Kelli Jackson, Travis Johnston, Robert Jones, Samata Katta, Yeongsik Kim, Allie Kimmel, Natalie Kirilichin, Kimberly Knackstedt, Michael Kreps, Theresa Lau, Abby Laver, Elizabeth Letter, Michael Linden, Amanda Lowe, Mairead Lynn, Kara Marchione, Bryce McKibben, Nikki McKinney, Nick McLane, Leticia Medero, Sarah Monteith, Elisa Morales, Meghan Mott, Sarah Mueller, Megan Mullett, Ryan Myers, Hannah Oakley, Osaremen Okolo, Emily O'Neill, Krista O'Neill, Josh Oppenheimer, Amar Pandya, Madeline Pannell, Casey Peeks, Amanda Perez, Melanie Rainer, John Righter, Mary Robbins, Sarah Rosenberg, Carly Rush, Madeleine Russak, Lauren Ruvo, Laurel Sakai, Jeff Sanchez, Michelle Sanchez, Sherie Lou Santos, Susannah Savage, Evan Schatz, Emily Schlicting, Leila Schochet, Shruti Shah, Joseph Shantz, Kristopher Sharp, Bart Sheard, Amanda Shelton, Amy Smith, Lafe Solomon, Aravind Sreenath, Dylan Stafford, Beth Stein, Aurora Steinle, Jennifer Stiddard, Kevin Stockert, Lindsey Tepe, Paul Thomas, Julie Tierney, Yelena Tsilker, Michael Varrone, Jessica Vivar, Liz Wagner, David Weisshaar, Valerie Williams, Esther Yoon, Andrew Zacher, Sara Zaheer

RECOGNIZING BUDGET COMMITTEE STAFF

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, at the end of this Congress, I will leave my role as chair of the Senate Budget Committee, where I have had the privilege of leading the Democratic side since 2015.

In January, I look forward to chairing the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, which has been led so ably by our colleague, the senior Senator from Washington, PATTY MURRAY, who is going to chair the Appropriations Committee. At the HELP committee, I look forward to focusing on universal healthcare, prescription drug prices, and workers' rights, among other priorities for the people of Vermont and America.

As I leave the helm of the Budget Committee, I want to express my thanks to the excellent Budget Committee staff, led so well by my longtime staff director Warren Gunnels and his deputy staff director Mike Jones.

Not many people realize it, but the Budget Committee staff played an important role in getting this Congress' two major budget laws, the American Rescue Plan Act and the Inflation Reduction Act, enacted into law. Budget Committee staff worked tirelessly with the staff of authorizing committees to ensure that their work would comply with the arcane and often-changing Senate rules.

I believe that history will show that the American Rescue Plan Act averted what would have been a prolonged, painful recession in the wake of the COVID–19 pandemic. Budget Committee staff deserve part of the credit for that achievement.

The Budget Committee staff and I would very much have preferred that Congress had enacted all of President Biden's more transformational Build Back Better Plan. And Budget Committee staff worked long and hard to make that so. But that we were not able to bring that entire package across the finish line in no way diminishes the recognition that the Budget Committee staff deserve for their efforts to make it happen.

I want to commend the Democratic staff who served the Budget Committee this Congress: Joey Alpert, Olga Bakun, Nicolas Ballon, Merissa Barrera, Alex Beaton, Sion Bell, Michaela Brown, Montana Cruz, Bill Dauster, Robert Etter, Tyler Evilsizer, Liam Fagan, Danielle Gardner, Billy Gendell, Zachary Green, Nikhil Goyal, Warren Gunnels, Ethan Hinch, Hufsa Husain, Alex Jacquez, Mike Jones, Melissa Kaplan-Pistiner, Mike Lawliss, April Lobo, Katrina Menard, Chris Neubert, Jimmy O'Donnell, Liz Pancotti, Richard Phillips, Ethan Rosenkranz, Hannah Sachs, Joshua Smith, David Snower, Camila Thorndike, Roberto Velez, and Melinda Warner. I believe that there is no finer committee staff in Congress.

I also want to thank our nonpartisan administrative staff, who have so ably served both Democratic and Republican Senators on the Budget Committee this Congress: Ben Mason, Mallory Nersesian, Maeve Poulson, Alex Scioscia, Katie Smith, Carlile Soldo, and George Woodall.

In the congress to come, our Colleague SHELDON WHITEHOUSE will chair the Budget Committee. I wish him every success as he takes on that important job. Some of the Budget Committee staff will stay to work with him, and some will come to work with me at the HELP Committee, where they will join able staff that Senator MURRAY has assembled there.

I thank all these staff for the important work that they have done in this Congress and for the important work that they will do in the Congress to come.

REMEMBERING JUDY REARDON

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to Judy Reardon and recognize a long life devoted to serving the Granite State.

Everyone involved in public service in New Hampshire knows the name Judy Reardon. When Presidential candidates or journalists on the national level wanted an expert perspective in the Granite State, they reached out to Judy. When prospective candidates for statewide office needed advice from someone who ran—and won—several campaigns, they turned to Judy. When candidates were locked in a tough election fight and needed counsel to get them through Election Day, they called Judy. When government officials needed guidance on how best to use the tools of government to serve their constituents, they sought Judy. When local advocates needed advice on how best to champion their issues, they looked to Judy. And Judy always answered with suggestions and encouragement that were forward-thinking, incredibly astute, uncommonly direct, unfailingly honest, and oftentimes very funny.

I am one of the many people who counted on Judy's sage advice, and we enjoyed a fiercely loyal friendship. Few people have had an impact on my life—personally and professionally—as much as Judy Reardon. From the New Hampshire State Senate to the Governor's office and the U.S. Senate, Judy filled numerous roles on my team: counsel, legislative director, and senior adviser. But her different staff titles over the years can never truly capture her importance to me or the significance of her work. She was my confidante and always the smartest person in the room. Judy was by my side when we expanded kindergarten for New Hampshire children. She helped me protect women's reproductive rights in New Hampshire. She was with me when we fervently defended the Affordable Care Act for years in the U.S. Senate. She was with me through every tough reelection. Judy devoted her life to public service—specifically, to bettering the lives of Granite Staters.

Sadly, Judy passed away last week after a long period of illness. Over the past few days, her many friends and former colleagues have released statements expressing the magnitude of her loss. It has been a tough week as we grieve a giant in public service. Yet our tears quickly turn to laughter and smiles as we recall fun memories with Judy and remember her fire, her unique sense of humor, her relentless spirit, and her commitment to her craft. I've heard so many stories about her mentorship of members of my staff and young activists who wanted to learn from her, work beside her and match—as best they could—her passion for making a difference. To these people, Judy developed a reputation for being—in their words—''scary'' and ''intimidating.'' When they presented their work or an idea to Judy, they knew it would be scrutinized by a brilliant mind who would share her thoughts in a candid way. Still everyone knew that her words were meant to challenge them to reach their full potential, to strengthen their arguments, and to refine their points-of-view. Everyone felt better about a path forward after talking with Judy.

I have known Judy since 1986, and it is difficult to imagine a future without her. I will miss her counsel before big decisions and consequential votes. I will miss her voice in meetings. I will miss her loyalty to me and the shared causes to which we devoted so much time and attention. She accomplished so much in public service, yet her story will continue to be written by the countless young staffers and activists she inspired over the years to follow her example. On behalf of the people of the Granite State, I ask my colleagues and all Americans to join me in recognizing Judy Reardon and keeping her family—her beloved sister Patricia