

strive to be. His contributions to the farm worker movement and our Nation will have a lasting impact for generations to come.●

REMEMBERING DR. THOMAS KENT "T.K." WETHERELL

● Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, Dr. Thomas Kent "T.K." Wetherell was a distinguished public servant, educator, and a great man who leaves behind a tremendous legacy of service to the State of Florida. Dr. Wetherell is recognized as one of the best speakers in the history of the Florida House of Representatives, as well as a transformative and effective president of Florida State University, FSU, and Tallahassee Community College. He loved the State of Florida and worked his entire career to improve higher education in the State.

As a student at FSU from 1963 to 1968, T.K. was a star football player. In fact, he still holds the record for the longest kickoff return in the school's history. Off the field he succeeded in academics, earning bachelor's and master's degrees in social studies education in 1967 and 1968 and a doctorate in education in 1974. A third-generation Floridian, T.K. became the first alumnus to serve as the president of his alma mater. His tenure as president of FSU from 2003 to 2010 marked a transformative time for the university. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Wetherell launched the Pathways of Excellence initiative, which elevated the research profile of FSU and brought hundreds of millions in investments to campus. He brought the Applied Superconductivity Center to FSU, where it became the materials research division of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory. FSU's brand new College of Medicine graduated its first class under Dr. Wetherell's tenure and opened six new regional campuses. He established the Office of National Fellowships and the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors, both of which improved the national academic profile of FSU. Even this University of Florida Gator can appreciate that he made FSU a stronger university.

His time in the Florida House of Representatives was no less impressive. He chaired the Appropriations and Education Committees, where he transformed the lessons he learned working at State universities into common-sense legislation that improved the State's university system for all students. It's no wonder the Miami Herald named him one of the Top Ten Legislative Leaders in the body for five straight years.

Beyond T.K.'s many professional accomplishments, I counted him as one of my best friends. He was a man of integrity who didn't shy away from challenges and was passionate about improving higher education in our fine State. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Ginger, and their children and grandchildren.●

REMEMBERING MATT ARTHUR

● Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, recently, my hometown of Warner Robins, GA, and indeed the entire State of Georgia, lost a true leader. I lost a good friend and mentor.

During his career, Matt Arthur made a difference in the lives of countless students and families. He was raised in Fitzgerald, GA, one of six children. He graduated from Fitzgerald High School in 1952 and received a football scholarship to the University of Georgia. In addition to playing football, he served as battalion commander of the university's ROTC unit, and earned a bachelor's degree in industrial arts. He would also later earn master's degrees in industrial arts and administration and a specialist's degree in education leadership. After graduating college, Matt served in the U.S. Army at Fort Benning in Columbus, GA. He served from 1957–1959, ultimately rising to the rank of first lieutenant.

In 1959, Matt became a high school football coach, winning a Triple-A State championship in 1961. The following year, he moved his family to Warner Robins and embarked on a career that would truly make a difference. He was the first head coach and athletic director of my high school alma mater, Northside High School, and served as its principal from 1968–1980.

In 1980, Matt became superintendent of the Houston County School System. He succeeded my father, David A. Perdue, Sr., in this role and served until retiring in 1988. His enduring contributions to the community were commemorated with the opening of Matt Arthur Elementary School in Warner Robins in 1999.

For years, my father and Matt Arthur were close friends. I was also proud to call Matt a friend. Our family and the entire Middle Georgia community will miss him.

Throughout his life, Matt led by example and always put family first. He is survived by his high school sweetheart and wife of 64 years Sarah Bob Arthur, two adult children, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

My wife Bonnie and I join everyone in our hometown and countless others Matt Arthur impacted for the better in lifting up his family during this very difficult time. Matt Arthur was a great American and will be greatly missed.●

REMEMBERING HARRIS HINES

● Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, in November, Georgia tragically lost a true public servant.

Former Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Harris Hines leaves behind a lasting legacy of service and bipartisan respect.

Chief Justice Hines was born in 1943 and grew up in Atlanta. He attended Grady High School, lettering in multiple sports. After graduation, he attended Emory University, where he at-

tained both a bachelor's degree and his juris doctorate.

Justice Hines went on to serve on the bench in Georgia for over four decades. In 1974, then-Governor Jimmy Carter chose him to fill a slot on the State court of Cobb County. He served there for 8 years until becoming a judge on the Superior Court of Cobb County.

Thirteen years later, in 1995, Governor Zell Miller appointed Justice Hines to an open seat on the Georgia Supreme Court, a capacity in which he served for another 13 years.

In 2016, Justice Hines was voted by his colleagues to be Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court. He was the first resident of Cobb County, GA, to become chief justice.

Justice Hines retired from the bench earlier this year. He was known as an intellectual powerhouse, with a deep appreciation and understanding of the rule of law. However, Justice Hines was better known as a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his wife Helen, two adult children, and four grandchildren.

Bonnie and I join all Georgians in continuing to lift up the Hines family in our prayers during this very difficult time. Harris was a dear personal friend, and I will miss him greatly.●

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-7444. A joint communication from the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the fiscal year 2019 report on the plan for the nuclear weapons stockpile, complex, delivery systems, and command and control systems (OSS-2018-1422); to the Committees on Armed Services; Appropriations; and Foreign Relations.

EC-7445. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Child Nutrition Programs; Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements" (RIN0584-AE53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7446. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Branding Requirements for Bovines Imported Into the United States from Mexico" (RIN0579-AE38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7447. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration and Chief Financial Officer, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to violations of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-7448. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security,