

telecasts of their games, a boon they receive courtesy of the antitrust exemption granted by us—the Congress. The antitrust exemption contained in the Sports Broadcasting Act permits teams to pool their television rights, yielding annual revenues of \$2.2 billion to the National Football League and \$425 million to Major League Baseball.

This legislation would require, as a condition for retaining this lucrative antitrust exemption, that Major League Baseball and the National Football League place into a trust fund 10 percent of the revenues the Leagues receive from network telecasts. Each sport's trust fund, in turn, would be used to finance up to one half the cost of constructing a new stadium or park, or renovating an older one, for any of the teams seeking such financing—so long as the local government has agreed to provide one dollar for every two furnished by the trust fund. In other words, if a pro team in Wilmington wanted to build a \$200 million stadium, it could obtain \$100 million from the trust fund, a government entity in Delaware would have to kick in \$50 million, and the remaining money would have to come from the team owner or some other source. In addition to allowing the Leagues to retain their current antitrust exemption, the bill would expand the exemption to give the Leagues the authority to prevent member clubs from moving their franchises.

To my mind, this bill strikes just the right balance. Let us not saddle cities and taxpayers with the exorbitant—sometimes mind-boggling—costs of building new stadiums while the teams and their owners sit back and wait for the highest bidder. If the Leagues want to keep their antitrust exemption, the major source of their millions, they should be willing to do their fair share. This legislation's condition that in exchange for the exemption, the teams set aside 10 percent of their broadcast revenues, is a reasonable and much needed measure to restore some balance to a negotiating process that is out-of-whack.●

#### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS' ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

●Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the National Association of Letter Carriers for its efforts to combat hunger in America through its annual national food drive.

Each year, on the second Saturday in May, letter carriers in more than 10,000 cities collect canned food along their postal routes to supply local food banks. Last year, over 50 million pounds of food were donated to feed the hungry, and I am confident that 1999's drive will be an even greater success. In just seven years of operation, the National Association of Letter Carrier's national food drive has grown into America's largest one-day food collection effort.

To participate, residents in participating communities need only place a can of non-perishable food near their mailbox—their letter carrier does the rest. In addition to making regular pick-ups and deliveries, their letter carrier collects donations and transports them to a nearby postal station. Food is then sorted and distributed to local charities.

Mr. President, an estimated 30 million people go hungry every day in America. Food shortages hit children especially hard in the summer months, when school lunches are not available and many charity pantries run out of supplies donated during the Winter holiday season. The Letter Carriers' food drive makes a critical contribution at a time when help is urgently needed.

I commend the National Association of Letter Carriers for its leadership in organizing this annual event. The NALC's organizing partners—the United States Postal Service, the AFL-CIO, and the United Way—also deserve our thanks.

Finally, Mr. President, I urge each American to leave a can of food by the mailbox on Saturday. Together, we can fight hunger and make a difference in the lives of millions of Americans.●

#### ARSON AWARENESS WEEK

●Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to remind the Senate and the American Public that this is Arson Awareness Week. It is that time once a year that we stop to assess how arson affects our lives. Each year hundreds of Americans die because of the arsonist's match. Mr. President, I am outraged at this and the countless firefighters who are killed every year attempting to extinguish intentionally set fires. Arsonists should be swiftly brought to justice, especially when firefighters lives are put on the line.

When a fire is intentionally set in the center of a retail city district the damaged property becomes blight on the entire community. Like cancer, arson degrades the whole area. Jobs are lost, tax bases are depleted and, most importantly, people are often killed.

As a member of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I have long been associated with the war against arson. I have consistently supported stricter penalties for convicted arsonists. I have supported the efforts of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms that assist our fine state and local fire investigators. I have also supported the United States Fire Administration which provides valuable research grants and public education efforts geared toward controlling arson.

Mr. President I remind all Americans that arson is still a serious problem, one we must continually work together to solve.●

#### TRIBUTE TO KEVIN L. REICHERT

●Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I come to the floor today with a heavy

heart. If it hadn't happened already, the Yugoslav conflict just hit home.

Early yesterday morning, NATO experienced its first fatalities in its campaign against Yugoslavia. And Chetek, Wisconsin found its way into the news.

Army Chief Warrant Officer Kevin L. Reichert, of Chetek, Wisconsin, was killed aboard an Apache helicopter during a nighttime training mission in Albania. My thoughts, prayers, and sympathies go out to the friends and family of Kevin Reichert. We can all be proud of Kevin's service to his country.

The 28-year old from Wisconsin's Chippewa Valley leaves behind his wife of eight years, Ridgeley, and 3 kids. I thank the proud residents of Chetek and of Barron County, Wisconsin, for helping to raise such a brave and dedicated American. I hope the Reichert family and the 1,700 people of Chetek will take solace in the gratitude of our Nation.

The NATO effort in Yugoslavia has its costs. Kevin's death, and that of his co-pilot, David Gibbs, of Ohio, are sad reminders that conflicts like the one in Yugoslavia, while they seem far away, have a very real impact at home.

