

can turn them into Steve Jobses. Unlike Gattson, most schools have stragglers.

The key, says Gott, the school's director and a longtime public-school teacher, is to add relevance to education. Maybe every student can't study advanced engineering, but there's something—from music to metal-working—that interests every young person and answers the "when will I ever use this?" question.

What's more, infusing more glory into education couldn't hurt. "Everywhere in this country we celebrate basketball and football talent," says Julia Roberts, the school's executive director, who petitioned the Kentucky statehouse for 10 years to invest in Gattson. "The talent we really need to celebrate is math and science."

#### THE TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP EXTENSION ACT OF 2012

Mr. COONS. Madam President, we have averted a crisis in the bankruptcy court system. It may have been a quiet crisis—one few Americans talked about—but it was real nonetheless. Although it is all too rare in Washington these days, on this issue, we found a way to work together and deliver a solution. I am proud to say that on May 25, President Obama signed into law legislation I authored to extend 29 expiring temporary bankruptcy judgeships in 19 judicial districts.

With this new law, some of our Nation's busiest bankruptcy courts—those in Nevada and Delaware and New York and Michigan and Florida and so many other States—will finally be able to replace a sitting bankruptcy judge if he or she resigns or dies in office.

Especially in times of economic recovery and uncertain growth, our bankruptcy courts perform a vital restorative role for our Nation's economy. Bankruptcy courts can give individuals, many of whom are victims of our great recession, a clean slate to start fresh. They give corporations that can't pay their bills an opportunity to restructure their debts and continue in operation, rather than shuttering their offices and factories, multiplying the pain by putting Americans out of work.

Bankruptcy offers relief for creditors as well by providing an orderly distribution of the debtor's estate. Without bankruptcy, the debts of past mistakes, miscalculations, and misfortune will remain on the balance sheets, unpaid and yet unpayable.

Over the past 20 years, Congress has created dozens of temporary bankruptcy judgeships to meet the needs of our growing population and occasional economic downturns. Perhaps these judgeships were created on a temporary, rather than permanent, basis out of some sense of enduring optimism—optimism that we one day will have a significantly smaller need for our bankruptcy courts that we had when they were created. In fact, the caseloads in several of the districts authorized in the past have declined and those judgeships have been allowed to expire. This new law, however, is about

districts where the caseloads remain high and which cannot afford to lose even a single authorized judgeship.

According to the judges I hear from, as well as from the nonpartisan Judicial Conference of the United States, which is headed by Chief Justice Roberts, these judgeships simply must be reauthorized—and now that the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act is law, they have been.

This legislation passed the House and Senate unanimously because it is good policy. It is pro-growth, pro-opportunity, and pro-justice. The CBO has scored it to be paid for and it is so bipartisan that it is nonpartisan.

I am grateful for the willingness of my colleagues to compromise and help find a mutually acceptable solution to head off a looming crisis in our bankruptcy courts. The amendment that permitted passage of this legislation is a one-time accommodation that provides additional fee revenue to the Judiciary so that this bill will not lead to increased demands on appropriators. It also reaffirms that Congress, in legislating on these temporary judgeships in the future, ought to do so only after carefully examining their continued need and our ability to pay for them.

I know my colleagues on both sides of the aisle did not get everything that they wanted in this legislation, but my confidence in this institution has been buoyed by the ability of both sides to recognize the greater good at stake and find their way to this deal.

I want to thank Leader REID, Senator DURBIN, Senator GRASSLEY, Senator COBURN, the group of 12 bipartisan cosponsors, and all those who have worked constructively to help enact this very simple and very important law.

In particular, I thank President Obama, for with his signature, we have taken an important step toward delivering to the American people the fair, speedy, and accessible bankruptcy court system they deserve.

#### TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER WESLEY A. BROWN

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I wish to commemorate the life of retired Navy LCDR Wesley Anthony Brown, who passed away on May 22, 2012, at the age of 85. Lieutenant Commander Brown was the sixth African American to attend and first to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1949, where he excelled as a notable student and athlete. Lieutenant Commander Brown went on to have a distinguished career in the Navy Civil Engineer Corps and retired in 1969 after serving 20 years. Lieutenant Commander Brown is survived by his wife, Crystal Brown; two daughters, Wiletta Scott and Carol Jackson; two sons, Wesley Jr., and Gary; and seven grandchildren. I would like to take a moment to remember his life and what his accomplishments meant not just for the African American midshipmen who

followed him at the Naval Academy, but also for our military and for our Nation.

