REPORT TO THE NATION ON CANCER

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, this past February Senator GORDON SMITH and I introduced the National Cancer Act of 2002 with a bipartisan group of 28 cosponsors. This comprehensive bill, based largely on the recommendations of an ad-hoc Committee of Cancer Experts, is meant to update and reinvigorate the nation's war on cancer; a war President Nixon launched in 1971.

The need for our bill is greater and more urgent than ever before. Last week, the American Cancer Society, the National Cancer Institute, the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Institute on Aging collectively released their joint Annual Report to the Nation on the Status of Cancer, 1973–1999.

The bottom line is that cancer death rates are declining—that's the good news. People are living longer with cancer; we are increasing the ranks of cancer survivors. In 1997, we had approximately 8.9 million cancer survivors. This number continues to increase. But the incidence of cancer is increasing. The bad news is that as our population ages, more and more people are being diagnosed with the disease. Researchers suggest that if this pattern continues, by the year 2050 there could be twice as many people being diagnosed with cancer each year as there are now. This year, about 1.3 million people will be diagnosed with cancer. By 2050, this number could reach 2.6 million.

That is why I introduced the National Cancer Act of 2002. It is a new battle plan for conquering cancer. My legislation focuses on finding better treatments and a cure for cancer by investing more funding in cancer research and clinical trials, and ensuring access to effective detection and prevention measures. The challenges are plenty. But I believe, now more than ever, that a cure is within our reach.

This report being released today represents the fifth report of its kind, but it is the first report issued that documents a decline in cancer death rates. This is good news. While routine screening has improved the prognosis for cancer patients, and more people are getting screened, cancer still occurs. As we age, our risk of getting cancer increases. As baby boomers age, the incidence of cancer will undoubtedly increase among this population. This population presents us with certain challenges and an increased burden on the system. More people will require cancer treatments, supportive and palliative care, home health services, general medical attention, and nursing services.

Finding cures and better treatments for cancers will demand more attention to be placed on the biology of older persons. For example, older persons are less likely to be enrolled in a clinical trial. There is also limited knowledge of drug interactions. Will a person's cancer medication interact with that person's heart medication? These are just a few of the challenges. Finding a cure is within our reach. We must continue to focus funding on this goal. At the same time, there is an increased need for developing new strategies for prevention and early detection, looking in particular at age-specific interventions.

For 8 years I have co-chaired the Senate Cancer Coalition. We have held eight hearings on cancer. With each hearing, I become more and more convinced that with adequate resources we can find a cure. Polls by Research America show that the public wants their tax dollars spent on medical research. In fact, people will pay more in taxes for more medical research.

Cancer affects everyone. Everyone knows someone who has had cancer or will have cancer. I am thoroughly convinced that if we just marshal the resources, we can conquer cancer in the 21st century. The report released today is a clarion call for making the effort.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of last year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred July 14, 1991 in Eugene, OR. A gay man was attacked outside a bar by two people using offensive language about his sexual orientation. Pamela Joanne Richardson, 28, and Michael James Hughes, 21, were arrested in connection with the incident. Michael Hughes was convicted for hate crimes and sentenced to 15 months in prison. Pamela Joanne Richardson, his girlfriend, was convicted of a lesser offense and sentenced to 2 years in prison.

I believe that hate crimes legislation is a clarion call for making the effort. By 2050, this number could reach 2.6 million.

CELEBRATION OF EAST TIMOR'S INDEPENDENCE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the new nation of East Timor.

I want to congratulate and honor the people of East Timor for their perseverance and triumph of freedom in their fight against terrorism. I want to pay tribute to their tremendous sacrifice. However, while we celebrate this victory we also must remember that the long and arduous road by which they arrived here and recognize the challenging road which lies ahead. East Timor’s road to independence—achieved in May 2002—will continue to be a difficult one.

There are about 210,000 people who lost their lives in the line of duty serving the United States as employees of the Civil Service and the Foreign Service.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS DAY 2002

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, on May 10, 2002, our Nation celebrated Foreign Affairs Day, which honors the dedication and accomplishments of the men and women in the Foreign Service, the Civil Service, and as Foreign Service Nationals. It is also a day to remember those who have died in the line of duty.

We know that international problems can quickly become problems at home. American diplomats and their staff are on the front lines addressing these problems before they reach our shores. Foreign affairs workers are just as critical to our national security as modern weaponry and soldiers. Just as members of our armed services risk their lives everyday in defense of freedom, civilians in the Federal foreign affairs workforce stand with the military on the front lines of the war on terrorism.

