

# RETIREMENT OF RABBI JACK ROSOFF

• Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate an esteemed New Jerseyan, Rabbi Jack M. Rosoff, on the occasion of his retirement after 34 years of service at Congregations B'nai Israel in Rumson, New Jersey.

I really got to know Rabbi Rosoff when he organized a community-wide response to acts of vandalism committed against B'nai Israel and the neighboring Catholic church in Rumson. I spoke at the rally that Rabbi Rosoff put together condemning the desecration, and was very moved by his dedication to fighting bigotry.

Rabbi Rosoff's accomplishments during his tenure at B'nai Israel, for which he has just been elevated to Rabbi Emeritus status, are almost too numerous to mention. He has multiplied the membership of his congregation by hundreds and provided Sunday school opportunities for over 300 students. He developed the Israel Scholarship Program there, enabling all students in their junior year to spend six weeks in Israel.

Beyond those achievements, Jack has been a counselor and friend to the members of his synagogue. He has rejoiced with them in times of happiness and has been a comfort in times of grief.

Rabbi Rosoff has served on the boards of various organizations in Monmouth County, including Riverview Hospital, the Mental Health Association, the Day Care Center, the Clergy Advisory Council of the local Planned Parenthood, as well as being the founding member of the Greater Red Bank Interfaith Council.

Rabbi Rosoff should be honored by all of us not only for his 34 years of service to B'nai Israel, but for his community-wide leadership and civic involvement. I am pleased to congratulate him again on his retirement, and wish him well in this next chapter of his life. •

## ISRAEL'S 50TH BIRTHDAY

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, on Thursday, April 30, 1998, the St. Louis Jewish Community will be celebrating Israel's 50th Birthday. My home State of Missouri is especially excited for the event since President Harry S. Truman played a large role in the formation of the State of Israel.

The 50th anniversary is very significant because it marks the reestablishment of Jewish Sovereignty in the ancient Jewish homeland, the reasserting of Jewish peoplehood after the devastation of the Holocaust, the fulfillment of the Zionist vision, the blossoming of Jewish creativity and community. The Jewish Federation of St. Louis is the central planning and fundraising agency of the St. Louis Jewish Community. This outstanding organization has coordinated the St. Louis Israel 50th anniversary celebration congregation.

I congratulate the State of Israel and the Jewish community for 50 years of

democracy. Additionally, I commend the Jewish Federation of St. Louis for its leadership during this exciting time. I wish them continued success in future years of Statehood. •

## NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST 1998 TRANSCRIPT

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I had the privilege of chairing the 46th Annual National Prayer Breakfast held here in Washington, D.C., on February 5, 1998. This annual gathering in our Nation's Capital is hosted by Members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives weekly prayer breakfast groups.

Once again, we were honored by the attendance and participation of the President and the First Lady, as well as the Vice President and Mrs. Gore. Our colleague, Senator CONNIE MACK, inspired and encouraged us with his remarks, and we were challenged by the prayer offered by Dr. Billy Graham.

This year we welcomed over 3,600 individuals from all walks of life, and from all 50 states and U.S. territories and many countries around the world. So that all may benefit from this special gathering, I request that the text of the program and a transcript of the 1998 proceedings be printed in the RECORD.

I understand that the Government Printing Office estimates that it will cost approximately \$1,426 to print this transcript in the RECORD.

The material follows:

### NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

Chairman: The Honorable Daniel K. Akaka  
Pre-Breakfast Prayer  
Mr. Robert L. Parker, Businessman, Oklahoma  
Opening Prayer  
General Hugh Shelton, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

### BREAKFAST

Welcome  
The Honorable Daniel K. Akaka, U.S. Senate, Hawaii  
Remarks—Senate and House Breakfast Groups

The Honorable Bobby Scott, U.S. House of Representatives, Virginia  
Old Testament Reading  
The Honorable Don Gevirtz, Former Ambassador to Fiji

Duet  
Randy and Gae Hongo  
New Testament Reading  
Dr. Dorothy I. Height, National Council of Negro Women

Prayer for National Leaders  
The Vice President of the United States  
Message

The Honorable Connie Mack, U.S. Senate, Florida

### THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Closing Song  
The Honorable Daniel K. Akaka, Randy and Gae Hongo (all join in)

Closing Prayer  
Dr. Billy Graham  
[Audience, please remain in place until the President, Mrs. Clinton and other Heads of State have departed]

ROBERT PARKER. May we ask you now to join us in prayer? Please join us in prayer, if you will.

Lord, as we gather together for the beginning of this new day, we pause now to listen to you. Thank you for being with us now, and thank you for being in this room. Your presence gives us hope and encouragement. Whenever we gather in your name, there is excitement. Help us capture that excitement today, to the betterment of the lives of us all.

We all need your help. We all need your guidance. Give us the wisdom to be more like you in all that we do. And we especially thank you for sharing your servant, Billy Graham, with us. He represents you well, helps all of us be better followers. Thank you for listening. Thank you for showing the way. And thank you for the many blessings you have bestowed upon us. In your name we pray, Amen.

ANNOUNCER. Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the First Lady of the United States, and Mrs. Gore. (Applause.)

Senator AKAKA. Will you all be seated, please. Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Dan Akaka. I'm the convener of the United States Senate Breakfast Group and chairman of the National Prayer Breakfast. I want to say welcome to all of you here this morning.

On behalf of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, I welcome you to the 46th annual National Prayer Breakfast. We're happy to have you here on this special day. Robert Parker presented the pre-breakfast prayer this morning, and we are happy to have you here. At this time, General Hugh Shelton, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will offer the opening prayer. General?

