

SUPPORTING THE CAPITOL HILL
POLICE

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, briefly, in morning business, I want to take 2 minutes to speak to a related topic. I thank, again, the Senate Sergeant at Arms for his leadership, Jim Ziegler.

I thank Senator BENNETT for the key appropriations role he plays in his position as chairman. I thank Senator HARRY REID, who I think is the only Senator who has served on the Capitol Hill police force, and there are a good many others as well.

I want to, one final time, speak to the issue before us. We lost two fine police officers, Officer Chestnut and Agent Gibson. All of us were affected by this tragedy but, first and foremost, their families. We made a commitment to do everything we could to make sure this never happens again.

It is not possible to have any 100-percent guarantee, but we made that commitment, and we certainly need to, therefore, make the commitment by way of spending the money to make sure we have the necessary personnel to have two officers at each one of these posts. Otherwise, if we only have one officer, that officer is in real jeopardy.

I say to my colleagues—I will speak on it week after week—I believe we are going to get this done. I know the Capitol Police Union is very active. It is true sometimes two policemen will be on one door, and there will not be that many people entering. The point is, at other times in the day, many people are entering. Even if it is only a few, all it takes—unfortunately, we know this; we have been through this nightmare—is one deranged individual to show up at one of these posts where there is only one officer, or that one deranged individual comes in as 30 or 40 other people are streaming in, and that police officer may not only not be able to defend the public and defend us but may not be able to defend himself or herself.

This is no small issue. The request has been made, and it is crystal clear what we need to do. We better live up to our commitment, and we better provide the funding to support the Capitol Hill police. I cannot think of anything more important for us to do internally.

I thank my colleagues, and I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.,
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2000

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned under the previous order.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:38 p.m., adjourned until Monday, May 1, 2000, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate April 27, 2000:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

EDWARD M. BOLEN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS (NEW POSITION)

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

NORMAN J. PATTIZ, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR A TERM EXPIRING AUGUST 13, 2001, VICE DAVID W. BURKE, RESIGNED.

WITHDRAWAL

Executive message transmitted by the President to the Senate on April 27, 2000, withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

EDWARD M. BOLEN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS (NEW POSITION), WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON MARCH 30, 2000.