

Block Grant Act, an effort to consolidate scattered youth development programs into a locally controlled system of positive prevention activities.

A recent edition of Roll Call mentioned the interest of the majority leader in spending more time overseeing existing programs, rather than creating new ones. I wholeheartedly agree. We do a disservice to the American taxpayer to add to Federal obligations while ignoring the performance of those we have already made.

The process of oversight and reform is a long one. It does not happen overnight or even over the 2-year course of a Congress. I would like to think that the work which has gone into the initiatives I have mentioned today will make a contribution to efforts to be undertaken next year and the year after that. Although I will not be here to shepherd these initiatives through their next phases, I have confidence that they will flourish under the care of those who follow.

Mr. President, this is the last speech I will give on the Senate floor. I would just like to say it has been a great honor to represent the State of Kansas. I want to say a special thanks to my colleague from the State of Alabama, Mr. HEFLIN, who will be retiring in this Congress. It has been an honor to serve with him. I thank my colleagues and my staff and the support personnel. It has been a pleasure to serve with them for 18 years.

I yield the floor.

Mr. HEFLIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, as America heads into the next century and millennium, it is crucial that a serious reevaluation of our role in the world occur. Our role in the world will largely be dictated, at least for the foreseeable future, by the fact that our Nation is the sole remaining superpower. This role carries with it added responsibilities with regard to international and even more localized foreign disputes.

In reevaluating our role as the sole superpower, there are some restraining factors that must be part of the equation.

The lessons of Vietnam, Korea, and Beirut, as they relate to public support, cannot be dismissed. We have to consider the attitudes of the population in this country if we are to pursue action in places like Bosnia. A key question is how many human casualties the public will tolerate. Will the public support the mission and to what degree will it be supported? The media is a key element, since it has a tremendous capacity for creating sentiment for or against a particular policy. Our role might increasingly be ad hoc in nature. Public attitudes are a potential internal threat that can't be dismissed. There is a strong feeling that America cannot be the world's policeman. There

is a vocal sentiment of limited quasi-isolationism among many that can't be dismissed, and it has the potential to grow. The question of how best to manage this sentiment is important to the conduct of our foreign policy and in assessing our role in the world.

Scarce and limited resources on the part of our national government will also be a major determinant of our foreign policy. We are living in a world of shrinking government action. Both major political parties acknowledge this reality. It is a reality based upon budgetary constraints and a desire for less government, and dictated to some degree by the competition between domestic and foreign policy needs.

We have already seen over the last few years a tendency on the part of our allies to look to us for leadership and to put out fires. Our leadership of the NATO operations in Bosnia is a stark example. In this war-torn region, we have seen not only armed battles, but rape, torture, murder, and genocide. As a society which stands against such evils, we will be called upon to intervene. Budgetary constraints will continue to require a reevaluation of our role as a world policeman and as the rewarding arbiter of international disputes in places like the Middle East, Northern Ireland, and other areas.

A key part of the reevaluation of our role as a solver of conflicts will also be the reevaluation of our role in world disarmament as well as an arms merchant. As we rightfully pursue disarmament and restraints on the sale of arms, we must strive to retain a sensible balance and not go too far. A root cause analysis will serve us well; it is obvious that not much serious fighting takes place between two parties if there are no arms. Our own security, in the light of more ambiguous threats and potential terrorism, will continue to be paramount. Military technology and the feasibility and need of such programs as SDI will continue to demand attention. These questions will not recede just because the direct threat from a competing superpower has receded.

We must not only look at our role in securing human rights around the world, but also to the commercial and business opportunities in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, as well as in the former Warsaw Pact nations. Our international trade policies are important components of such development.

As far as our trade policy and how it affects our own citizens, we must carefully look at our trade deficits and how they will affect America's jobs if not reduced. There should be little doubt that many of our traditional jobs are going overseas or across borders. While new service jobs are being created, there is the increasing danger of a growing gap between the wealthy and, on the other hand, the economically disadvantaged and poor and a narrowing of the middle class. There is no question that Japan has emerged as a world economic power because of its

successful trade policies. It is no secret that one learns from the successful. So far, we have not learned from Japan or come close to duplicating their success. What can be learned from them in making our own policies more beneficial to our national interests is an important question. One key component of their successful policy is that the corporate sector does not view the government as the enemy.

Another challenge will be the role of NATO in European security and outside Europe. It is currently being seriously reevaluated. The alliance's expansion by the end of the century appears to be a foregone conclusion. What will the exact mission of an expanded NATO be in the next century? In order to avoid some of the problems experienced by the United Nations, particularly in the "peacekeeping" realm, its mission will have to be reevaluated meticulously, defined precisely, and articulated forcefully. The Pacific Rim, a rapidly expanding area of trade, development, and expansion, is also one of potential security threats. The lessons of China's influence in the Korean and Vietnam conflicts must not be forgotten. Possible East Asian alliances, as well as our understanding of East Asian motivations, are puzzling and wrought with dangers. Considerable thought, patience, and insight must be given to security threats and trade relationships. The issue of whether NATO could or should be used outside Europe—even if the consent of the member nations were obtained—will be paramount. The role of the United Nations is a major component of this issue, particularly in view of China's veto in the U.N. Security Council. We know the future will continue to yield technological advances that we have not even thought of today. This is true both in terms of domestic and international policy. A renewed commitment to research and development will be crucial in keeping pace with the rest of the world. Think about the Internet and how it has already changed the ways in which we receive, transmit, and exchange news and information. This will only increase in the next century. Our space program has yielded some of the greatest benefits our nation has ever realized. Its bi-products have helped lead to advances in health care techniques. We must commit ourselves anew to NASA and its mission. We must help citizens see the direct links between advanced science and research and their relevance to their daily lives. How many unforeseen research triumphs are waiting to be realized in the next century?