Gen. HUGH SHELTON. Let us pray.  
O Lord, our strength and our redeemer, we come together today to pray for strength and guidance in a difficult and challenging world. Though we have come far, we have so far to go to realize your plan here on Earth. Lord, we ask your help and guidance for all those who have been chosen to lead our people all over the world. And grant that we may follow with humble and willing hearts to do the work that must be done to preserve the blessings of peace and to share the gifts that you have given us. May those chosen to lead, lead with wisdom and compassion, not in pursuit of wealth and power, but guided by your righteous word and walking in your upright ways.

Today we pray for your blessings on all our men and women in uniform, at home and abroad. Keep them safe as they keep the peace. And keep them strong to carry the burdens that must be borne in a troubled world. And Father, though we are of many faiths, we have but one prayer, and that is to share your peace with people everywhere. May you stretch your loving hands over friend and foe alike and bring us together in the spirit of truth so that in our time we may know your peace.

Now we pray that you would bless this food to the nourishment of our bodies and our help to thy service. These things we ask in your name. Amen.

Senator AKAKA. Thank you very much, General Shelton. You honor us very much with your presence here at this prayer breakfast.

Please enjoy your breakfast. Our program will resume in a few minutes. [Breakfast.]

Senator AKAKA. Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. It is a wonderful privilege for me to welcome all of you this morning to the National Prayer Breakfast. I particularly want to greet our international guests who represent over 160 nations. And everyone attending the prayer breakfast for the first time, I say again, welcome. (Applause.)

This morning we gather almost 4,000 strong from all 50 states, commonwealths and the U.S. territories and nations around the world to reaffirm our faith, seek spiritual support for our President and leaders in our country, and share fellowship and friendship with one another.

We are honored to have the President and First Lady and the Vice President and Mrs. Gore as our guests. In attendance we also have members of the Senate and the House, officials from the President's Cabinet and leaders of our armed forces, responsible student leaders and leaders from all facets of society throughout the United States.

We're also pleased to welcome the President of Albania, former heads of state, cabinet ministers, parliamentarians, members of the diplomatic corps, educators and business, labor and religious leaders from around the world.

Permit me to introduce the people sitting at the head table. And I'll do it quickly from my left to my right. Randy and Gae Hongo; General Hugh Shelton and Mrs. Carolyn Shelton; Dr. Dorothy Height; Mrs. Marilyn Gevirtz; Ambassador Don Gevirtz. (Laughter.) In a timely fashion to the Vice President and Mrs. Gore. (Laughter.) Congressman BOBBY SCOTT; the President and First Lady; my better half, Millie; Senator CONNIE MACK and Priscilla Mack; Dr. Billy Graham; Mrs. Catherine Parker and Mr. Robert Parker. (Applause.)

As chairman, I want to express my deepest appreciation to all participants this morning for sharing your faith with us. Looking upon this august and joyful assembly, I see the universality of the prayer breakfast, the coming together of people of different nations, faiths and cultures, and the power of love and consideration for one another.

I am reminded of the passage from Psalm 33, verse 12: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chose for his inheritance. From heaven, the Lord looks down and sees all mankind. From his dwelling place, he watches all who live on Earth. He forms the hearts of all and considers all their works."

God's love for all of us is everlasting, for all men and women from all nations. This perfect love fills our hearths, prepares us for the challenges we face each day and opens our minds to God's wisdom. As we seek to love God and one another, let the spirit of this prayer breakfast enrich us, strengthen us and lead us on life's journey, where we are never alone.

It is my privilege at this time to introduce to you the honorable BOBBY SCOTT, Congressman from Virginia, who is leader of the House Prayer Breakfast Group. He will speak to us on behalf of the House and the Senate Prayer Groups. Bobby?

Representative BOBBY SCOTT. Thank you, Senator. Mr. President and Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Vice President and Mrs. Gore, other dais guests, ladies and gentlemen, I'm delighted to join my congressional colleagues from the House and the Senate Prayer Breakfast Groups in bringing you another welcome to the 1998 National Prayer Breakfast. This is our 46th year of coming together to commemorate the value of prayer in both our personal lives and our work on behalf of the people of this nation.

We are joined by national leaders of business, labor, government, religion and other walks of life throughout the United States and over 16 of countries around the world. Members from the U.S. Senate first met for prayer and divine guidance during World War II. The House organized a weekly prayer group shortly thereafter. And both groups have continued the practice of weekly prayer breakfasts, meeting for breakfast, prayer and fellowship.

Since those first meetings in the face of a great national crisis, the need for a prayer group and the benefit of fellowship and prayer have been recognized in Congress. From the beginning of the prayer breakfast groups in both chambers, members of all faiths have come together to hear testimonials of faith and challenge and to seek guidance and strength from each other.

What we discuss and exchange in those meetings stays in those meetings. So members are free to share with each other, and we do. The weekly prayer breakfast provides members with one hour during the week in which we can relax without the presence of the media and without regard to partisan political affiliation. And so I can assure you that it is one hour that many of us look forward to each week.

As an example of the typical weekly prayer breakfast in the House, we begin with Scripture and a prayer and a report on member's faith and challenges, such as illness, or illness or death within their family, so that we can offer our prayers and support to that member. We also sing a hymn or, as more accurately can be described, we make a joyful noise. (Laughter.) And at each breakfast, one member is invited to speak for 15 minutes to share a personal challenge, reflection or faith experience with the group.

The weekly Senate and House prayer breakfasts have met separately since their inception. However, in 1953 both groups decided to combine forces and hold the first National Prayer Breakfast. President Dwight D. Eisenhower attended that first National Prayer Breakfast, and every President since has attended each year's breakfast.

President Clinton and Vice President Gore—(applause)—President Clinton and Vice President Gore have continued that unblemished record through their presence here today, reflecting their recognition of the value of prayer in our professional and personal lives. So I know I speak for all of my colleagues in both chambers when I say that we are delighted to host this 46th National Prayer Breakfast. You strengthen us and uplift us with your presence.