Mr. President, I am sure my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Kevin Reichert for his dedicated service to the United States.●

#### HONORING ELMA F. BRITTINGHAM

●Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, it is with utmost respect and admiration that I rise today to acknowledge the contributions of a woman who, at the age of 99, has never tired of giving her all to her country and to the men and women of the Mill Creek Fire Company—Elma F. Brittingham of Marshallton, Delaware, affectionately known to everyone as "Mom." On May 8, 1999, Mill Creek will honor her at its 72nd Annual Dinner for 72 years of unmatched volunteer service to the Mill Creek Fire Company. Yes, Elma is a charter member of the Mill Creek Fire Company and she remains an institution in the Fire Hall.

This well-deserved recognition is much less than I or anyone in Delaware could ever do to capture just how significant Elma's life has been to everyone with whom she has come in contact. Her legacy is etched in the memory of every fire service professional and volunteer in our State and her life continues to be an inspiration to all of us.

While many remember Elma for her 50 years of preparing turkey dinners for the Annual Volunteer Fire Conference, or her playing Yen Man in the company minstrel show, she is most remembered for her work on the front-line, fighting fires under the most dangerous circumstances. The one she most vividly remembers was during World War II when she helped put out a fire at an old prison farm on Duncan Road in Wilmington during a thunder and lightning storm. With this same energy and vigor, Elma is as spirited

today, five decades later, as she was more than a half-century ago.

I know that there may be someone like Elma Brittingham in other States, but none can be more important to a community than this totally committed, selfless woman that I honor today. She is what we, as Americans, should aspire to be—a loyal public servant, an example of excellence and achievement in everything she has committed to accomplishing, and a credit to her community and to her country. I am deeply privileged to know this woman and proud to call her a heroic Delawarean and an outstanding American.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BETTY FRANKLIN-HAMMONDS

●Mr. FEINGOLD. On April 28th, Madison lost a dedicated advocate and a dear friend: Betty Franklin-Hammonds.

Betty's life story is a catalogue of remarkable achievements. From her tenure as the executive director of the Madison Urban League, where she spearheaded a study on the gap in achievement between black and white students in the Madison school system, to her leadership at the Madison Times and the numerous awards she received for her work, there are countless examples of Betty's effectiveness as an advocate in the community.

But it was her character, more than any title or award, that defined Betty and made her such a powerful presence in our community. She was a truth teller who never backed down from a fight, a woman who led by example and wasn't shy about asking others to make the commitment to change she demanded from herself.

Betty was a unique combination of a quiet dignity and a fierce passion for justice that could only be quenched by constant motion. She worked tirelessly, as a social worker, at the Madison chapter of the NAACP, at the Urban League, and at the Madison Times, to make our city a better place.

Her own words tell us more about Betty than any tribute ever could. After receiving an award for her humanitarian work, she once told a crowd that "everybody can be great because everybody can serve." By that measure, Betty Franklin-Hammonds was great indeed.●

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

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.

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I have several unanimous consent requests. All of them are agreed to on both sides of the aisle. Let me just go through them.

#### DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MAY 2 THROUGH 8, 1999, AS THE 14TH ANNUAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK, AND DESIGNATING TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1999, AS NATIONAL TEACHER DAY

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed immediately to the consideration of S. Res. 97, submitted earlier today by Senator COVERDELL for himself and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 97) designating the week of May 2 through 8, 1999, as the 14th annual Teacher Appreciation Week, and designating Tuesday, May 4, 1999, as National Teacher Day.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 97) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 97

Whereas the foundation of American freedom and democracy is a strong, effective system of education where every child has the opportunity to learn in a safe and nurturing environment;

Whereas a first rate education system depends on a partnership between parents, principals, teachers, and children;

Whereas much of the success of our Nation during the 20th Century (the American Century) is the result of the hard work and dedication of teachers across the Nation;

Whereas in addition to a child's family, knowledgeable and skillful teachers can have a profound impact on the child's early development and future success;

Whereas many people spend their lives building careers, teachers spend their careers building lives;

Whereas our Nation's teachers serve our Nation's children beyond the call of duty as coaches, mentors, and advisers without regard to fame or fortune; and

Whereas across our Nation nearly 3,000,000 men and women experience the joys of teaching young minds the virtues of reading, writing, and arithmetic: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of May 2 through 8, 1999, as the "14th Annual Teacher Appreciation Week";

(2) designates Tuesday, May 4, 1999, as "National Teacher Day"; and

(3) calls upon the people of the United States to take a moment out of their busy lives to say thanks and pay tribute to our Nation's teachers.

#### THE CALENDAR

#### DANTE B. FASCELL NORTH-SOUTH CENTER ACT OF 1999

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 73, H.R. 432.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 432) to designate the North/South Center as the Dante B. Fascell North-South Center.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that the statements relating to the bill appear in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 432) was considered read a third time and passed.

#### CONDEMNING THE ESCALATING VIOLENCE, THE GROSS VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ATTACKS AGAINST CIVILIANS, AND THE ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW A DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT IN SIERRA LEONE

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed immediately to the consideration of Calendar No. 74, S. Res. 54.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 54) condemning the escalating violence, the gross violation of human rights and attacks against civilians, and the attempt to overthrow a democratically elected government in Sierra Leone.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be placed in the RECORD at the appropriate place as if read.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 54) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 54), with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 54

Whereas the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) military junta and the rebel fighters of the Revolutionary United Front