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TRIBUTES TO HON. MIKE DEWINE

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Mike DeWine

U.S. SENATOR FROM OHIO

TRIBUTES

IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mike DeWine

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S. Doc. 109–30

Tributes Delivered in Congress

Mike DeWine

United States Congressman
1983–1991

United States Senator
1995–2007

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Biography

MIKE DEWINE was born on January 5, 1947, and grew up in Yellow Springs, OH. As the son of parents and grandparents who ran a small agricultural business, he spent his youth and early adult life working in the fields and in the mill, learning the value of hard work and determination. He carried these values with him first to Miami University in Oxford, OH, where he graduated in 1969 with a degree in education and then to Ohio Northern University Law School in Ada, OH, where he graduated in 1972 with a law degree.

Soon afterward he began his career in public service—a career that spanned more than 30 years and involved work at all levels of government. Firm in his belief that criminals should be brought to justice, Mr. DEWINE—at the age of 25—started working as the assistant prosecuting attorney for Greene County, and in 1976 he was elected prosecutor. What he learned during those years in the prosecutor's office stayed with him and compelled him to continue in public service in a variety of capacities. He served as an Ohio State Senator, a four-term U.S. Congressman, and as Ohio's 59th Lieutenant Governor. He was sworn into the U.S. Senate on January 4, 1995, as the first Republican U.S. Senator to represent the Buckeye State in more than two decades. In 2000 he was the first Republican U.S. Senator in nearly a half century to be reelected to serve Ohio.

In his determination to get things done for those in need, MIKE DEWINE has been dubbed the "bodyguard of the poor." He developed a reputation in Washington, DC, for being hard-working, honest, and solution-oriented. He immersed himself in issues that do not necessarily grab headlines, but are vital to the well-being and prosperity of Ohioans, Americans, and citizens across the globe. MIKE DEWINE became a recognized national leader in efforts to secure the health, welfare, and safety of children; provide young people with the best possible education; help ease humanitarian suffering and the spread of disease around the world; and improve the Nation's ability to gather intelligence to protect Americans from terrorists. He also worked to protect and restore unique natural areas, including the Great Lakes, for

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the enjoyment of future generations; promote job opportunities through an improved, user-friendly job training system; ensure law enforcement officials have access to advanced technology; stem the flow of drugs into the United States; and secure a balanced budget, cut taxes, and promote economic opportunities.

MIKE DEWINE and his wife Fran, who have been married more than 37 years, are the parents of 8 children and grandparents of 10 grandchildren. As a parent, grandparent, and U.S. Senator, he knows that the safety and security of American children extend beyond measures to protect their immediate well-being. He knows that the world he helped shape is the world these children and grandchildren will inherit tomorrow, and he remains vigilant in his work to secure the children's future through the stabilization of countries around the world.

Through his membership on several Senate committees, MIKE DEWINE was able to work on legislative efforts that directly impact American's health, safety, and security. Senator DEWINE was the first Ohio Senator in nearly six decades to serve on the Appropriations Committee—a committee tasked with the responsibility of determining the use and distribution of U.S. Federal tax dollars. He was chairman of the Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee. As a member of the Judiciary Committee he worked on many anti-crime initiatives as well as immigration and judicial nominations. As chairman of the Retirement Security and Aging Subcommittee of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee Mr. DEWINE helped develop and review legislation to modernize and strengthen America's pension system and study the needs and concerns of the aging U.S. population. As a member of the HELP Committee he continued his work to protect the health and welfare of children, adults, and the elderly, as well as his efforts to limit drug and alcohol abuse and promote vital mental health services for those in need.

Other committee work in the Senate included his membership in the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, where he helped lead the Joint House-Senate Intelligence Committee investigation into U.S. intelligence lapses and the events preceding and following 9/11. He understood that the safety of Americans is intrinsically linked to the quality of U.S. intelligence, and through his membership on the Intelligence Committee he worked to improve U.S. information-

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gathering capabilities and protect Americans from terrorist threats. He also served as cochairman of the Senate Great Lakes Task Force; the Senate Caucus on Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children; and the Senate Global AIDS Crisis Working Group; and was a member of the Senate Drug Task Force.

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Farewell to the Senate

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, early on Thanksgiving day, Mary Frances Darling was born. She is our 10th grandchild and the 6th child of our daughter Jill and her husband Bill. As I said on election night this year, I am a very lucky man. I am blessed with a wonderful family.

I am also blessed because for the last 30 years—30 years—the people of Ohio have given me the opportunity to represent them, first as Green County prosecuting attorney, then as State senator, then as a Congressman for four terms from the Seventh Congressional District, then Lieutenant Governor, and now, for the past 12 years, in this wonderful body as a U.S. Senator. For that opportunity, I will be eternally grateful.

When I came to the Senate in 1995, it had been a little over a year since our daughter Becky had been killed. I was, quite candidly, still numb. We as a family had been through a lot. But I knew that our time here on Earth is short, and I wanted as best I could to spend my time in the Senate, whatever time I had, working on tangible things, getting concrete results that impact the lives of families in Ohio and in our Nation. I have tried to do that, but I have not done it alone. Whatever I have achieved has been with the help of so many people.

Over the past 12 years, I have worked with every Member of this Senate, and I consider each Member of this Senate a friend. I have had the privilege to work with two Republican leaders and one who in January will become the Republican leader.

Trent and Tricia Lott were two of the first people Fran and I met when we came to the House in 1983. Tricia is Fran's best friend here in Washington, and Trent is my dear friend. I have benefited from his counsel, from his advice, and from his help, now for well over 20 years.

Bill Frist and I came to the Senate together in 1995. Karyn and Bill are very good friends. Bill has been an unbelievably accessible leader. We share a passion for fighting

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the spread of AIDS. Bill's public role in that cause is obvious and apparent to everyone. But what is not so obvious and what is little known is what Bill Frist has done behind the scenes, what his role has been in working with so many people, working with the White House and others to get this job done. No one has played a bigger role. And when the history is written, Bill Frist's name will be there in bold print as someone who has saved so many, many lives.

Mitch McConnell. Mitch and Elaine are dear friends. When I faced the tough challenge of getting a bill or amendment passed, I went to Mitch. I have done it for 12 years. I did it as recently as yesterday. Mitch McConnell is tough. He is strong. He is wise. He will be a great leader. His advice as to how to thread the legislative needle is responsible for so much of what I have passed. He also has a big heart, as was demonstrated time and time again when I would go to him. He is chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee. After I talked to him, he would, at my request, put money into things which saved children's lives, child survival or to save little children, little babies in Haiti. He did it. He got it done. He made a difference.

I have been lucky enough to serve on the Judiciary, Appropriations, HELP, and Intelligence Committees, and I want to thank the chairmen who have led those committees over the past 12 years. I was the first Ohio Senator to serve on the Appropriations Committee since 1945. With the help of Chairman Stevens, Chairman Cochran, and their staffs, I was able to secure well over $1 billion for projects throughout Ohio that make a difference.

I particularly thank Arlen Specter. I thank his clerk and my good friend, Bettilou Taylor. They have both been so helpful to me in securing millions of dollars for programs through Labor-HHS appropriations. These two dedicated public servants helped me provide funding for important programs, things such as the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program and projects in Ohio to build facilities and provide services for people with disabilities. They also helped me fund projects to help meet the health needs of seniors and low-income communities throughout the State. Because of them, I have been able to secure over $12 million for Ohio's children's hospitals.

Senator Specter, Bettilou, let me tell you from the bottom of my heart and on behalf of Ohio's sick and poor kids and their families, I thank you.

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I also sincerely thank Judiciary Committee Chairmen Specter and Hatch; HELP Committee Chairmen Enzi, Gregg, and Jeffords; and Intelligence Committee Chairmen Roberts and Shelby. I have been fortunate to have passed dozens of bills and amendments in my career in the Senate, and most of them were provisions that I worked along with these chairmen to pass. It would never have happened without them. I appreciate their help.

I appreciate all the help Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley has given me—a dear friend—especially when it came to passing my bills to improve the foster care and adoption system. I have worked with many Members of the Senate on this very important issue, foster care and adoption, including Senators Jay Rockefeller, Mary Landrieu, Larry Craig, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, John Chafee, Jesse Helms, Bill Roth, Jim Jeffords, Dan Coats. They all shared a passion for foster care children. They all shared a passion for the adoption issue.

I also thank my good friend from Pennsylvania, my friend who keeps the candy drawer over there, Rick Santorum. Like so many who spoke about him yesterday, I applaud Rick for his passion and his absolute fearlessness in standing up for what he believes. I recall being on this floor many nights late at night during the debate over partial-birth abortion. Some nights it was just Rick and me, and we closed this place. He got it done. I thank him for that.

I also remember how Senator Santorum stood with Senators Lindsey Graham and Sam Brownback to help me pass my unborn victims of violence bill and see it signed into law. It took several years to pass this legislation, and Congressman Graham had been the sponsor and was the sponsor of the bill in the House. I applaud his determination to get this done. When it comes to foreign policy issues, I share an interest in western hemisphere issues with my friends Senator Norm Coleman, the chairman, and Mel Martinez. Mel, thank you. Senator Coleman has admirably served this body as chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee. I sincerely enjoyed traveling with him to Haiti.

I also enjoyed traveling to Africa with the good Senator from Tennessee, Lamar Alexander. Lamar has contributed a great deal to this body. He will contribute more, especially in the area of education policy, where he is clearly the expert.

Senator Judd Gregg and I also worked on a very important education issue. He started it. He worked it. I helped him.

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We got it done. That is the School Choice Program here in Washington, DC. We broke the logjam. We got it done. I applaud his commitment to the children of this, our Nation's Capital.

I thank my friends Chuck Hagel and Lindsey Graham for the good conversations they have shared with me on foreign policy issues. Speaking of that issue, I thank my neighbor on the floor and my neighbor to the west in Indiana, Dick Lugar, for being the rock that he is on foreign policy and for giving me good counsel and advice.

I want to thank my dear friend John McCain, with whom I came to the House of Representatives in 1983 and who has been my friend since. I thank him for his courage. I thank him for his wise counsel on military and foreign relations issues.

I also thank a dear friend of mine who does not now serve in this body, former Senator and Secretary of Energy Spence Abraham. He did a lot of things. One of the things that took guts and courage is he fought with me and others to protect legal immigration while he served in the Senate. He took a lot of flack for it.

I was honored to work with Senator Gordon Smith, Senators Harry Reid, Jack Reed, and Chris Dodd, to pass the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act. I applaud Senator Smith and his wife Sharon for having the courage to take the tragedy of their son Garrett's suicide and do so many wonderful things with it. They are wonderful people.

Last year, I was extremely proud to be 1 of 14 bipartisan Members of this great body who decided to work together to break what had become a gridlock in the Senate over judicial nominations. In the grand tradition of the Senate, individuals from both political parties came together to solve a problem which threatened not only the judicial nomination process but was threatening to shut the Senate down completely. I want to thank my friends with whom I was proud to stand in that effort: John McCain, John Warner, Lindsey Graham, Olympia Snowe, Susan Collins, Lincoln Chafee, Joe Lieberman, Senator Byrd, Ben Nelson, Mary Landrieu, Daniel Inouye, Mark Pryor, and Ken Salazar. They got it done.

I thank my friend, my colleague, my partner, Senator George Voinovich. George and I have worked together in the Senate on so many things for Ohio, from NASA Glenn to the Great Lakes. We first got together in 1989. We joined up as partners in 1989 when I decided to leave the U.S. House—it was a tough decision for me—and join him as his Lieuten-

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ant Governor candidate. I have not regretted it. It was the right decision, and we have worked together ever since then. I thank him and I thank his wonderful wife Jan for their friendship and love.

I also want to thank all the members of the Ohio congressional delegation with whom I have sincerely enjoyed working over the years. I have worked with every one of them. They have all made a difference. They are all my friends, Democrats and Republicans. Specifically, I extend my appreciation to my Congressman, my dear friend Dave Hobson. He is a savvy man. I have gone to him many times for advice, and I have gone to him to get things done for Ohio.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank the wonderful staff people in addition to my own staff whom I have had the pleasure to work with in the Senate. I thank the outstanding Senate floor staff: Dave Schiappa, Laura Dove, and all the other floor staffers who are such wonderful professionals and who serve us all so well. Thanks to the staff of the Republican leadership: Eric Ueland; Bill Hoagland, whom I talked about earlier today and whom I go to for advice a lot; Kyle Simmons, Malloy McDaniel, Laura Pemberton, and on and on.

I also thank all the committee staff with whom I had the pleasure to work. They are too plentiful to name, but I cannot leave this body without thanking my dear friend Mary Dietrich, clerk of the DC Appropriations Committee. I saw Mary on the floor last night. I so enjoyed working with her. She is a pro. She is great. I also thank Paul Grove, clerk of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee, who worked with me in helping increase funding for the various humanitarian aid programs. I know he got tired of seeing me coming, but he was always gracious and got the job done.

If there is one thing I have learned in the Senate, it is that you must work together with members of both parties, Democrats and Republicans. I see my friend on the floor, Senator Paul Sarbanes, who will be leaving. I have worked with him over the years. I have worked with many Democratic Senators over the years. I want to take a few minutes to thank them for their willingness to set aside party politics to make a difference and to get tangible results.