So, again, welcome. And may God bless you. Thank you. (Applause.)

Senator AKAKA. We will now hear an Old Testament reading from the Honorable Don Gevirtz, an outstanding businessman from California and our former United States Ambassador to the Republic of Fiji, the Kingdom of Tonga, the Republic of Nauru and the Republic of Tuvalu.

Ambassador DON GEVIRTZ. Thank you, and good morning. Mr. President, my exboss, Mr. Vice President, distinguished guests. What is an ex-U.S. Ambassador born into the Jewish faith doing at an event like this? (Laughter.) Appreciating the power of interfaith brotherhood and fellowship inspired by the National Prayer Breakfast movement.

At the core of my philosophy are the two words I want on my tombstone. They are, "He grew." Although my readings this morning are from the Old Testament, I would like to borrow for just a moment from the rich tradition of Luke, chapter 2, verse 52, in the New Testament, because of its clear statement about human potential. "Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."

I think that this is God's wish for all of his children. Proverbs in the Old Testament clearly identifies the characteristic a person must have to grow to realize his human potential. Proverbs, chapter 20, verse 5, points out that "The purposes of a man's heart are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out." Additionally, verse 15 says, "Gold there is, rubies in abundance, but lips that speak knowledge are a rare jewel."

Proverbs, chapter 18, verse 15, suggests that "The heart of the discerning gains in knowledge. The ear of the wise men searches for knowledge." And Proverbs, chapter 28, has important lessons of growth. Verse 14 says, "Happy is the man who is never without fear. He who hardens his heart will fall into distress." And verse 22 says, "He chases after wealth the man of greedy eye, not knowing that want is overtaking him." And finally, verse 1 says, "The wicked man flees when no one is after him. The virtuous man is bold as a lion."

The Bible has much wisdom for that person whose objective is growth. Samson had great credentials, but in Judges, chapter 16, verse 20, he learns that the Lord has left him. Consequently, he was remembered only for what he might have been. I want to be remembered for realizing my full potential, for earning those words on my tombstone, "He grew."

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

Senator AKAKA. Renowned inspirational signers Randy and Gae Hongo have traveled all the way from Honolulu to be with us this morning. They are joined this morning by their son Andrew, who came here from Yale University to sing as a family. The Hongo family will offer us a musical reflection, of their own arrangement, the phrase, "Ua mau ke 'ea 'o ka 'ania 'I ka pono," which translates from Hawaiian into "The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness." It was first uttered in thanksgiving by King Kamehameha III. It is now the motto of the state of Hawaii. Its insight holds true today. The Hongo family.

[Song.]

Senator AKAKA. Thank you very much. Randy, Gae and Andrew. It is now my pleasure and great honor to introduce to you Dr. Dorothy Height, President of the National Council of Negro Women and a true national treasure, who will read from the New Testament.

DOROTHY HEIGHT. Mr. President, Mr. Vice President, distinguished guests and friends. Our New Testament reading is from Matthew, the 25th chapter, the 34th to the 45th verse. It answers the question that all of us ask ourselves every day as we try to be truthful, to be faithful, to serve our God. It answers the question that we have with each other, whatever our differences: What is our obligation? What must be our commitment?

"Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my father. Take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison or go to visit you?' The king will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these, my brothers of mine, you did for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fires prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink. I was a stranger and you did not invite me in. I needed clothes and you did not clothe me. I was sick and in prison, and you did not look after me.' They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing

clothes or sick or in prison, and we did not help you? And he will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'"

[The reading of his word. (Applause.)]

Senator AKAKA. Thank you, Dr. Height. The Vice President and I entered Congress together as members of the class of 1976. As a Congressman and Senator, he faithfully participated in both the House and Senate breakfast groups. Today we are honored to have him offer the prayer for our national leaders. So it is with pleasure that I welcome the pride of class of '76—(laughter)—and an esteemed friend, the Vice President of the United States, Albert Gore, Jr. (Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT GORE. Thank you very much. I'm glad to be introduced by the pride of the class of '76. Thank you very much, and to Mrs. Akaka, to the President and First Lady, to Congressman Scott and to Senator and Mrs. Mack, to Dr. Graham and all the members of the clergy who are present, members of the cabinet, Speaker Gingrich and members of the House and Senate who are present.

It is, of course, humbling to join with so many people of all faiths to rededicate ourselves to God's purposes and to reaffirm the ultimate purpose of our lives, to glorify the creator and to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, with all our souls and with all our minds, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

I believe God has a plan for the United States of America and has since our founding. Our mission has always been to advance the cause of liberty and to prove that religious, political and economic freedom are the natural birthright of all men and women and that freedom unlocks a higher fraction of the human potential than any other way of organizing human society.

And I believe that God has given the people of our nation not only a chance, but a mission to prove to men and women in all nations that people of different racial and ethnic backgrounds, of all faiths and creeds, can not only work and live together but can enrich and ennoble both themselves and our common purpose and to prove, in the words of Jesus, "that they all may be one, as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee."

Yet too often we lose sight of our common purpose and seek to make our public discourse one of meanness and not of meaning, one of bitterness and invective, not of faith and love. James Madison, one of our founders, wrote, "A zeal for different opinions concerning religion, concerning government, an attachment to different leaders ambitiously contending for preeminence and power, have in turn divided mankind into parties, inflamed them with mutual animosity, and rendered them much more disposed to vex and oppress each other than to cooperate for their common good."

We've seen those animosities unleashed by the whole continuum of human difference—differences of parties, opinion and faction, differences of nationality, religion, language and gender; and the most visible and therefore most persistent differences of all, those of race and ethnicity.

