

"My greatest regret for him is that he didn't have the time that he deserved to enjoy himself more," Howard said. "I feel a real sense of loss. He was a great, great man."

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I rise today to join with my colleagues in mourning the loss of Senator PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia.

He was a man that I respected and admired. All of us here in the Senate feel his absence acutely. Paul COVERDELL was a fixture in the Senate. I cannot recall how often I have sat at my desk and, looking up at C-SPAN, saw him there leading his party on one difficult issue after another. He did so honorably, tenaciously, and modestly. And, of course, he did so effectively.

I feel a real void in the Senate Chamber without his presence and feel a sense of surprise when I look up and see someone other than Senator COVERDELL at the Republican floor manager's desk.

PAUL COVERDELL touched many lives. I am privileged to have known him and count myself lucky to have served in the Senate with him. He was a unique and truly special person, taken from us too young and so suddenly.

I send to his family, his friends, and his staff my deepest condolences. He was a good man who will be sorely missed. But he will also be remembered by us all, and his spirit will never leave us.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I join my colleagues in expressing the grief felt by us all at the passing of Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

As a fellow Southerner, I can tell you that PAUL epitomized all that is good and noble about the South. He was principled, but always looked for workable solutions to problems. He was a determined advocate, but always added an air of civility to this chamber. He was a Republican through and through, but always sought out ways to work with the other side of the chamber.

My friend, the Senior Senator from New York, called Senator COVERDELL a man of peace. I think that sums up his contribution to this world very eloquently.

His work, as director of the Peace Corps during a time of world transition, was extremely important. He brought the Peace Corps to the nations of the Warsaw Pact and the former Soviet Union. This single decision may harvest benefits to this nation that we will enjoy for many generations.

Had Senator COVERDELL's life work ended there, he would have accomplished much for which he and the nation could be proud. However, fortunately for the people of Georgia, he continued his life in public service.

When I came to the Senate in 1997, one of the first bills that I worked on as a Democratic sponsor was with PAUL COVERDELL. I will always remember the warm reception that he gave me, and the encouragement to go forward with the Coverdell-Landrieu Protecting the Rights of Property Owners Act.

Since I had just finished a bruising campaign it was such a pleasure to be

welcomed in such a warm and bipartisan manner from this southern gentleman.

Senator COVERDELL was also an early and ardent supporter of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act. As many in this Chamber well know, I have pestered and cajoled my colleagues on CARA for 2½ years. PAUL must have seen it coming and was one of the first to sign on.

For his leadership on this, I owe him a debt of gratitude I cannot repay.

Senator COVERDELL shall be missed, in this chamber, by the people of Louisiana, and by people throughout the country. My deepest condolences to his family.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1796

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I have a unanimous consent request for the leader.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order for the majority leader, after consultation with the minority leader, to proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 460, S. 1796, under the following limitations: 2 hours for debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking members, or their designees.

I further ask unanimous consent that the only amendment in order be a Mack, Lautenberg, Leahy, and Feinstein substitute amendment No. 4021.

Finally, I ask unanimous consent that following the use or yielding back of time, and the disposition of the above-listed amendment, the bill be read the third time, and the Senate proceed to a vote on passage of the bill as amended, if amended.

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

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased that we have reached a time agreement to take up and consider S.1796, the Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act. However, it is regrettable that we could not pass this important legislation by unanimous consent this week, as I had hoped.

The Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act addresses an issue that should deeply concern all of us: the enforcement of court-ordered judgments that compensate the victims of state-sponsored terrorism. This legislation has the strong support of American families who have lost loved ones due to the callous indifference to life of international terrorist organizations and their client states, and it deserves our support as well.

One such family is the family of Alisa Flatow, an American student killed in Gaza in a 1995 bus bombing. The Flatow family obtained a \$247 million judgment in Federal court against the Iranian-sponsored Islamic Jihad, which proudly claimed responsibility for the bombing that took her life. But the family has been unable to enforce this judgment because Iranian assets in the United States remain frozen.

