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TRIBUTE TO KATY SIMON

Senate

Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Katy Simon as she retires from the position of Washoe County Manager, a title which she proudly held for 15 years. Ms. Simon's diligence and determination has made her an extraordinary leader to the people of Washoe County.

Ms. Simon was appointed Washoe County Manager in 1998 after serving 2 years as assistant county manager for Finance and 1 year as deputy county manager. Prior to her appointments, she was the owner and principal consultant for Simon and Associates Management Consulting, providing services both here in the United States and overseas. She also served executive positions with Washoe Health System.

Ms. Simon's dedication to the people of Northern Nevada has not gone without notice. During her implementation of the employee classification

and compensation system, she was recognized twice by the State legislature for objectivity and fairness. Additionally, she was accountable for the successful startup of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. These are just a few examples of Ms. Simon's efforts to promote the growth and development within her community and the State.

Resilience and persistence aided Ms. Simon as she helped Washoe County through 5 years of the toughest economic times this great county had ever seen. She took Washoe County from a strong, well-managed county to being one of the very best local governments in the Nation. I applaud Ms. Simon's commitment to the people of Washoe County and all of Northern Nevada. She serves as a shining example for all Nevadans, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on her retirement.