First, I thank my very good friend Senator Chris Dodd. Senator Dodd and I have worked together on many bills that have become law. We worked together—not once, not twice, but three times—to pass three bills into law to expand the research and testing of drugs prescribed for children. Senator Hillary Clinton also joined us in this effort, and I thank

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both of them for their dedication and dogged determination in helping to ensure our children have access to the medicines they need.

Senator Dodd and I also came together to create a national toll-free poison control hotline—I will remind my colleagues one more time of that number: 1–800–222–1222.

Senator Dodd and I also share a commitment to providing additional resources for our Nation's firefighters and first responders. We know that these men and women have the responsibility of looking out for us and our families, and we, in turn, have a responsibility to provide them with the resources they need to do their jobs. Together, Senator Dodd and I passed the FIRE Act in 2000, and that law has provided over $3.1 billion for grants to fire departments around the Nation for needed equipment, training, and communications technology. I am proud of the over $100 million in FIRE Act grants that my home State of Ohio has received.

Finally, Senator Dodd and I worked together with a wonderful American statesman—Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan—to pass the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act, which has led to the declassification of countless U.S. Government files containing information about Nazi war criminals. The American people deserve to have access to this information. For all of our work together, Senator Dodd, thank you.

Mr. President, I want to thank Senator Jay Rockefeller for joining me in fighting to make our adoption system work better for children around the country. My good friend Senator Rockefeller was the lead cosponsor of two of my bills that we got signed into law, and I was the lead cosponsor of one of his bills that also became law. These laws have helped minimize the amount of time children spend in foster care and increased the number of adoptions across the country.

Those laws are making a difference every day. They are changing children's lives.

As members of the Senate Steel Caucus, Senator Rockefeller and I also worked successfully together to impose tariffs against foreign countries that were dumping steel in the United States. The dumping by these countries was hurting our steel industry and, therefore, it was hurting families throughout Ohio and West Virginia. Senator Rockefeller and I also teamed up to increase automobile and highway safety. He is a champion there, too.

Last year, Senator Rockefeller was the lead cosponsor of several bills with me that will save lives on our roads. Together, we passed these bills into law as part of the last

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highway bill. We will never know the names or faces of the people whose lives will be saved by these laws, but it is enough for both of us to know those men, women, and children are out there. Senator Rockefeller—it has been a pleasure to work with you. Thank you.

Mr. President, I want to thank Senator Mary Landrieu. Senator Landrieu and I share a profound concern for low-income students around the country and for the welfare of young people here in the District of Columbia. In 2001, we worked together to amend the No Child Left Behind Act to make sure that additional funding went toward low-income schools and the students who attend those schools. Since passage of our amendment, low-income schools in Ohio have received $259 million. I applaud Senator Landrieu for her commitment to these children.

I also want to thank Senator Landrieu for the excellent work we did together on the District of Columbia Appropriations Subcommittee. We worked together on this subcommittee from 2001 to 2004, and again, our focus was on improving the health and well-being of children. We improved the city's long-troubled foster care system and helped fund various improvements to children's hospitals in the District. It was truly a pleasure working with the good Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. President, I have had the great fortune to work closely on the Judiciary Committee with my friend Senator Pat Leahy. I am proud of the many things that we worked on together. Specifically, we both know that our State and local law enforcement officers need to have the best technology available to protect our families and loved ones. I thank Senator Leahy for working with me in 1998 to pass the Crime Identification Technology Act, known as CITA. We worked together to develop, pass into law, and provide funding for this critical bill, which has included over $500 million to help law enforcement officials purchase cutting edge forensic and communication technology and improve their crime labs—all in an effort to help local law enforcement fight crime and make our communities safer.

I also appreciated working with Senator Leahy to pass my bill in 2003 that eliminated the statute of limitations for child abduction and sex crimes, and required child pornographers to register as sex offenders. Finally, Senator Leahy and I worked together, along with Congressman Ted Strickland in the House, to pass my mentally ill offenders bill and get it signed into law in 2004. This law goes a long way to-

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ward providing mental health services for criminals desperately in need of those services. Thank you, Senator Leahy. And, of course, neither of these laws would have happened without the help of Judiciary Chairmen Specter and Hatch.

Mr. President, since 1997, I have been a member of the Judiciary Antitrust Subcommittee. During my time in the Senate, sometimes I chaired the subcommittee, and sometimes my friend Senator Herb Kohl chaired the subcommittee. But no matter who had the gavel, we ran it the same way—as a bipartisan committee, which shined a light on competition issues and helped consumers and businesses get a fair shake in the marketplace. Both of our staffs planned the subcommittee agenda together, organized hearings together, and held meetings together. That is exactly the way it should be, and I am proud that Senator Kohl and I were able to achieve and promote a bipartisan consensus on important antitrust issues in many critical parts of our economy.

Senator Kohl and I also worked together to write and pass into law the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act in 2000. We worked on this bill after learning that many law enforcement agencies did not have the funding to process DNA material from crime scenes and those DNA samples ended up just sitting on shelves and not getting analyzed. Our law provides funding to process these samples, identify criminals—such as rapists—and get them off the streets. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to work with Herb Kohl.

Mr. President, I also have had the distinct pleasure to work together with Senator Mikulski on the Retirement Security and Aging Subcommittee. I always knew that my good friend from Maryland was a tough negotiator, but over the last Congress, I was reminded of just how determined and tough she can be when she knows she's right. Thank heavens, she and I were on the same side.

Senator Mikulski and I worked together this year and in 2000 to reauthorize the Older Americans Act, and we also joined forces to fight against efforts to weaken the pension plans of millions of manufacturing retirees and employees. It was during these negotiations that I was glad to have a partner as tough as Senator Mikulski, and I thank her.

Since 1999, I have been the cochairman of the Senate Great Lakes Task Force with the senior Senator from Michigan, Carl Levin. Together, Senator Levin and I have fought side by side to pass laws and increase funding to help restore

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and protect the Great Lakes. We passed the Great Lakes Legacy Act, which has brought over $60 million to clean up contaminated rivers flowing into the lakes, including $25 million to clean up the Ashtabula River.

Senator Levin and I also recently won Senate passage of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act to increase the authorization of grants to protect the Great Lakes, and we worked together to prevent invasive species from entering the Great Lakes by authorizing and funding a barrier in Chicago, where Asian carp might enter the lakes. I thank Senator Levin for his dedication to this unique natural resource.

I have spent a great deal of my time here in the Senate fighting for those who are less fortunate and who cannot fend for themselves—not only here in the United States, but also throughout the world. Over the years, I have sponsored and passed several provisions that have increased funding for humanitarian programs.

I want to thank my good friend Senator Dick Durbin for working with me to increase funding by $100 million for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS and to increase funding by over $60 million for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS. Senator Durbin has also worked with me to help provide assistance to the poorest nation in our hemisphere—and that is Haiti. Dick, Fran and I traveled together to Haiti and I thank him for joining me in efforts to provide a better life for the people of Haiti. He is a good and compassionate man, and I thank him for his work and for his friendship.

Once again, these things would not have happened but for Mitch McConnell, Pat Leahy, and the people on the subcommittee who provided the money.

While I am talking about Senator Durbin, I also want to thank him for joining me in passing legislation that guaranteed that the children of service members who die in service to their country don't lose their free health care coverage. Before our law, children of service members who died serving their country would lose their free health care after 3 years. But, children whose parents were in the military and did not die would receive health care until they turned 21. That just wasn't right, and Senator Durbin agreed with me. Together, we changed that law. I thank him for working with me on that effort, and I thank Chairman Warner for working with us on this bill. It could not have happened without him.

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Mr. President, I also had the pleasure of working with Senators Durbin, Corzine, Biden, and Brownback, as we have tried to help bring a stop to the terrible genocide that is occurring in Darfur.

Together, we have increased funding for humanitarian relief and security efforts in this war-torn region, where so many innocent victims continue to suffer. I was proud to join my friends in this effort, and I know they will continue this fight.

Mr. President, none of these important increases to these HIV/AIDS and humanitarian aid programs could have happened without the help of the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee—Senators McConnell and Senator Leahy. To both of them and to their able staffs, thank you.

I want to thank Senator Frank Lautenberg for working with me to set a national 0.08 blood alcohol content standard for alcohol-impaired drivers.

This was a tough fight, and Senator Lautenberg is a good man to have with you in such a fight. I am proud to say that in 2000 we successfully got our bill passed and signed into law.

Mr. President, I want to thank Senator Byrd, not only for the legislation that we have worked on together, but more important for the outstanding service he has given this body and this country. Senator Byrd and I worked together years ago to pass the Continued Dumping Subsidy Offset Act—a law that helped bring hundreds of millions of dollars to U.S. manufacturing companies that were the victims of illegal dumping by foreign companies. This law brought over $315 million to manufacturers in Ohio. Thank you Senator Byrd for the work we've done together and for your outstanding service to this Senate and to this Nation.

Mr. President, I want to wish the best to all of my fellow Senators who were defeated this fall or who are retiring this year—Senators Frist, Santorum, Talent, Burns, Allen, Chafee, Dayton, and Jeffords. They are all good people and all good friends. I wish them well.

Mr. President, I want to take a moment to say that I still miss my good friend Senator Paul Wellstone. Senator Wellstone was a determined and outstanding public servant. In 1998, Paul and I worked closely together to write the law that reformed and improved the effectiveness of job training programs. It was always a pleasure to work with Paul

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Wellstone—such a passionate and committed and dedicated public servant.

Mr. President, as my colleagues all know, none of us could get anything done here in this body if it were not for the extremely dedicated, hard-working people on our staffs. I am grateful for the men and women who work for me now and those who have worked for me all through my time in the U.S. Senate. I didn't say thank you often enough, but I want each of you to know how much I sincerely appreciate all you have done for me—all you have done to help the people of Ohio and the people of this Nation. I say to them: You have done such great work. You have helped people. You have improved their lives and, in some cases, you have saved lives through your efforts. You have made a difference, and you all should be very proud. I know I am proud of each and every one of you.

I have been so fortunate to have had so many qualified, talented people working for me over the years. Time will not permit me to name each one, but I thank all of them collectively for their efforts.

Thank you to all the schedulers who through the years got me where I needed to go and kept me on track. I would be lost, literally, without you.

Thank you to all my personal assistants and executive assistants. You all have taken such good care of me, which, admittedly, has been tough to do. I have not made it easy.

Thank you to my press team—all my past press secretaries and press assistants. You have helped spread the word about the good things this team has done for the people of Ohio. I thank you for your diligence and dedication.

I thank my legislative staff—all my legislative assistants, professional committee staff, legislative aides, legislative correspondents, researchers, and writers. You have been the best team any Senator could ever ask for. I am proud of you. You have worked so hard, so tirelessly, and with such commitment. You got things done. You have made a difference.

Thank you to all my current and past staff assistants, receptionists, and interns. You have been on the front lines every single day. You have heard a lot. You manned the phones. You greeted all of our constituents. You have helped me in countless ways. You have done your job so well with great respect, grace, and patience.

Thank you to our mail team. One thing is certain in this business: the letters and e-mails never stop coming. That is a good thing. Thank you for opening all the correspondence,

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sorting it, taking care of it, and making sure responses got out. I bless you for that.

Thank you to all my past office managers and system administrators. You have kept my office running. Without each of you, we couldn't open our doors each business day. You are great.

Thank you to my entire team in Ohio—to all my current and past regional directors, district representatives, staff assistants, and caseworkers. You are the best Ohio has to offer. I am proud to have worked with each one of you. I couldn't have done my job without you. You all know our State so very well. You have been so caring and kind to our constituents. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

While it would be impossible for me to talk about each of my past staff members individually, I would like to take a moment to say a few things about some of my key advisers over the years. I will dearly miss working with each one of you. Bluntly, I don't know how I am going to get along.

Thank you to my past and present finance team. They are the ones who got me here: Mary Sabin, Rachel Pearson, Amy Ford Bradley, and last, but certainly not least, Brooke Bodney, who has taken me through the last few years. You all have amazed me over the years. You have pushed me, prodded me, you made me do something I don't like to do: make phone calls and ask people for money. Please know how grateful I am to each one of you. Your jobs were not easy, and you did a phenomenal job.

Thank you to my past campaign managers—Curt Steiner in 1992, Laurel Pressler Dawson in 1994, Josh Rubin in 2000, and Matt Carle from my 2006 race. Curt has been my friend for over a quarter of a century. He is smart and politically savvy. Laurel was a great campaign manager in 1994. I will have more to say about her in a minute. Josh has been a permanent fixture in the DeWine family since the early 1990s. I have always appreciated his advice and wise counsel. Matt did a fine job this past election cycle. He knows Ohio very well.

I would also like to mention my friend Chuck Greener who has been a friend for over 25 years. I am grateful for his friendship and wise counsel. He always takes my calls. He always calls back. He is there for me. He is there for Fran.

Thank you to each of the individuals who have served as staff directors of my subcommittees. Louis Dupart served as staff director for our Antitrust Subcommittee. Louis always came to me with such great legislative ideas. He is the one

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who came to me with the idea of the Nazi war crime legislation. I will forever be grateful for that.

