

their families. Women and girls continue to be enrolled in education and training programs that prepare them for low-wage jobs in traditionally female occupations. Women remain significantly underrepresented in careers requiring math and science skills—women comprise only 11 percent of today's technical workforce, and only 17 percent of all doctors are women. Nearly 75 percent of tomorrow's jobs will require the use of computers, but girls comprise less than one-third of students enrolled in computer courses. And a study by the Glass Ceiling Commission found that women occupy only 5 percent of senior-level management of the top Fortune 1000 industrial and 500 service companies. As leaders and as parents, we must do our best to ensure that American girls are prepared to step into those high wage jobs and management positions that command higher salaries in the workforce.

I am extremely pleased to participate on the steering committee for Take Our Daughters to Work Day, organized by the Maine's Women's Development Institute, in my home State. Girls in Maine and across the Nation need to see first-hand that they have a range of life options. They need that extra support to boost their confidence and believe in themselves and their potential. They need to be encouraged to reach out and use their creative spirit. It is our responsibility to set high standards and provide them with the experiences and role models that will inspire them to be the leaders of the future.

Today, millions of parents across the Nation are taking their daughters to work. These parents perform a great service by exposing their daughters to new and exciting experiences. They are not only expanding their horizons and helping them to explore career opportunities, but teaching them important lessons about goal setting as well. Take Our Daughters to Work Day is of great importance to girls across the Nation, and to the women of tomorrow.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THREE OF DELAWARE'S FINEST CITIZENS—THE ALLEN BROTHERS: CHARLES, JR., WARREN, AND JACK

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to three brothers who are pioneers in Delmarva's flourishing poultry business. Over the past 50 years, Charles C. Allen, Jr.; Warren L. Allen; and John R. "Jack" Allen, have built what was once a small, mom and pop family business, into one of our Nation's top poultry companies, Allen Family Foods Inc. Their contributions to the industry and to our State of Delaware are as rich and diverse as the history of the poultry business itself, and I congratulate them on their half-century of dedication and achievement.

Their parents, C. Clarence and Nellie Allen, first got into the poultry business in 1919, incubating about 250

chicks. Things got off to a bit of a shaky start for the Allens. On one occasion Nellie banished Clarence to the garage after one of his chicken incubation experiments nearly burned their house down. But the Allens persisted and 4 years later in 1923, the family expanded the operation by purchasing a 38-acre farm on the outskirts of Seaford, DE. This 100-year-old farmhouse became one of the first commercial chicken houses on the Delmarva peninsula and remains the company's headquarters.

Charles Jr., Warren, and Jack continued the family tradition and expanded this once-modest enterprise vigorously through the years. Today, Allen's Family Foods is a privately held, multi-million dollar, integrated poultry company. Allen's processed chicken is sold in stores from Virginia to Massachusetts. Charles C. handles the farming side of the business; Warren is vice president in charge of finance; and Jack is secretary-treasurer. The elder Allens have in turn brought their three sons: Charles C. Allen III; John R. Allen, Jr.; and Warren L. "Wren" Allen Jr., into the business, ensuring that Allen's Family Foods will be operating in Delaware well into the next century.

In addition to this commercial success, the Allen family has made tremendous contributions to their community. Warren Allen served three 2-year terms as the Delaware State Representative for the 38th district, in addition to service as the chairman of the advisory council of the Delaware Home and Hospital for the Chronically Ill in Smyrna, and on the board of trustees of the Delaware State Hospital. Charles Allen was campaign manager for the hospital's expansion fundraising drive. Their generosity also led to the creation of the Allen Little League baseball field at Williams Pond. For their lifetimes of service, the Delmarva Poultry Industry recently honored Charles, Jr., Warren, and Jack as the 1995 distinguished citizens; the first time in history that this award has been shared by three members of one family. I can think of no more deserving individuals and I again extend my congratulations to the Allen family.

