

Mr. Varlan's impressive accomplishments include serving as law director for the city of Knoxville for a decade. In that capacity, he headed a department of 25 employees who represented the city in a variety of cases and provided legal advice to city officials.

Mr. Varlan's wealth of experience has made him an excellent nominee who is well prepared to handle the rigors of the Federal bench. Clearly, Mr. Varlan is the right choice to be a judge in the Eastern District of Tennessee. I am pleased my colleagues joined me in voting to confirm him.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I am in strong support for the confirmation of Thomas Varlan to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

Tom grew up in Knoxville, TN as a second-generation Greek-American. His parents, Alexander and Constance Varlan, instilled in their son the time-honored ideals of commitment to hard work, involvement in the community, and love for country.

He put those ideals to work in his studies of Political Science and Economics at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, and at Vanderbilt University's School of Law, where he was the managing editor of the Vanderbilt Law Review. From there, Tom practiced law in Atlanta from 1981 to 1987. In 1988, Tom began ten years of service as Law Director for the City of Knoxville where he was responsible for a wide range of legal issues. In this role, Tom demonstrated his keen legal mind and temperament suited to judicial office.

Tom's current position as a partner at Bass, Berry and Sims has enhanced his solid background in the law. Tom Varlan is a skilled attorney who is known for his fairness, integrity and dedication to the law.

Tom has worn many hats in his professional life, but he has never wavered from the ideals that he grew up with. In fact, his nomination fulfills not only the dreams of his first-generation American parents, I believe it epitomizes the American dream as well.

I am convinced that Mr. Varlan will make an ideal judge, and he has my highest recommendation and unqualified support. I urge my colleagues to vote for his confirmation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the President will be notified of the Senate's action.

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#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

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#### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to a period for the transaction of morning business.

The Senator from Illinois.

#### CASTING OF 10,000TH VOTE

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I wish to announce to my colleagues that a truly impressive milestone was just reached with this last vote. Senator LUGAR, on this vote just announced a few moments ago, cast his 10,000th vote as a U.S. Senator. That is a feat accomplished by just 21 other Senators in the history of this institution, the Senate.

Senator LUGAR's vote places him in the company of a distinguished list of Members which includes eight current Senators: Senators BIDEN, BYRD, DOMENICI, HOLLINGS, INOUE, KENNEDY, LEAHY, and STEVENS.

Most importantly, Senator LUGAR's achievement is a testament of his tremendous service, not only to his home State of Indiana but to the United States of America.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Senator LUGAR for his important milestone.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I join the distinguished Republican leader in expressing my heartfelt congratulations to the senior Senator from Indiana, our colleague, DICK LUGAR.

He was sworn in on January 3, 1977. Over the course of these 10,000 votes cast, he has served as the chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee and now serves as the chairman, as we all know, of the Foreign Relations Committee.

With those 10,000 votes, he has made a major impact on American history. I would be willing to bet that for every vote he has cast, he has made at least one more friend over all of these years. He may be a Republican and I may be a Democrat, but I have never been so appreciative of a relationship as a Senator as I have with Senator LUGAR. He has many more than 10,000 friends since he came to the Senate in 1977. So we congratulate him. We tell him of his great service to this country and our appreciation for that service. We hope that there will be many thousands more.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. HAGEL. Madam President, I congratulate our dear colleague, Senator DICK LUGAR from Indiana, for his remarkable service to our country in many ways, not just through his leadership and years and votes in the Senate; prior to his time in the Senate, his service to our country in the U.S. Navy and all the other contributions he has made. It is a remarkable morning for our country to recognize this remarkable individual.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, I am overwhelmed by the thoughtfulness and graciousness of both leaders, my friends BILL FRIST and TOM DASCHLE. I thank both of them for those very wonderful comments.

I will take a moment, if I may, to thank some other people, people of Indiana, who made it possible for me to be in the Senate to cast the 10,000 votes, those who gave me their confidence, their support, and their prayers throughout the years.

I especially thank the Lord above for giving me good health throughout that period of time and who made it possible to do this.

I must pay tribute, as we all are doing today, to Lloyd Ogilvie whose personal counsel and support to me and my family during the past 8 years has meant so much.

Of course, behind all of this is the confidence and love of my wife Charlene, our boys, and their wives, who have really sustained me, who said this is something we ought to be doing, a commitment of our time and our lives in a way that has been exciting for me and I hope for them.

My staff has made it possible for me to get to the Chamber for all of these votes. Wherever we are in the country, in Washington or at the airport, each one of us is indebted to staff who tell us when the votes are going to occur and give us some reasonable idea about what is being voted on. I pay tribute to each one of those persons.

I pay tribute to colleagues who have sustained me each day with their loyal friendship, likewise the sheer vigor of the experience. I feel each day it is an adventure, and I am sure that is shared by each of the colleagues who are present today.

I want to mention specifically Senator ROBERT BYRD, who was the majority leader when I first came. One of the reasons my vote total escalated so rapidly was that in 1977 I think Senator BYRD created an all-time record of roll-call votes. I am certain he will remember exactly how many, but I recall there were at least 650, which was a substantial amount for a freshman Senator to start out with. So we have had some money in the bank ever since, thanks to Senator BYRD.

Finally, I want to thank the pages. They have played a very special role in these votes because, as some of my colleagues know, occasionally I go running out on The Mall. On several occasions I have been caught as far away as 14th Street or the Washington Monument when the beeper went off. I had to run swiftly. Fortunately, my pace is sufficient to get the mile and a half back to the Capitol during the time of the vote to scramble up the back stairs, but in a disheveled condition I have prevailed upon the pages to crack open the door, and the reading clerk has been kind enough to read my name so that I can peak through and keep this voting record alive.

So I thank all of you. I appreciate very much this moment today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant minority leader.

Mr. REID. Madam President, while the two leaders are in the Chamber, it is my understanding that the leaders