

to Glenn Cunningham, President Clinton's nominee for United States Marshal for New Jersey, upon his confirmation by the U.S. Senate. I also extend my congratulations to Mr. Cunningham's proud family and friends.

I had the honor and privilege of recommending Mr. Cunningham to the President, and I want to take a few moments of the Senate's time to explain why I am convinced that he will do an outstanding job in this important position.

Mr. President, Glenn Cunningham has a long and distinguished record of public service. For over 25 years he has been a widely respected law enforcement officer in command-level positions.

Currently, Mr. Cunningham serves as Director of Public Safety for Hudson County, N.J. In that capacity, he over-

sees a department with a \$42 million budget and over 700 employees. By any measure, he has been outstanding in the performance of his duties.

Previously, Mr. President, Glenn spent 14 years in the Jersey City Police Department, where he rose from the rank of Detective to Captain. He has also served as an instructor at Jersey City State College in criminal justice, as a Commissioner of the New Jersey Alcohol and Beverage Control Commission, and as Security and Housing Manager of the Jersey City Housing Authority.

Mr. President, in all of these endeavors, Glenn Cunningham has demonstrated that he is a man of real integrity, as well as a man of real talent. He has also shown himself to be dedicated to serving the public through law enforcement.

That is not just my judgment. It is the judgment of those who have known him for many years, and who have worked closely with him.

Mr. President, I am proud to have recommended Mr. Cunningham to the President, and I am very proud and pleased to offer my congratulations to him today. I wish him all the best in his new position, and I hope that he will serve our State and country for many years. I know that he will serve with integrity, dedication and distinction.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

Mr. LOTT. I yield the floor, Mr. President.

NOTICE

Incomplete record of Senate proceedings. Except for concluding business which follows, today's Senate proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JULY 26, 1996

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in adjournment until the hour of 9:30 a.m., Friday, July 26, further, that immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later on in the day, and the Senate immediately resume the foreign operations appropriations bill and the previously scheduled votes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, tomorrow morning, beginning at 9:30, the Senate will begin a series of rollcall votes on or in relation to the remaining amendments to the foreign operations appropriations bill, to be followed by a vote on final passage of that bill.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1959

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that following passage of the foreign operations appropriations bill, the Senate then begin consideration of Calendar No. 496, S. 1959, the energy and water appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, amendments are expected to be offered to the energy and water appropriations bill; therefore, Members can expect ad-

ditional rollcall votes on Friday following the stacked sequence beginning at 9:30 a.m.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order following the remarks of my friend from New Jersey, Senator LAUTENBERG.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LAUTENBERG addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey is recognized.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Alaska. I will take just a few minutes, with the apology to those who are committed to stay until the lights are shut off.

INTERSTATE STALKING PUNISHMENT AND PREVENTION ACT OF 1996

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, as a result of having passed a piece of legislation, a bill tonight, that includes an antistalking measure and a domestic violence measure, I would like to take just a few minutes to comment on it.

Mr. President, my amendment, the domestic violence amendment, establishes a policy of zero tolerance when it comes to guns and domestic violence. The amendment would prohibit any person convicted of domestic violence from possessing a firearm. In simple words, the amendment says that wife beaters and child abusers should not have guns.

Mr. President, I want to explain for a moment why this amendment is needed. Under current Federal law it is illegal for persons convicted of felonies to possess firearms. Yet many people who engage in serious spousal or child abuse ultimately are not charged with or convicted with felonies. At the end of the day, due to outdated thinking, or perhaps after a plea bargain, they are—at most—convicted of a misdemeanor.

In fact, Mr. President, most of those who commit family violence are never even prosecuted. When they are, one-third of the cases that would be considered felonies if committed by strangers are, instead, filed as misdemeanors. The fact is, in many places today, domestic violence is not taken as seriously as other forms of criminal behavior. Often, acts of serious spouse abuse are not even considered felonies.

In just the past few years, some judges have demonstrated outrageous callousness and disregard for women's lives. Right up the road from here, Baltimore County, just 2 years ago, a State circuit court judge was hearing a case involving a man who shot his wife and killed her. As he handed down a sentence that was primarily served on weekends for a short period of time, the judge said that the worst part of his job is "sentencing noncriminals as criminals." Can you imagine, as if shooting one's wife in the head was not criminal behavior.

Or the case of a man who tracked down his wife and shot her five times, killing her. The judge in that case gave the man a minimal sentence, to be served on weekends. In explaining why he was being so lenient, the judge said that the victim had provoked her husband by not telling him that she was leaving their abusive marriage.

