

back there. She was a more junior Member. She knew that voting to bring the Dreamers home—a pathway to citizenship and living here in America—could mean the end of her election. She said that to me. But she said: I cannot vote against them. And we walked down the aisle together, tears streaming down her cheeks, and, of course, she voted yes.

The Senate has its fair share of dealmakers. It has its fair share of principled fighters as well. But rarely, rarely, rarely is a Senator so adept at both. That is our CLAIRE MCCASKILL.

We will miss far more, of course, than CLAIRE the Senator. So many of us will miss CLAIRE the person. When she has something to say to you, she does not hold back. Believe me—I know. I have been called just about every name in the book by CLAIRE MCCASKILL, and each time, it rang true, but I didn't mind it because I know it was done with both affection and a desire to make me better and do a better job. And I can say this: Whatever job I am doing here as leader is in significant part because of CLAIRE MCCASKILL's loving but pointed criticisms. I will miss them so much.

She is amazing. I am not the only one she criticized, and I am not the only one she criticized using the words that came right to her mouth. They say they used to keep a swear jar on her desk in the Missouri Legislature. I would be surprised if they didn't keep a few lined up along the whole desk.

But as much as CLAIRE can sometimes criticize you in a pointed way, she can also make you laugh. She said her father insisted on two things: that she learn the rules of football and how to tell a good joke. That, she did. And more than that, she can tell a good joke at her own expense. That is just one of many reasons she was so well liked in this Chamber by Democrats and Republicans.

It is rare you can find someone who speaks her mind so directly and yet be so loved. That is one of the many uniquenesses of this wonderful lady, CLAIRE MCCASKILL. And I am not the only one who felt that way. After a farewell address in this Chamber, the line of Senators to say a few words about CLAIRE was long, and it wasn't just on our side of the aisle.

I could go on about Senator MCCASKILL for quite a while, but I am sure she is already telling me that I am getting longwinded. So let me close with this: When CLAIRE was 9 years old, her father took her to the annual Jackson Day dinner in Springfield, MO, to hear the big political speeches on offer that year. After all, this was a famous venue that had hosted the giants of American politics—William Jennings Bryan, Harry Truman, JFK.

Well, guess who delivered the closing address at the Jackson Day dinner this year. CLAIRE MCCASKILL, whose impact on her State and her country, as well as on the Senate and on so many of us, belongs in the same category as those

distinguished names and will live on just as long.

CLAIRE, we are going to miss you so. I will, the Senate will, Missouri will, and America will. I wish you and Joe and your wonderful family all the happiness in your next endeavors.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I am informed that it is necessary for me to insert into the RECORD of the proceedings the resignation letter that I sent to Governor Doug Ducey of Arizona on December 12, 2018; therefore, I ask unanimous consent that this letter be printed in the RECORD at this point.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
December 12, 2018.

Hon. DOUG DUCEY,
Governor of the State of Arizona,
Phoenix, Arizona.

DEAR GOVERNOR DUCEY: Thank you again for appointing me to the U.S. Senate to fill the vacancy created by John McCain's death. It has been an honor and a privilege to again serve the people of Arizona.

When I accepted your appointment, I agreed to complete the work of the 115th Congress and then reevaluate continuing to serve. I have concluded that it would be best if I resign so that your new appointee can begin the new term with all other Senators in January 2019 and can serve a full two (potentially four) years.

Therefore, I will resign from the U.S. Senate effective 11:59 pm EST December 31, 2018.

Respectfully,

JON KYL,
United States Senator.

REMEMBERING JOHN MCCAIN

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, the other thing I would like to do this afternoon is to very briefly report to my colleagues and to constituents back home on some things which my predecessor, Senator McCain, was working on at the time of his untimely death and which his staff and I have continued to work on and, in several cases, have brought to successful conclusion. I want people to know about these items and what we have been able to accomplish.

I first want to thank the members of his staff who wanted to stay in the service of the government and the State of Arizona and were willing to take a position in my office, as a result of which, we were able to really have a seamless transition from some of the things Senator McCain was working on and my ability to continue to do so.

One of the first things of which I was aware but not really aware of the depth that he had taken it is a new relationship in the State of Arizona among the three pillars representing the defense establishment in our country and specifically in the State of Arizona. These are, first of all, our military installations—Arizona is blessed to have a lot

of military installations; secondly, the defense industries—again, Arizona is the home to many important defense industries serving all of our branches of the military; and finally, the communities that support both of those elements of our establishment.

As a result, I had the opportunity to meet throughout the State with the groups that Senator McCain had helped to nurture and to create—in particular, a group in Tucson and Southern Arizona, including Yuma, called the Southern Arizona Defense Alliance; in Flagstaff and Northern Arizona, the Northern Arizona Military Affairs Council; and in Central Arizona, Maricopa County and the Phoenix environs, the Mesa Industry and Defense Council.

Meeting with the representatives of all three components of our military society and hearing about the successes they had in working with each other and in providing a real synergy that benefited them all just reminded me again of how important Senator McCain's leadership was to the State of Arizona and to our national security.

I wanted to mention that today and to let everyone know that I will be passing on to my successor the advice that these councils continue to need to be supported and nurtured by the Senators from the State of Arizona, as well as the Members of the House of Representatives.

A second thing that John McCain was involved in as part of his activities as chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee was the creation—a couple years ago—in the Defense authorization bill of a national commission to advise the Secretary of Defense on the strategy for the United States and to report back to Congress—and specifically the Armed Services Committee—on their conclusions.

This bill created the National Defense Strategy Commission, comprised of 12 members, 3 of whom were appointed by the chairman and the ranking member—each—of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the House Armed Services Committee.

I was privileged to have been appointed by Senator McCain to serve on that Commission, and I did for approximately a year. My service there ended as we finished our report. Before it was signed, while it was still being edited, he passed away, and I was appointed to serve in his stead. So I have had the unique opportunity to both help write the report and then be a member of the Armed Services Committee, on which he sat, to receive the report and to question the cochairmen of that Commission, Ambassador Eric Edelman and ADM Gary Roughead, Retired.

I think the importance of this Commission report reflects what Senator McCain hoped to achieve, and that is a bipartisan consensus, a unanimous report which provides advice to the Secretary of Defense and will provide advice to both the House and the Senate.

As I said, there has already been a hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee, and I know the House