Overcoming those differences, fulfilling the mission that is ours in human history, must be achieved "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, sayeth the Lord of hosts." It requires a dedication to faith and trust in God.

And so, speaking for my own faith in Jesus Christ but acknowledging and respecting all of the faiths represented here, I offer this prayer for our nation and its leaders and ask you to join with me.

God, who through thy saints and prophets has spoken to us in days of old, speak to us again in this hour. Teach us to be peace-

makers and agents of reconciliation. Show us how to live out your commitment to the poor and to the oppressed. Inspire us to overcome the fears that have long bound us to small visions and tiny dreams. Save us from the differences that can obscure our common purpose and serve as an excuse and trigger for the unleashing of the evil that lies coiled in the human soul.

Help us to overcome evil with good. Deliver us from the wanton selfishness that would make us rich in things but poor in spirit. Grant us wisdom and courage for the living of these days. We pray for all who are given the responsibility to lead our nation and the other nations of this world. Help all of these leaders to seek out your will and give to all of them the strength to live in your way in our world. In your name we pray. Amen. (Applause.)

Senator AKAKA. Thank you very much, Mr. Vice President. It gives me great pleasure to introduce our featured speaker this morning. Senator Connie Mack is a source of inspiration and strength in our Senate Prayer Breakfast Group. As our planning committee discussed whom to invite to address the breakfast, our focus turned inward. Connie has a wonderful message, and we are so grateful that he agreed to share it with us this morning. I give you my friend, the honorable Connie Mack. (Applause.)

Senator MACK. Mr. President, Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Vice President, Mrs. Gore, ladies and gentlemen of the head table and guests from throughout our land and from across the globe. This is a distinct honor for me and true privilege to have the opportunity to speak with you this morning.

There are several people that I would like to introduce before I begin my remarks, and in a sense it is an expression of the love and affection that I have for my family. I am one of eight children. Three of my brothers are here this morning: My brother Dennis, my brother Andy and my brother John. I am not quite sure where they're seated. (Applause.) All together.

I have an older sister who is a Catholic nun who could not be with us today. And John is a trained Baptist minister. (Laughter.) So I think you can get the feel that there have been some interesting discussions—(laughter)—about religion in our lives.

As I thought about what I would share with you this morning, I decided, rather than to give some speech on politics and government, that I would share with you my own personal quest for a deeper understanding of the teachings of Jesus Christ.

When I use the word "share," this is something, frankly, that is pretty new to me. And when Danny called me and asked me if I would do it, frankly, there was no choice other than to say yes. But I must say to you, I felt a sense of terror go through my being. I'm an individual who has held my spiritual beliefs, my religious feelings and training, inside. I was not a person who shared those thoughts and ideas with anyone else, to the point that—and I see Don Nickles out there somewhere this morning—I can remember saying to Don before one of our policy committee lunches, when he asked me if I would give the blessing, I said, "Don, I would rather not."

And I don't know whether the men in the audience have had the experience of thinking about asking their wives to pray with them. We were having a discussion, a few of us in our Bible study and prayer breakfast, about prayer and about our prayer together, and I said to them, "Isn't it strange? I find it difficult to say to my wife Priscilla—we've been married now 37 years—for some reason there was an incredible sense of vulnerability that kept me from turning to her and say, 'Would you be willing to pray with me?'" I am

pleased to say that I did ask her, and we do pray together.

Again, I don't know whether you have shared the same feelings that I have had, but there have been many times in my life where I sensed that there was a void, that there was a part of me that I wasn't dealing with, that there was a part of me that I did not understand. But there is also a part of me that said I want to get in touch with that part of me.

And it is the prayer breakfasts and the Bible study group that helps me deal with that void, if you will. I was struggling really to have a deeper understanding of the word "love." What does love really mean? Who is in control of my life? Like I suspect most of us in this room, and maybe especially at the head table, we have steadfastly tried to stay in control of our lives throughout our entire lives. What is the meaning of God's will? How do you know what God's will is?

I want to touch on those points as I go through my remarks. But I also want to recognize—I mentioned Don Nickles a moment ago, and another colleague of mine in the Senate, Dan Coats, who never lost faith in me. No matter how many times they would ask and I would refuse to join them in Bible study or the prayer breakfast, they never gave up. "Connie," they said, "you would love this. This is exactly what you need." And finally, one day I said yes.

And it's because of Dan and Don and Danny and others like them who kind of guided me along the path to a deeper understanding that I can honestly say to you today that on October the 26th, 1995, my life began anew. And I want to tell you about that, a very special meeting of Bible study. And again, a couple of our members, Dan Coats and I were engaged in a very focused discussion. Interestingly enough, today I cannot remember what the discussion was about. But I sure know it was focused. (Laughter.)

One of the thoughts that occurred to me as our meeting was starting was, as I looked around the room to see who was there, Danny Akaka had not come yet. And Danny Akaka is a person who I have gotten to know and to love and deeply appreciate as a result of our experiences today at both prayer breakfasts and Bible study. And Danny wasn't there, and I kept thinking, "I hope he comes today. I hope he comes today." Again, mind you, now, this focused discussion that was taking place.

As it ended, seated right next to Dan Coats was Danny Akaka. And I was kind of stunned that you were there. I didn't know how you had gotten into the room. And I was expressing to him my sense of love and appreciation that he was with us.

Lloyd Ogilvie at that time, I think sensing something special, said to us, "Is there anyone here this morning who would like to deepen his commitment to Jesus Christ?" The immediate thought that went through my mind was, "It ain't me, buster." (Laughter.) I mean, that's it. "It ain't me, buster." Lloyd said I'm now going to be remembered as the guy that said, "It ain't me, buster." (Laughter.)