These, Mr. President, are just two examples of the way our criminal justice system often refuses to treat domestic violence as a serious crime. Yet the scope of the problem is enormous. Each year, using a very conservative estimate, 1,500 women die because of domestic abuse involving a gun. Many believe that the number is closer to several thousand. Neither of these numbers include children.

Mr. President, when women are killed in domestic disputes, the murderers are holding a gun about 65 percent of the time. It is not just beatings and other types of punishment. Put another way, two-thirds of domestic violence murders involve firearms. Many of these murders would never have happened but for the presence of a gun.

The New England Journal of Medicine reports that in households with a history of battering, a gun in the home increases the likelihood that a woman would be murdered by three times—threefold. In other words, when you combine wife beaters and guns, the result is death.

Mr. President, I focused thus far mainly on wifebeaters, but domestic violence also involves children. In at least one-half of wife-abusing families, the children are battered as well. Mr. President, 2,000 American children are killed each year from abuse inflicted by a parent or a caretaker. Yet, as I said before, many of these abusers and batterers are prosecuted only for misdemeanors, and under Federal law they are still free to possess firearms. This amendment closes this dangerous loophole and keeps guns away from violent individuals who threaten their own families, people who show they cannot control themselves and are prone to fits of violent rage, directed, unbelievably enough, against their own loved ones. The amendment says abuse your child and lose your gun. Beat your wife, and lose your gun. Assault your ex-wife, lose your gun, no ifs, ands or buts.

It is a tough policy, Mr. President. But when it comes to domestic violence, we have to get tough. There is no margin of error when it comes to domestic abuse and guns. A firearm in the hand of an abuser all too often means death.

If this bill had been law, maybe, just maybe, a person named Marilyn Garland of Barberton, OH, would be alive today. Her husband had previously been convicted of domestic violence offenses for physically abusing her. But even though he had shown himself to be violent and prone to wifebeating, no law prevented him from owning a gun. Eventually, as it often does, the cycle of violence spun out of control and Marilyn's husband used the gun to kill her. He then disposed of her body. It was a horrible, brutal act that was committed. It did not have to happen.

By their nature, acts of domestic violence are especially dangerous and require special attention. These crimes involve people who have a history together and perhaps share a home or a child. These are not violent acts between strangers, and they don't arise from a chance meeting. Even after a separation, the individuals involved, often by necessity, have a continuing relationship of some sort, either custody of children or common property ownership.

This amendment is based on legislation that I introduced earlier this year which has been endorsed by over 30 prominent national organizations, including the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the National Network to End Domestic Violence, the Family Violence Prevention Fund, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the YWCA of the U.S.A., just to name a few.

The people who commit these crimes often have a history of violent or threatening behavior. Yet, frequently, they are permitted to possess firearms with no legal restrictions. The statistics and the data are clear. Domestic violence, no matter how it is labeled, leads to more domestic violence. Guns in the hands of convicted wifebeaters leads to murder.

I made a change from the introduced version to respond to a suggestion from some of my colleagues. Like my original bill, which covered persons indicted for domestic violence offenses, this amendment applies only to those who have actually been convicted of domestic violence. This amendment would save the lives of many innocent Americans, but it would also send a message

about our Nation's commitment to ending domestic violence and about our determination to protect millions of women and children who suffer from this abuse.

To put it directly, Mr. President, there are over 2 million cases of household violence reported each and every year, and 150,000 of those show a gun present, a firearm present, during a violent rage or an argument. We ought not to expose those people who are abused by a spouse or a father to further violence by enabling them to have a gun, with the permission of our country.

So the amendment, which passed earlier, simply stands for the proposition that wifebeaters and child abusers should not have guns. I think the overwhelming majority of Americans would agree. I look forward to a prompt passage by the House and the signature of the President making this law.

Mr. President, the following Members were original cosponsors of the bill I introduced, S. 1632: Senators FEINSTEIN, BRADLEY, MURRAY, KENNEDY, KERRY, KOHL, AKAKA, INOUE, and SIMON.

I thank the Chair and I thank the staff who worked so late this evening to accommodate me.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In accordance with the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 11:18 p.m., adjourned until Friday, July 26, 1996, at 9:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate July 25, 1996:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GLENN DALE CUNNINGHAM, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE U.S. MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY FOR THE TERM OF 4 YEARS.

THE JUDICIARY

JOAN B. GOTTSCHALL, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS.

ROBERT L. HINKLE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.