

challenges. Representative Cummings' visionary leadership and service has and will continue to strengthen our democracy for generations to come.

Representative Elijah Cummings' steadfast dedication to the city of Baltimore, the State of Maryland, and our entire country will continue to inspire others for generations to come. An impassioned speaker, he was truly a voice for the voiceless. As a mentor, he helped so many young people live in their purpose and make the world a better place. He fought for the soul of Nation and selflessly dedicated his life to empowering and uplifting his constituents.

Representative Cummings is survived by his wife, Dr. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, his children, and a host of family and friends. It was a great honor to attend his powerful funeral and memorial service with many of my colleagues and friends.

Representative Cummings often said that "children are the living messages that we send to a future we will never see." A light is gone from our world, but Representative Cummings' legacy will shine bright through all the individuals he touched and all the movements he helped build. ●

#### CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE WYOMING FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, in just a few weeks, the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation will hold their annual meeting in Laramie, WY. This year is unique, as the organization marks their 100th meeting and celebrates ten decades of service to farmers and ranchers across the State. Without question, the agriculture industry in the State, and in the region, has seen immense benefit from the important work the Federation employees do every day.

Today, the Wyoming Farm Bureau is integral in gathering public opinion and disseminating information to farmers and ranchers across the state. Officially, their mission identifies "The primary goal of WYFB is to take appropriate actions to protect private property rights and help members achieve an equitable return on their investment." Just as they did in 1920, the organization brings individuals together to identify common threats to their way of life. Wyoming Farm Bureau worked closely with the national organization during the 2015 waters of the United States rulemaking process to effectively communicate the negative impacts the rule would have on those who are the primary caretakers of our Nation's natural resources.

As chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, I invited the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation president, Todd Fornstrom, to share his story. Todd emphasized the need to protect clean, plentiful water sources while providing predictability for States, counties, and communities.

Through his testimony, Todd skillfully shared the undeniable link between agricultural production and the Wyoming way of life and Wyoming's commitment to protecting our precious resources.

I believe you can tell the strength of an organization by the dedication shown by its members and staff. Todd Fornstrom is serving his third elected term as president. Executive Vice President Ken Hamilton recently celebrated his 36th anniversary with the organization, Media and Member Relations Director Kerin Clark just passed 25 years, and Brett Moline has served Farm Bureau for 13 years. Every one of the 23 counties in Wyoming has a local Farm Bureau organization to build policy and address local issues. The county committees are key parts of the communities they serve.

Without question, farmers and ranchers faced many challenges when the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation was founded in 1920. Just as they did 100 years ago, farmers and ranchers continue to work together today to produce abundant, high-quality food and fiber for their neighbors and communities around the world. I can only imagine the challenging discussions that prompted the first meeting in 1920, but I am certain early members left that meeting with the same confidence they will leave the 100th meeting.

Working in agriculture is not simply a job. It is a calling, and sometimes, a challenging way of life. I rise today with great appreciation for the work Wyoming farmers and ranchers have done, and continue to do, for our great State. My wife, Bobbi, joins me in congratulating each member of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation on their 100th anniversary.

#### ANNIVERSARY OF THE WYOMING WEED AND PEST COUNCIL

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I rise today to recognize a significant anniversary for the Wyoming Weed and Pest Council. When they meet in a few short weeks, the council will celebrate 75 years of service to Wyoming ecosystems and communities. While the council is partially funded by the State of Wyoming, the council's success lies in dedication of staff, volunteers, seasonal employees, and partners who dedicate themselves to eradicating invasive species and noxious weeds.

Invasive species threaten the delicate balance in nearly every ecosystem. Around the world, invasive species cause billions of dollars in damage to the environment and to economies each year. They threaten watersheds, forests, and grasslands. They crowd out important native species, increase the risk of catastrophic wildfires, introduce disease, and fundamentally undermine the natural cycle of life. Dedicated experts work each day to stem the tide of new introductions.

Each of the 23 counties in Wyoming has a Weed and Pest District, run by

staff and an elected board. The districts set policy, monitor existing infestations, work with the public to develop a comprehensive list of risks, and act quickly when new species are detected. Often, Weed and Pest supervisors wear many hats; depending on the hour, they are grant writers, weed sprayers, staff managers, and policy experts.

Wyoming Weed and Pest coordinator, Slade Franklin, detailed the important work of the council when I invited him to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee earlier this year. In his testimony, Slade shared the coordination that is required to ensure invasive species are not able to gain an advantage in States where lands are managed by multiple jurisdictions. Slade knows that invasive species do not respect fence lines, and during his decade-long leadership of the Wyoming Weed and Pest Council, he has forged important relationships with local, State, and Federal agencies. His leadership has been integral in many of the State's successes.

It is without hesitation that I say Wyoming's forests and plains would look much different today if the Wyoming Weed and Pest Council had not unified in 1973. While the State has struggled with cheatgrass and Russian olive, they have been hugely successful in preventing new infestations of invasive mussels and limiting spread of other grasses, like *ventenata*. Each municipal water manager, rancher, hiker, forester, hunter, and miner owes a debt of gratitude for the good work of the Wyoming Weed and Pest Council.

Whether they work from horseback, ATV, the air, or a desk, I rise today to honor the dedicated professionals to work to keep our ecosystems healthy. My wife, Bobbi, joins me in thanking them and wishing the Wyoming Weed and Pest Council another 75 years of success.

#### REMEMBERING MORRIS ANDREWS

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Morris Andrews, a revered champion of teachers, children, and public education in Wisconsin.

Morris Andrews was born in Big Rapids, MI, on November 26, 1935. As a talented student athlete, Andrews graduated from Big Rapids High School and went on to play football at Central Michigan University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in secondary education. He earned his master's degree from Indiana University in physical education.

Morris taught high school government, coached football, and organized teachers throughout the country. He came to Wisconsin to lead the Wisconsin Education Association Council, WEAC, in 1972, initiating a transformation in the way teachers were valued in the State. Morris brought pride, power, and respectable wages to the teaching profession.