This bill would provide an avenue for the Flatow family and others in their position to recover the damages due them under American law. It would permit successful plaintiffs to attach certain foreign assets to satisfy judgments against foreign states for personal injury or death caused by an act of torture, extrajudicial killing, aircraft sabotage, hostage taking, or the provision of material support or resources for such an act. Meanwhile, it allows the President to waive the bill's provisions if that is necessary for the national security interest.

Some have raised concerns that the legislation could cause the United States to violate its treaty obligations to protect the diplomatic property of other nations, and thus provoke retaliation against our diplomatic property in other nations. I believe that this bill can and should be construed as being consistent with our international obligations, and I trust the State Department to ensure that it does not compromise the integrity of our diplomatic property abroad. I want to commend Senator BIDEN for working with the sponsors and the State Department to help fashion the changes to S.1796 that help accomplish that goal.

I am also pleased that the time agreement will allow the Senate to consider a Mack-Lautenberg-Leahy-Feinstein amendment dealing with support for victims of international terrorism. This amendment will enable the Office for Victims of Crime to provide more immediate and effective assistance to Americans who are victims of terrorism abroad—Americans like those killed or injured in the embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania, and in the Pan Am 103 bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland. These victims deserve help, but according to OVC, existing programs are failing to meet their needs. Working with OVC, we have crafted legislation to correct this problem.

Our amendment will permit the Office for Victims of Crime to serve these victims better by expanding the types of assistance for which the VOCA emergency reserve fund may be used, and the range of organizations to which such funds may be provided. These changes will not require new or appropriated funds: They simply allow OVC greater flexibility in using existing reserve funds to assist victims of terrorism abroad, including the victims of the Lockerbie and embassy bombings.

Our amendment will also authorize OVC to raise the cap on the VOCA emergency reserve fund from \$50 million to \$100 million, so that the fund is large enough to cover the extraordinary costs that would be incurred if a terrorist act caused massive casualties, and to replenish the reserve fund with unobligated funds from its other grant programs.

At the same time, the amendment will simplify the presently-authorized system of using VOCA funds to provide

victim compensation to American victims of terrorism abroad, by permitting OVC to establish and operate an international crime victim compensation program. This program will, in addition, cover foreign nationals who are employees of any American government institution targeted for terrorist attack. The source of funding is the VOCA emergency reserve fund, which we authorized in an amendment I offered to the 1996 Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act.

Finally, our amendment clarifies that deposits into the Crime Victims Fund remain available for intended uses under VOCA when not expended immediately. This should quell concerns raised regarding the effect of spending caps included in appropriations bills last year and this. I understand the appropriations' actions to have deferred spending but not to have removed deposits from the Fund. This provision makes that explicit.

I want to thank Senator FEINSTEIN for her support and assistance on this initiative. Senator FEINSTEIN cares deeply about the rights of victims, and I am pleased that we could work together on some practical, pragmatic improvements to our federal crime victims' laws. We would have liked to do more. In particular, we would have liked to allow OVC to deliver timely and critically needed emergency assistance to all victims of terrorism and mass violence occurring outside the United States and targeted at the United States or United States nationals.

Unfortunately, to achieve bipartisan consensus on our amendment, we were compelled to restrict OVC's authority, so that it may provide emergency assistance only to United States nationals and employees. It seems more than a little bizarre to me that the richest country in the world would reserve emergency aid for victims of terrorism who can produce a passport or W-2. I will continue to work with OVC and victims' organization to remedy this anomaly.

I regret that we have not done more for victims this year, or during the last few years. I have on several occasions noted my concern that we not dissipate the progress we could be making by focusing exclusively on efforts to amend the Constitution. Regretfully, I must note that the pace of victims legislation has slowed noticeably and many opportunities for progress have been squandered.