Pete Levitas also served for several years now as staff director for the Antitrust Subcommittee. Pete is a brilliant lawyer. He has been one of my most dedicated staff members, and he is one of the funniest people I have ever met. He can always make me laugh, and we always need people around us, Pete, to make us laugh.

Dwayne Sattler served as staff director for our Employment and Training Subcommittee. He worked tirelessly to help reform this country's job training program. A lot of the bill was his work product. I thank him for that.

Last, but certainly not least, Karla Carpenter, who has served as the staff director for three of my subcommittees: Aging, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services, and Retirement Security. What in the world will I do without her? She has been with me since 1994. She is, as she likes to say, "the smartest person she knows." Mr. President, let me tell you, she is certainly one of the smartest persons I know. She got our Adoption and Safe Families Act signed into law, as well as the Older Americans Act and pensions bill. Thank you, Karla.

I would also like to thank my able Intelligence Committee designee, John Pack, and my excellent former designees Jack Livingston and Jim Barnett. You have been great advisers.

I have been most fortunate to have had the chance to work with three of the smartest, hardest working legislative directors around. My first Senate legislative director and chief counsel was Nick Wise. He was also legislative director for me in the House of Representatives. Nick always had a unique ability to analyze an issue and drill it down to the essence of the matter, and then explain it to me. Unique talent.

My next legislative director was Robert Hoffman. He came to my office from Senator Larry Pressler's office, where he was the Senator's legislative director. Robert did a fantastic job for me. He has an unstoppable work ethic. He was so dedicated and had such a solid understanding of the legislative process. I thank Robert.

My current legislative director is Paul Palagyi. What will I do without Paul, who is my go-to guy on so many things? He has been my LD for nearly 6 years and has built an extraordinary legislative team. Paul has put up with a lot. He is also an adviser on my two dogs at home.

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During my time in the Senate, I have had two speechwriters. My first Senate speechwriter was Mike Potemra. I can say with honesty Mike is one of the most intelligent people I know. He is just so knowledgeable. In his own words, Mike is an "unusual guy." That he is, but he is also deeply endearing, and I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with him. I thank Mike.

Now, Mr. President, I come to the point in my speech where it is not scripted, and that is because it is about Ann O'Donnell. Ann O'Donnell has been my speechwriter. Ann O'Donnell has been someone who has made an unbelievable difference in my life. She is a tireless worker. She is a compassionate person. Fran and I have traveled with Ann to Haiti. I have seen her compassion for the children of Haiti. She is someone who never stops working.

During this past week, because I am leaving the Senate, because I would not be here in January, I have tried to finish giving tribute speeches to all soldiers and troops who died in Iraq and Afghanistan. It was an unbelievable task. Ann put it together. She got it done. We did 75 speeches this week. It wouldn't have happened without her. A lot of things I have done would not have happened without her. I thank her. I thank her for being who she is.

I have had two communications directors during my time in the Senate. First was Charlie Boesel. Everyone loves Charlie. His personality is as flamboyant as his taste in colorful clothes. Charlie was a pleasure to work with and did a fine job for us. I will tell you, it was great fun to have Charlie join us for a few days on the campaign trail. Fran and I were so happy to see Charlie back.

My current communications director is Mike Dawson. I first met Mike when I was running for Governor in 1989. Mike, whom I did not know, came to me and kept coming to me and said: "Hey, I want to work for you, I want to help you on your campaign." We finally said yes, and he was on the campaign. He worked on my Governor's race and then my Lieutenant Governor's race when I joined George in his bid for Governor. Mike worked in the Voinovich administration, he worked for Senator Voinovich, and he has been my communications director for the last 5 years. I am grateful for his wise counsel. He is my friend. I will always remember what he has done for me.

I have had one State director while I have been in the Senate. That has been Barbara Schenck. Barbara worked with me when I was Lieutenant Governor. She is truly one of the

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finest individuals I have ever known. She is smart; she is articulate; she is spirited; yes, she is feisty; and she is passionate. She is also extremely compassionate. She has been my right hand in Ohio. I talked to her many days six, seven, eight times. I can't imagine not working with her in the days ahead, but I know she is going to do some amazing things. Barbara, you are the greatest. Thank you.

Finally, my chief of staff, Laurel Pressler Dawson. I truly believe— I have not checked this—that she has been chief of staff to a Senator and a Congressman probably longer than anybody in this body. Laurel has been my chief of staff since January 1983 when I entered the U.S. House of Representatives. We have seen and been through so much together in our personal lives, as well as professional. She has been there during the great tragedies in my family. She has always been there. When our daughter Becky died, she was at the hospital. She was the one who came.

She was the one person who had the ability to tell me no, and I would listen to her. Everybody needs someone who tells them "no" and listens to them. I have been privileged to have her be my most trusted adviser for over two decades. She always just got it done. She managed my organization with great skill. I cannot thank her enough for all she has done for me and for my family.

As my colleagues in the Senate are well aware, Fran and I have a big family. We are blessed. We are parents of 8 children, now the grandparents of 10 grandchildren. I would like to take a couple minutes to talk about my family before I end.

First, I thank my oldest child, my son Patrick. I always turned to Pat for his thoughts on policy and politics and have so appreciated his help in my campaigns and his keen advice and his input. Pat's three boys—Michael, Matthew, and Brian—are a delight. They are a delight every day. They were a delight to have on the campaign trail. I thank each of them for all their hard work and their efforts.

I thank my daughter Jill, her husband Bill, and their children, Albert, Isabelle, David, Caroline, Justin, and newborn Mary Frances. Jill and Bill and the kids walked in so many parades this summer and fall and throughout the years, as all our kids have. I can count them. They have always been so helpful and supportive. I thank Bill for his expertise on issues regarding persons with disabilities. He has helped me understand the needs of those with disabilities. He has helped me do more to help them.

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Our son John recently completed his Ph.D. in ecology. Fran and I are so proud of him. He and his wife Michele and their sweet little daughter Josie Jean have recently moved to West Virginia, where John is now working on river restoration.

Our son Brian is engaged to Kalie Spink. They are planning their wedding for this coming April. Fran and I are so looking forward to that and looking forward to having Kalie join our family. Brian works in the best job probably in the family. He works for a minor league baseball team, the Carolina Mudcats. I envy him every day.

I thank my daughter Alice for the sacrifices she made this year to help with our campaign. She is a law student at Ohio Northern University—my alma mater—and took the fall semester off to work on the campaign where she was in charge of coalitions. Thank you, Alice. You did a great job.

Our son Mark is a sophomore at the College of Wooster, where he runs cross-country and track. Mark is a good person, a person who is very compassionate. For his Eagle Scout project, he traveled to Haiti, a place my colleagues know is very important to Fran and myself. He planted trees there. He worked with Father Tom Hagan and helped with the reforestation project.

Our daughter Anna is a freshman in high school. She is a runner like all her brothers and sisters. She is a sweet, quiet, caring young woman. She has put up with a lot this past year with her mom and dad being gone quite a bit of the time, going back and forth between Washington and Ohio. But she has handled it so well. We are very proud of her.

To each of my children and grandchildren, Mr. President, I simply want to say thank you and I love you.

As an only child growing up, I was dating Frances in high school and I used to love going over to her house because she had a big family. There was always something going on. I want to thank Fran's brothers and sisters and their families for all they have done for us over the years, their friendship and love and help and support. We are so very fortunate to have all of them in our lives. I want to thank Fran's parents especially, Bill and Mary Struewing. You are great. No one could have a better mother-in-law and father-in-law. You have put up with me since Fran and I started dating in high school, for a long time, and for that I am very grateful.

Of course, I want to thank my parents, Dick and Jean DeWine. I have talked about my dad on the Senate floor

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many times in regard to the K-Company and what he did during World War II. I could not have asked for two more wonderful parents. They always believed in me. They gave me my interest in politics. They gave me their values. They gave me their work ethic, and I owe them everything, and I love them very much.

Finally, every day I think of our daughter Becky who died in 1993. Becky was a compassionate, honest, caring young woman who would have done so much with her life. I think of her every day. The things that Fran and I do for children, we do in her memory.

In conclusion, I love Ohio. I love our country. I see a great future for both my State and for America. I am an optimist. My wife Fran says that anybody with 8 kids by definition is an optimist, and I am an optimist. Throughout my career in the Senate and after I leave, I will continue to care about the health, education and welfare of our kids. I will continue to care about stopping the spread of AIDS around the globe. I will continue to help improve the lives of our world's most impoverished men, women, and children. I will continue to care about highway safety and the importance of making our cars and roads safer. I will continue to care about making our communities safe for our families, safe from crime, safe from terrorism.

As I leave the Senate, however, I leave behind unfinished business, as we all do, and I encourage my colleagues to continue the work we shared on so many different issues.

Just this week I introduced the Pediatric Medical Device bill with Senator Dodd, a bill that will help ensure that our children have access to lifesaving medical devices that are designed specifically for small bodies. I hope someone will take up that cause.

I thank my colleague Ted Kennedy for working with me, and I was working with him, on the bill to give the Food and Drug Administration the authority to regulate tobacco. It is long past due. It needs to happen. It has not passed, but it will. I know it will pass. I know it will pass, because it is the right thing to do.

Two days ago I introduced a bill to make cars and roads safer for our families, especially our children. That bill would simply direct the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration to research new ways to keep pregnant women and their unborn children safer in our cars. I hope someone will take that up as well.

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I will finally conclude my remarks by thanking the most important person in my life, my bride of 39 years, Fran. As most people know, I would be literally lost without her. She takes care of me. She takes care of our family. She is our rock. Fran is my partner in all things. She is my best friend. She is the passion of my life. She is my love. She is everything to me. We met in the first grade. It took me until the seventh grade to talk her into going out on a date with me, and it took me 7 more years to convince her to marry me. I am a persistent man. We got married between our sophomore and junior years at Miami. We tell people it was a productive 4 years at Miami. We ended up with two degrees and two children by the time we left. I could not have done any of this without her by my side.

She has been through every one of my campaigns. She has done everything. Thirty ice cream socials for 2,500 people who just dropped by her house on a Sunday. She has done that for 30 years. She does anything and everything. She is smart, she is witty, she is organized, and she is very compassionate. She accomplishes more than anyone I know, and she never stops working. I love her more than anything else in the world. Someone said to me earlier this year that if I lost my reelection bid, it wouldn't be so bad, because even if I lost my Senate seat, Fran would still be there by my side. They were right. And for that, I am very fortunate.

Mr. President, my colleagues, my friends, come visit us in Ohio. That is where we will be. After this month, we will be in our home in the county where we grew up, the county where we were born, the county where we live. We will be home in Greene County. Come see us. You are always welcome.

I thank the Chair for his indulgence, and my colleagues.

I yield the floor.

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TRIBUTES

TO

MIKE DEWINE

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Proceedings in the Senate

MONDAY, *November 13, 2006*

Mr. SALAZAR. . . . I will say this as well. In the days ahead, we will hear many things about some of our colleagues, some of whom are newcomers to our institution, the U.S. Senate, and some of them who are leaving. For me, it is a sad day that Senator Chafee and Senator DEWINE, who were members of the Gang of 14, will not be around to be a part of that future bipartisan coalition that we are going to have to have in the Senate. But I hope, on the side of both the Democrats and the Republicans, that there is a great number of Members of the Senate on both sides of the aisle who will come together to address those significant issues that face us as a country. . . .

WEDNESDAY, *November 15, 2006*

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I say to my colleague, Senator DEWINE, those have been very moving tributes to fallen soldiers from his State of Ohio. He has set a good example for all of us in recognizing the service and sacrifice of those from his home State. I find as I listen to those tributes that they are extremely well done. I thank the Senator for that.

I also wish to acknowledge that the Senator from Ohio will be leaving at the end of this term and that I have very much appreciated working with him. He has been one of the very serious Members of this body, and we are going to miss him. I wanted to say to him that I certainly appreciate his service in the Senate. He has always been a constructive colleague, somebody who was working diligently to try to solve problems facing the country. We very much appreciate his dedication to the country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I thank my colleague and tell him that I have enjoyed working with him very much. We

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have worked on things together. You can work across the aisle in this body and get things done. I thank him for his very kind and generous words.

THURSDAY, *November 16, 2006*

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, a few moments ago, our colleague from the State of Ohio, Senator MIKE DEWINE, gave tribute to three Ohioans who lost their lives in Iraq. I listened to these carefully and I hope others did as well. They were beautiful life stories, beautifully written, beautifully spoken by the Senator. I went up to him afterward and asked him how many Ohioans had lost their lives in Iraq. He said the number was 140. He has given 90 tributes on the floor and hopes before he leaves the Senate in a few weeks to finish the last 50. He is determined to get it done as a tribute to these families. He said: It is about all we can do, isn't it? He is right. It says a lot about MIKE DEWINE, a lot that many of us already knew.

