

turn around a failing school, and this bill gives them the arsenal to do so. I believe the new accountability provisions empower local leaders, with State and Federal guidance, to pursue the improvement strategies best suited to their local needs.

These accountability measures are vital if we are to guarantee that the ideals our students pledge allegiance to every day, justice and liberty for all, are manifest in the education we provide for our youngest Americans.

With this goal in mind, I am also pleased that ESSA includes my amendment to support homeless and foster youth, by ensuring educators and the public are aware of how foster and homeless children and youth are performing on critical elements compared to their peers by adding reporting for these groups on graduation rates to the State and school district report cards.

The role of teachers is also prioritized in ESSA, and I was especially proud to see the amendment I authored that helps support teachers by asking school districts to identify opportunities to make working conditions better and more sustainable.

With these improvements made and the spirit of the bill as an important piece of civil rights legislation maintained, I wholeheartedly support the reconciled version that has passed the House and Senate and that was signed by the President today.

TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL CHRISTOPHER J. PAUL

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the service of RADM Christopher J. Paul, Deputy Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, who is retiring from the United States Navy after more than 38 years of faithful service to our Nation.

Having enlisted in the Navy in 1977, Rear Admiral Paul went on to attend the U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School and U.S. Naval Academy, where he distinguished himself as a valued leader of the varsity cross country, indoor, and outdoor Track teams under famed coach Al Cantello and a 10-time letterman. After graduating from the Naval Academy in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science degree in physical science, RADM Paul served on USS *KIDD*, DDG 993, a destroyer homeported in Norfolk, VA, until 1987 and qualified as a surface warfare officer during deployments to the Atlantic and Indian Oceans; the Mediterranean, Black, North, Baltic, Red, and Caribbean Seas; and the Arabian Gulf.

Rear Admiral Paul's Pentagon staff assignments included service on the Joint Staff as an action officer in the Operations Directorate J-3 and U.S. Senate liaison officer and assistant surface warfare program officer in the Secretary of the Navy's Office of legislative affairs from 1987 to 1991. During that assignment, Rear Admiral Paul had the opportunity to work on behalf of Members of Congress on the Senate

Armed Services Committee and was subsequently assigned to serve in my office to help write a \$600 million package of veterans benefits for servicemembers and veterans of Operation Desert Storm. While working on that legislative matter, I had the privilege of promoting then Lieutenant Paul to the grade of lieutenant commander, when he transitioned to the Navy Reserve, which allowed him to continue to serve on my staff in Washington, DC, while also serving at the Pentagon's Navy Command Center as assistant operations department head.

Rear Admiral Paul went on to faithfully serve on my Senate legislative staff for a total of 16 years, followed by 6 years as a professional staff member on the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services, while simultaneously serving in numerous Navy positions of increasing responsibility over the course of more than 22 years. Those assignments included serving on the Chief of Naval Operations staff as executive officer of Reserve Component Augment Units to the director of Surface Warfare OPNAV N86 and the director of Expeditionary Warfare OPNAV N85 between 1997 and 1999.

Rear Admiral Paul's Navy Reserve unit command assignments included CVNE-0109, from 1999 to 2001, supporting Airlant aircraft carriers, during which he was recognized with the Commander Naval Air Force Reserve Robert I. Barto Award; Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head, from 2001 to 2003; and, rapid response to full unit mobilization in support of Operation Noble Eagle, which was recognized by the Secretary of the Navy with the Meritorious Unit Commendation. His command assignments also included Navy Region, Mid-Atlantic, from 2003 to 2005, where he was mobilized in support of Joint Task Force Katrina as chief of staff, Joint Force Maritime Component Commander; U.S. Forces, Japan from 2005 to 2007, where the unit received the Joint Meritorious Unit Award for its contingency and exercise support that greatly enhanced the U.S.-Japan Security Alliance; and deputy regional commander to Commandant, Naval District Washington, from 2007 to 2008, supporting the Navy Total Force in the national capital area.

During Rear Admiral Paul's flag officer assignments, he led several type commands responsible for manning, training, and equipping naval warships and expeditionary forces. In his first flag assignment, Rear Admiral Paul served as deputy commander, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command from 2008 to 2011, receiving the Navy Unit Commendation for its outstanding success in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom; deputy commander, Naval Surface Forces Atlantic from 2011 to 2012; and deputy commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet from 2012 to 2015, where he culminated his Navy career. During his flag officer positions, Rear Admiral

Paul distinguished himself in the performance of his duties while demonstrating a uniquely comprehensive knowledge of manpower, personnel, training, enlisted personnel distribution, and surface warfare officer career management issues. His effective leadership and initiatives helped transform how surface forces are trained and prepared to fight in naval warships during a vital period of change in the surface warfare community.

