

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I know of no further debate on the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

The motion was agreed to.

DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER
INFRASTRUCTURE ACT OF 2021

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 914) to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1460

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.)

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I call up amendment No. 1460, and I ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Illinois [Ms. DUCKWORTH] for Mr. CARPER proposes an amendment numbered 1460.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

COVID-19 HATE CRIMES ACT

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I rise today to discuss the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act. I was a cosponsor of this bill, which was introduced by Senator HIRONO and passed the Senate on April 22, 2021, by a vote of 94 to 1. I was in Minnesota to attend the memorial service for Daunte Wright when the bill came up for a vote, but I would have voted in favor of the bill had I been present.

I have been alarmed by the sharp increase in hate crimes against members of the Asian-American Pacific Islander, AAPI, community during the pandemic. According to Stop AAPI Hate, there have been approximately 3,800 incidents of anti-Asian bias across the country in the last year, and that number only includes what has been reported. As we saw with the recent mass shooting in Georgia, in which six of the eight victims were women of Asian descent, these crimes are horrifying and heartbreaking.

I have also talked to constituents in my State who have experienced verbal attacks, physical abuse, and threats to their businesses simply because they are members of the AAPI community. What they have endured is not right. These are hate crimes, and it is time

for us to stand together, to denounce hate, and take action.

When I first arrived at the Senate, I worked hard to pass the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act. As a prosecutor, I was at the White House when President Bill Clinton introduced the bill, and 9 years later, I got to cast one of the deciding votes to make the bill a reality. Since then I have worked with Senator MURKOWSKI to introduce the bipartisan Justice for Victims of Hate Crimes Act, which will help to ensure that Federal prosecutors can effectively enforce the Federal hate crimes law. After places of worship were targets of violence in my State, I joined my colleagues in cosponsoring legislation to strengthen protections for religious institutions that was signed into law in September 2018.

The COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act will ensure that the Department of Justice invests the resources needed to fully investigate pandemic-related hate crimes against Asian Americans and will support local law enforcement to report and respond to hate crimes. While there is more we must do to root out hate and bias in our country, this bill is an important step forward, and I am grateful to Senator HIRONO for her work in leading this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO LORI HOUSMAN

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career and retirement of Lori Housman after 20 years of service at the Congressional Budget Office. Throughout her time at CBO, Lori has been a cornerstone of the Medicare unit. Her expertise in Medicare's payment policy for physicians, as well as her patience and good humor, has been essential to the Congress as it has developed legislation in this complicated area.

During her time in public service, Lori has worked on legislation that dramatically changed how Medicare operates, including the Affordable Care Act and the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015, commonly referred to as MACRA. Lori's tireless dedication to providing the Congress with objective analysis embodies the best of CBO's commitment to serving both sides of the aisle with expertise, professionalism, and fairness. Her exemplary work in analyzing legislation is matched by her warmth toward and genuine interest in others, earning her the admiration of congressional staff. Her efforts over the years have surely helped to make the Medicare Program better for tens of millions of Americans.

To her colleagues, Lori is a constant source of knowledge, support, and kindness. She has trained many groups of CBO analysts and managers throughout her tenure, teaching them to think critically about how legislation can be translated into analytical models and how to explain how legislation can be clarified to better reflect

the intent of the Congress. In addition to her contributions to CBO's analytical work, her colleagues at CBO congressional staff are grateful for her patience and generous spirit, especially in extraordinary circumstances.

As chairman of the Finance Committee, I, along with Ranking Member CRAPO, thank Lori for her service, and we wish her a relaxing, well-deserved retirement with her husband Van on their boat, Pigs Flew.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CENTENNIAL OF CONNECTICUT
LIONS CLUBS

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, today I rise to recognize Lions Clubs International as it celebrates 100 years of outstanding service in Connecticut.