But as soon as that thought went through my mind, no sooner had it gotten out of mind, I said, "I want you to pray for me." And I had no idea what was going to happen after that. Lloyd asked me to move my chair to the center of the room, and all of my colleagues gathered around me, placed their hands on my shoulders and prayed for me.

It is difficult and, frankly, impossible to explain to you the emotion that I felt at that moment. But the one thing I do recall is, contrary to what you might think, there was a sense of something flowing out of me. And later, when I thought through what that experience was, I know what it was. It was that

desire of keeping control of my life, that I was the one that was in charge. I was willing to give up that control. And on that day, October the 26th, 1995, I know that that control went out of my life and I began the process, began the process, of turning my life over to God.

After that very moving experience, Priscilla and I had the opportunity to be in Vermont on vacation. And I had gone out to go skiing that morning. And I got to the foot of the mountain that was in Vermont. It was -10 degrees. The wind was blowing 15, 20 knots. And I say, "I've got to be crazy out here skiing." I went back home. I picked up a book that Lloyd Ogilvie had written called "The Greatest Counselor in the World," a book about the Holy Spirit.

And later that day there was a sense of restlessness in me, and I decided to go for a walk. And I put on some snow shoes. Now, being from Florida, I had not had that experience before. (Laughter.) And I walked out into the forest, along the sides of the mountain, by myself. As far as I could see, there was nothing but the beauty and cleanness of the white snow. The only sounds that I heard were the sounds of nature. The trees—I never heard this before, but the trees actually rubbing against each other as there was a breeze that made its way through the forest.

I made my way down into a ravine, and there was a small stream that was making its way; a few spots where the water could be seen around the ice, and the sounds of that stream bubbling up. And I stopped there, wanting to get on my knees and to pray. But I must say to you, I was terrified about getting on my knees with those snow shoes. And with the snow, I didn't think I could get back up. (Laughter.)

So I stood there, and I literally raised my hands to the heavens and prayed that the Holy Spirit would fill me. There was a rustling of the wind. I'm not trying to hold out any kind of mystery, but there was a rustling of the wind that gave me a sense that, in fact, I was being filled with the Holy Spirit. And as I look back on those days, I now recognize that the fruits of the Holy Spirit have become part of my day—love, peace, joy, patience, goodness, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control. They are part of my day because that's God's will.

I remember not long after that that Priscilla and I had the opportunity to be at the movies. And the movie was over and I turned to her and I said, "I am filled with a sense of joy." What was rather startling about that was that later I said to Priscilla, "Do you know that that's the first time in over 17 years that I have truly had a sense of joy?"

My brother Michael had died of cancer in 1979. And for all those years, I carried around in me the gloom of his death. But I recognized, at the moment that I turned to Priscilla and said, "I feel a sense of joy," that the gloom had been lifted and God's love had replaced it.

I want to now share a couple of experiences with you to show you how my life has been changed as a result of this. Some of you in the Senate may remember a fellow by the name of Butch. He was a bus boy in the Senate dining room. I got to know Butch over the years as I would come in and have breakfast, and he would bring me a paper and we would chat for a few minutes.

One day I was having lunch with some of my colleagues in the Senate dining room, and one of the waitresses came up to me and handed me a note and said that Butch was seriously ill. Well, I put the note in my pocket. And as I left the Senate dining room, I stopped and talked with the waitress and she once again said that Butch was seriously ill. And I could sense she was saying—she had given me the note that said he was at, I be-

lieve, Southeast Greater Hospital here in Washington. I could tell she was really saying to me, "Can't you go see Butch?" And like I'm sure most of my colleagues, my initial reaction was one of "Where am I going to find the time?"

Well, again, the note's in my pocket. I went home. The following morning I looked at my schedule. There was a gap in my schedule. And I thought, "Well, maybe I ought to just go see Butch." So I went over to the hospital. I went up to Butch's room. A nurse was there giving him a shot. And I looked at Butch, his eyes wide open, almost transfixed on the television set. And within a few seconds, it became obvious to me that Butch was about to die.

It was just the two of us. I had asked the nurse how he was doing as I walked in, and she said, "He was fine yesterday. His family came from Chicago. They had a great time together." But clearly things had changed. And again, it was just Butch and myself. And I thought, "I cannot leave him here alone, to die alone." And I walked over to the side of the bed. I took Butch's hand, held it, rubbed his arms, and tried to comfort him in the sense of saying, "It's all right. You're at peace now. You'll be joining your God and your creator." And Butch died just a few moments after that.

The nurse came back in the room. She called one of, I believe, his aunts. His aunt actually was already on her way. She walked in within a few minutes. I explained to her that Butch had just died. I hugged her, embraced her, and again told her that he died in peace and he died in the hands of his God and creator.

As you can imagine, as I made my way back to the Senate and back to the dining room so I could tell his colleagues on the staff of the dining room that Butch had died, as you can imagine, I was asking myself several questions. How did you get there that day? Why were you there at that moment? What was it that you were supposed to learn from that experience?

And what I learned from the experience is something that's all too obvious, but sometimes we have a tendency to forget, and that is that in God's eyes, as it should be in our eyes, that all of us are equal. It makes no difference whether you're a United States Senator or whether you're a bus boy in the United States Senate. (Applause.)

Another experience that happened to me was again an acquaintance of mine, and frankly, an acquaintance of many people in this room, Tom Korologos. Tom's wife Joy passed away as the result of melanoma, the same kind of cancer that killed my brother in 1979. I picked up the phone and I called Tom and gave my condolences and expressed my concern and my love for him.

I ended up going to Joy's funeral service. And again, I had maybe met Joy once. And as I was sitting in the church waiting for the service to begin, I was again asking myself—again, to the members of the House and Senate, and clearly the President and the Vice President, understand this incredible demand on us for our time. And it's almost a natural thing to kind of ask every place we go, "Why are we here?"

