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## Senate

### IN HONOR OF DR. ERIC GANGLOFF

Mr. ROCKEFELLER: Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. Eric Gangloff, who has served the American people for more than 25 years at the Japan-United States Friendship Commission. He has served in numerous roles, including as the Director of the Commission's Japan office, as Associate Executive Director, and currently as the Commission's Executive Director.

Dr. Gangloff has, through his work at the Commission, contributed substantially to research, training, and student exchange programs with Japan, and supported the valuable projects of countless scholars, students, and artists through Commission grant programs.

Throughout his tenure as Executive Director of the Commission, Dr. Gangloff has worked with the leaders of several professional organizations of Japanese language educators, encouraging them to join forces and work together in order to provide maximum support for Japanese language teachers at all levels in the United States, from kindergarten through college. As a result of his efforts and continuing support, the Alliance of Associations of Teachers of Japanese was founded in 1999 as a coalition that represents and serves two previously separate organizations.

Dr. Gangloff also spearheaded a movement to create the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources in 1991 to meet the demands of the American library community for Japanese research materials. The creation of the NCC brought the activities of the Japan studies library community into a clearinghouse that focuses on resource-sharing through cooperative collection development, information literacy at all levels within the Japan studies field and fosters close collaboration

and consultation among librarians, the academic community and funding agencies in both countries.

In addition, Dr. Gangloff is responsible for the strengthening of long-term positive relations between the two countries through his creation and long-term support and guidance of the U.S.-Japan Legislative Exchange Program which brings together on a semi-annual basis, a core group of United States Congressional Members and Japanese Diet Members for in-depth and informal discussions on a broad range of political, economic and security issues. Discussions such as these cement the bonds between the two countries at the highest levels, which is especially important at times of great stress, such as the recent tragic events in Japan.

Dr. Gangloff was the driving force behind the creation in 1998 of the United States Japan Bridging Foundation, a charitable organization that expands opportunities for American undergraduate students to study in Japan. This public-private partnership, directed by Dr. Gangloff, has raised over \$4,000,000 and awarded over 1,000 scholarships to American students since its inception.

In short, Dr. Eric Gangloff has provided inspired leadership throughout his career in cultural, educational, and scholarly dialogue and exchange between Japan and the United States. On behalf of the Congressional Members serving as Commissioners of the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission - Senator Murkowski, Congressman Tom Petri, Congressman Jim McDermott, and myself - I would like to express our deepest gratitude for these contributions and assure Dr. Gangloff that the positive results of his hard work will be felt for years to come.

Thank you, Mr. President.