In the winter of 1921, Lions Clubs International, now the world's largest service organization, dispatched an organizer to Connecticut to form the first Lions Club in New England, the Bridgeport Host Lions Club. Throughout their century of service, these volunteers have worked diligently to help set up a fresh-air camp for Bridgeport's youth, create a vision clinic at Bridgeport Hospital, purchase x-ray devices at St. Vincent's Medical Center, provide dental services for the indigent at Park City Hospital, and a litany of other community projects. Lions Clubs in New Haven, Greater Hartford, New Britain, New London, Greenwich, Waterbury, Meriden, Torrington, and Bristol would soon follow. Today, approximately 160 clubs with over 4,600 Lions are serving their communities, many collaborating with local governments to act as dependable volunteer arms.

In 1925, a future Connecticut resident, Helen Keller, would have a profound impact on the mission and very future of Lions Clubs International with her simple plea: "Will you not help me hasten the day when there shall be no preventable blindness; no little deaf, blind child untaught; no blind man or woman unaided? I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?" Connecticut Lions not only embraced her message, but also did much more, donating monies and time to support their communities locally and globally. Lions Clubs across the State have sponsored parades, festivals, and school projects, as well as raised funds for building equipment to improve the quality of life for children, the disabled, seniors, and veterans. Connecticut Lions have taken families in need shopping to make their holidays brighter. In support of the health and well-being of their communities, Lions Clubs have donated ambulances, school buses and other vehicles, and vital

equipment to our local emergency response teams, senior centers, and social services agencies.

Perhaps the most critical area of focus for Lions Clubs has been in vision care. In their "crusade against darkness," Lions Clubs have raised enormous sums for research into blindness and eye disease. The Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation was chartered in 1956, establishing an eye research clinic under the auspices of Yale University, and later helped establish a second research facility with the University of Connecticut. Thanks to the work at these clinics, thousands of children and adults have benefitted from quality care and research.

Connecticut Lions have also established three District Lions Low Vision Centers to improve the quality of life and independence of those suffering from low vision. I have personally visited one of these centers and listened to healthcare providers and patients discuss how important and valuable these centers are.

For those still struggling with hearing and vision issues, the Connecticut Lions have supported the Connecticut Radio Information System with donations, volunteer readers, and other assistance. Guide and service dogs have been sponsored by Connecticut Lions, helping to restore the independence of the blind and visually impaired in their communities.

Connecticut Lions have also been deeply involved in providing relief from disaster and tragedy. In the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, Connecticut Lions secured sizeable grants from Lions Clubs International Foundation to purchase and distribute critically needed equipment for our first responders and healthcare workers. When Hurricane Sandy devastated much of the State's shoreline, our Lions Clubs provided meals for first responders and volunteers who worked tirelessly to rescue people and restore services following the storm. Immediately following the Sandy Hook tragedy in December 2012, the Newtown Lions established a community fund to address the short-term and long-term needs of individuals arising from that tragic event. To date, they have raised more than \$11 million for those affected by posttraumatic shock disorder, including many children of Sandy Hook Elementary School. Connecticut Lions recognized the desperate need of Hurricane Katrina victims, donating thousands of dollars and making multiple trips with shipments of vital supplies. Connecticut Lions have collected and provided food year-round, working with meal centers, food banks, and food share programs to distribute directly to our homeless and those in need. Police and first responders in many towns were provided with "Homeless Kits."

In the face of tragedy and immense need, the Connecticut Lions have never forgotten the importance of looking to the future. Connecticut's youth have been a significant part of Lions Club

service programs. Leadership, Experience, Opportunity—LEO—Clubs give our youth an opportunity to serve their communities and develop their leadership skills. The Lions Quest program brings schools, families, and communities together to promote the development of healthy and responsible young people through social and emotional learning, character development, and a commitment to community service. The International Peace Poster Contest has provided an opportunity for children to express their visions of peace through art and creativity. Outstanding students striving to reach higher academic achievement have been provided significant scholarships as rewards for their incredible work.