I came to Congress with MIKE in 1982. I recall we were both elected to the House of Representatives. I was from the central part of Illinois and he was from Ohio. We had a dinner at the White House. I recall that his wife Fran, who had just had a baby a few days before, came in her beautiful gown with her husband MIKE in a tuxedo, carrying a basket with their baby in it. They sat down next to Loretta and myself for dinner with President Reagan that night. I have joked about that because I met that little girl recently. She has grown up now, and we remembered the first time we ever laid eyes on her.

MIKE and I have worked on so many things—the global AIDS epidemic. He has been my go-to guy on the Republican side of the aisle. When I had absolutely given up any hope of passing legislation for hundreds of millions of dollars to save hundreds of millions of lives, MIKE managed to help out in many different ways.

He invited me once to travel to Haiti with him. Haiti is a DeWine family project. MIKE and Fran have made over 15 trips to that poor island and have met with so many people there in orphanages and on streets trying to help them. There is a little school in Port-au-Prince, the Becky DeWine School, named after MIKE and Fran's late daughter. They have poured more love and resources into that school for some of the poorest kids on this planet than we could ever

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count. They worked together with Father Tom of Hands Together and so many other great charities that have done such work.

As I listened to MIKE tonight give his tributes to these Ohio soldiers, I was reminded what a quality individual he is. Elections come and go. People win and people lose. But the quality of MIKE DEWINE's service to the Senate on behalf of the people of Ohio is written large in the history of this institution.

I thank him for his friendship and for his leadership. I wish him, Fran, and the entire family the very best in whatever their future endeavors might entail.

TUESDAY, *December 5, 2006*

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I have listened carefully to our colleague from Ohio [Mr. DEWINE], spending his few minutes in the Senate talking about brave men and women who serve our country. It is the mark of our colleague from Ohio, the kind of person he is—not just the kind of Senator he is—that he would come to the floor of the Senate in his last few days as a Member of this institution and focus on others, focus on those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for their families, for our country and for our future. It shows us, once again, that Senator DEWINE is the consummate Senator.

I am here this afternoon to recognize and thank and pay tribute to our colleagues who will be leaving the Senate. They are a varied group. Again, I can think of no finer example of this group of public servants than one of Senator DEWINE's last speeches in the Senate to recognize others.

I thank you, Senator DEWINE, for your service.

As we recognize, it is a distinct privilege and high honor to serve our country in any capacity, and certainly none higher than in uniform. But it is especially important that we recognize those who have given years of their lives, sacrificing their families, their own time, to help make a better world for all of us. I know of no capacity in which we serve our country that has given those who have had this rare opportunity to serve in the Senate anything more noble than trying to shape a better world from this Senate.

These individuals who will leave the Senate, some on their own terms, some on the terms of the election, but, nonethe-

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less, in their own specific way have contributed a great deal to this country.

I take a few minutes to recognize each. I start with our colleague, your dear friend, former Lieutenant Governor, the senior Senator from Ohio. I need not tell the distinguished Presiding Officer what Senator DEWINE has meant to his State and to this country. I had the privilege of serving on the Intelligence Committee with Senator DEWINE for 4 years. I have teamed up with Senator DEWINE over the years on many legislative matters. I don't know of an individual who cares more, contributes more, to what they believe, than Senator DEWINE. His years of service in the House, the Senate, and as Lieutenant Governor are to be recognized. We should thank him and tell him that we will miss him and we will especially miss a friend. . . .

Mr. President, in conclusion, it is not easy to put one's self on the firing line and offer one's self as a candidate for any office. It takes a certain amount of courage and, I suspect, a little dose of insanity. But nonetheless individuals who believe deeply enough to commit themselves to a cause greater than their own self-interests need to be recognized. Having nothing to do with me or you or any one individual, but it is the essence of our country, it is the very fabric of our democracy that makes it all work and probably gives rise to, more than any one reason, why we have been such a successful nation for over 200 years—because people from all walks of life, in every community, in every State, offer themselves for office. Whether it is a mayor, a Governor, city councilman, county official, a sheriff, these individuals deserve recognition.

We all make mistakes. That is who we are. But in the end, it is not unlike what Teddy Roosevelt once referred to in his magnificent quote about the man in the arena. And it is the man and the woman in the arena who change our lives. It makes a better world that shapes history, that defines our destiny. And for these individuals who will no longer have that opportunity to serve our country in the Senate, we wish them well, we thank them, and we tell them we are proud of them and their families and wish them Godspeed.

Mr. President, I thank you for the time and yield the floor.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I rise to speak about our senior Senator from Ohio, MIKE DEWINE. Let me begin by saying this is a speech I hoped I would never have to give. For many in this Chamber, winter came a little early this year. A blizzard of political change swept through the coun-

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try and, unfortunately, many were unable to weather the storm; in my particular case, in our State, through no fault of their own.

MIKE DEWINE was one of the most effective legislators we have in the U.S. Senate. He was a victim of this storm. I am deeply saddened that our respective colleagues will not be joining us when we congregate again for the 110th Congress. MIKE's tireless commitment to legislating, his willingness and ability to work with both parties, and his ingenuity will be sorely missed by everyone in the Senate and the State of Ohio.

MIKE has served the people of Ohio for more than 30 years, beginning as an assistant county prosecutor in 1976. He served as Green County prosecutor for 4 years, State senator for 2 years, Congressman for 8 years, and he was my Lieutenant Governor for 4 years when I was Governor of Ohio. And, of course, he has served us for 12 years as our U.S. Senator. He is one of the most effective and least partisan Members in this body.

During campaign season, some of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle kept asking me: How is MIKE doing, how is he doing? Frankly, I think they were secretly hoping his poll numbers would be strong enough that he would not become a target. Unfortunately, those numbers never got up to that place, and he ended up being a target.

Far too many Members see differences between Republicans and Democrats as an unsurpassable deep divide. Not MIKE DEWINE. Over and over again, MIKE built bridges between our parties, and he got things done for America and for Ohio. Janet and I feel like MIKE and his wonderful wife Fran are part of our family. After working with MIKE for the past 16 years, I can tell you that there is something special about him. In fact, right from the start, I knew there was something refreshingly different about MIKE DEWINE.

The inception of our friendship came in 1990, when MIKE and I were both running in the Republican primary for Governor of Ohio. It was a crowded field with MIKE, Bob Taft, and me vying for the Governor's slot. It was then we really got to know each other. We talked about what would be the best for Ohio and for the Republican Party and, quite frankly, for our respective political futures. We decided to combine our efforts as running mates, and MIKE agreed to run as my Lieutenant Governor.

I knew this was a very tough decision for MIKE because he wanted to be Governor and was giving up a very safe con-

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gressional seat to run for State office. At that moment, I knew I had a first-rate partner, a man with great character and humility as well as unique political poise and promise. Both of us knew we had a long, tough race ahead of us with no guarantees. This was not a layup shot. There was a real question of whether we were going to be successful. He had given up a safe seat in the U.S. Congress, with a big family. But we had a great time running for State office. MIKE had an opportunity to connect with the State as a whole. I remember when he and Fran packed the kids in the van and traveled every inch of Ohio, becoming intimate with the Appalachian east, its manufacturing north, and its interior farmland.

We went on to win the general election and, as I like to say, together we did it. Together we won the election, and together we charted a new course for Ohio.

As Lieutenant Governor, MIKE took over the State's criminal justice agencies, where he led the fight against crime and illegal drugs. It was a relief to have MIKE as my partner when we had the Lucasville riots which broke out on Easter Sunday in 1993. It was the largest prison disturbance in the history of the United States, generating a great deal of national tension. MIKE's background in criminal justice and his close relationship with law enforcement helped us respond quickly and effectively. It could have been a tragedy, but fortunately, together, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, we made it through.

In 1992, when the Ohio Republican Party needed a challenger to run against the famous astronaut and giant in Ohio politics, John Glenn, MIKE was the obvious choice. He and Fran worked tirelessly to win that seat. Unfortunately, victory was not in the cards that year but triumph was imminent. Two years later, MIKE became a U.S. Senator and our party swept the State, just as the Democrats did this year in Ohio. MIKE returned to Washington as a U.S. Senator with more perspective, more experience, and more insight into the challenges facing Ohio than when he left the Congress as a Member of the House of Representatives. Without a lot of fanfare, he quietly went to work.

Of course, MIKE has been shaped by many things. It is impossible to talk about his achievements in public service without mentioning the terrible misfortune he and Fran experienced back in 1994. I will never forget the day MIKE and Fran lost their daughter Becky. I am familiar with the tremendous pain they suffered. The day that changed their

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lives sticks in my memory, much like the day Janet and I lost our daughter Molly. MIKE translated the love he and Fran had for Becky into his work in the Senate. He became a champion for our youth and for those who cannot represent themselves. That is why today I am hard pressed to think of anyone who has not been helped by MIKE DEWINE.

His legislative achievements, which span both domestic and foreign policy, reflect his effectual and compassionate nature. MIKE has shown tremendous dedication toward improving the safety of our highway system. He not only amended the 2005 highway bill to make preferences for highways noted as being unsafe, but he also allocated more than $56 million of SAFETEA–LU, intended for improving highway safety.

He succeeded in getting further testing and approval of medications for children. He helped establish a national toll-free poison control hotline. He acted on behalf of the children of U.S. service members to make sure they had access to affordable health care. And he has stood up for foster children to make sure they are protected and to help them find adoptive parents.

Time after time, Senator DEWINE has protected Ohio. He was a critical voice in passing the Senate pension bill which helped ensure that workers' futures in Ohio are on better footing. He is a cosponsor of the Health Partnership Act because he understands how important health care reform is to Ohioans and to this country. He helped ensure that our fire departments are better equipped to fulfill their missions as first responders.

During the BRAC process, he worked to keep Federal facilities, such as Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton and the Defense Finance and Accounting Center in Cleveland and Columbus, open and operating. And he led a new mission for Ohio's NASA-Glenn in Cleveland. Today these facilities are thriving and contributing to Ohio's aerospace industry and national defense. I don't think there was a State in the country that benefited more from the BRAC process than Ohio, and it is attributable to the outstanding leadership MIKE DEWINE gave all of us in terms of that BRAC process.

MIKE has also been a friend of the Jewish community and has made it a priority to help stamp out anti-Semitism and intolerance in America. He played a pivotal role in helping disclose previously classified documents about Nazi aggression, legislation that made those records available to the

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public through the National Archives and Records Administration. Today, thanks to MIKE, doctors, nurses, and aid workers are more prepared to confront the global AIDS epidemic.

MIKE has carried a heavy burden while he has been in the Senate. He sits on the Judiciary Committee, the HELP Committee, and the Intelligence Committee. He also sits on one of the most prestigious committees in the Senate, Appropriations. In fact, MIKE was the first Ohioan in 50 years to sit on Appropriations. His position of leadership—and the resources he has been able to bring back to Ohio—has made a tremendous difference for our State and a tremendous difference in the lives of the people of our State. I used to joke with MIKE that my job as the debt hawk was to make sure we didn't spend the money. But once we decided we were going to spend it, his job was to make sure Ohio got its fair share. And boy, did he do a good job.

These are just a handful of examples where my close friend and colleague MIKE DEWINE has made a difference. His legislative accomplishments and his legacy of principled public service have had a deep impact on all of our lives. The Senate will suffer a loss without MIKE. But he will not slip out of the Senate. He will walk out these doors with his head held high because he can feel good about all he has given to the people of Ohio and to the United States of America. He has truly made a difference in their lives.

Married for more than 39 years, MIKE and Fran are parents to 8 children and grandparents to 10. They have been blessed with much happiness and success, and they have carved out many meaningful paths during their life together.

While MIKE will be missed, I am confident that he and Fran will begin something new in this next chapter of their lives. They have both been given so much. I believe that God does have a plan. Sometimes we are not sure about what it is, but God does have a plan.

I am reminded of one of my favorite verses from the Bible, Proverbs chapter 3, verses 5 and 6:

> Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and learn not unto your own understandings. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path.

MIKE will be missed. But I know the Holy Spirit will continue to inspire MIKE and Fran as they embark on a new journey together.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Thune). The Senator from Ohio, Mr. DEWINE, is recognized.

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Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I thank my dear friend—the now junior Senator from Ohio, who in January will become the senior Senator from Ohio—for those very generous and kind comments.

George Voinovich and I first got to know each other in 1989. I will not repeat the story the Senator recounted, but we got together and formed a partnership that has lasted until today. I gave up my run for Governor and joined with George as his Lieutenant Governor candidate. We won and, as they say, the rest is history. George was a great Governor for 8 years. I was his Lieutenant Governor for the first 4 of those years. We worked very closely during that period of time, of course, and after I went to the Senate, when he was still Governor. We have worked even closer since he has been a Senator from Ohio. So I thank him. George Voinovich and Janet are dear friends. They are people whom we care very much about. George is a great public servant, and I appreciate him very much and am touched, frankly, by his very kind comments.

WEDNESDAY, *December 6, 2006*

Mr. REED. Mr. President, this is an opportunity to recognize the service of several of our colleagues who are departing from the Senate. To Senator Jeffords, Senator Frist, Senator DEWINE, Senator Talent, Senator Santorum, Senator Burns, and Senator Allen, let me express my appreciation for their service to their States and their service to the Nation and wish them well. . . .