Lieutenant Commander Brown was born on April 3, 1927 in Baltimore, MD. He was the only child of William and Rosetta Brown. He grew up in Washington, D.C., and graduated from Dunbar High School, where he showed strong proficiency for math and a profound interest in the Navy. In fact, he worked on afternoons and evenings as a junior clerk for the Navy and during his senior year in high school he served as the Cadet Corps Battalion Commander. He later wrote an article in the *Saturday Evening Post*: "I've been thinking about the Navy since I was about 8 or 10 since the time I pinned the photograph of the old USS Lexington on my bedroom wall. I arranged my high school studies to get as much math and science as possible." This dedication and love of the Navy lasted throughout Lieutenant Commander Brown's life.

Lieutenant Commander Brown was the first in his family to attend college. He first enrolled at Howard University before being nominated by Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. to attend the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA) in 1945. Five young African American men had entered USNA before Lieutenant Commander Brown, but they all left within a year because they could not endure the brutal hazing from hostile classmates. Lieutenant Commander Brown recalled that his first year at the Academy was "tough," being subject to the constant torrent of racial epithets, taunts, and excessive demerits from upperclassmen who wanted to see him fail the Naval Academy. Other midshipmen refused to sit next to him, room with him, or even allow him to join the choir. He once told an interviewer that he thought about quitting every day. Yet, he endured.

Lieutenant Commander Brown did have a few supporters at the Naval Academy. There were a handful of fellow midshipmen who were friendly to him in spite of threats from other classmates. One of them who visited his dorm room to chat and encourage him to "hang in there" was future president Jimmy Carter, an upperclassman and teammate on the Academy's cross-country team at the time. In a speech President Carter gave at the Naval Academy last year, he mentioned Lieutenant Commander Brown. President Carter remarked that Midshipman Brown had a significant impact on his views on the issue of race in America. He called his encounter with Wesley Brown at USNA "my first personal experience with total integration" and said, "A few members of my senior class attempted to find ways to give him demerits so that he would be discharged, but Brown's good performance prevailed."

Although African Americans had served and fought in our wars since the American Revolution, the Armed

Forces remained segregated by units until President Truman integrated the military services by executive order in 1948. There was intense resistance against any attempts to integrate the military academies and only a half dozen or so African Americans had graduated from West Point by the time Lieutenant Commander Brown was commissioned as the first African American graduate of the Naval Academy.

After Lieutenant Commander Brown graduated from the Naval Academy in 1949, he was commissioned into the Navy Civil Engineer Corps. Prior to that, he served honorably in World War II and after he graduated, he served in Korea and Vietnam. As a Navy civil engineer, he also built houses in Hawaii, roads in Liberia, waterfront facilities in the Philippines, and a seawater conversion plan in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba before retiring from the Navy in 1969. Lieutenant Commander Brown continued his professional life working for the New York State University Construction Fund, the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, and Howard University before retiring in 1998. He also served as chairman of District of Columbia Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON's Service Academy Selection Board.

In spite of the challenges Lieutenant Commander Brown faced at the Naval Academy, he maintained a close connection to the school throughout his life and served as a member of the Naval Academy Alumni Association Board of Trustees. And in 2008, USNA honored Lieutenant Commander Brown by dedicating a new athletic facility in his name, a decision I supported while I served in the House of Representatives and since I have become a United States Senator. The Wesley A. Brown Field House was the first and only building dedicated to a living alumnus and, in his honor, the building hosts an annual track and field invitational. During the dedication of the building on the banks of the Severn River, ADM Michael Mullen, then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, stated, "He fought a war his whole life for all of us to improve who we are as individuals, who we are both as a Navy and a nation. It was his noble calling and it was his call to service and citizenship that led to lasting change in our Navy and in our nation." In another tribute to this pioneer, a consortium of minority Naval Academy alumni established the Lieutenant Commander Wesley A. Brown '49 Honor Scholar scholarship in 2007 which awards up to \$5,000 annually to four individuals who are accepted into any 4-year university in Maryland.

