

Chairman Carper, Ranking Member Coburn, members of the Committee –

Thank you for allowing me to introduce my great friend, the incredibly talented Victoria Reggie Kennedy, who has been nominated by President Obama to serve on the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service.

Vicki Kennedy is a public service powerhouse for our country.

A brilliant, gifted attorney, adviser and public servant, Vicki will be an outstanding member of the Postal Service Board of Governors.

Vicki will bring intellectual rigor, innovative and strategic ideas, leadership, and her endless energy to this post.

Indeed, Vicki's career is singularly suited to the Postal Service Board at a time when it needs public servants as dedicated and creative as Vicki.

From our first postmaster, Benjamin Franklin, to today, the Postal Service has been an integral part of our democracy. It pushes the frontiers of communication, rain or shine, through wartime and peace.

Vicki will bring that same steadfast service to the board, and a wealth of expertise.

When Ms. Kennedy was a partner at a major law firm, she helped banks reorganize and recapitalize. At a time when efficiency and funding are both issues at the USPS, her experience will be invaluable.

Today Vicki helps organizations develop strategies to resolve complex issues. Today's Postal Service has no dearth of similar business matters to resolve.

And like her husband, our beloved colleague, the legendary Senator Ted Kennedy, Vicki believes in the importance of helping government work at its best to serve the American people.

That's why she is the President of the Board and co-founder of the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate, created to educate the public about the unique role of the Senate in our democracy.

Under Vicki's leadership, this innovative hub of history will open next year adjacent to the John F. Kennedy Library.

The Institute will provide visitors a state of the art, high-tech, interactive opportunity to learn lessons from America's past and develop new ideas that can help shape a better future.

Vicki is also a Trustee of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, a member of the Board of Overseers of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and a member of the Board of Directors of the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management.

Vicki is a summa cum laude graduate of the Tulane University School of Law and a magna cum laude graduate of Newcomb College at Tulane University, where she was also elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Vicki has received honorary doctorate degrees from Boston University, Northeastern University, Montclair State University, University of Massachusetts Boston, Lesley University, Emmanuel College, Western New England University, and Suffolk University Law School. That is an impressive list of accolades and a testament to her intelligence, character and accomplishments.

The Postal Service needs Vicki Kennedy. The Board needs talented, proven leaders who can assess the problems facing the USPS and creatively and capably help the Postal Service resolve those challenges. That's exactly who Vicki Kennedy is.

I greatly admire Vicki and have complete confidence in her.

Vicki Kennedy will shine on the Board of Governors and our country will be better for her service.

Thank you.