

What has frustrated me, and many other Montanans, however, is the lack of attention to the vast majority of Montanans—the people who are willing to stand up to bigots and hate groups. For example, take what happened in Billings, Montana, a few years ago.

People in Billings enjoy a high quality of life that only Montana can provide. It is the largest city in Montana, but it still has the feel of a small town. Folks say hello to strangers in the street. Families go to the symphony in Pioneer Park in the summer. And neighbors go out of their way to help someone when they need a hand.

That placid life was shattered in November 1993, when a group of "skinheads" threw a bottle through the glass door of the home of a Jewish family. A few days later they put a brick through the window of another Jewish family's home—with a five-year-old boy in the room. Then they smashed the windows of a Catholic high school that had a "Happy Hanukkah" sign on its marquee.

The people of Billings were horrified. But they did not sit at home and try to ignore the problem. They did not let the hatred take root. The community banded together.

Thousands of homes put Menorahs in their windows. They showed the skinheads that the people of Billings were united against hate. And that year, Billings held the largest Martin Luther King Day march ever in Montana.

And all over Montana, we see more of the same. Whether it is a county attorney who stands up to militia groups in Jordan. Or the unsung people who work in their communities, such as Helena, to stamp out racism and hatred through the Montana Human Rights Network. These are all stories that need to be told.

Recently, the USA Network aired a movie called "Not In This Town," which told the story of these events to the country. I commend the network for bringing this story to the world because it sends two powerful messages. First of all, Montana is no home for bullies and hate-mongers. And second, wherever you live, violence and bigotry do not have to be accepted in your community.

That is why today I am submitting, with my colleague from Montana, Senator BURNS, and many others from across America, a bill which will designate April 30, 1997, as a National Day to Erase the Hate and Eliminate Racism.

I know a simple bill like this one will not end the problems we still have. A piece of paper alone cannot teach a child that hate is wrong.

But I do believe a piece of paper can make people think. It can make people talk about hate crimes. And it can light a spark in people's hearts and minds.

And if we continue to look at the good, courageous, decent things our neighbors are doing, that spark just

might catch fire, in Montana and all across the country.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION RATIFICATION RESOLUTION

BIDEN AMENDMENTS NOS. 47-51

Mr. BIDEN proposed five amendments to the executive resolution (S. Res. 75) to advise and consent to the ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention, subject to certain conditions; as follows:

AMENDMENT No. 47

On page 63, strike lines 8 through 20.

AMENDMENT No. 48

Beginning on page 61, strike line 21 and all that follows through line 7 of page 63.

AMENDMENT No. 49

Beginning on page 65, strike line 25 and all that follows through line 3 of page 67.

AMENDMENT No. 50

Beginning on page 63, strike line 21 and all that follows through line 4 of page 65.

AMENDMENT No. 51

On page 65, strike lines 5 through 24.

HELMS AMENDMENT No. 52

Mr. HELMS proposed an amendment to the executive resolution, Senate Resolution 75, supra; as follows:

On page 2, line 18, strike "payments" and insert "any payment".

On page 6, line 3, strike "the head of".

On page 8, line 2, insert "or such other organization, as the case may be," after "nization".

On page 8, line 10, insert "or the affiliated organization" after "tion".

On page 9, line 11, insert "or the affiliated organization" after "Organization".

On page 9, line 17, insert "or the affiliated organization" after "Organization".

On page 13, line 21, insert "and any official or employee thereof" after "it".

On page 14, line 5, insert "and any official or employee thereof" after "functions".

On page 15, lines 6 and 7, strike "to United States ratification" and insert "affecting the object and purpose".

On page 18, line 2, insert "support for" after "resolution of".

On page 20, line 12, strike "citizens," and insert "citizens and".

On page 23, line 18, strike "obligation" and insert "obligations".

On page 25, line 19, strike the comma.

On page 32, line 13, insert "of Representatives" after "House".

On page 32, lines 19 and 20, strike "Foreign Military Sales, Foreign Military Financing," and insert "Foreign Military Sales and Foreign Military Financing under the Arms Export Control Act".

On page 34, line 1, strike "Committee" and insert "Committees".

On page 34, line 3, insert "the" after "and".

On page 37, line 11, insert a comma immediately after "games".

On page 40, line 9, strike "of" and insert "for".

On page 41, line 16, insert "of the Convention" after "ratification".

On page 47, line 19, insert "the ratification of" after "to".

On page 49, line 5, move the margin of "(i)" 2 ems to the right.

On page 49, line 11, move the margin of "(ii)" 2 ems to the right.

On page 49, line 16, move the margin of "(iii)" 2 ems to the right.

On page 52, line 9, insert a comma after "(D)".

On page 53, line 21, strike the comma.

On page 55, line 4, insert "a schedule of" after "to".