Those in the Civil Service and Foreign Service have protected America’s interests overseas and the freedoms we enjoy at home since the earliest years of our Republic. Many have worked in perilous environments. The first to die was a diplomat in 1780, traveling to his duty post.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS DAY REMINDS US OF THE HEROIC SACRIFICE OF AMERICANS IN FOREIGN SERVICE.

Although not a member of the Foreign Service, a civilian Central Intelligence Agency case officer was among the first Americans to lose his life in Afghanistan in our Nation’s fight against terrorism since September 11, 2001.

Foreign Affairs Day reminds us all of the heroic dedication and sacrifices from people in the Foreign Service and Civil Service. They serve their country abroad using their talent and skills to defend freedom at home. Their service contributes enormously to our national security. As their personal safety is sacrificed for our freedom, we should always remember that they are the first line of defense in protecting the light of freedom which shines from America.

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Timor has been one of the U.N. new, free nation of the millennium. The reins to the newly established 2002, the United Nations handed over flag and national anthem. On May 20, 2002, the East Timorese people, congratulate them on the birth of their free and democratic nation—the first new, free nation of this new millennium, and welcome them into the family of peaceful nations.

WARTIME VIOLATION OF ITALIAN AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES ACT

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, on October 19, 2000, more than 50 years after the end of World War II, Congress passed the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act. I am pleased to have been the Senate sponsor of that bill which directed the U.S. Department of Justice to study the treatment of Italian-Americans at the hand of the Federal Government during the War and to deliver a report on its findings to the Congress.

This report has now been completed. The 42-page report, prepared by the Department’s Civil Rights Division concludes: "After the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, citizens and aliens of Italian-American descent were subjected to searches, including curfews, searches, confiscations of property, the loss of livelihood, and internment." While the report can obviously not undo the injustices suffered by Italian Americans in the past, it is important that mistakes of the past be avoided and not repeated. This report will finally shine light on a largely unknown era of this nation’s history—the injustices perpetrated by our government against thousands of Americans of Italian descent during World War II.

While most Americans are aware of the mass evacuation and internment of Americans of Japanese descent shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, very few are aware that because the United States was at war with Mussolini’s Italy, approximately 250 Americans of Italian descent were arrested and detained in internment camps throughout the United States. Like Japanese Americans, the internment of the charges against them or provided legal counsel, and the vast majority were arrested and detained without any evidence that they had done anything wrong. Their only crime was that of their heritage or their involvement in Italian organizations.

By early 1942, all Italian immigrants, estimated to be approximately 600,000 people, were labeled “enemy aliens” and were forced to register at local post offices around the country. They were fingerprinted, photographed and required to carry photo-bearing “enemy alien registration cards” at all times. Their travel was restricted to no more than five miles from their home and any “signaling devices”—cameras, shortwave radios, flashlights—or weapons were considered contraband and had to be turned in to authorities or were confiscated.

Italian Americans living on the West Coast were subject to a curfew from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and some were forced to evacuate areas the military deemed sensitive military zones, leaving their homes and jobs behind. Ironically, in areas where Italian Americans were the majority population, these restrictions caused serious employment and food-supply problems at a time when all human and food resources were needed for the war effort.

The injustices suffered by Italian Americans during World War II touched all socioeconomic classes. The parents of baseball legend Joe DiMaggio were forbidden to go any further than five miles from their home without a permit. Enrico Fermi, a leading Italian physicist who was instrumental in America’s development of the atomic bomb, could not travel freely along the East Coast. The most disturbing irony was that at the time these injustices were being perpetrated, Italian Americans were the largest immigrant group in the United States Armed Forces and were fighting abroad to defend this country.

Twelve years ago, Congress passed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 and rightfully admitted and apologized for the mistreatment committed against American citizens and immigrants of Japanese ancestry during World War II. With the passage of the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act, the truth has now been told about the mistreatment of Americans of Italian descent during the war. This should not only be important to the Italian-Americans whose rights were violated and unjustly disrupted during the war but to every American who values our Constitutional freedoms. By increasing our Nation’s awareness of these tragic events, we ensure that such discrimination will never happen again in this country.

NOTICES OF INTENTION

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, in accordance with rule V of the standing rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice of my intention to suspend rule 22 paragraph (2) for the purposes of offering amendment No. 3465.

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ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

JOSEPH LIMPRECHT, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise today to offer my thanks, the thanks of our Constitutional freedoms. By increasing our Nation’s awareness of these tragic events, we ensure that such discrimination will never happen again in this country.

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Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise today to offer my thanks, the thanks of the Senate, and the thanks of the American people, to a dedicated public servant, Ambassador Joe Limprecht.

Ambassador Limprecht served as America’s representative to Albania from 1999 until his death last week. At the time of his assignment he was on the front lines of U.S. international outreach. He died while serving our Nation.