

dealing which is punishable by 10 or more years in prison.

Many police officers around the country are confronting heavily-armed gang members who are wearing bullet-proof vests.

This legislation increases Federal sentences if a person wears body armor in the commission of a Federal offense, by directing the Sentencing Commission to provide for a sentencing enhancement under the Guidelines of at least two levels.

Presently, a 30-day time limit exists for bringing juveniles to trial. With crimes being committed by juveniles becoming increasingly violent and complex, prosecutors need additional time to adequately develop cases. This legislation increases the time limit to 45 days.

This bill adds firearms trafficking violations to the list of crimes that can be attacked by prosecutors under RICO. Currently, firearms violations are not RICO predicate acts. Prosecutors and law enforcement officials indicate an increasing use of firearms by criminal street gangs to commit home robberies, business invasions, and attacks on rival gangs.

Since most of the firearms have moved in interstate commerce—and because firearms are such an integral part of the gang's activity—law enforcement officials have suggested that firearms violations become predicate acts under RICO.

Finally, this legislation authorizes \$100 million over the next 5 years for hiring additional Federal prosecutors to prosecute violent youth gangs.

I don't mean to go into detail, but I really want this body to understand that in this Senator's opinion, and I think Senator HATCH's and our cosponsors', this Nation's No. 1 criminal threat comes from organized street gangs now moving vociferously across State lines and across international lines. If we don't move now, I think we surrender the independence of this Nation to a kind of underground world of street gangs connected in Russia, connected in Asia, connected in Japan, connected in Latin America, and Central America.

What we aim to do is up the penalties and create some new penalties which can really be effective in dealing with crime. The addition of the RICO statutes, the use of asset seizures and forfeitures, treating street gangs today the way mafia organized crime was treated 10 to 15 years ago can make a big dent and deter gangs. Most important to me is that it becomes a Federal offense for anyone to go out there and recruit a member of a gang that moves their stolen goods, illegal immigrants, drugs, guns, murder, extortion, witness intimidation across State lines.

Mr. President, I would like to make one last comment on another subject before I yield the floor.

END THE BOMBINGS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, this morning, on my way to work, on Connecticut Avenue, I ran into the fact that another bomb had been placed at a Planned Parenthood center. This is just January, and the number of these bombings and attempted bombings are already over six.

I rise today really to deplore these acts, and I rise today to say to the right-to-life movement: Please, make clear that terrorism is not part of your agenda. If you fail to do so and fail to do so now, I believe we are in for a terrible siege this year, if the month of January is any indication.

I am also hopeful that the Attorney General will join in the investigation and the subsequent prosecution as our legislation of the last session provides.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the floor.

Mr. GORTON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for not more than 5 minutes and that my remarks be included with the group of speakers, including the Senator from Iowa, [Mr. GRASSLEY], on alternative minimum tax relief.

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

Mr. GORTON. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. GORTON pertaining to the introduction of S. 181 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from North Dakota, Senator Dornan, is controlling the time until 12 noon.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I think the President said, "Mr. Dornan." Mr. Dornan is no longer serving in the House. I am Senator DORGAN from North Dakota. I would observe—I know the Senator knows the difference—but there is a substantial difference between former Congressman Dornan and Senator DORGAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. And the President apologizes for that. Mr. DORGAN, I do apologize. You are recognized, and you control the time until noon.

Mr. DORGAN. The President need not apologize. I was just calling attention to it.

Let me yield a couple minutes—

Mr. REID. How about 3 minutes.

Mr. DORGAN. Three minutes to the Senator from Nevada, Senator REID.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

ABORTION AND VIOLENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, prior to coming to this body I was an attorney, practiced law, I have great respect for the law. I tried dozens and dozens of cases before juries. I did not always agree with the result of the verdicts that the jury came to, but I always re-

spected what they did, their obligation to do what they felt was right. The U.S. Supreme Court, and other courts—I do not always agree with their decisions, but I respect the United States being a body that follows the law. We respect the law. We follow the law.

