

Among his many distinctions are Montgomery Citizen of the Year for 1992; two terms as chairman of the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce; chairman of the Montgomery Area Committee of 100; chairman of Auburn University College of Business Advisory Counsel; the distinguished alumnus from Auburn University College of Business; and Marion Military Institute Alumnus of the Year.

General Tankersley also served on the board of visitors of the Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base; as president of the Montgomery Rotary Club; a member of the board of directors for the Montgomery Academy; a member of the board of directors for the Tukabatchee Area Counsel Boy Scouts of America; senior warden of St. John's Episcopal Church—having served 5 years on its vestry; one of eight directors of the Governor's Management Improvement Program for Alabama; and chairman of the Education Committee on Community Government.

After Active Duty, Will Hill remained in the U.S. Army Reserve, eventually rising to the rank of major general. He served as the civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army for the State of Alabama; was nominated as the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs by President Ford, serving 3 years; was appointed during the George H.W. Bush administration as chairman of the Reserve Forces Policy Board, principal adviser to the Secretary of Defense on matters concerning the National Guard and Reserves; and was appointed in 2001 by George W. Bush as one of 11 commissioners on the American Battle Monuments Commission.

General Tankersley is survived by three children: his daughter, Theda, and sons Will Hill, Jr., and David.

I mentioned earlier the high value General Tankersley placed on the concept of duty and of meeting the requirements imposed upon those bound to it. He not only lived a life bound by this code but proselytized its virtues to others. In 1995, when I was attorney general of Alabama, he sent me a framed quotation of General Lee, still in my office today, which reads "Duty is the sublimest word in the English Language." Accompanying this gift was an encouraging note serving as both a call to arms and an offer of his services reading in part:

In the event you ever feel the urge to let bygones be bygones, to overlook the transgressions of those in public office who have violated the law, abused the public trust, and brought dishonor on Alabama and hurt its image or to believe these miscreants did not know what they were doing and shouldn't be prosecuted—call me, night or day, and I'll come to where you are and remind you of General Lee's words.

The Philistines are all around us and they are many and we are few; we must keep the faith and do our duty if government of, by and for the people is to exist in our state.

General Tankersley represented the best of Alabama and her values. He was

a true patriot and a man of great character. He will be greatly missed.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:27 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2029) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes, with amendments, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3594) to extend temporarily the Federal Perkins Loan program, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 11:41 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

H.R. 3594. An act to extend temporarily the Federal Perkins Loan program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4246. An act to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days.

H.J. Res. 76. Joint resolution appointing the day for the convening of the second session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress.

The enrolled bills and joint resolution were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

At 2:06 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2425. An act to amend the XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to improve payments for complex rehabilitation technology and certain radiation therapy services, to ensure flexibility in applying the hardship ex-

ception for meaningful use for the 2015 EHR reporting period for 2017 payment adjustments, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2241. An act to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to submit to Congress a report on the development and use of global health innovations in the programs, projects, and activities of the Agency.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 104. Concurrent resolution providing for the sine die adjournment of the first session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 2:10 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2029. An act making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2241. An act to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to submit to Congress a report on the development and use of global health innovations in the programs, projects, and activities of the Agency; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2434. A bill to provide that any executive action that infringes on the powers and duties of Congress under section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the United States or on the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States has no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 18, 2015, she had presented to the President of the United States the following joint resolutions:

S.J. Res. 23. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of a rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and Reconstructed Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units".

S.J. Res. 24. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of