she successfully ran for the Wisconsin Legislature. Her drive and passion to change the world around her led to her success in a three-way primary and an unopposed general election to represent the 18th Assembly District in Milwaukee. During her tenure in the assembly, Tamara was a strong advocate for disadvantaged families and at-risk children, who were too often overlooked and marginalized.

Tamara quickly gained the respect of her colleagues as a passionate, strong voice for equity, fairness, and the expansion of opportunity. She immersed herself in the legislative process as a member of the joint finance committee and as chair of the assembly committee on children and families. She was an outspoken and effective advocate on critical issues such as access to scientifically based sex education and birth control, expansion of transitional jobs to connect unemployed individuals with work, examination of the State's disproportionate Black incarceration rate, and the collection of racial data in police traffic stops. She stood fast against opposition to low-income tax credits and quality health care for low-income Wisconsin residents.

Although an unexpected illness ended her 8 years as a State representative in 2012, her public service continued. She worked in the Milwaukee Public School system and was tapped to lead

Dane County's Department of Equity and Inclusion. It is in this role that Tamara's life came full circle. She was once again in Madison challenging the status quo on the issues that inspired her to become a fierce advocate for the poor and underrepresented.

Although Tamara's time with us was too short, she leaves behind a legacy for future leaders to emulate. She will always be remembered for having the courage to speak for those who didn't have a voice.●

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE ELLEN M. HELLER

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to honor the career of Judge Ellen M. Heller. Judge Heller has served the people of Baltimore and Maryland in several capacities for many decades. She is well known and well respected in the legal and nonprofit and communities across our State. In 2010, Judge Heller brought her considerable talents to the Weinberg Foundation, one of Baltimore's most effective nonprofit organizations. After 6 years, Judge Heller will be concluding her role as chair of the board on March 1, 2016, and she will come to the end of her current term as a trustee of the Weinberg Foundation on May 16, 2016.

Judge Heller has helped change lives while she has served at the Weinberg Foundation. Her commitment to service and her steadfastness have made her an incredibly effective chairwoman. For my colleagues who may be unfamiliar with the Weinberg Foundation, the organization does incredible work on behalf of low-income and vulnerable people from Maryland to Hawaii and from the former Soviet Union to Israel and beyond. The responsibility of chairing the board at the Weinberg Foundation is significant; we are fortunate Judge Heller's personal and professional experiences helped make her uniquely suited for the job.

Judge Heller is no stranger to hard work. She graduated from the Johns Hopkins University, cum laude. She also graduated from my alma mater, the University of Maryland School of Law, cum laude. She earned both degrees while raising two sons. Judge Heller's accomplished legal career began as an assistant attorney general. She soon became an associate judge in the Baltimore City Circuit Court, the eighth judicial circuit, and would spend 6 years as the judge in charge of the civil docket.

In 1999, Judge Heller became the first woman to serve as a circuit administrative judge on the eighth circuit. She championed numerous reforms, including the practice of alternative dispute resolution, ADR, in circuit court cases and the introduction of court-ordered mediation in certain civil cases. She also directed the establishment of a new pretrial discovery process, including the appointment of two felony discovery judges. Her dedication not only

to justice as a concept, but to improving the process by which justice is administered, would serve her well at the Weinberg Foundation.

Judges are the public face of the rule of law. I am thankful that so many people will associate justice with such a capable and revered judge. In 2003, Judge Heller retired from the bench and began to lend more of her time and talent to various worthy causes around Maryland and around the world. For instance, Judge Heller served as president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, gaining experience in international aid missions. In her long and illustrious career, Judge Heller has worked with many other distinguished groups: the Maryland School for the Blind, the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene & Public Health, the Task Force on Women in Prison, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland, the Greater Baltimore Medical Center, the Public Trust and Confidence Implementation Committee, the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel, and the World Jewish Restitution Organization. I have omitted many more organizations, but the underlying point here is that Judge Heller brought a wealth of experience and talent to the Weinberg Foundation.

The Weinberg Foundation has a long track record of tackling issues head on. The foundation has been a national leader on addressing the basic human needs of healthcare, housing, economic stability, and food security. The Weinberg Foundation has also established itself as an effective advocate for people living with disabilities, the elderly, and our veterans.

Judge Heller has helped the Weinberg Foundation accomplish extraordinary feats during her time on the board. She oversaw the Baltimore Library Project which seeks to design, build, equip, and staff new or renovated libraries in selected schools where existing public funds can be leveraged. The Weinberg Foundation, with the help of 40 partners, will create as many as 24 of these inspirational spaces. The Weinberg Foundation has committed a total of \$10 million for what is expected to be a legacy project.