Here at home, the delivery of health care is still a great concern to many of our citizens. As the National Institutes of Health and other government and private entities continue to increase the average life span of our population, the demand for health care services will only increase. The costs will rise. Access will continue to be an issue. We must evaluate these strains on the system and whether or not we will be able

to meet the needs of a rapidly growing portion of the population that cannot partially or entirely meet the cost. There is still a consensus that reform is needed; still, after all the debate and controversy, we don't yet know what policy to pursue. The Kennedy-Kassebaum bill is a good first step, but only a first step.

The rising costs of higher education must be reevaluated. As college-level study and training become increasingly necessary to succeed in today's and tomorrow's complex world, what can be done about the rising cost? A huge percentage of a family's income goes toward educating its children, even at public institutions. How much can families realistically afford before talented, bright young people start falling through the cracks? Will it be the responsibility of the government to provide a safety net? How will government assistance programs have to be changed to meet increased demand?

Our success at meeting these many challenges and the many others that face us depends upon how serious we are in our evaluation of them. Perhaps as much as any time in history, our future success will depend on how hard we work, how thoughtful we analyze these challenges, and how serious we are in building partnerships for moving the country forward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana is recognized.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
S. 2187

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2187, which was introduced earlier today by Senator BROWN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ABRAHAM). Is there objection?

Mrs. BOXER. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. ASHCROFT addressed the Chair.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana has the floor. Does the Senator yield the floor?

Mr. BURNS. We withdraw it.

Mr. ASHCROFT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. ASHCROFT. I want to make it clear that I have no objections to proceeding, and I regret that objection has been heard on this matter. I have released all holds that I had on legislation and regret that this matter cannot move forward.

Mrs. BOXER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
H.R. 3560

Mrs. BOXER. I ask unanimous consent that the Environment and Public Works Committee be discharged from

further consideration of H.R. 3560 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. BURNS. On behalf of some Members on this side of the aisle, we object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, if I might say, H.R. 3560 would designate the Ronald H. Brown Federal Building in New York, and we are very hopeful we can do this in his memory today.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be dispensed with and that I may address the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ASHCROFT). Is there objection to the suspension of the quorum call? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, in deference to the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, I would be happy to yield if he wished to address the Senate prior to my comments, which will take about 10 to 15 minutes. I will be delighted to step aside and allow him to speak if that is his wish.

Mr. THURMOND addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR MARK
HATFIELD

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, the U.S. Senate is an institution that has benefited greatly from the service of a number of individuals who have dedicated their adult lives to government. Among that group, one person in particular stands apart as a man of great intelligence, conscience, and contemplation, MARK O. HATFIELD of Oregon.

MARK HATFIELD arrived in Washington in 1966 well prepared to not only take his seat in the world's greatest deliberative body, but to almost immediately begin helping to shape and influence debate in this Chamber. Ever since his 1943 graduation from Willamette University, MARK HATFIELD has either studied, taught, or served government. During World War II, MARK donned the khaki uniform of a naval officer and participated in some of the most brutal campaigns we fought against the Japanese. After the war, MARK returned to school and earned a master's degree in political science from prestigious Stanford University. Following his time in Palo Alto, the young veteran and scholar returned to Willamette University where he taught political science and held the position of dean of students.

It was during his time at Willamette that MARK became active in politics, running for, and being elected to the

Oregon House of Representatives in 1950. This was to be the beginning of a career in elected office that would take him to the Oregon State Senate, the Governor's Office, and ultimately to the U.S. Senate, where he has served for three decades and is Oregon's longest serving Senator.

During his tenure in this body, Senator HATFIELD has worked hard for his constituents, has fought for his beliefs, and has worked to make our Nation an even better place. He has been the architect of any number of legislative initiatives that sought to protect and expand wilderness areas in the Pacific Northwest, ensuring that this and future generations will forever know the majesty and beauty of that region. Additionally, he worked hard to help promote business in his State, and his efforts undoubtedly helped to make Oregon an important part of the dynamic international economy known as the Pacific rim.

Mr. President, I have always had the upmost respect for my colleague from Oregon. In his 30 years in the Senate, he has always voted his conscience and has done what he felt was in the best interests of the United States of America. One can only admire a man who places such a value on integrity. Indeed, MARK HATFIELD is a man of integrity, ability, and dedication, and we commend him for the great service he has rendered this Nation. I know that Senator HATFIELD will be greatly missed by all those who have served with him, and his successor will have to work hard to match the commitment made by this scholar and Senator. I know that all the Members of the Senate wish our friend MARK good health and great happiness in the years to come, and I am certain that he will excel at whatever endeavor he undertakes upon his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR NANCY
KASSEBAUM

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Senator NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM, a leading lady of the Senate and one of the finest to ever represent the State of Kansas in the U.S. Congress.

Senator KASSEBAUM learned politics the old fashioned way at the knee of her distinguished father, Alf Landon, Republican Presidential nominee and Kansas Governor. She eventually followed in his footsteps to serve the State of Kansas in an exemplary and excellent manner.

In the early years she was a wife and mother, rearing four fine children, and then serving as a Senate staffer, before being elected to the U.S. Senate on the Republican ticket in 1978.

Senator KASSEBAUM brought to this body a keen interest in social issues, focusing on areas near and dear to her—the family, children, and education. Today, as chairman of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources,