Nelson Bids Farewell to Senate Colleagues

Retiring Nebraska Senator Ben Nelson bid his colleagues farewell Tuesday. (play audio :15 "United States Senate.")

Nelson gave his farewell speech on the floor of the United States Senate. He leaves after two terms, and said it has been a privilege to serve Nebraska, first as governor then as U.S. Senator.

During his speech, Nelson told colleagues that they should put partisanship aside and think about the good of the country. He recalled advice he got early in his Senate career. (play audio :20 "United States Senator.")

Nelson had a reminder for fellow Senators. (play audio :16 "at times.")

Senator Mike Johanns, a Republican, praised Senator Nelson, a Democrat, as a true public servant. (play audio :10 "hard working.")

Nelson said while it's hard for him to say good-bye to the Senate, his retirement from public service will give him more time to spend with his family.

Republican Deb Fischer was elected to replace Nelson in the U.S. Senate.

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