I am hopeful that we can make some progress this year by passing our amendment to S.1796, and I look forward to continuing to work with the Administration, victims groups, prosecutors, judges and other interested parties on how we can most effectively assist victims and provide them the greater voice and rights that they deserve.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair lays before the Senate the certificate of appointment of Senator-designate ZELL MILLER of the State of Georgia.

Without objection, it will be placed on file, and the certificate of appointment will be deemed to have been read.

The certificate of appointment reads as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that, pursuant to the power vested in me by the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the State of Georgia, I, Roy E. Barnes, the Governor of said State, do hereby appoint Zell Miller, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States until the vacancy therein, caused by the death of Paul Coverdell, is filled by election as provided by law.

Witness; His Excellency our Governor Roy E. Barnes, and our seal hereto affixed at Atlanta this 24th day of July, in the year of our Lord 2000.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. If the Senator-designate will present himself at the desk, the Chair will administer the oath of office as required by the Constitution and prescribed by law.

Please stand.

(Senators rising.)

The Senator-designate, escorted by Senator CLELAND, advanced to the desk of the President pro tempore; the oath prescribed by law was administered to him by the President pro tempore; and he subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. He told me his mother was from South Carolina. He's bound to be all right.

WELCOME TO SENATOR ZELL MILLER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWNBACK). The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, in just a moment we will hear the maiden speech of the new junior Senator from Georgia. First, I want to say he is certainly going to have an excellent senior Senator from Georgia with whom to work. I hope he will follow Senator CLELAND's admonition to "go for the max" every day.

We extend our congratulations and our hearty welcome to the new junior Senator from Georgia, Mr. ZELL MILLER. We spoke briefly, and he knows we have heavy hearts still for our friend,

Senator PAUL COVERDELL, but we appreciate the way in which he has approached this position already.

He is one of our colleagues. He is a Senator. We welcome him, and we commit to him to work with him on behalf of the people of Georgia and the United States.

Congratulations and welcome.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I join the majority leader and my colleagues in welcoming the newest Member of the Senate, Senator ZELL MILLER of Georgia.

Two things bring ZELL MILLER to the Senate. The first is the sudden death of our friend PAUL COVERDELL which has left us all very deeply saddened. The other thing that brings ZELL MILLER to the Senate is his own profound sense of duty to his State and his Nation.

ZELL MILLER did not seek this job. In fact, he did not want it. Two weeks ago, he and his wife Shirley were living in his hometown, a tiny speck on the map, a place called Young Harris in the mountains of north Georgia. They were living in the same house his mother built herself nearly 70 years ago with yellow stones she hauled out of a nearby river.

He was teaching history and politics at Young Harris College where he began his working life more than 40 years earlier and where his father had taught before him. He was happier than he could ever recall being. He had no intention of ever holding public office again and certainly no intention of moving to Washington.

Then came the awful shock of Senator COVERDELL's death. In the days that followed, when he was asked if he would serve out the term, ZELL MILLER realized there was something that had a stronger claim on his heart than that old yellow stone house and hills surrounding it; that was serving the people of Georgia.

ZELL MILLER has spent more than 40 years doing exactly that. He began his public life in 1958 when he ran for mayor of his hometown. In 1960, he was elected to the Georgia State Senate at the age of 28. In 1974, he won his first statewide race for Lieutenant Governor, an office he held for 16 years. In 1990 and again in 1994, the people of Georgia chose him to be their Governor.

During his first term as Governor, ZELL MILLER guided Georgia through a serious recession without raising taxes or cutting vital services. Throughout his years as Governor, ZELL MILLER invested heavily in all levels of Georgia's public education system, including statewide prekindergarten, school technology, and new school construction. A cornerstone of his legacy as Georgia's Governor is the HOPE Scholarship Program, which covers college tuition for every Georgia student who graduates high school with a B average or better.

Years before others, he saw how technology could bring new hope and opportunities to rural communities. In his