Mr. President, on the 24th anniversary of the Roe versus Wade decision, I feel it is appropriate that I come and offer a few words today about what is taking place in our country. My record—as you know, is that I am personally opposed to abortion. But, Mr. President, I am also opposed to what is going on in this country today where certain people feel that they are above the law, that the law is something that they can interpret on their own.

There is no justification for what is taking place in America today where violence is almost a way of life in some areas. Today on the news it had appeared that a bomb went off near an abortion clinic here in Washington, DC. It is not clear whether the bomb was meant to destroy the clinic, but all over the country there are abortion clinics that are being bombed. I think that is abhorrent and wrong.

Mr. President, if someone respects life, you cannot choose which life you respect. You cannot only respect the lives of those who agree with you politically or those who agree with certain decisions surrendered by the Supreme Court.

I am adamantly opposed to the use of violence to show one's displeasure with the law. I was the first Member of this body to come to the floor and denounce the killing of Dr. David Gunn in Florida. I am compelled to come to the floor again today, given the most recent bombings of abortion clinics.

It is incumbent upon the leaders of this country to condemn these shameful acts. It is incumbent upon the religious leaders that they condemn these shameful tactics. Yet we need more than people saying, well, I disagree with violence. We need people speaking out against this violence. We need people denouncing these acts. Through their silence, I believe there is an acquiescence to this violence.

The people who perpetrate these bombings are wrong. They are a fringe element. They are extremists who advocate violence as an alternative to meaningful debate and discussion. They believe, I assume, Mr. President, that they are above the law.

Let us continue to have passionate and vigorous debate on this subject and all other subjects, but do not take the law into our own hands. I repeat, those who respect life cannot choose which lives they respect. You cannot only respect the lives of those who agree with us.

Religion teaches us tolerance. This does not mean tolerance for only those people who agree with us. It means tolerance for all. If your message is to protect life, then you do not put other lives in jeopardy by your acts.

We have been told in Holy Scripture, Mr. President, as you have heard it

said, that it is no longer appropriate that we have an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. In fact, we have been told to turn the other cheek when we are struck. We have been told to love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you.

I do not know how people have been lost in this debate, Mr. President, how they feel that they can come and bomb places of business, hurting innocent people.

So I say, we must stop this violence. And the very first way of stopping the violence is to speak out against it. We must all speak out against these horrendous acts that are taking place in our country.

I express my appreciation to the Senator from North Dakota for allowing me to speak out of order.

Mr. DORGAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I yield myself such time as I may consume and ask unanimous consent that following my presentation the Senator from Florida, Senator GRAHAM, be yielded 10 minutes from my time.

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

(The remarks of Mr. DORGAN pertaining to the introduction of S. 181 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

THE AGENDA

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I just finished testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee on the issue of a constitutional amendment to balance the budget. When I appeared before the committee, there was a debt clock the chairman put up in the back of him. He hung it up in the room. It showed the debt increasing every second as we were there testifying. It was a fairly effective prop, I thought, because we ought to be concerned about the debt. And we are on the right subject when we are talking about eliminating the deficit and trying to reduce the Federal debt.

But I pointed out to the chairman of the committee that if we pass his proposed constitutional amendment to balance the budget, if we pass it right now, and then pass the proposed budget that will balance the budget in the year 2002, it doesn't stop the debt clock. The debt clock doesn't become a stopwatch on debt, because they are defining a balanced budget as a budget that takes all the money in the Social Security system that is coming in and uses it as other revenue to balance the Federal budget. The result is, in the year 2002, when they claim the budget will be in balance and they will comply with the constitutional requirement to balance the budget, the debt in America will increase by \$130 billion.

I went to a small school, a high school class of nine. We didn't take the most sophisticated arithmetic in the

world, but I guarantee you nobody in the country teaches that if you claim you balance the budget, it is OK for your debt to continue to increase. Let me say it again. They will enshrine in the U.S. Constitution a practice that takes dedicated trust funds that can be used only for Social Security to be used now as other revenue, and then claim they have balanced the budget, even as the Federal debt will continue to increase by \$130 billion a year after they say the budget is balanced.