As a loyal and dedicated member of my staff for over 22 years, Rear Admiral Paul worked tirelessly as a valued legislative aide to me in my U.S. Senate office and on the professional staff of the Senate Armed Services Committee. In that capacity, Rear Admiral Paul played an important role in policy matters affecting our Nation and the U.S. military, helping to advance countless legislative initiatives enacted into law that will have a lasting impact on U.S. policy, including the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005, which prohibits the inhumane treatment of prisoners of the United States; legislation that reauthorized the FAA in 1996, which is still recognized as the largest aviation reform law since the deregulation act of 1977; laws that help improve the lives of our servicemembers, veterans, and military families; and numerous provisions that have improved the ability of the military to procure needed combat capability, enhanced the readiness of ships, submarines, and aircraft, and maintained global superiority—all while ensuring that the Department of Defense acts as a responsible steward of diminishing defense dollars.

As a determined Reserve Component surface warfare leader and dedicated public servant, it is fitting that we honor Rear Admiral Paul's service during the centennial of the U.S. Navy Reserve. Rear Admiral Paul embodies the moral character and dedication of our Nation's citizen-sailors who bring unique skill sets through their military and civilian training and serve our country honorably by the core values of the United States of America. I heartily thank Rear Admiral Paul; his wife, Shannon; daughter, Catherine; and son, Christopher, for their honorable service to our Nation and the U.S. Navy; and wish Rear Admiral Paul fair winds and following seas as he concludes a career in the U.S. Navy exemplary in honor and distinction.

Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO JIM SMITH

• Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor a great South Dakotan on his notable accomplishments and his career, starting as an elevator operator in the Senate. His career spanned seven decades, 10 Presidents, and 32 Congresses. To say Jim Smith is an institution in Washington, DC, would be an understatement.

Jim Smith was born in Aberdeen, SD, but spent the majority of his childhood

in my hometown of Pierre, SD. After graduating from Pierre High School in 1948, Jim attended the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, where he was the quarterback for the Miners when they won a championship in 1951.

After graduating from SDM&T in 1952, Jim decided law school was the best route for him, and this South Dakota boy moved to the big city to attend George Washington School of Law in Washington, DC. Like many hard-working South Dakotans, Jim worked his way through law school, starting his career operating the very same Senate elevators we take today in the U.S. Capitol.

Jim's work ethic caught the eye of many, and he eventually moved on to work for his home State Senator, Karl Mundt. Jim worked as a legislative assistant for Senator Mundt and went on to become minority counsel on the Senate Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations.

After his time working on Capitol Hill, Jim began a successful career in the banking sector until he was called back to government service, this time with the U.S. Treasury where he served as Deputy Undersecretary. In 1973, Jim became the first South Dakotan appointed as Comptroller of the Currency, an office created by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863.

Jim Smith served as Comptroller of the Currency under two Presidents and eventually left to rejoin the private sector in 1976. He went on to have a successful career partnering with another government relations professional to establish their own firm, which will continue to bear his name even after his retirement.

Jim Smith embodies the work ethic and attitude we are known for in our State. He has earned his place on the pages of South Dakota history books.

To Jim Smith and his wife of 37 years, Karen, I wish you the best on your retirement, and I thank you for your years of dedicated public service. Thank you for making South Dakota proud.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. CARL ZULAUF

● Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I wish to honor today the distinguished career of Dr. Carl Zulauf on the occasion of his retirement from the faculty of the Ohio State University.

Raised on a farm himself, Carl's passion for agriculture began at an early age. His family's diversified farm raised livestock and crops. His connection to the land has remained a common thread throughout his life and career, and Carl hopes to use his retirement as an opportunity to refocus on his family's farm.

With the seeds of interest firmly planted, Carl pursued his education in what he knew best: agriculture. First, where he earned a degree in Agricul-

tural Economics at the Ohio State University and later at Stanford University where he obtained his PhD. Dr. Zulauf credits his upbringing on a farm as the foundation for his interest in strengthening our Nation's domestic farming and the special appreciation he has for the issues facing American farmers and the agricultural sector.

