15 February 1988

It is a great honor to have been invited by Vice President George Bush and Majority Leader Robert Byrd to read the immortal words of our first President.

President Washington's thoughts about the young and fragile republic clearly mark his concerns for our nation. They come to me today as fresh and compelling as they were when he wrote them. It is remarkable that George Washington had the vision that is still appropriate two hundred years later.

None of us can fail to be moved by his faith that a new nation was to emerge and prevail. This one-hundredth reading in the Senate was a reminder of that faith and vision our country still needs. Herb Reed (N.C.)