

will pay ordinary income rates—currently, the top rate is 38.6 percent, on any dividends distributed by the corporation. President Bush said we should end this double taxation by eliminating entirely the tax on individuals. I fought hard for the original Senate bill that would have done this, and I still believe that is the best tax and economic policy. However, the conferees from the House were unwilling to agree. The compromise we settled on will reduce the individual tax rate for dividends to 15 percent—a significant improvement over current law. I will continue to work to eliminate the double tax on dividends.

The bill we pass today also reduces the capital gains rate from 20 percent to 15 percent, the same rate we will now apply to dividends. I believe this is also good policy and I hope we can work to eliminate the tax on capital gains too. The dividend and capital gains tax relief should boost stock values significantly and should make it much less costly for businesses to expand and create jobs. Nearly 420,000 Arizona taxpayers will benefit from the dividends and capital gains tax relief.

This legislation also includes a number of provisions designed to provide much-needed tax relief to American families. It increases the child tax credit to \$1,000 per child, with a good portion of the tax benefits being sent to families as early as this summer. It also provides additional relief from the marriage penalty. In Arizona alone, nearly 450,000 families will benefit from the child credit increase and more than 600,000 will benefit from the marriage penalty relief.

As I have said, I believe this is a very good bill that will do much to encourage job creation and economic growth, but I believe it could have been better. If the House had been willing to accept some offsets, we could have paid for the \$20 billion in temporary State aid this bill provides. I also believe we should have held firm to the Senate position and eliminated the double tax on dividends. Regardless, I am very proud of the business, individual and family tax relief we have provided in this bill.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

• Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to bring to my colleagues' attention a landmark report by the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee's Research Institute, ADCRI, entitled, "Report on Hate Crimes and Discrimination Against

Arab Americans: The Post-September 11 Backlash." This report catalogues the experiences of the Arab-American community for the year following the tragic September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. According to the report, over 700 violent incidents targeting Arab Americans, or those perceived to be Arab Americans, Arabs and Muslims occurred in the 9 weeks following the attacks.

The report demonstrates the profound challenges confronting the Arab-American community, as well as other communities caught up in the post September 11 backlash. However, the report also emphasizes that Americans have consistently demonstrated their commitment to maintaining tolerance and respect for all Americans and that hatred is confined to a distinct minority. It is this minority that breeds hatred and violence against innocent individuals.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend us against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well. This is a challenge that none of my colleagues should shy away from.●

##### TRIBUTE TO BRANDON WORKMAN

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Brandon Workman for being named the United States Achievement Academy's United States National Award winner in mathematics. Brandon, who is from May's Lick, KY attends Deming High School and is the son of Shelly Mitchell and Robert Workman.

Brandon's enthusiasm towards hard work and the dedication that he has applied to his academic performance has earned him this distinguished honor. He certainly deserves this honor. Brandon's strong commitment to his peers and to being a better citizen have assured me of his future success to our Commonwealth and Nation.

This award is based upon the recommendations of his school faculty and the high standards set forth by the academy. Brandon, like all other recipients of this award, has proven himself in the classroom and has been recognized by those who teach him and know him the best in the classroom.

The efforts of Brandon Workman should be emulated. Brandon has set an example that should be recognized by high school students throughout Kentucky and across America. I am convinced that he will use his strong abilities to make a difference in our country. I thank the Senate for allowing me to recognize Brandon and voice his praises.●

##### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to

the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

##### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

##### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of January 7, 2003, the Secretary of the Senate, on January 8, 2003, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

H.R. 2. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2004.

H.R. 2185. An act to extend the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002.

H.J. Res. 51. A joint resolution increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

Under the authority of the order of January 7, 2003, enrolled bills were signed by the President pro tempore on May 23, 2003.

At 12:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1588. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2004 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1162. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to accelerate the increase in the refundability of the child tax credit, and for other purposes.

##### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of May 23, 2003, the following reports of committees were submitted on May 29, 2003:

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 1160. An original bill to authorize Millennium Challenge assistance, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-55).

S. 1161. An original bill to authorize appropriations for foreign assistance programs for fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-56).

##### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted: