

retired on February 5, 1995. I regret that his retirement, the time he had so looked forward to spending with his family and many friends, was cut so short.

But, the time and service he gave to the Senate will always be appreciated by those of us who benefited from his positive outlook and his constant good humor. Rarely was Dr. Halverson seen by Senators, staff, or support personnel without a smile and a "God bless you."

And, perhaps the one thing I admired most about Dr. Halverson was the fact that he served not only the institution of the Senate, but also Senators as individuals. He could see beyond policy debates, beyond partisan politics, beyond institutional glamour and mire. He could look beyond our roles on this great international stage and help us carry the burdens we felt as husbands or wives, parents, neighbors, or friends.

Though ordained as clergy in the Presbyterian denomination, his ministry reached out to us all. Catholic, Jew, Methodist, or Mormon, Dr. Halverson helped us all to remember that our walk in faith was infinitely more important than any legislative battle of the moment.

Like all Senators, I mourn the death of this man of God, but give thanks for the opportunity to have known him and to have served this body with him. I join my colleagues in extending heartfelt sympathy to his family.

THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION
AND THE LABOR, HHS, AND EDU-
CATION APPROPRIATIONS BILL—
H.R. 2127

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, as chairman of the Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, I want to update the Senate on the status of the Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations bill, H.R. 2127, as it relates to the continuing resolution and the implications of the Senate's inaction on the bill for programs of the Department of Labor, HHS, and Education. In particular, I want to focus on the need to free up low-income energy assistance funds, which are so crucial at this time of year, when winter descends upon cold water States.

As Senators know, the Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations bill for fiscal year 1996 is still on the Calendar. Efforts to bring it up in the Senate have been met with a filibuster due to the "striker replacement" provision and the abortion issue. I opposed the "striker replacement provision being added to the bill in committee, because of the view that controversial legislative riders do not belong on an appropriation bill, but should be considered through the authorization process. In the case of the Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations bill, the legislative riders included by the House have stalled action on this important bill in the Senate, and indefinitely postponed funding for education, health, job training, and social service programs in this fiscal year.

While the continuing resolution will ensure that some funding will be available for these programs, it is only on a short-term basis and at a minimal level. But, in some cases, the CR level effectively eliminates the viability of the program. The LIHEAP Program is one such example. LIHEAP provides funds to States to help low-income households meet their fuel bills during the winter months when costs soar due to cold weather. A high percentage of the program's beneficiaries are elderly and disabled people who need help in paying their fuel bills.

Mr. President, it is already very cold in many parts of the Nation. Our reliance on continuing resolutions since October 1 has put LIHEAP funds in jeopardy. Under the terms of the continuing resolution, \$231 million has been made available to the States. This is far short of the nearly \$600 million already requested by the States to get through the first quarter of the fiscal year. In previous years an average of 60 percent of the annual appropriation for LIHEAP has been allocated to the States in the first quarter, and 90 percent by March 30.

Many States have begun receiving requests for assistance, and under normal circumstances would begin distributing funds to participants at this time. However, because of the present stalemate in the Senate on the Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations bill, States have no idea how to plan for this winter's program, and hundreds of thousands of low-income families are left wondering how they will be able to meet their winter heating bills. Low-income households, as well as Governors and local officials across the country are waiting to learn whether, and how much, funding will be appropriated for this winter's LIHEAP Program.

For low-income residents of cold-weather States like Pennsylvania, winter can mean choosing between eating and heating. We must not let our budgetary stalemate in the Nation's Capitol unduly burden the poor and elderly with respect to such a basic need as heated homes and apartments.

I have supported the previous continuing resolutions because they provide critical short-term funding for Federal activities. But I want to make clear, it is time for the Senate to act on the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill. Let's stop the filibuster, agree to bring up the bill, debate it, and let the Senate work its will.

In the meantime, it is imperative that the harsh restrictions on funding for LIHEAP be lifted. It is unfair to hold hostage essential assistance to the poor and elderly in cold weather States as Congress continues to deliberate on the budget.

Mr. President, winter's cold knows no political affiliation. The LIHEAP Program has had years of bipartisan support. Now is the time for all Senators to work together to ensure that

our constituents in need are not denied heating assistance this winter.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM K. SAHR,
LEGAL CHAMPION

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, the legal profession in my home State of South Dakota has lost a great counsel. Bill Sahr, a long-time friend and supporter, passed away on Monday. I will miss him.

For many years, Bill headed the State Bar of South Dakota. In that capacity, he epitomized the very best of the legal profession in our State. An indefatigable worker on behalf of the legal community, Bill also served the people of our State and Nation with great distinction.

Bill's public service career began with a memorable tour of duty with the U.S. Army during World War II. During the war, he was with the troops at the Battle of the Bulge, later receiving four battle stars along with his European Medal. Beginning his legal career in our State's capital, Pierre, Bill later served two terms as State's attorney from Hughes County. In 1962, Bill began walking the two blocks from the lovely historic home he shared with his wife Carla and their children to the State capitol, where he served two terms as a legislator.

His legal background, coupled with his legislative experience, made Bill a perfect candidate to head the State Bar of South Dakota. Bill played a major role in shaping and bringing into being South Dakota's present-day legal system. It is hard to imagine anyone who had more influence on the legal system and the profession of law in our State than Bill Sahr.

In addition to being a great professional, Bill Sahr was a great individual. He had a quiet demeanor coupled with a keen intellect and sharp wit. You could count on his word. Bill's engaging smile made you want to stay and listen to him while he worked his quiet, highly effective powers of persuasion upon you.

During his threescore and eleven years on this earth, Bill Sahr accomplished the work of several lifetimes for the profession he loved and the people of South Dakota. Bill Sahr—a legal legend of our State—will be truly missed.

I ask unanimous consent that the obituary for Bill Sahr from the December 5, 1995, edition of the Sioux Falls Argus Leader be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Argus Leader, Dec. 5, 1995]

SAHR, 71, WORKED HARD TO HELP JUDICIAL SYSTEM

(By Denise D. Tucker)

PIERRE.—With a quiet and unassuming manner, Bill Sahr often stood in the shadows and rarely took credit for the work that he did in shaping the South Dakota legal system.