Since 1980, Carl had been a pillar of OSU's College of food, agricultural, and environmental sciences. The depth and breadth of his research portfolio is impressive and includes dozens of peer-reviewed journal articles and over 1,000 articles developed for broader public consumption. Not just a researcher, Carl is a dedicated educator. Thousands of students have benefited from his teaching, leadership, and mentoring. Carl served as academic adviser to more than 200 students. For over a decade, he has been a faculty adviser for Ohio State's SPHINX Senior Honorary—which each year pays tribute to 24 students who “embody the highest ideals of scholarship, leadership, camaraderie, citizenship, and service at The Ohio State University.” Additionally, he has helped organize programs with students to travel to China and the Czech Republic to study agriculture. As a professor, his interest in his students can be seen by the large number of farmers across my State that talk about their time in Dr. Zulauf's classroom. The dozens of accolades that have been awarded to him throughout his tenure at OSU serve as witness to his impact as both a teacher and scholar. Carl's many contributions are a reminder that the values of the SPHINX—service, camaraderie, leadership, and scholarship—are not solely the domain of OSU's students.

Beyond his exemplary work as a researcher and educator, Carl has been an engaged member of both Ohio's and the broader agriculture community. He has been a leader in the Ohio agribusiness community, taking part in a number of strategic planning committees. He continues to be a regular contributor to FarmDoc, a project of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which serves as an online resource for farmers across the country.

He inspired many students in his work at OSU, and one cannot fully understand Ohio's agricultural sector without knowing the name Carl Zulauf. However, his most noteworthy contribution to agriculture in the United States must be his work on farm policy. In 1985, Carl joined Senator John Glenn's office to help with agriculture policy, an experience he described as eye-opening. With his academic background and experience growing up on a farm, Carl brought an informed and diverse perspective. Though he went back to teaching following his time in Washington, Carl's time in Senator Glenn's office left an indelible mark and would guide his work on agriculture policy in the decades to come.

One pivotal example of Carl's work on agriculture policy was for the 2008

farm bill with the development of the Average Crop Revenue Election, ACRE, program, which represented a novel approach to risk management for our Nation's farmers. Carl worked with my office in 2008, as well as the office of Senator DURBIN, to draft legislation that would become the ACRE program. ACRE was based on years of research and conversations with farmers and some of the best minds in our agriculture industry. My staff worked on ACRE which later became the ARC, Average Risk Coverage, program—legislation that I worked on with Senator THUNE and which we were able to include the 2014 farm bill. Over 90 percent of our Nation's corn and soybean farmers choose to enroll in the ARC program which will serve as a crucial safety net for farmers at risk of low yields and was the first revenue-based rather than fixed-price program. The overwhelming participation in these programs serves as validation of Carl's work and cements his reputation as a key architect of our Nation's food and farm policy. Carl's fingerprints will be on agriculture policy for many future iterations of the farm bill.

From his tenure as a motivating and engaging professor at OSU to the role and voice he continues to play in Ohio and across the Nation as a leading thinker on the future of our farm and food policy, Carl has served as a resource guide and mentor for many. Thousands of students have benefited from his teaching, and thousands of farmers will benefit from his work that has informed our Nation's agricultural policies. I wish him the best in his retirement and applaud his contributions to his profession and thank him for his service to America's farmers, his university, and our Nation.●

RECOGNIZING THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RIFLE CLUB

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the Rocky Mountain Rifle Club, RMRC, for their efforts to support the Teton County 4-H Shooting Sports Air Rifle and Air Pistol clubs. I appreciate RMRC's efforts to honor Montana's strong hunting legacy and protect our Second Amendment rights.

There are currently 20 Montana kids enrolled in the Teton program. Three students are among the top 10 Montana shooters for their age groups: Berit Bedord, age 14; Ashley Pearson, age 13; and Luke Ostberg, age 12. These three have been the longest lasting members of the Teton club and have steadily earned top scores in State competitions.

The aim of the Teton County 4-H program is to introduce young Montanans to shooting with a focus on safety and the proper and ethical use of firearms. The shooting sports program is one of the most popular 4-H programs in the country, according to Brian Bedord, the coordinator for the Teton 4-H shooting program.

The Rocky Mounty Rifle Club has been a strong supporter of the Teton