Judge Heller doubled the amount of funding provided under the employee giving program. The Weinberg Foundation's employee giving program awards grants to their deeply committed staff to fund direct outreach programs.

Judge Heller and the Weinberg Foundation have done immeasurable good for people across the State of Maryland and around the world. As Judge Heller prepares to step down from the foundation, I would like to thank her for her dedication to lifting up all people. I would also like to thank her husband, Shale D. Stiller, and the rest of her loving family for sharing such an incredible woman with humanity. Judge Heller has placed the Weinberg Foundation on solid footing to continue to carry out its important missions. I

know I join my colleagues in congratulating Judge Heller on everything she has accomplished and wishing her all the best in her future endeavors.●

RECOGNIZING THE EIGHTH GRADE CLASS AT BIG TIMBER GRADE SCHOOL

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the eighth grade class at Big Timber Grade School. The class recently took over the writing for the Big Timber Pioneer Newspaper.

The Big Timber Pioneer participated in Newspapers in Education Week, and the lucky new young writers were the eighth graders of the Big Timber Grade School. This very special edition of the newspaper was compiled of stories written by the individuals of the class. There are 38 students in the class and they all wrote an article.

Big Timber is located in southern Montana. It is a small town of roughly 1,600 people. I am sure this was a huge honor for the eighth grade class, their parents, and the whole town.

Thank you to Lindsey Kroskob, the managing editor of the Big Timber Pioneer, for making this a goal of hers since 2015 and for making it happen this year. It is people like you that can help shape the minds of our young Montanans to realize that anything is possible.

Congratulations to the eighth grade class for getting the opportunity to write for the newspaper. I look forward to reading your very special edition and learning about the students of Big Timber Grade School. Maybe I will see your names someday in national publications across our country.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT LOUGH

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Robert Lough for his tireless effort in helping Nevada's brave servicemembers after they have returned home from the battlefield. Mr. Lough has been a volunteer with the Henderson Municipal Court's Veterans Treatment Court program since its opening in 2011, going above and beyond to help fellow veterans in need.

The Henderson Municipal Court's Veterans Treatment Court program is an invaluable resource to the southern Nevada community, providing our veterans with vital services that range from job placement to suicide prevention. This program assists our nation's servicemembers as they return home and readjust to life in their communities. The court program includes representatives from the legal system and volunteers who work to rehabilitate veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, or drug or alcohol issues. Although there is no way to adequately thank the men and women who lay down their lives for our freedoms, the Henderson Municipal Court's Veterans Treatment Court program acts as a one-stop solution for veterans who find themselves in a posi-

tion of need. The State of Nevada is fortunate to have someone like Mr. Lough, who demonstrates unwavering loyalty to Nevada veterans, working in support of this important program.

Mr. Lough, a veteran himself, served in the U.S. Navy from 1967 to 1973. No words can properly thank him for his service to our country, but I offer my deepest gratitude for his sacrifices in defending our freedoms. In addition, he is a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America in Henderson and Boulder City Chapter 1076. In February, Mr. Lough was recognized as Veteran of the Month by Governor Brian Sandoval for his efforts in the Henderson Municipal Court's Veterans Treatment Court program, an accolade that is well deserved. Mr. Lough is truly a role model to all not only for his service to our country, but also for his ambitions in caring for our Nation's heroes. For the last 5 years, Mr. Lough has served as a mentor to struggling veterans who have lost their way. His charisma, caring character, and dedication to helping others are truly admirable.

As a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I know the struggles that our veterans face after returning to civilian life after service. Congress has a responsibility to honor these brave individuals and ensure they receive the quality care they have earned and deserve. I remain committed to upholding this promise for our veterans and servicemembers in Nevada and throughout the Nation. I am grateful to have someone like Mr. Lough working as an ally to ensure the needs of our veterans are being met.

Today I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in recognizing Mr. Lough for his work at the Henderson Municipal Court's Veterans Treatment Court, a program with a mission that is both noble and necessary. I am honored to acknowledge Mr. Lough for his efforts, and I wish him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.●

RECOGNIZING SANFORD CENTER GERIATRIC SPECIALTY CLINIC

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the opening of the Sanford Center Geriatric Specialty Clinic, the first of its kind in the Silver State. This facility's innovative and unique health care offerings will contribute greatly to Nevadans' quality of life and help improve the quality of medical care offered to seniors across northern Nevada.

The geriatric specialty clinic offers screenings and assessments on the University of Nevada, Reno campus inside the Center for Molecular Medicine. The facility provides geriatric assessment and care management to our elderly population, addressing a wide range of medical concerns, including arthritis, dementia, depression, high blood pressure, frailty, and more. The clinic takes on a comprehensive approach, allowing social workers, primary care physicians, nurses, and psychologists