

The program's origin was rooted in Oklahoma in the late 1940s and early 1950s, when Oscar Rose, superintendent of the Mid-Del Schools and others convinced Congress that the Federal Government had a responsibility and an obligation to provide assistance to school districts serving children whose parents were employed by the Federal Government or the military. Ed Hennessee continued that legacy right up to the time of his death this morning.

During his long education career, Ed received many honors, including being named the State of Oklahoma Teacher of the Year.

However, he was most proud of the fact that he was helping children.

He truly understood that education is about giving children an opportunity to be successful. One of his most frequent statements was "Teach a child to love to learn, then you will be successful teaching them any school subject." Ed was a success because he loved learning.

He also loved helping others have the opportunity to learn, and, thankfully, he taught many the importance of using their gifts and talents to help our children. Although he retired from the Lawton Public Schools in the mid-1990s, he continued serving federally connected schools. As executive director of the National Council of Impacted Schools, he continued to work for both Oklahoma federally connected schools, along with other schools throughout the nation.

He visited my office at least twice a year to talk about ways to improve the program. He was an expert on the intricacies of the often complex and confusing details of Impact Aid and freely offered that expertise. When my staff or I needed information about how schools in Oklahoma and around the country would be affected by the level of funding appropriated for Impact Aid, Ed knew the answers. He was an innovator for Impact Aid.

For example, S. 777 was a bill I developed from one of his ideas. Ed was in Washington this weekend to advocate for the Impact Aid program when he became ill. He was doing what he had been doing for more than a quarter of a century—asking Congress to fulfill its obligation to school districts all across this country that are impacted by a federal presence.

Prior to Ed's retirement, he served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools and served as its President from 1991 to 1993. He never stopped putting the needs of federally connected students at the top of his priority list. His presence will indeed be missed—not only by those who knew him well, such as his dear wife Edna who was always by his side—but also by those who enjoy the fruits of his labor.●

IN RECOGNITION OF HIS EXCELLENCE H.E. BADER OMAR AL-DAFA, AMBASSADOR OF QATAR TO THE UNITED STATES

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize Ambassador H.E. Bader Omar Al-Dafa, a distinguished career diplomat and the current Ambassador of Qatar to the United States. Ambassador Al-Dafa, who earned his bachelor's degree in political science from Western Michigan University in 1975, will receive the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Achievement Award from Western Michigan University in a special ceremony on October 15, 2004.

Ambassador Al-Dafa is admired in Michigan for his dedication to service and his work in promoting US-Arab relations. His efforts to foster better understanding among America, Qatar and the Arab world through support of important initiatives in the American Arab community are appreciated by many. His respect for diplomacy has been demonstrated throughout his exemplary career which spans more than 25 years.

Upon graduation from Western Michigan University, Ambassador Al-Dafa began his career as a diplomatic attaché at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Doha. While serving in his second assignment as First Secretary at the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Washington, DC, he earned a master's degree in international public policy from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University in 1979. With his solid understanding of America and its people, Ambassador Al-Dafa has been energetic and consistent in his commitment to improving bilateral relations.

Ambassador Al-Dafa has served in his post as Ambassador of Qatar to the United States since September 5, 2000. Prior to this assignment, he served as Non-Resident Ambassador to Mexico; Director of European and American Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Qatar; Ambassador to The Russian Federation; Non Resident Ambassador to Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia; Ambassador to France and Non Resident Ambassador to Greece; Non-Resident Ambassador to Switzerland; Ambassador to Egypt and Permanent Representative to the Arab League in Cairo, Egypt; and Ambassador to Spain. Through the Washington Embassy, Ambassador Al-Dafa has worked on a wide array of programs, including the establishment of branches of Virginia Commonwealth University, Texas A&M, and Weill Cornell Medical College in Education City in Doha. In addition to Arabic and English, he speaks Spanish and French fluently. Ambassador Al-Dafa is married to Awatef Mohamed Al-Dafa and has three children.

I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Ambassador Al-Dafa on his success and achievements in international affairs and on this prestigious honor that will be conferred by West-

ern Michigan University. I am pleased to offer my best wishes on his continued service and contribution to the close ties and good relations between the State of Qatar and the United States.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 41. Joint resolution commemorating the opening of the National Museum of the American Indian.

H.R. 1308. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for working families, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3389. An act to amend the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 to permit Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards to be made to nonprofit organizations.

The enrolled bills and joint resolution were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 1:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment:

S. 643. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the University of New Mexico, to construct and occupy a portion of the Hibben Center for Archaeological Research at the University of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to the request of September 14, 2004, the House returned the act (S. 2261) to expand certain preferential trade treatment for Haiti to the Senate.

The message further announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4200) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year for Armed Forces, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

From the Committee on Armed Services, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. HUNTER, WELDON of Pennsylvania, HEFLEY, SAXTON, MCHUGH, EVERETT, BARTLETT of Maryland, MCKEON, THORNBERRY, HOSTETTLER, JONES of North Carolina, RYUN of Kansas, GIBBONS, HAYES, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Messrs. CALVERT, SIMMONS, SKELTON, SPRATT, ORTIZ, EVANS, TAYLOR of Mississippi, ABERCROMBIE, MEEHAN, REYES, SNYDER, TURNER of