And so as I'm, waiting for this service to begin, I'm asking those same kind of questions. Why am I here? Well, once the service began and the family began to express their deep convictions to their Lord and maker, it was pretty obvious to me why I was there. I wrote down some notes that morning during the service of some feelings that went through my mind, and I want to share from the notes that I made that morning. So they may not be grammatically correct, so bear with me. I'm going to read them exactly as I wrote them.

"Was there because I have replaced the love of self with the love for others. Being at the funeral service for Joy Korologos also allowed me to recognize that doing God's will is not the pursuit of the grand, but rather one day at a time, one moment at a time, pursuing God's will; that if I allow God to guide me one step at a time, I will eventually get to where he wants me to be in my life. And if I truly believe, if I truly believe this and follow that belief throughout each day, I will be free. I will be at peace; the ultimate freedom, to be free of worldly desires."

I also learned that this moment was a life-changing moment. As I said above, pursue God's will one step at a time and not worry or even wonder where it may lead me. This is a radical departure for me from my previous life—management by objectives, goal-setting, state a goal, a target, an objective, and then pursue it. Now for me it is "Help me, dear God, to do what is right, what is in your will at this moment, and then my life will take care of itself."

To me, this was a great revelation. Two points that I would want to build on here for just a moment; that doing God's will is not the pursuit of the grand. I don't know about you, but as I have thought about trying to understand God's will, I always had this idea that there was some huge event in the future that I was called on to participate in, always trying to figure out what it was; never could do it.

And now I understand that if each day I will pursue God's will—and I think you're beginning to understand why I said a moment ago that when Danny called me and asked me if I would be willing to give this address this morning, I had no choice but to do it, because on that day my sense was it was God's will that I speak this morning. So, again, I try to live each day now attentive, attentive to the needs of others, attentive to the needs of my colleagues in the Senate, trying to make sure that I am not so busy that I don't hear their cries for help.

I'd like to close my thoughts here this morning with another personal experience. And I want to use 1 Corinthians, chapter 13, verse 13, which I suspect that many of you are familiar with. I have used 1 Corinthians 13 at both weddings and at funerals, because in essence it is all about life. "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three. But the greatest of these is love."

And I don't know about you, but I've always kind of wondered what makes love the greatest of those three. And I will try to explain in just a couple of minutes at least what my understanding of that Bible reading is.

Both my mother and father died during these past 20 months or so. In a conversation in Bible study, as I was expressing my concerns about having a deeper understanding of love and trying to understand my relationship with my God and maker, it was said to me that sometimes it's helpful to think about your loving relationship with your father here on Earth. It may give you some insight into your loving relationship with your God.

Well, as would, I think, be natural when you see your parents heading towards the last moments of their life, it's fairly easy to get into a discussion about what love is all about. And I found out one of the things that there's a big difference between the love between a mother and her son and a father and his son. My mother loved me unconditionally. It made no matter what I did. She was there to comfort me, to love me, to protect me.

But with my father, frankly, it was different. And I didn't understand what that relationship was. Was the relationship one

that was based on a need for reward? Was I looking for respect? What portion of it was fear? And as I watched my father over the last 20 years or so and recognized that he did over 17,000 hours of volunteer time at the local hospitals, and I heard people talk about seeing my father helping them being wheeled down to surgery or to the X-ray, I sensed that there was a strong sense of love that my father had expressed during those years.

And I finally understood the significance of the meaning of love and why love is so important, because frankly love is a collection of all the graces that God has given us in which we express in action, that we act in behalf of or on behalf of those less fortunate than us, those who at the moment need our assistance. And so for all those years I saw this outpouring of love from my mother and father and I understood then why I love my father and why I loved my Father in heaven, and it is very simple. It is because they so deeply loved me.

Thank you. Have a great day. (Applause.)

Senator AKAKA. Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege and high honor to introduce the President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton. Welcome, Mr. President. (Applause.)

President CLINTON. Thank you very much. Thank you very much to my good friend and sometimes golfing partner, Senator Akaka, to all the members of Congress here, Reverend Graham, other head table guests and ladies and gentlemen.

For five years now, Hillary and I have looked forward to this day. For me it's a day in which I can be with other people of faith and pray and ask for your prayers, both as President and as just another child of God. I have done it for five years, and I do so again today.

At each of these breakfasts, from our shared experiences and our prayers, God's grace always seems to come, bringing strength and wisdom and peace. Today I come more than anything else to say thank you. First, thank you, Connie Mack, for your wonderful message and the power of your example. I also thank all of you here for many things in the last five years and ask your help in helping us to work together to make our nation better, and the work that God has sent me to do and you to do.

I thank you for helping me to strike blows for religious liberty—with the work so many of you in this room have done to help us to protect the rights of federal employees, to follow their faith at work, our students in school. In particular, I want to thank Reverend Don Argue, the former President of the National Association of Evangelicals and Rabbi Arthur Schneier and the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Newark, Theodore McCarrick, who next week will go to China to look into religious practices there and to begin a dialogue there in hopes that a part of our relationship with China will be about our concern for the kind of religious liberty we have practiced here this morning. (Applause.)

I thank so many of you in the community of faith who have worked with the government in partnership to help move poor families from welfare, from welfare to work, to honor the Scripture that our friend Dorothy Height read today. And I ask more of you to join in. I thank those of you who have been responsible for working with me—and I see Senator Grassley out there and Harris Wofford is here—to bring communities of faith into the circle of national service.

We now have 5,000 young Americans working with religious organizations earning the Americorps scholarship to go to college with after they serve with their community of faith wherever they live in America. And the Congress has provided for many more posi-

tions, and I ask you to help us to enlist more young Americans to give meaning to their lives, to live out their faith, and to help make our country a better place.

