

can turn them into Steve Jobses. Unlike Gattton, 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 Gattton. "The talent we really need to celebrate is math and science."

THE TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS 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 co-sponsors, 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 upperclassman 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