To all my colleagues who served and conclude their service, let me once again express deep appreciation for their friendship and for their service to the Nation.

I yield the floor.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, we are coming to the end of the session and 10 of our colleagues are retiring. I want to say a word about them . . .

Or MIKE DEWINE, with his 8 children and 10th grandchild, whose heart is nearly as big as he is. He lost a child, and he and Fran have gone to Haiti time after time after time to help people there who need help. . . .

When the most recent class of Senators was sworn into office nearly 2 years ago, in the gallery were three women. One was the grandmother of Barack Obama. She was from

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Kenya. One was the mother of Senator Salazar, a 10th generation American. One was the mother of Mel Martinez, the new Republican National Committee chairman, who, with her husband, put her son on an airplane when he was 14 years old and sent him from Cuba to the United States, not knowing if she would ever see him again.

In a way, each one of us who is here is an accident. None of us knew we would be here. Each of us is privileged to serve, and one of the greatest privileges is to serve with our colleagues. We will miss them and we are grateful for their service.

I yield the floor.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, as the time for my departure from the Senate draws near, on behalf of the greatest blessing in my life, my wife Susan, and on behalf of myself, I thank all of my colleagues for their many courtesies and friendships that have been forged during the past 6 years. I offer a few concluding reflections about our time here together, as well as about the future of our Republic. . . .

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I see others who wish to speak, and I will make a couple of brief comments.

In the comments of the Senator from Virginia [Mr. Allen], his final couple of comments recalled for me a statement made in the closing of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, when on the back of the chair of the presiding officer was a sunburst. Someone opined in that Constitutional Convention: Dr. Franklin, is that a rising sun or is it a setting sun? And Franklin ventured to say that with the birth of the new Nation, with the creation of the new Constitution, that he thought it was a rising sun.

Indeed, it is that hope of which the Senator from Virginia has just spoken that motivates this Senator from Florida to get up and go to work every day, and to look at this Nation's challenges, not as a Democratic problem or a Republican problem, but as an American problem, that needs to be solved in an American way instead of a partisan way.

We have had far too much partisanship over the last several years across this land, and, indeed, in this Chamber itself. And of the Senators who are leaving this Chamber, I think they represent the very best of America, and on occasion have risen in a bipartisan way. It has been this Senator's great privilege to work with these Senators: Allen of Virginia, Burns of Montana, Chafee of Rhode Island, Dayton of Minnesota, DEWINE of Ohio, Frist of Tennessee, Jeffords

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of Vermont, Santorum of Pennsylvania, Sarbanes of Maryland, Talent of Missouri.

As the Good Book in Ecclesiastes says: There is a time to be born and a time to die. There is a time to get up, and a time to go to bed. There is a time for a beginning, and there is a time of ending.

For these Senators who are leaving, it is clearly not an ending. It is an ending of this chapter in their lives, but this Senator from Florida wanted to come and express his appreciation for their public service, to admonish those where admonishment is needed when this Chamber, indeed, this Government, has gotten too partisan, but to express this Senator's appreciation for the quiet moments of friendship and reflection and respect in working together, which is the glue that makes this Government run.

Whether you call it bipartisanship, whether you call it friendship, whether you call it mutual respect, whatever you call it, the way you govern a nation as large and as complicated and as diverse as our Nation is—as the Good Book says: Come, let us reason together—that is what this Senator tries to be about. And that is what this Senator will try to continue to do in the new dawn of a new Congress. So I wanted to come and express my appreciation for those Senators who will not be here, for the great public service they have rendered.

Mr. President, I am truly grateful for their personal friendship and for their public service.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. . . . I also express my best wishes to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle leaving the Senate at the end of this session. I already made mention of Senator MIKE DEWINE of Ohio. So many times over the 10 years that I served in the Senate I walked across the aisle searching for an ally and found MIKE DEWINE. Whether it was a fight to put more efforts into the global AIDS effort to reduce the deaths around the world or an effort to reach out and provide assistance to Haiti, a country which my friend MIKE DEWINE has adopted, time and time again he rose to that challenge. Debt reduction in Africa—so many other issues. His speech today on the floor was just another indication of the kind of compassion that he brought to service in the Senate.

Elections come and go but the record that has been written by my friend Senator MIKE DEWINE will endure. . . .

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I wish all of my colleagues who are retiring well as they begin the next chapters of their careers.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I rise today to bid farewell to several of my friends here in Washington. Too often we get caught up here in the back-and-forth of politics and lose sight of the contributions of those with whom we work every day. It is only at moments such as these, at the end of a cycle, that we have a moment to reflect on the contributions of our colleagues. And while we may not always see eye to eye, this Senate is losing several admirable contributors who have made many sacrifices to serve our democracy. . . .

A number of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will be departing in January, as well. There is our colleague from Virginia, Senator Allen, who wears, in my opinion, the second best pair of boots in the Senate. There is Senator Santorum of Pennsylvania, whose passion is admirable and whose energy is always enviable. Also leaving us is my colleague in the centrist Gang of 14 that helped bring this Senate back from the abyss; Senator DEWINE of Ohio, who will head back to the Buckeye State with my respect and admiration; and my friend Senator Talent from Missouri, with whom I spent many hours in the Agriculture Committee working to level the playing field for America's farmers and ranchers. We will miss Senator Chafee of Rhode Island's independence and his clear voice for fiscal discipline in Washington. And we will miss Senator Burns of Montana, who shares my passion for rural America and who is headed home to Big Sky Country, back to the Rockies that I know we both miss so much. . . .

America, when held to its finest ideals, is more than a place on the globe or a work in progress. It is the inspiration to those around the world and here at home to seek out excellence within themselves and their beliefs. It has been a pleasure to work alongside each of these gentlemen, who have helped me as I have found my way, sometimes literally, through the halls of the Senate, in the pursuit of these greater ideals that we all share: security, prosperity, and an America that we leave better than when we arrived. These ideals will resonate here long after we all are gone and another generation stands in our place making the decisions of its day.

Mr. BYRD. . . . Mr. President, with the conclusion of the 109th Congress, Senator DEWINE will be leaving us.

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I do not want to say farewell to him, but to thank him for being a congenial colleague and an outstanding Senator, a Senator who truly appreciated this Chamber, its traditions, and the way it is supposed to work.

For 12 years, he was an effective Senator, a Senator who built a long, impressive list of legislative accomplishments on a wide range of issues, largely, I believe, because of his willingness to reach out, and to work with Members on this side of the aisle. In a true bipartisan spirit, he worked with my dear friend, Senator Kennedy, to increase Federal regulation of tobacco.

He worked with Senator Dodd for a bill to provide health screening for newborns.

He worked with Senator Paul Wellstone on legislation that revamped job training programs, and with Senator Lautenberg on bills to crack down on drunk drivers.

With Senator Clinton, he promoted legislation to ensure that drug companies do a better job in studying the effects of their products on children.

For nearly a decade, whether in the majority or the minority, Senator DEWINE cooperated with Senator Kohl in running the Antitrust Subcommittee on a bipartisan basis, and in the process, helped provide Americans with cheaper phone service, more choices on television, and direct flights home for the holidays.

He teamed up with my colleague from West Virginia, Senator Rockefeller, in promoting legislation that changed the Government's emphasis in child custody cases from preserving family structure to protecting the best interests of the child.

Indeed, caring for and protecting America's children was a major focus of his tenure in the Senate, and I applaud him for it. His concern for children, among other concerns, led him to successfully push for legislation to improve school bus safety and tougher child pornography laws.

I, of course, know Senator DEWINE best from his service on the Senate Appropriations Committee. He chaired the District of Columbia Appropriations Subcommittee, which I know from personal experience is no easy chore. It is one of the most difficult and thankless tasks in the Senate, and he did it very effectively. One of his objectives in this position was to reform the District's child welfare system—and, again, I know from personal experience, just how difficult and thankless reforming the District's welfare system can be.

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Senator DEWINE worked at it, and had some outstanding successes.

Senator DEWINE and I worked together to enact and defend the Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act, a trade law that returns to injured companies and workers the duties that are collected by Customs on unfairly traded imports. He also supported the enactment of the Emergency Steel Loan Guarantee Program—a program that has kept Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel in business and over 3,000 people employed for decades. It is well recognized that, if the program had not provided Wheeling-Pitt with its loan guarantee, the company would no longer exist.

I will always remember Senator DEWINE as a Senator who took the risk to help preserve the Senate as it was handed down to us by the Framers of our Constitution, and all the great lawmakers who served in this Chamber before us. Senator DEWINE was of the seven Republicans who helped form the so-called Gang of 14 to help block the majority leader's determination to use the "nuclear option" that would have destroyed the U.S. Senate as a unique institution.

I know this effort cost him support from members of his own party, and from folks back home. It reminds me of the words of Senator John F. Kennedy, who wrote:

> If the American people comprehended the terrible pressures which discourage acts of political courage, which drive a Senator to abandon or subdue his conscience, then they might be less critical of those who take the easier road—and more appreciative of those still able to follow the path of courage.

For 12 years Senator DEWINE took the path of political courage.

Mr. President, shortly after coming to this Chamber, Senator DEWINE remarked, "when you go to the Senate, you don't know how long you'll be there. So you want to use your time wisely." In his two terms in the Senate, Senator DEWINE used his time wisely and effectively. As he leaves the Senate, he should take pride in the knowledge that his presence here may well have saved this sacred institution, and from the bottom of my heart, I thank him for it.

I wish him and his wife Fran health, happiness and never-ending success as they begin the next phase of their lives and careers. . . .

Mr. FEINGOLD. . . . Mr. President, I am pleased to pay tribute to Senator MIKE DEWINE, who has served Ohio, and the Senate, with honor and integrity during his 12-year tenure in this body.

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I am pleased to have worked with him on a wide range of issues over the years, including reforming children's health care and Medicaid. We also worked together quite frequently on other issues of importance to this Nation, and he has been a valuable colleague on both the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Senate Select Intelligence Committee. Although we did not see eye to eye on every issue, we found common ground on several initiatives including passing stricter antitrust legislation.

Together with Senator Dick Durbin, we introduced the Clean Diamonds Act, a bill to ensure that the United States is not participating in the conflict diamond trade. This bill would prohibit the importation of diamonds from countries that fail to implement a clearly articulated system of controls on rough diamonds. Senator DEWINE believed in the international community's responsibility to stop the trade in conflict diamonds, and I have been proud to work with him in that effort.

I also want to take a moment to recognize Senator DEWINE's dedication to honoring fallen service members from Ohio. By coming to the floor to pay tribute to those who gave their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan, he has reminded all of us of the tremendous debt we owe these brave men and women in uniform.

I thank him for his leadership and his service to Ohio and our country, and I wish him all the best as he moves on to begin a new chapter in his distinguished career.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Senator from Ohio [Mr. DEWINE] for allowing me to intercede for a few moments. Since he is on the Senate floor and he has been so gracious as to give me this time—I did not come to the floor and will not talk long about Senator DEWINE, but since he is on the Senate floor and gave me the time, I wanted to express to him my grateful appreciation for his service to the Senate, not just the people of Ohio but the people of this great country.

One of the great joys I have had as a Member of the Senate, having been elected 2 years ago, was to serve on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee with Senator DEWINE. One of my great joys I had early on as a Member of this body was to watch him join the Gang of 14 and break the logjams, allowing us to confirm Supreme Court Justices Alito and Roberts. I worked closely with him on the pensions bill. Time and again, I saw his tireless effort

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on behalf of the best interests of this country and in particular always the best interests of the people of Ohio.

To Senator DEWINE, not to pander because of his graciousness in giving me the time but for giving me the unique chance to express that, we are all very grateful.

THURSDAY, *December 7, 2006*

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I have had the privilege of being here for the 28th year beginning shortly. I calculated not long ago that I have served with 261 individuals. I am not about to try and review all of the many magnificent friendships I am privileged to have through these years. Indeed, if one looks at the rewards, of which there are many serving in this historic institution, the Senate, it is the personal bonds, the friendships that we so firmly cement and that will last a lifetime as a consequence of our duties of serving the United States of America and in our respective States.

We are called "United States" Senators. I often believe it is the first obligation, our Nation, the Republic for which it stands. . . .

I would also like to pay tribute to nine other U.S. Senators who will retire from the Senate in the coming days. . . .

Now, I would like to take a few moments to salute our majority leader, Senator Frist, as well as Senators Chafee, Burns, Santorum, DEWINE, Jeffords, Talent, and Dayton. Each and every one of these U.S. Senators has served his State and his country with great distinction.

Without a doubt, I could speak at-length in honor of each of these outstanding individuals. In light of time constraints, however, and the fact that so many of my colleagues wish to similarly pay tribute, I shall endeavor to keep my remarks brief. . . .

Senator MIKE DEWINE has been in public service nearly his entire adult life. He was an assistant prosecuting attorney, he has held various State elected positions, he was a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and most recently, since 1995, he has served the State of Ohio in the U.S. Senate. I am pleased to have served on the HELP Committee with Senator DEWINE where we worked together on various children's health issues. There is not a bigger champion of children's health than Senator DEWINE. Senator DEWINE was also an instrumental member with me on the

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Gang of 14. Throughout his years in the Senate, Senator DEWINE has proven to be a thoughtful, highly respected Member who has always been willing to do what is right. In my view, he is a true statesman. . . .