I thank you for the prayers, the letters, the scriptural instruction that I have gotten from so many of you and many others around this country in recent weeks and indeed in the last five years. And I ask that they continue.

Finally, I couldn't help thinking when Connie Mack was talking that what we all need very much is to take what we feel when we're here every year and keep it close with us when we leave here every year—day in and day out, week in and week out, in good times and bad. And I ask for your help in that.

We have a difficult decision we are facing now, as a country and our administration, because of the concern all Americans have that we not expose our children, if we can help it, to the dangers of chemical and biological warfare. And last night I came across a scripture verse that a friend of mine sent me in the last 72 hours that I had not had the chance to read—a prayer of King Solomon that I ask you to keep in mind as we face this decision. Solomon said in I Kings, "I am only a little child, and I do not know how to carry out my duties. Your servant is here among people you have chosen—a great people—too numerous to count or number. So you give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong, for who is able to govern this great people of yours."

I also ask for your prayers as we work together to continue to take our country to higher ground and to remember the admonition to Micah, which I try to repeat to myself on a very regular basis. I ask your prayers that I and we might act justly and love mercy and walk humbly with our God. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

Sen. AKAKA. Thank you very much, Mr. President, for that wonderful message of gratitude and prayer. Thank you for sharing your wisdom and inspiration. And thank you for making the time to join us this morning. And I want you to know that we are praying for you.

To offer the benediction, I'm thrilled to welcome back to the National Prayer Breakfast a man whose presence inspires all of us to good and whose wisdom brings us comfort and hope, Dr. Billy Graham. We love you, Dr. Graham. (Applause.)

Dr. GRAHAM. Thank you very much. And as far as I'm concerned, I give all the glory and praise to God. (Applause.) It's been my privilege to be at many of these prayer breakfasts, I suppose more than any other person. (Laughter.) In fact, they told me that when I was interviewed by Senator Sam Nunn the other day about the history of the prayer breakfast, that they thought I was the oldest person that had attended the prayer breakfast for so long. And I suppose that's right. And they couldn't find any others that had been to so many, and so they asked me if I would be interviewed for the Archives—(laughter)—and the history of the prayer breakfast. (Laughter.)

But I don't know when I've been so moved at a prayer breakfast as this one. I feel the Holy Spirit is bringing us together and speaking to us. (Applause.) Not only different religious backgrounds, but different political backgrounds. And here I see members of all parties smiling, listening to the Word of God, listening to this magnificent word on the love of God and the love that he can put in our hearts.

And when the President spoke, I could not help but think of the various times that I've had the privilege of being with him alone to talk, read the Bible and pray. And I know

that he's sincere in what he had to say. And to Vice President Gore and to all of you that are here, many of you, I look at you and I think back to times we've been together in years past, in your state, in your town. I'm an evangelist. I travel from place to place and preach the gospel. And it's the same gospel I started with. The human heart is the same. The gospel is the same. It never changes, that God loves you no matter who you are. (Applause.)

So I'm going to ask that we have this closing prayer together.

Our Father and our God, as we come to the close of another National Prayer Breakfast, we pause to give you thanks for the opportunity we have had to come apart from our daily tasks and turn our minds and our hearts to you. Give us a holy dissatisfaction with anything less than your perfect will that we heard expressed a few moments ago.

Help us to see ourselves as we truly are in your sight, as men and women who are subject to the temptations of pride and power and flesh and who need your forgiveness and your strength. Help us remember that you teach us that we're all sinners and everyone who is in this place needs repentance and forgiveness, including me.

May we all come to the cross. And by your grace, help us to turn to you for the forgiveness and mercy we need. We thank you for the promise of the Bible, that if we truly confess our sins that you're faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

As we leave this place, help us to find in you the strength we need to live as we should. Give us motives that are pure, lips that are honest, lives that are blameless, and hearts that are filled with compassion and love.

We pray for the millions of the hungry and poor in our world and for the thousands even in our own land and for all who are oppressed, that we will not be deaf to their cries. We pray today especially for President and Mrs. Clinton, for Vice President and Mrs. Gore, for the Cabinet, for members of the Supreme Court, for the Congress and all others to whom you have given responsibility in our land, and for their families who many times have to bear the burden of responsibility.

Give them strength and courage, integrity and wisdom, as they face the complex problems of our nation and our world. And, O Lord, we pray that we will be faithful in praying that if it be thy will that thou would bring peace to the Middle East. And we pray that if it be thy will, that we'll not have war, as President Yeltsin has warned us about.

Send the strong driving wind of the Holy Spirit across our land, to bring us a new breath of joy and freedom in serving you. May we see a national, an international revival. Renew our vision. Restore our faith. Rekindle our desire to love and serve you and serve each other. As we leave this place, may we commit ourselves afresh to him who alone is the way, the truth and the life.

And now, may the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen. (Applause.)

Senator AKAKA. Thank you. Thank you very much, Dr. Graham. This concludes the 46th National Prayer Breakfast. I ask all of you to please rise and remain standing until the President and Mrs. Clinton and Vice President and Mrs. Gore depart from the ballroom. (Applause.)

I thank all of you for your participation and your cooperation. Trust in God and carry his love with you and share it with others today and every day. Thank you very

much. This concludes the National Prayer Breakfast. (Applause.)●

#### CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I became an official cosponsor of S. 1645, the Child Custody Protection Act introduced by Senator ABRAHAM. This bill addresses a very critical problem impacting our nation's families and their children, abortion. Under this bill, adults who take children across state lines to receive an abortion without the knowledge of their parents would be committing a federal offense.