The story of Allen's Family Foods encompasses all that is just and good in America: Ingenuity, perseverance, dedication, and compassion for our fellow citizens. Simply put, Delaware is a better place because of the Allen Family. Again, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to my friends Charles, Jr., Warren, and Jack, and wish them many more years of health, happiness, and prosperity.●

#### HUMANITARIAN AID TO LEBANON

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to express my disappointment in the aid package for Lebanon which was recently announced by the Clinton administration. The aid package consisted of a mere \$1 million to fulfill the International Committee for the Red

Cross request, an additional \$25,000 from USAID through the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, and 50,000 pounds of U.S. military medical supplies and equipment.

Due to the most recent violence in Lebanon, some 400,000 refugees have been displaced. There is an extreme amount of pressure upon the country's infrastructure, particularly in Beirut where there is very little electricity. In southern Lebanon it has been reported that the water supply has been cut off to dozens of villages. The Lebanese people have suffered greatly over the last two decades, but they are particularly in need of urgent assistance. The United States has always viewed Lebanon as a good friend and ally, and thus the United States should make a greater commitment of resources.

Considering the President's past emergency aid packages of \$59 million for Rwandan and Burundi refugees and \$11 million for Cuban and Haitian refugees, the Clinton administration efforts with respect to Lebanon is clearly and grossly insufficient. For approximately the same amount of refugees in Russia, this administration donated 1.2 million pounds of medical supplies and equipment. This inequity with respect to Lebanon is clearly unfair.

Mr. President, I urge the Clinton administration to immediately redouble its aid efforts to Lebanon. In addition, as I have done for the past week, I urge the administration to utilize all of its diplomatic resources to negotiate a cease fire in this region and to bring and end to the hostility immediately.●

#### RECOGNIZING STUDENTS FROM TRUMBULL HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize a group of students from Trumbull High School. This weekend, April 27–29, 1996, more than 1,300 students from 50 States and the District of Columbia will be in Washington, DC to compete in the national finals of the We the People—The Citizen and the Constitution Program. I am proud to announce that a class from Trumbull High School will represent Connecticut. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals by winning first place at the statewide competition in Connecticut.

The distinguished members of the team representing Connecticut are: David Abbate, Stephen Britton, Meredith Bucci, William Dunn, Brian Emery, Michael Felberbaum, Kristina Gopic, Pamela Harinstein, Bruce Malloy, Philip Moore, Jessica Paris, Michael Ragozzino, Douglas Rowe, Matthew Rowland, Jason Saunders, John Urbanati, Richard Van Haste and Alison Veno.

I would also like to recognize their teacher, Rita Altieri, who deserves a share of the credit for the success of the team. The district coordinator

Jane Hammer and the State coordinator Joani Byer also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the team to the national finals.

The We the People—The Citizen and the Constitution Program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues. Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People—Program, now in its ninth academic year, has reached more than 70,400 teachers and 22,600,000 students nationwide at the upper elementary, middle, and high school levels. Members of Congress and their staff enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers.

The We the People—Program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective on the significance of the U.S. Constitution and its place in our history and our lives. I wish these students the best of luck in the national finals and look forward to their continued success in the years ahead.●

#### WATER RESOURCE RESEARCH ACT

● Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I am pleased that today the Senate will pass H.R. 1743, a bill to reauthorize the Water Resource Research Act, as amended by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. This is a small, but vitally important piece of legislation that gained unanimous support in the House of Representatives, as well as the Environment and Public Works Committee here in the Senate. I want to thank Senator KEMPTHORNE and Senator REID, along with Chairman CHAFFEE and Senator BAUCUS for working with me to ensure the swift passage of this legislation. Their hard work, and that of their staffs, is greatly appreciated.

H.R. 1743 extends the authorization for the water resources research institutes program through the year 2000. The water resources research institutes program is a vital Federal/State water research, education and information transfer partnership. This program supports a network of institutes at the land grant colleges in each of the 50 States, 3 trust territories and the District of Columbia. These institutes are the primary link between the academic community, the water-related personnel of the Federal and State government, and the private sector. The institutes provide a mechanism to promote State, regional and national coordination of water resources research and training, as well as information transfer. This is a very productive program. In fiscal year 1995, the Federal appropriation for the water institutes—under \$5 million—leveraged approxi-

mately \$65 million from State, private and other sources to support the institutes research and training activities.