In conclusion, over the years I have served with each of these 10 Senators, each has not only been a trusted colleague, each has also been my friend. I will miss serving with each of them in the Senate but know that each will continue in public service in some capacity. I wish each and every one of them well in the years ahead.

Mr. President, I see a number of colleagues here anxious to speak, and I have taken generously of the time the Presiding Officer has allowed me to speak.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I say to my neighbor in West Virginia [Mr. Byrd], my friend and my colleague, first of all, that the poem he just recited ["Abou Ben Adhem"] is one that my wife Frances and I learned in the seventh grade in Yellow Springs. The Senator reciting it brings back very good memories, not only of the poem but of being in the seventh grade with my friends.

There will be many things about this Senate that I will miss, and certainly one that I will miss is having the opportunity to sit here and to listen to my colleague from West Virginia as he speaks. It is a great privilege. It is a great thrill.

I must tell him, however, that there is C–SPAN in Cedarville, OH. I suspect the library does get the *Congressional Record* at Cedarville College and other places, so I will have the opportunity to listen to him and read what he has to say. He is a great treasure of this Senate.

I might also tell my colleague, as I told him personally yesterday, that I will carry around with me and keep with me and prize the small Constitution that I know is in his pocket right now that he gave me. I deeply appreciate that. And I know he gave one to the Presiding Officer as well.

One of the first things I did when I came to the Senate in January 1995 was walk across the hall to see Senator Byrd. Senator Byrd was kind enough to give me his "History of the Senate." I have cherished that, have read it. That will be going back with Frances and myself to Ohio. If I do, I say to my colleague from West Virginia, do what I hope to do—do a little teaching at the college level—I am sure those books will certainly come in very handy.

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I thank my colleague for his friendship and for his great service now beginning this January his ninth term in the Senate.

One final note. I will tell my colleague, and I don't know if I have told him this, but my son and my daughter-in-law and our new granddaughter now live in West Virginia, so they are constituents of my colleague.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, will the distinguished Senator yield?

Mr. DEWINE. I am pleased to yield.

Mr. BYRD. I thank this friend of West Virginia, this friend of mine. I shall always remember as long as I live—however long that may be—I shall carry in my heart a very warm feeling for him. He is our neighbor. He represents the people of Ohio, our neighbor to the west of the West Virginia hills. I thank him for his friendship and for his services to his people. His people are my people. I wish him well in the days and years ahead wherever he may serve. May God always bless you, my friend, and may He always keep you in the palm of His hand.

Mr. DEWINE. I thank my colleague for his very generous and kind comments. One final comment to say that it was his great leadership, along with the great leadership of Senator McCain and others, which allowed us—group is the word I would prefer—a group of 14 Senators to make an agreement that I think was in the best interests of the Senate, and it has proved to be in the best interests of the Senate, in regard to our judges and how we confirm them. It has worked so far. My wish for you and my other colleagues as you go on is that you will continue to keep that agreement and it will continue to work. That is my wish.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I thank the able Senator. I shall do my best to help fulfill his confidence and wishes.

Mr. CONRAD. . . . Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute and recognize the accomplishments of a colleague who will be leaving the Senate at the end of this term. Senator MIKE DEWINE has represented Ohio in the Senate for 12 years. During his tenure, he has been an important advocate for the interests of the Buckeye State.

Senator DEWINE will be remembered for his work on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and particu1arly his success as chairman of the Subcommittee on

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Retirement Security and Aging. He was a vital and constructive member of the conference committee on the Pension Protection Act, and he illustrated what can be accomplished when you are willing to work across party lines on a common goal.

I have also admired Senator DEWINE's commitment to our Nation's children and his efforts to stop teen drug and alcohol abuse, as well as crack down on tobacco companies' marketing of their products to children and teens. With unfailing courage, he took on those in his own party and other special interests to protect our kids from harmful tobacco products.

In addition, I believe he has set a good example for all of us in the Senate in how to honor those from our States who have fallen in service to our Nation. With deep admiration, I have listened to Senator DEWINE come to the floor and speak about the lives and families of Ohio service men and women who have died in Iraq and other fields of battle. It is clear that he understands and deeply respects the sacrifices made by our troops and their families.

Mr. President, for these and many other reasons, I have been honored to serve with MIKE DEWINE. I would like to join my colleagues in wishing the Senator and his family the best in the future and in paying tribute to his contributions to the Senate and our Nation. I wish him well.

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I rise today to bid farewell to one of our esteemed colleagues, MIKE DEWINE of Ohio. It has been my special joy and privilege to work closely with Senator DEWINE for the last decade. Since 1997, we have led the Antitrust Subcommittee, each taking our turns as chairman and ranking member. Thanks to MIKE's honesty, candor, and cooperative nature, we have forged a productive bipartisan partnership as we have worked to promote competition in many vital sectors of our Nation's economy.

This productive, bipartisan working relationship has been a hallmark of Senator DEWINE's leadership of the Antitrust Subcommittee since he assumed the chairmanship of the committee in 1997. From the beginning, he reached out to me and established our tradition of setting our agenda jointly, planning our hearings together, and even sponsoring legislation and writing letters to the administration jointly. We tackled together such thorny issues as encouraging competition in telecommunications, health care, the oil and gas, and airline industries, investigating dozens of important mergers ranging from AOL/Time Warner to AT&T/Bell South, and pursuing antitrust reform legislation. While we have not al-

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ways agreed on every issue that came before our subcommittee although I am happy to say we agreed more often than not—MIKE DEWINE and I always agreed that we should put partisanship aside and accomplishing practical results for the American people first.

On a personal note, our close working relationship has caused me to come to know MIKE DEWINE very well. I have come to learn that MIKE is a sober-minded, hard-working, and caring person. In my career, I have been privileged to know and work with a few distinguished Members of this Chamber whom I can truly call statesmen, leaders, and friends. MIKE DEWINE is one of them. He will be missed.

Mrs. CLINTON. . . . Finally, I also wish the very best to my Republican colleagues who will leave the Senate at the conclusion of this Congress. The Senate, at its best, is a body that promotes bipartisanship, deliberation, and cooperation, and the dedication to shared values. It has been a privilege to work with my departing colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

FRIDAY, *December 8, 2006*

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I have a few more minutes before the 10:30 vote, and I take this time to say a few words about some of my colleagues who are retiring. We had a good bit of time yesterday devoted to their tremendous contributions, and as each of us, the 100 of us, do know each other pretty well, I have come to the floor to say a few things about several of the colleagues I have had the distinct pleasure of working with very closely. . . .

Mr. President, I wish to speak about Senator DEWINE, my distinguished colleague from Ohio, a good friend, and a man whom I have worked very closely with in our capacity as appropriators. Also, we share a passion for the child welfare system in this Nation, trying to improve it—of course, promoting adoption, the notion that there is no such thing as unwanted children, just unfound families.

I could not but come to the floor and say that MIKE DEWINE is literally one of the most compassionate men I have ever known. That compassion is obvious to anyone who works closely with him day in and day out. It is not fake. It is very real. And the spiritual depths of which he and his wife Fran and their children live their faith—not just talk

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about it, not just use it as a shield to protect them, but as a way to serve others—is quite extraordinary.

This Senator has seen that in him and his work, side by side with him. I want my other colleagues to know that if it were not for Senator MIKE DEWINE, the District of Columbia would not have their family court, the country would not have the stable families legislation he and Senator Rockefeller pushed through this Chamber at a time when not that many people understood the consequence of a foster care system in disrepair and what happens to children when they get stuck in a system that does not appreciate their dignity or respect their right to a family.

Senator DEWINE, a family man himself, most certainly understands that and pushed that legislation through, and dozens of other pieces of legislation that I had the privilege to help him with, and to assist him with, and to watch him lead on. So I am certainly going to miss his leadership. But I will commit to him my focus on Haiti. I will never be able to fill his shoes or do the work he has done, but several of us intend to continue his work with Haiti, the poorest nation on the Earth, and continue his great passion, as much as we can, in our time here in the Senate. . . .

To all of our retiring Members, I say thank you. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of my State when you were needed and thank you for your service to America.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, before Senator DEWINE leaves the floor, he was speaking of a loss [Ohio soldiers killed in Iraq] that he and his family and others are mourning, I presume in Ohio, where I spent a number of years as an undergraduate at Ohio State University. I would associate myself with his remarks in extending our sympathies from Delaware. We received some devastating news of our own in Delaware a day or two ago with the news that Army SGT Keith Fiscus had been killed in action in Iraq at the age of 26. Our hearts go out to him. I will be talking more about him later.

There is a loss that we mourn as well, not the loss of a life here in the Senate, but the loss of Senator DEWINE who will be returning to Ohio and to other challenges in the days ahead. Senator DEWINE and I were elected to the House of Representatives in 1982. We came here together with people such as John McCain, Tom Ridge, John Kasich, Harry Reid, Barbara Boxer, Dick Durbin, and John Spratt, a remarkable freshman class in the House of Representatives. It was the year we elected a lot of Democrats and not nearly as many

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Republicans. Somehow, then, Congressman DEWINE managed to swim against the tide and to be elected against those odds in Ohio.

He served as a Congressman of distinction, later as the State's Lieutenant Governor where he trained with George Voinovich, who served as Governor, and then to be elected to the Senate. It was my privilege to serve with him in the House of Representatives and it has been a privilege to serve with him in the Senate.

On a personal level, I will miss him. I want to say how much it has been a privilege to serve with my friend from Ohio, who has a good mind and a good heart, wonderful family, and is deeply devoted to them and the people of Ohio, whom we both revere.

Mr. DEWINE. If the Senator will yield.

Mr. CARPER. I do.

Mr. DEWINE. I thank my colleague, who has pointed out to my colleagues in the Senate that he and I came here together in the election of 1982 and came to the House in 1983. We have been dear friends ever since. I will miss working with him. He is someone who I believe exemplifies what this institution is all about, and that is getting things done, working in a bipartisan way, making a difference. He has done that and will continue to do that.

I wish him well.

Mr. CARPER. I appreciate very much those words and the chance to be a friend of Senator MIKE DEWINE.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I also will say a word about a couple of my colleagues who are leaving, and I will be brief. . . .

MIKE DEWINE and I served together on the Judiciary Committee. We came together to the Senate at the same time and I will certainly miss MIKE's friendship as well. . . .

I know we all move on at some time and that none of us is irreplaceable. But by the same token, these colleagues of ours who will be leaving will be missed and they will be remembered for their great service to the Senate, to their States, and to the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I know the hour is late and we have other speeches to give, but I wanted to comment briefly to my friend from Ohio. Senator DEWINE and I came to the

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House of Representatives together in 1982. We have careers that are similar. He served as Lieutenant Governor for the State of Ohio, I served as Lieutenant Governor of the State of Nevada. He served as a Member of the House of Representatives. I served as a Member of the House of Representatives. He and I served as Senators. Our backgrounds are also the same in that we are trial lawyers. I have heard Senator DEWINE speak on a number of occasions about his days of being a prosecutor.

I also want the record to reflect that I approach my brief remarks here tonight keeping in mind our days as trial lawyers, where you could go into a courtroom representing your client, whether it be the State or an individual, a corporation or an individual, and you would give that client your very best, as would your opponent. But when that trial was over, you shook hands and went on about your business.

I have also had the same experience as MIKE DEWINE. I have lost a statewide election, and I know that is not pleasant. But I want MIKE to know that I admire and respect the work he has done. His wife has been so thoughtful and kind to my wife. We all witnessed these speeches that he has given. Many more people have died in Iraq and Afghanistan from Ohio than Nevada because it is such a heavily populated State, and MIKE's tenacity in directing his attention to each of those families is something that will always be remembered here in the Senate.

MIKE, I want you to know that I want us to have the same relationship as you leave the Senate as if we were trying a case, and one won the case and one lost. We would walk out and shake hands. That is how I feel about you, someone who has been with me and I with you for 25 years, as Members of Congress and doing other things; we certainly have a relationship. I am happy to call MIKE DEWINE my friend.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, from time to time over the last 12 years, new Senators have come up to me as they have come to the body and asked the question: How do you do this job? And I usually have responded: Well, what do you want to be? Do you want to run for President? Do you want to be on the Sunday shows? Do you want to pass legislation? A surprising number of them have said they came here to pass legislation, important legislation for America that would make a difference. To every single one who said that, I said: Watch MIKE DEWINE. Go study MIKE DEWINE. The most prodigious, the most effective, the most extraordinary legislator in my time here in the Senate. Quiet, effective, a

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consensus builder. You see by those who are on the floor here tonight that he has friends on both sides of the aisle whom he has worked with, cultivated, and built the kind of relationships that make a Senator effective.