Currently, 22 states require parental notification if a minor is going to receive an abortion. Yet, each and every day adults help thousands of children travel across state lines to receive abortions in states which do not require the notification of a parent.

Being an ardent opponent of abortion, I am gravely concerned about the children who are being taken by adults, who are not their parents, into different states to receive abortions. This process is wrong and must be stopped. We cannot allow adults to circumvent state laws by transporting a minor across state lines for an abortion without parental consent and involvement.

The decision to have an abortion is a critical decision, one which I personally hope that women of all ages would elect not to have. However, despite an individual's personal opinion on abortion, the majority of Americans, myself included, believe it is imperative for minor children to involve their parents in this life altering decision. According to a 1996 Gallup poll, 74 percent of Americans supported requiring minors to get parental consent for an abortion. According to the Supreme Court, "the medical, emotional, and psychological consequences of an abortion are serious and can be lasting; this is particularly so when the patient is immature." Clearly, our nation's children should not be kept from their parents when making an important life decision with such broad ramifications as an abortion.

This is why I am cosponsoring Senator ABRAHAM's bill, the "Child Custody Protection Act." This bill would make it a federal offense to transport a minor across state lines with intent to avoid state laws requiring parental involvement in a minor's abortion.

It is my firm belief that we must pass this law and stop people from bypassing the laws of our individual states. This legislation protects our children from making a life altering decision without the guidance of their most trusted advisors, their parents.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL ORDER OF WOMEN LEGISLATORS

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate and commend the National Order of Women Legislators and the Georgia Chapter of the National Order of Women Legislators as

they celebrate today 60 years of accomplishments since the organization was founded in 1938.

This year also marks the 150th Anniversary of the first Women's Rights Convention ever held to discuss the prohibitions then in force on women voting, holding public office, owning property, signing official documents, and receiving a formal education.

The women who have served in the National Order of Women Legislators and the Georgia Chapter of that organization have overcome gender barriers and are true champions of the women's rights movement. I applaud these women for fighting for and delivering to the women of this nation the right to vote, and a vital voice in local, state and national government.

The Declaration of Sentiments issued by the 1848 convention held in Seneca Falls, New York, launched a movement that unleashed and enhanced the myriad of talents and intellectual abilities already possessed by women throughout the United States. The resulting Women's Rights Movement has had a profound and undeniable impact on all aspects of American life, and has opened new and well deserved opportunities for women.

I would especially like to commend the spirit and hard work of Rebecca Latimer Felton, the first Georgia woman elected to the United States Senate in 1922, two years after women gained the right to vote; Florence Reville Gibbs, the first Georgia woman to serve in the United States House of Representatives (1940-1941); Viola Ross Napier, the first woman to serve in the Georgia House of Representatives (1923-1926); Susie Tilman Moore, the first woman to serve in the Georgia State Senate (1933-1934 and 1939-1940); and Grace Towns Hamilton, the first African American woman elected to the Georgia House of Representatives (1966-1984).

I am honored to serve in the United States Senate with nine remarkable female Senators—Sens. BARBARA BOXER (D-CA), SUSAN COLLINS (R-ME), DIANNE FEINSTEIN (D-CA), KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON (R-TX), MARY LANDRIEU (D-LA), BARBARA MIKULSKI (D-MD), CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN (D-IL), PATTY MURRAY (D-WA), and OLYMPIA SNOWE (R-ME). I also commend the 55 female members of the U.S. House of Representatives and female members in the Georgia State Legislature.

Members of National Order of Women Legislators serve as role models for women throughout this nation and the entire world. I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting and congratulating the National Order of Women Legislators and the Georgia Chapter of the National Order of Women Legislators for setting a positive example to all Americans.●

TRIBUTE TO THE HOLLIS/BROOKLINE STUDENTS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN "WE THE PEOPLE . . ."

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to 27 students from Hollis/Brookline High School for winning the right to represent New Hampshire in the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" national competition in Washington, D.C.

As the New Hampshire state champions, the Hollis/Brookline students will compete against more than 1200 students from across the United States in a three-day national competition May 2-4, 1998. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the Constitution and its relevance to contemporary issues in front of simulated congressional committees composed of constitutional scholars, lawyers, journalists, and government leaders.

The distinguished members of the Hollis/Brookline team are: Meghan Amber, Wayne Beuner, Randy Brown, Jonathon Davies, Meredith Edmunds, Jaima Elliott, Emily Gagne, Sara Godshall, Laura Hacker, Alex Harris, Nicola Huns, Craig Kimball, Sarah Kirby, Anna Klein, Brannon Klein, Maya Levine, Sara Liebling, Kass Litwin, Heidi Packard, Amy Rattin, Jared Rosenberg, Nadine Schneider, Carrie Spaulding, Kent Springfield, Anja Helene Stronen-Lien, Amy Tozier and Amanda Vormelker. Their teachers, Helen Melanson and Joel Mitchell, deserve special recognition for their role in preparing these students for this intense constitutional testing. I applaud them for their commitment to enriching the lives of these students.

As a former high school civics teacher myself, I recognize the value of instilling an understanding of the Constitution in students. The "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective about the history and principles of our nation's constitutional government. I wish these young constitutional experts from Hollis/Brookline High School the best of luck in preparing for the national finals. It is an honor to have them represent New Hampshire, and I wish them luck as they prepare to be America's leaders in the twenty-first century. I am proud to represent them in the U.S. Senate.●

#### A LITERACY SUCCESS STORY

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on behalf of myself, Senator JEFFORDS and Senator REED, I would like to submit this statement given by Ms. Raynice Brumfield of Washington, D.C. for the RECORD. Ms. Brumfield testified at this morning's Labor and Human Resources Committee hearing on Reading and Literacy Initiatives. I commend her for the progress she has made as a participant of the D.C. Head Start Toyota