On page 57, line 1, strike "the" the first place it appears and insert "to".

On page 59, line 15, strike the comma.

On page 61, line 11, strike "on an involuntary basis".

On page 61, line 12, insert "where consent has been withheld," after "States,".

On page 8, line 8, insert "if accepted," after "provision".

On page 25, line 19, insert "on Intelligence" after "tee".

On page 27, line 7, strike "is" and insert "are".

On page 27, line 22, insert "on Intelligence" after "Committee".

On page 57, line 15, strike "Ruanda" and insert "Rwanda".

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Tuesday, April 29, 1997 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 485, Russell Senate Building to mark-up S. 459, a bill to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974. An Oversight Hearing on P.L. 102-575, the San Carlos Water Rights Settlement Act of 1992 will immediately follow the Business Meeting.

Those wishing additional information should contact the Committee on Indian Affairs at 224-2251.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the oversight hearing to receive testimony from the General Accounting Office on their evaluation of the development of the Draft Tongass Land Management Plan scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, 1997 before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will now begin at 10:00 a.m. instead 9:30 a.m. as previously scheduled.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the full Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to consider the nomination of Elizabeth Anne Moler to be Deputy Secretary of Energy.

The hearing will take place Tuesday, May 6, 1997 at 9:30 a.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

For further information, please call Camille Heninger Flint at (202) 224-5070.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that an

oversight hearing has been scheduled jointly before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health of the House Committee on Resources.

The hearing will take place Thursday, May 15, 1997 at 2:00 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on the release of the Columbia River Basin Environmental Impact Statement.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. For further information, please call Judy Brown or Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a workshop has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management to exchange ideas and suggestions on the proposed "Public Land Management Responsibility and Accountability Restoration Act." The workshop will take place on Thursday, May 22, beginning at 2:00 p.m. in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The topic for this workshop will be to hear testimony regarding community-based solutions that have been tried concerning public land conflicts.

Testimony at these workshops is by invitation only. They are open to the public and the press. For further information, please write to the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510, or call Mark Rey or Judy Brown of the Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-6170.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 24, 1997, in executive session to mark up S. 7, the National Missile Defense Act of 1997.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on April 24, 1997, at 10 a.m. on ISTE Reauthorization/Truck Safety.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Thursday, April 24, 1997, at 12:30 p.m. for a hearing on opportunities for management reforms at the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration.

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

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on Overview of Vocational Education, during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 24, 1997, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 24, 1997, beginning at 9:30 a.m. until business is completed, to hold a hearing to consider revisions to Title 44.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate for an oversight hearing on "SBA's Non-Credit Programs" on Thursday, April 24, 1997, which will begin at 9:30 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 24, 1997 at 2:00 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLEAN AIR, WETLANDS, PRIVATE PROPERTY, AND NUCLEAR SAFETY

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety be granted permission to conduct a hearing Thursday, April 24, 1997, at 9:30 a.m., on ozone and particulate matter standards proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 24, 1997, at 2:00 p.m. to hold a hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SPACE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Science, Technology and Space Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on April 24, 1997, at 2 p.m. on reauthorization of the FY98 NASA budget.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

MEDICARE

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in 1995, my first year in the U.S. Senate, the Medicare Trustees told Congress that unless it took "prompt effective, and decisive action" Medicare will be dead in seven years."

Two years later, another Trustees' report has been delivered to Congress and we are even worse off. We still face the same tough choices. We must balance the budget, restore integrity to the Medicare trust fund, update the Medicare system and provide consumers with more choice—a cornerstone structural change that addresses the long-term viability of the Medicare program.

In the 104th Congress, the U.S. Congress realized that the fundamental way to capture the dynamics of change in the health care system would be to modernize Medicare by opening it to a broader array of private health plans that would compete on the basis of quality and not just cost.

President Clinton embraced this ideal as well by initiating a Medicare Choices demonstration and including provisions to expand choice, although I feel they are limited, in his February budget submission to the U.S. Congress.

Therefore, Senator ROCKEFELLER and I introduced S. 146, the Provider-Sponsored Organization Act of 1997. S. 146 expands the current Medicare risk contracting program to include PSO's, Provider Sponsored Organizations.

A PSO, very simply, is a public or private provider, or group of affiliated providers, organized to deliver a spectrum of health care services under contract to purchasers.

Our bill specifies detailed requirements for certification, quality assurance and solvency to ensure that PSO's contracting with Medicare meet standards that are comparable to or higher than those for health maintenance organizations [HMO's].

Specifically, the bill provides Federal leadership for States to fashion a streamlined PSO approval process that is consistent with Federal standards protecting Medicare beneficiaries.

Second, by providing incentives for PSO's and HMO's to evaluate patterns of care, it promotes state of the art continuous quality improvement.