So I would say to my good friend, the senior Senator from Ohio, he is a Senator's Senator, the perfect Senator, the master of the art of making a difference. Farewell.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I join in the chorus of praise and thanks to my friend—and I mean that; the word is thrown around here—MIKE DEWINE. We came to this job together. My very first memory of MIKE and Fran DEWINE was when we were both wearing tuxedos and Fran and Loretta were in evening gowns, and we were at our first dinner at the White House with President Ronald Reagan as Congressmen-elect. The year was 1982. My wife brought her little handbag, and Fran brought even more to that White House dinner, that formal dinner that evening. She brought a basket and in that basket was her brand-new baby who came with her to the White House dinner. It was the first time I ever met MIKE and Fran. I still have vivid memories of that moment. I think it was a little daughter in the basket, if I am not mistaken, who might be up there. She was on her best behavior then, as she is now.

Another memory I have is when MIKE DEWINE asked me to join him on a trip to Haiti. I saw a side of my colleague from the Senate which many of us have not seen. Fran came along on the trip with bags full of sporting equipment and toys and clothes and food, everything they could jam into this small airplane to bring over to give to some of the poorest kids in the world. We went to the Cité du Soleil, the poorest section of Port-au-Prince. If you haven't seen that poverty, you haven't seen poverty. It is as bad as it gets. We worked our way back to a little cinderblock school, the Becky DeWine School, named after MIKE and Fran's late daughter. I watched MIKE as he walked through that school and sat down with these little kids, and each one of them poured out to him the love and respect and thanks for all that he had done to provide this basic little school for them.

That wasn't the end of the day, for sure. We were then off to an orphanage where we were trying to help a nun, if I am not mistaken, with a building full of squalling babies, trying to get a little help so she could take care of them. Then he took me on a famous road trip where he wanted to show me one of the rural projects. It knocked out almost all the fill-

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ings in my teeth, it was such a wonderful road, and we had one of these glorious CODELs that you read about, bouncing around in a vehicle to go out and visit people who are at the lowest ranks of poverty in the world, with babies with red hair from their anemia and malnutrition and vitamin deficiencies. That is where MIKE and Fran DEWINE spent their time away from the Senate. They left a lasting impression and a legacy there. I am happy we are going to try to continue that legacy even tonight, I hope, or tomorrow as we bring this session to an adjournment.

Time and again, when I was up trying to find a vote, desperately trying to find a vote for global AIDS, for many other causes, I would look across the aisle and hope MIKE DEWINE was sitting right where he is sitting now, because I knew if I could get over there, I had a chance. Every time I would sit down with him, MIKE would say: This is going to be tough. He used to always like to say: I am going to have to pray on this, which meant it was going to have to be a pretty tough political sell for him and for his colleagues. He never let me down. More important, he never let down some of the poorest people on Earth. He came through every single time.

MIKE, you have got the heart of gold that we all dream about. I have lost a few elections in my time. It is a sad moment. But as you reflect on your public career and how much good you have done for so many people, your name and your legacy will live on. I am honored to count you as a friend.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, my heart is full as I think of MIKE DEWINE and his service here in the Senate. I didn't know MIKE when I first came here. I didn't know anything about his visits, I think 13 or 14, to Haiti, his concern for the poor. He seems to have always been motivated by a moral compass which never wavered from those who needed him, and who weren't getting help from others. It is ironic in the best sense that he and I have cooperated on so many pieces of legislation that had to do with children and families and adoption and all kinds of things. It is ironic because in a sense he followed the father, Mr. President, of our Presiding Officer, in that role. You go to MIKE's office, MIKE would come to this Senator's office, legislation would appear, it would pass—and almost invariably get very little attention. That was not the purpose or the interest of the Senator from Ohio. He wanted to do good.

I think of his interest in children and I think that is a moral compass. If you have that in life and you are not going to let go of that in life, then that fixes you, as the Senator

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from Illinois indicated, in the legacy of the Senate. I also think that his interest in Haiti says more about him than words can possibly measure. What drives a man and his wife to go to that country where most of us have never been? Most of us have the image of it that the Senator from Illinois described but know not of it directly by experience. Vacations, free times, are valuable to Senators and their families. Yet the Senator from Ohio took his time and went to Haiti, year after year, and fought for their problems and said not a word to anybody. I found out about it not from the Senator from Ohio but from somebody completely different. I found out more about it and then deepened my knowledge and my respect for the Senator from Ohio.

Finally, I want to say I have the privilege of serving with him on the Intelligence Committee. The Intelligence Committee is serious business. The Senator from Ohio rose to the peaks of discretion and determination, simply trying to find the truth. He wasn't out to get anybody, to punish anybody, to embarrass anybody. He wanted to get the facts and then from that make his decisions through his votes.

National security on the one hand, children and all of their problems—not just education but children with all of the most complex problems of what happens when you get to be 18 and you have 3 years to get to be 21. The father of the Presiding Officer and I worked on that. Virtually every problem that can afflict children, unattended by most politicians, was taken to heart by the Senator from Ohio who had the advantage of many years of being a prosecutor.

I look upon the Senator from Ohio as absolutely extraordinary, as the majority leader indicated. He is an extraordinary Senator, an extraordinarily fine person, a friend in whom I could put complete and absolute trust, who only was here to do his work for the people and causes he cared about—most of all Ohio but then special groups probably unknown except to his conscience.

I wish you well, sir.

I yield the floor.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I want to say something about my departing colleagues on the other side of the aisle. . . .

And the departing Senator from Ohio, Senator DEWINE, said some very kind things about his work with me. I, too, want to comment that working with the Senator when moving important legislation in the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was an outstanding opportunity,

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again, of bipartisanship. MIKE DEWINE and Barbara Mikulski passed the Older Americans Act twice when it previously had not passed or been reauthorized in 5 years. We did work so constructively with the Committee on Finance in terms of the recent pension bill.

Again, we worked on many projects related to national security together.

I thank Senator DEWINE not only for his kind words but, again, his ongoing efforts, always with the tone of utmost collegiality when he worked with me, and his staff. . . .

A lot is said about changing the tone, but when we hit the right tone we also hit some pretty high notes. I thank my colleagues and wish them well and Godspeed until we meet again.

Mr. DODD. . . . Mr. President, today I pay tribute to my departing colleagues who have, for a time, lent their talents, their convictions, and their hard work to this distinguished body. I may have had my disagreements with them, but the end of a term is a time for seeing colleagues not simply as politicians, but as partners who have "toiled, and wrought, and thought with me." Each, in his own way, was distinctive; and each, in his own way, will be sorely missed. . . .

I also want to say farewell to Senator MIKE DEWINE. Senator DEWINE, a former prosecutor, has had a distinguished career in Ohio politics. He represented his district for four terms in the House of Representatives, and he served as Ohio's Lieutenant Governor for 4 years, beginning in 1991. MIKE DEWINE was elected to the Senate as part of the famous Republican class of 1994 and served for a total of 12 years. I have had few more valuable partners on the other side of the aisle.

Senator DEWINE and I have been strong opponents of underage drinking, a social malady that, in the last year for which we have data, led directly to 3,500 deaths, 2 million injuries, and 1,200 babies born with fetal alcohol syndrome, not to mention $53 billion in social costs. The STOP Underage Drinking Act, which I cosponsored with Senator DEWINE, would fund a comprehensive Federal campaign of research, prevention grants, and media messages aimed to keep children and young adults alcohol-free. I am proud to stand with Senator DEWINE on such a critically important issue.

And I am just as proud to have his support on a whole slew of health initiatives, especially for infants and children. Because States' variable screening standards leave many

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newborns at risk for treatable disorders, we have worked together to standardize screening across the Nation so that all newborns have an equal promise of health, no matter where they are born. Senator DEWINE and I have also worked together for safer pediatric medical devices. But above all, Senator DEWINE worked with me to secure passage of the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act. That legislation provides incentives for the drug industry that have dramatically increased the number of drugs tested and labeled for children; as a result, more than 100 drug labels have been changed to incorporate new pediatric information.

It has been a pleasure to serve and work with Senator DEWINE. I have always admired his ability to put principle before party, and I am thankful for all of his help, and most importantly, for his friendship. I wish him and his wife Frances much happiness in the future.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, as this session draws to a close, I must take this opportunity to make a few comments on the outstanding record left behind by our colleague from Ohio, Senator MIKE DEWINE.

I have worked closely with Senator DEWINE ever since he came to the Senate. I sit with him on three committees: the Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary Committee, where he chaired the Antitrust Subcommittee; and on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, where he chairs the Retirement Security and Aging Subcommittee.

I consider MIKE to be a Senator's Senator—he is a man who truly represents his constituents, who studies the issues, works hard, and does his very, very best to do what is right. His departure from the Senate is a great loss to this body and a great loss to Ohio.

The DeWine legacy is considerable.

One of the major focuses of his work, which I admire greatly, is the protection of children. Senator DEWINE has sponsored numerous pieces of legislation aimed at protecting children and enabling prosecution of those who perpetrate acts against children. These include the Protecting Children Against Crime Act of 2003, which became law as part of the PROTECT Act, the National Child Protection Amendments Act of 2000, the Child Abuse Prevention and Enforcement Act of 1999, and the Protection Against Sexual Predators Act of 1998. It is significant to note that Senator DEWINE is a founding member and cochair of the Senate Caucus on Missing, Exploited and Runaway Children.

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The Senator's work to protect children extends beyond legal issues. He is the author and true leader in the Senate of legislation to protect children from the horrors of tobacco abuse by giving the Food and Drug Administration the authority to regulate it. He has also taken a leadership role in efforts to stop underage teen drinking by sponsoring the Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act. The STOP Act has a good chance of becoming law this year.

But the centerpiece of MIKE DEWINE's prochild agenda is his work to incentivize pharmaceutical company testing of drugs used on children. MIKE DEWINE showed this whole body the safety risks children face when they take prescription medications never studied in the pediatric population. I can just hear MIKE saying now, "Children are not little adults." And he is right.

He worked across the aisle and across the Capitol to get the Pediatric Research Equity Act of 2003 enacted. This was no easy task. It took grit and determination. He fought big PhRMA. He did it for the kids. And he won. I am only sorry he will not be here next year as we work to reauthorize it.

In his years as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senator DEWINE emerged as a leader in the area of antitrust law and competition policy. Both as the chairman and the ranking Republican member of the Antitrust Subcommittee, MIKE has played an invaluable role in each significant legislative change to the antitrust laws enacted in the past decade.

In addition to his legislative achievements in antitrust law, Senator DEWINE has become known for the subcommittee's active oversight of the antitrust enforcement activities of the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission. During the subcommittee's consideration of numerous individual mergers, his thoughtful analysis and even-handed approach earned him considerable respect in the antitrust community as a tough, but eminently fair, advocate of both consumer interests and strong competition.

Earlier this year at the American Antitrust Institute's annual conference, where he and Senator Kohl received an achievement award for their many contributions to antitrust law, Senator DEWINE commented that:

> It's always difficult to find that fine line between aggressive, healthy competition and destructive or anticompetitive behavior, but it's our job on the Antitrust Subcommittee to keep trying, and to promote the type of competition that helps everyone.

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From my perspective, Senator DEWINE not only tried but succeeded admirably in drawing this very difficult line in a careful and appropriately balanced way. His expertise, institutional knowledge, and thoughtful analysis will be sorely missed.

Also of note in discussing Senator DEWINE's work on the Judiciary Committee are his anticrime efforts. MIKE has been a real leader on issues such as the 1998 law, the Crime Identification Technology Act, which increased funding for State and local law enforcement by $1.25 billion. His work in anticrime technology continued in 2004, when the Senate adopted his amendment to the intelligence reform bill that would upgrade the Federal Bureau of Investigation's computer networks. That bill was signed into law on December 17, 2004.

MIKE has either sponsored or cosponsored a number of bills to help law enforcement protect Ohio communities, including the local law enforcement block grant program, the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act, the Rape Kits and DNA Evidence Backlog Elimination Act of 2003, and the Video Voyeurism Prevention Act of 2004.

MIKE DEWINE's work to protect Ohioans extended into the compelling field of mental illness treatment as well. In fact, Senator DEWINE is known throughout the country for his work related to the treatment of mental health in the criminal justice system, including bills such as the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act and America's Law Enforcement and Mental Health Project.

Another DEWINE contribution is the Poison Control Center Enhancement and Awareness Act, a significant contribution to public health which established a national toll-free poison control hotline and provided substantial assistance to local poison control centers.

Finally and more recently, Senator DEWINE authored a bill to protect children's eyes by restricting their access to potentially damaging cosmetic contact lenses.

Our new leader, Senator McConnell, said this of Senator DEWINE, and I could not have said it better:

> I have never observed a more skillful legislator than he during my time in the Senate . . . You know he is a formidable force who, when he has made up his mind about an issue, never lets go. Many bills that have cleared the Senate in the ten years the Senator from Ohio has been here have the fingerprints of MIKE DEWINE. He is truly an extraordinary legislator.

I echo those sentiments.

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MIKE DEWINE has been an outstanding Member of our body, a good friend to me, and a superb representative for his constituents. He and his staff work hard and their work has yielded incredible benefits for the American people. It is with great pride that I commend his achievements to this body, and I thank MIKE for all he has done to make the U.S. Senate a more effective and accomplished body. I will miss him, as a legislator, as a colleague, and as a friend. . . .

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to our colleague from Ohio, Senator MIKE DEWINE. Senator DEWINE is a truly decent, thoughtful individual with a deep concern for children and a refreshing willingness to reach across the aisle. He has been a solid partner on several of the issues common to our two States and the region.

In particular, it has been a pleasure to work with Senator DEWINE on issues affecting the Great Lakes, which are critical for our States' economies and for our environment. Since 1999, he and I have served as cochairs of the Great Lakes Task Force and have shared a commitment to protecting and restoring these national treasures. We have fought to protect the lakes from invasive species, to improve water quality, to create a long-term restoration plan, and to expand public access to the lakes.

Senator DEWINE's service here has also been characterized by his commitment to children and children's health, and he has been willing to work in a bipartisan way to make progress. He has worked with Senators Dodd and Jack Reed to prevent teen suicides and with Senator Clinton to ensure that drugs given to children are safe for them. He has sponsored a bill with Senator Kennedy to allow the Food and Drug Administration to regulate tobacco. As the chair of the District of Columbia Appropriations Subcommittee, he has also worked to reform the child welfare system in DC.

In addition to his bipartisan approach, Senator DEWINE has also shown a willingness to take politically difficult positions when he believes they are the right thing to do. Last year, for example, he joined a bipartisan group of 14 senators who worked to forge a compromise on judicial nominations and to save the Senate from the so-called nuclear option. That step helped to diffuse a tense situation and to protect the Senate as an institution.

I have great respect for MIKE DEWINE's integrity, his commitment to his State, and his willingness to seek progress

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over partisanship. I wish him and his wife Fran well in their future endeavors.

Mr. ENZI. . . . As each congressional session draws to a close, we work as hard as we can to try to tie up all the loose ends and finish as much of the pending legislation as we possibly can. As we do, we also take a moment to say goodbye to some of our colleagues who won't be with us during the next Congress to share with us their insights, wisdom and creativity.

As the chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, I know I will miss MIKE DEWINE when the committee meets to begin its schedule of activities next year. MIKE has always been a particularly hard-working member of the committee and I know my colleagues on the committee and I will miss his perspective and his tireless commitment and his dedication to the issues affecting children and families.

Working with MIKE has been a pleasure. We have a great deal in common—beginning with our mutual enjoyment of the old-fashioned ice cream social back home. It is a tradition for both of our families and our political lives because it is a great way to get everyone together to talk about current events while enjoying everyone's favorite dessert.

No one ever said that politics was an easy career to follow and, true to form, MIKE has had a number of hurdles placed before him that took some doing for him to overcome.

He began his career of public service as a county prosecutor. He took a tough stand against crime and people noticed. Then he was elected to the Ohio Senate. That led to a run for a seat in the Congress. He faced a tough primary fight, but wound up at the top of a field of six candidates. Then, when the general election was held, he was elected to serve the people of his district in the House of Representatives.

In the years to follow, MIKE had some more tough battles. He didn't always win, but he never quit. That spirit of dedication and commitment of his helped him to win a seat in the Senate, representing the people of Ohio he had been fighting for over the years. His election gave MIKE a new forum from which to promote his principles, and he soon proved himself to be a champion for children and family values. As bill after bill came to the Senate floor for our consideration, MIKE always gave it a close look to see if there was something that needed to be added to increase the protections available to our Nation's children.

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MIKE understands well that our children are our most important resource. If we don't help our Nation's families do a good job of raising their children, nothing else we do, no matter how well we do it, will matter much in the long run.

Some people might be surprised to learn how well MIKE has used his time to work with Members on both sides of the aisle. To MIKE it was just common sense. You never know how long you will be a Member of the Senate, he would say, so it makes sense to use your time wisely.

As the chairman of the Senate HELP Committee I can attest to the fact that he has used his time wisely. He has been a great addition to the committee because he is an expert on children's issues and issues affecting older Americans. I have watched him carefully work on a number of bills dealing with a wide variety of topics. He always comes to our meetings well prepared, fully focused, and committed to making a difference for the people of Ohio and the rest of the Nation.

MIKE is very much a people person, and he and his wife Fran have made regular trips to Haiti to work with the poorest of the poor. I have often heard it said that God must love the poor because he made so many of them. Fortunately, God also made people like MIKE DEWINE to plead their case for them in Washington and work with them around the world in an effort to make their lives better.

The ice cream social I mentioned earlier has become an annual tradition and Fran and the friends she recruits are now famous for their hospitality as they put on what must be the world's biggest pie and ice cream social.

That is just part of the full schedule MIKE and his family maintain every year here, in Ohio and around the world taking on the causes he and Fran hold dear. If you want to know what kind of a year MIKE has had, take a look at his Christmas card. If you do, you will see an amazing collage of pictures of his family and all that has taken place in their lives over the past 12 months. It serves to emphasize his great belief in the importance of family and family activities. It is a value Diana and I and so many of our colleagues share.

In the years to come, whenever I think of MIKE DEWINE, I know I will think of those Christmas cards, which I hope to be still receiving, and of the smiles and happiness reflected on each face in the pictures on that card. They tell me that MIKE and Fran DEWINE have learned one of life's most important lessons. Fame and fortune are all too often fleeting and evasive things in life. In the end, and every day,

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the most important part of our lives has to do with the strength of our faith, the bonds that tie our families together, and the friendships we develop along the way that help us to fully appreciate and enjoy all that life has to offer.

MIKE DEWINE is truly blessed to have a family which has shown themselves to be role models on all three of those special values. I know I will miss him, but, I also know I won't forget him and Fran. . . .

Ms. SNOWE. . . . Mr. President, I rise today to express my gratitude to Senator MIKE DEWINE, whose desire to do good has remained his abiding purpose and life-long contribution to the people of Ohio, the U.S. Senate, and his country. The moniker of "bodyguard of the poor"—which he has been dubbed by many in his State—speaks volumes about Senator DEWINE's tireless dedication to enriching and helping others and about his earnest efforts to defend the defenseless and protect those in need.

With a career in public service spanning more than 30 years, Senator MIKE DEWINE has more than earned his reputation as hard-working, honest, compassionate, and results-oriented. I first got to know MIKE when he entered the House of Representatives the same year as my husband Jock. I am proud to say we served together in both the U.S. House and Senate. In the 99th and 101st Congresses, we both served on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. And in the U.S. Senate, we were colleagues on the Select Committee on Intelligence, where issues of national security and safety have been more paramount than ever. America is most fortunate to have had his thoughtful, considered approach on that committee and on so many other issues. Jock and I have treasured our long-standing friendship with MIKE and Fran DEWINE, and we have enormous respect for MIKE's passion and depth of commitment.

Indeed, he is a serious and deliberative legislative craftsman who sought to effectively represent his State and reach across the aisle in the true spirit of the institution. At no point in time was this more evident than during last year's debate over judicial nominations when MIKE—a dedicated member of the Senate Judiciary Committee—joined with me and a dozen of our colleagues to form the Gang of 14. His courage and leadership helped broker a compromise that preserved the principles and traditions of this great institution. His loss diminishes the Senate at a time when we need more like MIKE DEWINE—leaders committed to solutions over sound-bites. I will deeply miss seeing MIKE in the Sen-

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ate—for he was always a reminder of the finest ideals of public service.

Indeed, MIKE DEWINE has represented well the principles and pride of America's heartland. As the son of parents who ran a small agricultural business, he learned the value of diligence and perseverance working in the fields and in the mill.

He has exemplified that unwavering commitment throughout his career in public service, whether as a prosecutor, U.S. Representative, Governor, or U.S. Senator and whether advocating for children, promoting humanitarian relief, aiding law enforcement, protecting our natural resources, spurring job growth, increasing national security through intelligence improvements, or working to secure balanced budgets. And he has led many of these efforts through his active and thorough committee work on Appropriations; Judiciary; Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; and Intelligence.

Above all else, I believe MIKE DEWINE's essential sense of humanity, and the personal compass that guided him in all he did in the Senate, was exemplified by his final minutes on the Senate floor—which he devoted to speaking of the soldiers of Ohio who had fallen in service to our Nation in Iraq. That Senator DEWINE sought assurance he would have this opportunity to honor the troops before the end of the session is a testament to the compassionate heart of an exceptional man.

For all of his dedicated service to the people of Ohio and to this country, undoubtedly, MIKE DEWINE's most cherished achievement is his marriage of 39 years to his wife Fran, their 8 children, and 10 grandchildren. I wish them—and MIKE DEWINE—all the best. . . .

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute to the Republican Members of the Senate who will not be returning in the 110th Congress. Senators George Allen; Conrad Burns; Lincoln Chafee; MIKE DEWINE; Dr. Bill Frist; Rick Santorum; and Jim Talent have served their constituents with honor and distinction during their tenure here in the U.S. Senate. All care very deeply for this great Nation and I hope they will have continued success in their future endeavors. . . .

Majority leader Bill Frist has run the Senate through difficult and trying times and he has done it well. Senator MIKE DEWINE, my neighbor to the north, has represented the Buckeye State with great distinction and has committed over 30 years of his life to public service. Senator George

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Allen represented the Commonwealth of Virginia in the U.S. Senate for 6 years, and he worked closely with me to make America safer by helping usher through important legislation to arm cargo pilots. Senator Jim Talent has had a great career in Congress and wrote the blueprint to the welfare reform bill of 1996. And Senator Lincoln Chafee has continued the proud legacy set forth by his father and my friend, Senator John Chafee.

Mr. President, I would like to again commend all of our departing Republican Senators. I am proud of what they accomplished here in the U.S. Senate. They will all be missed, and I wish all of them the very best.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. . . . Mr. President, MIKE DEWINE has spent more than three decades in service to his State and the Nation.

Senator DEWINE has maintained a reputation of integrity throughout his service as a State senator, Lieutenant Governor, four-term Congressman, and U.S. Senator. He has built a record of service on making our Nation and the world a better place for future generations.

A father of 8 and grandfather of 10, Senator DEWINE is a devoted family man.

He is a champion of children's causes, always focusing on protecting their welfare and safety.

Senator DEWINE has often reached across party lines to vote with his heart for issues in which he believes.

His hard work and devotion will be missed by the people of Ohio, whom I know are grateful for his years of service. . . .

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—TRIBUTES TO RETIRING SENATORS

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the tributes to retiring Senators be printed as a Senate document and that Senators be permitted to submit tributes until December 27, 2006.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WEDNESDAY, *December 27, 2006*

Mr. STEVENS. . . . Mr. President, I will always remember Senator MIKE DEWINE for his commitment to his family.

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MIKE pursued his own conscience until the end of his tenure in this Chamber. That conscience led MIKE DEWINE to be a staunch defender for the people of Haiti.

In a time of constant conversation about the importance of family values and community standards, MIKE has led by example. As a member of a large family, the father of 8, and grandfather of 10, I admire MIKE's ability to balance the needs of his family with the demands of his position in the Senate.

The senior Senator from Ohio has also devoted much of his time and energy to causes often overlooked. Senator DEWINE's tireless work for the people of Haiti demonstrated his commitment. I believe his commitment to those who need a defender and protector should be commended. . . .

MONDAY, *January 8, 2007*

Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, it is an honor indeed to pay tribute to a number of fine individuals who I am fortunate to call not just my colleagues, but also dear friends: Senators Bill Frist, George Allen, Conrad Burns, Lincoln Chafee, MIKE DEWINE, Rick Santorum and Jim Talent. . . .

Among the Senate's most effective legislators, Senator MIKE DEWINE of Ohio will use his many talents and expertise to tackle new endeavors. MIKE's career is truly an American success story. As a boy, he learned the values of hard work and perseverance in the fields and the mill of his family's small agricultural business in Yellow Springs, OH. It is those principles that have guided him throughout a stellar career in public service, in which he has served as prosecutor, an Ohio State senator, a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and a Lieutenant Governor.

As a Senator, MIKE made his mark in a number of policy areas. He was a strong proponent of education and children's health care. In particular, he advocated for children's hospitals because he understands that these hospitals are important centers for pediatric research.

During more than a decade of service on the Senate Intelligence Committee, MIKE worked doggedly to investigate intelligence failures and revamp our intelligence community. As the chairman of the Retirement Security and Aging Subcommittee of the HELP Committee, he focused his efforts on modernizing our Nation's pension system. And as the first Ohio Senator in six decades to serve on the Appropriations

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Committee, MIKE was committed to ensuring that our Nation's first responders have the resources they need. On the Judiciary Committee, MIKE took the lead on a number of antiterror and anticrime initiatives, such as the PATRIOT Act, as well as proposals to curb drunk driving, to help keep all Americans safe.

Perhaps what I admire most about MIKE is that this terrific father of 8, and grandfather of 10, always puts his family first. As a public servant, MIKE has used his positions to contribute to the greater good, and he has brilliantly served the people of Ohio throughout his career. May God bless MIKE DEWINE, his wife Fran, and their family for many, many years to come. . . .

As these men—Bill Frist, George Allen, Conrad Burns, Lincoln Chafee, MIKE DEWINE, Rick Santorum and Jim Talent—conclude their service in the U.S. Senate, let me say that I am so proud to have worked with individuals of such character, strength, and intellect. Our Nation is grateful for their many contributions. And as they each will undoubtedly continue to contribute to our country's greatness, their leadership and vision will be missed here in the U.S. Senate.

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