It is not budgeting that is correct, it is budgeting that—if you were in the private sector saying, by the way, in my business, I am going to take the workers' pension funds and use them to cover my operating loss in the business, it would get you sent off to 2 years of hard tennis in a minimum security prison. That is illegal. In Congress, they can simply change the definition so it allows them to say they have balanced the budget, even when they have not balanced the budget and are still borrowing \$130 billion a year more. That is not a good recipe for my children or yours. And it is not an honest way to balance the budget.

We will introduce tomorrow, a group of us, a constitutional amendment to balance the budget that says, yes, we support it. Let us do it the right way, the honest way. If we are going to balance the budget, let us do it the old-fashioned way. In fact, putting the provision in the Constitution won't balance the budget. It will be men and women who vote for a combination of taxing and spending changes that ultimately will balance the budget.

We have made progress, and I am proud to say that I am part of the team that has allowed us to make that progress year after year, reductions in appropriations in program after program, year after year, biting the bullet to do the tough things, make the hard choices, to bring the budget deficit down 4 years in a row, down by 60 percent. I am pleased to be a part of the group in this body that says that is the right course, it's the responsible thing, a thing we ought to do for our children's future.

Now, Mr. President, let me make a final point. We are going to introduce that tomorrow with eight or nine of us as original cosponsors. I hope that will be considered whenever there is consideration of a constitutional amendment to balance the budget. That is an important first topic for this Congress—again, how to get our fiscal house in order. But there is much more to be done.

The convening of a new Congress is not just about trumpeting by elephants or parading by donkeys; it is about people representing men and women of good will across the country who send us here to do the public's business and to try to do the things that improve the future of this country.

We care about education because that is America's future. What do we do to improve education in this coun-

try? That is a topic that we need to address. We can address that in a bipartisan way, in my judgment.

What about health care? What about 10 million kids who don't have health care? What about a 2-year-old that is crying with an ache in his stomach, but his parents don't have money in their wallets and can't take him to a doctor they believe in? We should address health care. That is the right subject.

What about the environment? Nobody in America would have predicted that in the past 20 years we have doubled our use of energy, but we now have cleaner air and cleaner water. Why did we end up with cleaner air and water when we doubled our use of energy? Because this Congress said to those who pollute this country, "You can't do that anymore." We are not done with that job. There is more to do. But that is the right topic as well, to improve the future of this country.

Crime. Yes, crime. They say statistics show that crime has diminished. We have a lot to do on crime. I am somebody who believes we ought to say to people in this country: If you commit a violent act, you stay in jail until the end of your time, and no time off for good behavior. You go to prison and stay there. We have a lot to do on crime. We can do that, I hope, in a bipartisan way.

Trade. I hope in the next few days my distinguished colleague from West Virginia and I will introduce, once again, a piece of legislation we introduced toward the end of the last session, which says, what about the other deficit, the deficit that is increasing at an alarming rate, the merchandise trade deficit, which was the largest in the history of this country last year, breaking records 3 years in a row. What about the other deficit? How does this country get its trade in balance? Because the trade deficit, after all, must be repaid in the future with a lower standard of living in this country. That is why it is dangerous for our future. That represents an export of American jobs. Jobs that used to be here are there. Jobs that used to be ours are theirs. We must confront this trade deficit. It is dangerous for this country to proceed without dealing with the other deficit, the merchandise trade deficit, which, after all, in my judgment, is the deficit that will inexorably weaken this country.

No country will long remain a world economic power unless it retains a strong manufacturing base. The merchandise trade deficit represents the erosion of America's manufacturing base, the loss of American jobs, jobs that pay well, jobs that have good benefits. That is why it is so critically important to the future of our economy. I will be introducing again some days ahead, with Senator BYRD, the distinguished Senator from West Virginia, a piece of legislation that establishes an emergency commission to make recommendations in how to address this