Federal regulations and programs designed to solve water problems have their primary impact at the State and local level. State and local governments are in a far better position to tailor solutions to local water problems than the Federal Government. Programs such as the water resources research institutes are an efficient and effective way for the Federal Government to assist States to conduct research and solve problems in the water resources field. In administering the State water resources research institute program, the Interior Department and the Geological Survey distribute funds equally among all the institutes. The State institutes then award research funds through a competitive, peer review process. Institutes have advisory panels comprised of local, State, and Federal water officials, representatives from water user groups and other interested parties, which develop yearly research priorities for their States and review the allocation of funds among various competing projects. This is the true strength of this program. Individual State institutes are able to focus grants on research that addresses the most pressing water problems in that State. There have been efforts made to strengthen the competition for funding between the individual water institutes. I have serious concerns about that. We must fund this program at a level that allows us to maintain the network of institutes in every State. In addition, we must preserve the role of the advisory panels in each State, continuing to allow each State to determine the research agenda for themselves. I would hope the Department of Interior would not impose new restrictions on State water resources research programs in the future.

In addition to the core program, I am pleased the bill before us contains an authorization for a second program focused on regional issues. I amended the House bill to include this important program, which will allow the institutes to conduct research of regional, interstate issues. Increasingly the water issues we're asking States to deal with are of a regional, interjurisdictional nature. The bill as amended in committee reauthorizes the section 104(g) program to support this needed interdisciplinary research and analysis necessary for assessing regional and interstate water resource problems.

Finally, Mr. President, this bill takes a realistic look at future funding. This bill funds the institute programs at a level more in line with historical appropriations, reducing the current authorization by more than 40 percent below the current authorized level.

This is a good bill, a good program, and I'm pleased the Senate is moving ahead with passage today. I'm hopeful the House will agree to our changes quickly and we can get this bill signed into law without delay. Thanks again to the leadership of the Environment

and Public Works Committee for working with me on this legislation.

#### COMMEMORATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHERNOBYL TRAGEDY

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to solemnly commemorate the tenth anniversary of the worst nuclear accident since the dawn of the nuclear age.

On April 26, 1986, a flawed structural design and operator error caused a sudden power surge within reactor number four at the V.I. Lenin atomic power plant in Chernobyl, Ukraine.

The resulting chemical explosion vaporized nuclear fuel, melted the reactor's substandard shell and released into the atmosphere a gigantic, 180-ton cloud of deadly radioactive iodine, cesium and other lethal isotopes—containing 200 times the amount of radioactive material emitted during the atomic blasts at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Within a 4-month period, 31 power plant employees and cleanup workers died of acute radiation poisoning. Tens of thousands of other Ukrainian and Belarusian men, women and children suffered radiation sickness. Invisible fallout—detected as far away as California—contaminated forever more than 10 million acres of nearby forests and farmland, permanently poisoning the local food chain.

When the magnitude and the severity of the catastrophe became clear, close to 200,000 people were hastily and permanently evacuated from the rich, fertile land which was their home for generations. The Chernobyl area—once lush with old-growth forests rich in mushrooms, berries and other medicinal herbs—is now a 30 kilometer dead zone.

Human habitation is strictly forbidden.

A decaying, 24-story concrete tomb known as the sarcophagus now encases the destroyed reactor, serving as a grim reminder of this dark page in human history.

A decade later, those affected continue to struggle with the lingering health effects. The incidence of adolescent thyroid cancer throughout northern Ukraine and nearby Belarus is an astounding 200 percent higher than average, due in part to the consumption of poisoned milk.

Already 800 children have contracted the disease, and experts say that as many as 5,000 will develop it.

The incidence of radiation-related birth defects in the region has doubled. A team of British and Russian scientists recently concluded that genetic DNA mutations caused by radiation poisoning are being passed along to a generation of children who did not even exist at the time of the accident.

Whether these malformations will affect the future health of these children is a mystery.