

Statement on Senate Passage of Child Protection and Safety Legislation *July 21, 2006*

I applaud Members of the United States Senate for voting to strengthen our laws against convicted sex offenders.

The “Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006” will ensure appropriate sentencing for sex offenders and will provide local law enforcement officials with the tools they need to track those who prey upon children. By supporting this legislation, the Senate has taken an important

step towards providing our country with a strict, uniform system for monitoring sex offenders to ensure that they do not commit additional crimes against our Nation’s children.

I urge the House of Representatives to pass this good legislation as quickly as possible, so that I can sign it into law.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 4472.

The President’s Radio Address *July 22, 2006*

Good morning. This week, I returned from Russia, where I met with world leaders at the G-8 summit. The summit was an opportunity for important talks with these nations, and it brought progress on key issues. We had wide-ranging discussions on the global economy. We agreed on new steps to strengthen our collective security, including a United Nations Security Council resolution on North Korea. This resolution condemned North Korea’s recent missile launches, and it urged the North Korean regime to abandon its nuclear programs and return to the six-party talks.

Much of our time at the summit was spent discussing the situation in the Middle East, especially the recent violence in Israel and Lebanon. The recent crisis in the region was triggered by the kidnapping of Israeli soldiers by the terrorist group Hizballah and the launch of rockets against Israeli cities. I believe sovereign nations have the right to defend their people from terrorist attack and to take the necessary action to prevent those attacks.

We’re also mindful of the cost to innocent civilians in Lebanon and in Israel, and we have called on Israel to continue to

exercise the greatest possible care to protect innocent lives. Throughout this crisis, I have spoken to leaders in the Middle East and around the world. Our efforts to resolve this dangerous situation are guided by an international framework that is already in place.

In 2004, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1559, which recognizes the sovereignty of Lebanon, calls for all foreign forces to withdraw from Lebanon, and calls for the disbanding and disarmament of all militias. Hizballah defied the world’s just demands by maintaining armed units in the southern region of Lebanon and attacking Israel in defiance of the democratically elected Lebanese Government.

I’ve directed Secretary of State Rice to travel to the Middle East in the coming days to discuss the best ways to resolve this crisis with leaders in the region. Secretary Rice will make it clear that resolving the crisis demands confronting the terrorist group that launched the attacks and the nations that support it.

For many years, Syria has been a primary sponsor of Hizballah, and it has helped