

than 1,000 workers save for retirement through a company sponsored plan. Small business workers' low participation rates in retirement savings plan are troubling as small businesses employ half of all private sector employees. Many policymakers who are closely watching the aging of the American population worry that small business owners' and their employees' low savings rates will leave this group inadequately prepared to pay for their retirements. The creation of DB/K plans is one option for helping small business owners and their employees increase their overall retirement savings.

Under this legislation each part of the DB/K plan would be subject to the present-law rules for defined benefit plans or 401(k) plans, but the rules would be simplified. Like 401(k) plans, the proposed DB/Ks would allow employees to make pretax contributions to their accounts, could include employer matching funds and permit employees to invest their 401(k) portion in mutual funds etc. The assets of both components of the DB/K plan could be held in a trust covered by a single trust instrument. However, the assets of the defined benefit component of the plan and the assets of the 401(k) component of the plan must be clearly identified and allocated to the appropriate part of the trust.

“DISCOVERY” SPACE SHUTTLE LANDING

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise in celebration of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's successful return to Earth of Space Shuttle *Discovery* and to welcome the crew of flight STS-121 home.

Over the last few decades, NASA has experienced tragic lessons in the dangers of space exploration. That is why it was heartwarming to see Commander Steven Lindsey, Pilot Mark Kelly, and Mission Specialists Michael Fossum, Lisa Nowak, Stephanie Wilson, and Piers Sellers, safely return home after spending 13 days in orbit.

After two weather-related delays, the *Discovery* launched on July 4, 2006, Independence Day. During the STS-121 mission, the crew made critical tests of shuttle safety improvements. In addition, the crew transported European Space Agency astronaut, Thomas Reiter, to the International Space Station where they delivered additional supplies and equipment. During their time on the International Space Station, the STS-121 crew worked in conjunction with the Expedition 13 crew on joint operations. The crew also performed maintenance on the International Space Station's mobile transporter and tested orbiter heat shield repair techniques during their three space walks. The flight marked the 115th space shuttle flight and was the second flight since the 2003 *Columbia* tragedy.

This successful mission is a testament to NASA and our valiant astro-

nauts that continue to strive for excellence. Through current exploration, the lives of those lost in both the *Columbia* and *Challenger* accidents, including Astronaut Ellison Onizuka, who was born and raised in my home State of Hawaii, live on. I am proud of the advances we have made in space exploration and am grateful for all those who have made the dream of space exploration possible. Again, I extend my warm welcome to the *Discovery* crew and congratulate them on completing their mission.

REMEMBERING YVONNE GOODMAN

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to Yvonne R. Goodman. Funeral services were held for her this morning. Yvonne served on my Washington, DC, staff in the Senate and in the House of Representatives for a total of 28 years, and she worked for my predecessor in the House of Representatives, Congressman H.R. Gross, for 25 years. She began helping me the first day I arrived on Capitol Hill and continued until she retired in 2002. In total, Yvonne served the people of Iowa for a remarkable 53 years. There is no doubt that Iowans benefited from her loyalty to their representatives in the Congress and her standard of excellence in her work. I was very fortunate to have her on my staff. Yvonne was from Osage, IA. She was a special person and a valuable and trusted employee. She made a great contribution with her selfless and dedicated public service. Her husband Jim is also a friend. He, too, worked in government and shared Yvonne's commitment to the people's business. Yvonne and Jim were an integral part of my office family for 28 years. They touched the lives of so many fellow staffers with their caring ways. They were gardeners who loved to share their beautiful flowers and plants. My wife Barbara joins me today in extending our sympathy to Jim and saluting the life and many good deeds of his beloved Yvonne.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK

• Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, on behalf of all Oregonians, I wish to recognize the recent accomplishments of Oregon's first national park at Crater Lake.

President Theodore Roosevelt had never set his eyes on the deep blue waters of Crater Lake when he signed the law in 1902 making Crater Lake the fifth oldest national park in the United States. He was, however, well aware of the 17-year battle fought to make its protection a reality. The father of Crater Lake, William Gladstone Steel, devoted his life to seeing Crater Lake protected and walked these halls of Congress to make sure that the majesty of this Oregon jewel was forever enshrined. Hard work and perseverance

have been at the core of the entire storied history of Crater Lake National Park.

On August 25, 2006, the Crater Lake National Park will open the doors to its new Science and Learning Center. Just as William Gladstone Steel spent his early years participating in scientific experiments at Crater Lake, the Science and Learning Center will provide the public with an entry into one of nature's most spectacular laboratories. Scientists, teachers, students, artists and the general public alike will benefit from this new facility at the park, which will be one of a very few National Park Service Learning Centers in the Nation.

The opening of the Crater Lake Science and Learning Center is the culmination of many years of perseverance and hard work from the dedicated staff and partners of Crater Lake National Park. Specifically, I want to recognize the dedication and ingenuity of Crater Lake National Park Superintendent, Charles “Chuck” Lundy. Chuck has gone above and beyond the call of duty and Oregon is lucky to have him at the helm of the Crater Lake “Phantom Ship.” During Chuck's 8-year tenure at the Park, he has worked in the spirit of William Gladstone Steel using his innovative mind to mold the future of America's deepest and most pristine lake. The Crater Lake Centennial license plate campaign, under Chuck's direction, has given each and every Oregonian the ability to express just how special Crater Lake is to them and to our State. As of July of 2006, 138,000 license plates have been purchased by Oregonians, with the proceeds going directly to the new Science and Learning Center.

Mr. President, I am extremely proud of the successes being exhibited by the outstanding team of National Park Service employees at Crater Lake National Park. I congratulate them on the opening of the Science and Learning Center and wish them all the best as they continue to preserve and protect the national park Oregonians love so much. •

PASSING OF MAX METZGER

• Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I wish today to recognize the passing of my friend Max Metzger this past Saturday morning. As we grieve the loss for his family, the citizens of St. Paul are grateful for the music he brought to them. As the former mayor of St. Paul, I had the opportunity to become acquainted with Max and was touched by the love of music he brought to our community.

To say Max was an icon in the St. Paul Music scene would be an understatement. For 56 summers he brought music to thousands of Minnesotans, conducting pops concerts at the Como Lakeside Pavilion. He was a gifted musician, director, and entertainer. He was a kind and gentle man with a great sense of humor, a love for his city, and passionately devoted to his wife Nell.