We are proud of our Connecticut Lions who are, each one, a solid citizen contributing significantly to their community and beyond. They strive for new ways to serve others and to address the needs of their communities. Connecticut Lions are adept at recognizing needs, planning projects, organizing fundraisers, and rolling their sleeves up to get the job done. "Where there is a need, there is a Lion!" For 100 years, our Connecticut Lions have proudly demonstrated their motto: "We Serve"•

TRIBUTE TO DAVE LEE

• Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, today I rise to honor and pay tribute to Dave Lee, a radio host and Minnesota legend who is retiring after 32 years at WCCO radio on April 30, 2021.

Hailing from Hatton, ND, Dave did not always know he would be a radio personality. He spent his summers in high school throwing hay bales, picking potatoes, and hoeing beets. When a friend recommended he audition for KRAD, a local radio station in East Grand Forks, Dave was just hoping to earn a little extra money for college, but the station saw a spark in him and offered him 9-hour country music shift. From there, he volunteered to help out with sports coverage, and when he graduated college, he stayed at the station. As he puts it, "When you are passionate about something, it never feels like you are going to work."

That is how Dave's voice was introduced to the airwaves, and after years at KRAD in East Grand Forks and KFGO in Fargo, he became a weekend host of News Talk 830 on WCCO. He didn't know at the time, but WCCO would be his home for the next 32 years. Dave went on to join the legendary Roger Erickson as cohost of the morning drive and then took on solo duties when Roger retired in 1997.

For many Minnesotans, Dave's voice was as much a part of their morning as their cup of coffee. Commuters counted on him for traffic updates, students looked to him for snow day announcements, and we all knew we could rely on him for honest news reporting and engaging interviews. Over the course of his career, he interviewed an impres-

sive roster of personalities, from Boston Celtics legend Bill Russell, to baseball pitcher Nolan Ryan, to actress Julie Andrews. He also had countless incredible interviews with elected officials Democrats and Republicans alike.

Some conversations were serious, talking about the policy fight or issue of the day, but sometimes his interviews were just plain fun. I still have great memories of joining him at the WCCO booth at the Minnesota State Fair and "Minnesota Hospital" soap opera spoof skit, where I was given the role of Nurse Helen and Sid Hartman played the infamous "Dr. Kidney Hartman."

For years, we have also been treated to Dave's sports coverage. He did the play-by-play for the Minnesota Gophers for a decade and occasionally filled in as announcer for the Minnesota Twins. He brought his running commentary to the television broadcasts of the Minnesota State High School Boys and Girls Basketball Tournaments and covered University of St. Thomas football games on WCCO.

His joyful and informative commentary made him a six-time winner of Minnesota's Sportscaster of the Year, and he earned three Emmy Awards for his reporting on television. He is also a recipient of the Edward R. Murrow Award, several awards from the Associated Press, and a nomination for the National Association of Broadcasters' Marconi Radio Award.

To so many Minnesotans, Dave was a titan of Minnesota radio, providing information and entertainment with his signature warm demeanor. And it was with that same kind spirit that Dave did so much to give back, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital. After all Dave has done for our community, I have to admit, he deserves the chance to start sleeping in.

Dave, even though I will miss having you on the airwaves, I know that this is not goodbye, and I wish you all my best.●

TRIBUTE TO VICTORIA CECHE

• Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I rise today to extend my sincere appreciation to Victoria Cech, who is planning on retiring from her position as the executive director of the Montana Health Research and Education Foundation. The citizens of my State are truly grateful for her tireless efforts to improve the health of all Montanans.

During her tenure at the foundation, Victoria was responsible for managing our State's hospital flexibility and frontier community health improvement programs, both of which provide vital support to our State's critical access hospitals. Why is this important? Because Montana has the distinction of not losing a single critical access hospital since the program's inception. It is the work of the foundation and Victoria's tireless leadership that has contributed to this great success.