

was producing 2.3 billion chickens annually, while in 1995 some 7.3 billion birds were produced. And over the years, Alabama has been the beneficiary of much of this growth—as is evidenced by the fact it is now the third largest poultry-producing State in the Nation.

Even 25 years ago the relevance of Marshall Durbin Senior's national policy work in the District of Columbia was well known. As then said the Southeastern Poultry Times, "His influence there was credited with helping to keep the poultry industry free of production and price controls and today the poultry industry is among the remaining 'free enterprise' industries of agriculture."

Around the State, his efforts were also well recognized, as evidenced by his 1969 induction in the Alabama Poultry Hall of Fame. And upon his death in 1971, the trade magazine "Broiler Industry" drew upon the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson to best capture the industry leaders' accomplishments, writing, "if, as Emerson said, 'an institution is lengthened by the shadow of one man,' then Marshall Durbin, Sr., was such a man \* \* \* he was a man who always knew where he was going, and how he was going to get there—a true natural leader \* \* \*. He was one of the best integrated broiler operators in the United States."

But perhaps the final tribute to Marshall Durbin, Senior, is that he gave his vision the roots to continue to grow.●

#### TRIBUTE TO GOODWYN L. MYRICK

● Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, just before the sine die adjournment, the Alabama Business Hall of Fame at the University of Alabama announced that Goodwyn L. Myrick, the president and chief executive of the Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance Co., would be inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame.

Goodwyn is a native of Etowah County, AL, where he was born in 1925. He established his first dairy herd in 1944 with eight cows. Today, M & H Farms—a partnership between Goodwyn, his son, Greg, his daughter, Donna, and son-in-law, Tony Haynes—has over 400 Holstein dairy cows and 700 head of beef cattle. It encompasses two farms and more than 2,000 acres.

In 1978, he was elected president of the Alabama Farmers Federation, and is currently serving his ninth term as president of the federation and Alfa Insurance Co. During his tenure, Alfa has had the greatest amount of storm losses and the greatest amount of growth in its history, with \$267 million in losses since 1978. At the same time, it has grown by 1,000 percent. The Alabama Farmers Federation has seen its membership grow from 223,000 in 1980 to nearly 400,000 today.

Goodwyn's previous positions include president of the Etowah County Farm Bureau Federation; the board of direc-

tors of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation—predecessor organization to the Alabama Farmers Federation; and vice president of the federation.

Considered one of the most influential businessmen in the State, Goodwyn joins the ranks of over 100 other distinguished corporate leaders in the Alabama Business Hall of Fame. These previous inductees include George Washington Carver, Winton "Red" Blount, and Aaron Aronov.

I am pleased to commend and congratulate Goodwyn Myrick for receiving this most-deserved honor. The agricultural community of Alabama has never had such a strong leader and loyal friend.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BILL MITCHELL

● Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, just before the sine die adjournment, the Alabama Business Hall of Fame at the University of Alabama announced that Bill Mitchell would be one of its inductees this year. Bill is the retired president of First National Bank of Florence, which is now SunTrust Bank.

This University of Alabama Law School graduate has spent his life serving his community. He has served as president of the Muscle Shoals, Alabama, Regional Library Board, the Florence Chamber of Commerce, the Florence Rotary Club, and the Lauderdale County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Bill has also been a member of the board of directors of the Alabama State Chamber of Commerce, the Alabama Department of Archives and History Board of Trustees, the University of Alabama System Board of Trustees, the University of Alabama College of Commerce and Business Administration Board of Visitors, and the University of North Alabama president's cabinet.

His rich heritage suits this honor well. He still attends First Presbyterian Church in Florence, where his great-grandfather, a Scotch-Irish immigrant, served as pastor during the 1850's. His grandfather served as a probate judge, a representative in the Alabama Legislature, and State tax commissioner. His father served in the State senate and as president of the Alabama State Bar.

Bill earned a noncombatant Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster and a Legion of Merit award for his service during World War II. Before going into banking, he practiced law in Florence from 1946 to 1958.

According to an Alabama Business Hall of Fame report, the purpose of this award is to honor "the names and accomplishments of the State's most distinguished business leaders." Bill Mitchell certainly fits this description. He has succeeded by following his own advice: "Learn a lot about a lot of things, work hard and get to know people." He is a living example of the wisdom of that advice, for he has practiced it and lived it throughout his life.

In fact, few people have been as instrumental in making the city of Florence what it is today as he has. He has been involved in virtually every organized effort aimed at improving the quality of life for its residents. He has a lengthy list of leadership positions and career positions. He has often been called upon to serve as the president of charitable and civic organizations like those mentioned above. He has made his mark in business and has served his family and church faithfully.

I am pleased to commend and congratulate Bill Mitchell for being inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame. He continues to bring honor to his city and its citizens who have been the beneficiaries of his many years of outstanding and selfless service.●

#### REGARDING H.R. 2505 ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT

● Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, during the closing days of the 104th Congress, I spoke many times about how a single Senator, with or without cause, can prevent any piece of legislation from moving forward, even if it is noncontroversial. Unfortunately, this seems to be the case with a piece of legislation that is very important to me and the people of my State.

H.R. 2505 was passed by the House on September 26, 1996, at that time I had the legislation held at the desk in the Senate and continually tried to get it passed. Unfortunately, I was told that there was a Democratic hold on this legislation and it would not be able to move through the Senate in the final hours. I am deeply disappointed by this and am even more disturbed knowing that it was the result of a political decision and not one based on substance.

H.R. 2505 is a bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to make certain clarifications to the land bank protection provisions, and for other purposes. I supported all of the provisions in this package, Mr. President, and am very disappointed that it was not allowed to move forward on the floor of the U.S. Senate. The greatest consequence the failure to pass this legislation will have on the people of Alaska will be felt most severely in the Calista region.

Section 5 of H.R. 2505 implements a land exchange with the Calista Corporation, an Alaska Native regional corporation organized under the authority of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. This exchange, originally authorized in 1991, by Public Law 102-172, would provide for the United States to acquire approximately 225,000 acres of Calista and village corporation lands and interests in lands within the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge in southwestern Alaska.

The refuge serves as important habitat and breeding and nesting grounds for a variety of fish and wildlife, including numerous species of migratory birds and waterfowl. As a result, the