Although we have come a long way since Lieutenant Commander Brown's days as a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy, our Armed Forces and Nation are still challenged with discrimination based on race, gender, religion, and the other attributes of heterogeneity that make up this great country. While minority and female

students may walk freely through our military academies without the audible taunts and slurs, we know that some of them face hazing and harassment behind closed doors because of who they are. While I know that Department of Defense leaders have a zero-tolerance policy regarding discrimination and harassment in their Service Academies, commands and units, that is not enough. I call on them to go a step further and redouble their efforts to communicate to those who currently serve and those who will serve our Nation in the future what makes our military the greatest force in history: the fact that our Armed Forces reflect the rich diversity of America. We owe it to Lieutenant Commander Brown and others like him who bravely endured racism and discrimination to pave the way so that others could serve honorably, too, and accomplish exceptional achievements on behalf of our country. Therefore, let Lieutenant Commander Brown's life be a testament to how his strength, courage, and humility through adversity not only transformed the people around him but profoundly affected the Naval Academy and our Nation. Today, minorities comprise more than 20 percent of the brigade of midshipmen and many of these young men and women have stated that Lieutenant Commander Brown was their inspiration. All Americans are fortunate to have had Lieutenant Commander Wesley Anthony Brown's selfless service and example.

#### TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER MICHAEL GEORGE DULONG

Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Madam President, today I wish to congratulate LCDR Michael George Dulong of Brockton, MA on his retirement from the U.S. Navy. Lieutenant Commander Dulong dedicated more than 24 years of his life to serving our Nation as a Navy SEAL. I am privileged to recognize Michael's accomplishments today, and Massachusetts is fortunate to have a man like Michael who has served in our Navy and defended our Nation.

The grandson of a World War II Normandy beachhead and the son of a decorated Vietnam-era 101st Airborne Division veteran, at an early age Michael chose to serve our Nation. He enlisted in the Navy at the age of 16 through the Delayed Entry Program and completed the Navy's basic school of electronics and electricity, followed by the basic underwater demolitions/SEAL training in Coronado, CA. He would go on to spend 8 years in the enlisted ranks serving in three platoons within SEAL Team 8 at Naval Base Little Creek in Norfolk, VA.

As a team member on SEAL Team 8, Michael deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, as well as numerous other special operations deployments throughout the

Mediterranean and Persian Gulf. Needless to say, as part of our Nation's premier special operations forces, Michael was integral to his Team's success and performed exceptionally in some of the most challenging and austere conditions around the world.

Michael would go on to earn his bachelor's degree while simultaneously serving on SEAL Team 4 in the Navy Reserve, followed by successful completion of Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, FL. After completing his training, Michael was commissioned as an ensign on active duty and was assigned to SEAL Team 1. There Michael would deploy as the assistant platoon commander for two SEAL platoons in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Michael always led from the front and inspired SEALs under his command throughout his career and did so again in combat following September 11.

Throughout numerous deployments around the world in support of the global war on terrorism, Michael received countless awards and promotions in the Navy. He would go on to serve in various assignments in the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility with the Naval Special Warfare Unit 4 in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Embassy in Bogota, Colombia, combating narco-terrorism, the U.S. Embassy in Guyana as the Joint Special Operations Commander, as well as platoon commander of SEAL Team 4. His final assignment brought Michael and his family to our Nation's Capital, at the Washington Navy Yard, where he served as the program manager for the SEAL Delivery Vehicle acquisition program.

Michael has dedicated his life to serving our country, and we owe him a debt of gratitude for his service. Even in retirement, I am confident that Michael will continue to serve his Nation. On behalf of all Massachusetts residents and all Americans, I am proud to thank Michael, his wife Michaelle, son Gabriel, and daughter Eva for their service to the Nation and the Navy.

#### RECOGNIZING THE MACOMB ACADEMY OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, a few weeks ago I met a remarkable group of young people. They call themselves the Fighting Pi, and they are the FIRST Robotics Competition team from the Macomb Academy of Arts & Sciences in Armada, MI.

FIRST is an annual, international robotics competition for high school students. Teams have 6 weeks to design, build, and test robots to compete in a game, which changes every year. For this year, teams competed in the "Rebound Rumble," which required them to design robots capable of shooting small basketballs into baskets as high as 8 feet off the ground.

This competition demands many things of its teams. They must demonstrate the ability to plan and work