

yields. The Kelley Grain company is considered to be one of the primary economic development initiatives in the nation, and Mr. Kelley's work has been recognized by both the former and current prime ministers of Moldova.

In addition to his economic endeavors, Mr. Kelley has taken his philanthropic activities abroad as well. While in Moldova, he noticed a deficiency in their health care system and organized a medical team to travel to Moldova. While there, this team trained physicians and nurses in techniques to implant pacemakers, provided much needed supplies for cardiovascular surgeries, provided consultation and echocardiographic imaging at the cardiology center, visited pediatric wards and orphanages, and provided the rural city of Gaushen with antibiotics, blood pressure cuffs, and antihypertensive medications.

I would like to commend James Kelley for his efforts and tireless dedication to helping the people of this struggling country. His humanitarian work in the Republic of Moldova can only enhance the relationship between our two countries. I am honored to be able to recognize his contributions and wish him continued success in the future.●

HONORING THE CALL D.C.

● Mr. BROWBACK. Mr. President, today, I rise to recognize The Call D.C., a group of young people who will gather in Washington, D.C. September 2, 2000 to strengthen and renew their commitment to God, their families and their local communities.

The Call D.C. is a non-denominational gathering of youth and their parents, youth leaders, pastors, and Church leaders who are unified in their steadfast commitment to strengthening their faith in God and their concern for their local communities and our nation.

I have long been greatly concerned about the state of our culture, and the state of our society. Young people today are barraged with images of violence, hate, and vulgarity that pour forth from our airwaves and our entertainment. The challenges young people face seem to grow more difficult, and more pervasive. Where once we, as a society, felt free to affirm faith in God, and adherence to high standards, such beliefs are now often called into question.

It is thus even more exciting to see many young people, such as these young people, who are willing to lead by example and focus their efforts on steadily improving their families, communities and our nation. These young people, who represent communities and religions from around our nation, will come together on September 2 and use their assembly as a time to pray for strengthen their faith in God, their commitment to their families through reconciling with their parents, and nurturing their walk with God.

These young people remind us of our solemn duty not just as parents, teachers, business leaders or public servants but as citizens of this great nation—"a nation under God . . ." I commend them for reminding us that we must first focus on God and he will strengthen us and enable us to build up our families, our local communities and our nation. I applaud all the participants of the Call D.C. and thank them for their work and their commitment and their heart for God.●

ON THE MARRIAGE OF MARK PRESTON AND MEREDITH RAY BONNER

● Mr. L. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Mark Preston and Meredith Ray Bonner on their recent wedding, which took place on July 8, 2000, at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Atlanta, Georgia. The groom's parents Eugene and Mary Preston were in attendance, as was the bride's mother, Mrs. Phillip Ray Bonner.

Mark proposed on December 28, 1999, in the same parking lot where they first kissed, and the couple spent their honeymoon in North Carolina.

As many of you know, Mark is the intrepid Roll Call reporter, famous for stalking unwary Members coming off the Senate floor or leaving the weekly policy lunches. Over time, Mark has become a fixture at the Ohio Clock and on the Hill.

The bride, now Meredith B. Preston, is also a journalist, and recently relocated to Washington from Atlanta. In fact, Mark and Meredith met as reporters at the Marietta Daily Journal.

I hope the entire Senate will join me in wishing Mark and Meredith the very best today and throughout the future.●

COLOMBIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to join people in New Jersey and throughout the nation in recognizing Colombia's 190 years of independence from Spain. On July 20, 1810, the citizens of Bogota created the first representative council to challenge Spanish authority. Total independence was proclaimed in 1813, and in 1819 the Republic of Greater Colombia was formed. In 1822, the United States became one of the first countries to recognize the new republic and to establish a resident diplomatic mission.

In addition to recognizing the day of Colombia's independence, this is an excellent opportunity to celebrate the contributions of the growing population of Colombian-Americans in New Jersey and throughout the United States. Almost 100,000 Colombian-Americans reside in Northern New Jersey alone. The Colombian-American culture is vibrant and rich and it is important to acknowledge the impact it is having on our communities.

While Colombia boasts one of the oldest democracies in South America,

that democracy faces many serious challenges today. Celebrating this day of independence reminds us that Colombia has a long journey ahead as it works to overcome the problems of drug trafficking and rebel violence that continue to plague its society. The United States Congress is committed to helping in that struggle in any way we can.

I commend the great accomplishments and contributions of the Colombian-American community and as we join Colombian-Americans in celebrating their nation's independence we also look to establishing peace and justice in their homeland.●

A TRIBUTE TO HENRI NSANJAMA

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to Henri Nsanjama, a champion of conservation who died on July 18, 2000. At the time of his death, Mr. Nsanjama was serving as vice president and senior advisor on Africa and Madagascar for the World Wildlife Fund here in Washington. Henri was an ardent supporter of measures to protect Africa's elephants and of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. I worked with him on both of these important issues. Henri would have been pleased to know that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is scheduled to vote in September to recommend that the full Senate ratify the Desertification Convention. So far, 168 countries have ratified the Desertification Convention and the U.S. is the only major industrial nation that has not done so. Henri worked hard to change that and ensure that biodiversity is protected in Africa and other parts of the world facing desertification.

A native of Malawi, Henri dedicated his life to the challenge of linking wildlife conservation with the needs of local communities. He believed that the most challenging aspect of his work was conserving wildlife without undue hardship to human beings.

Henri built his distinguished career through formal education and hands-on field work. He served as a Trainee Game Ranger in his native Malawi, where he recalled being inspired by the sight of more wild animals than people. He attended the College of African Wildlife Management in Mweka, Tanzania, and became a Warden at Kasungu National Park in Central Malawi.

Henri then moved to the United States, and earned a Bachelor's Degree in wildlife biology and natural resources economics at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. After Amherst, Henri returned home to Kasungu National Park and eventually was hired as Malawi's Deputy Director of National Parks and Wildlife. Three years later, he attended the University of Stirling, Scotland, where he received a Master's Degree in environmental management.

Anxious to apply his new knowledge, Henri returned home once again to become the Director of National Parks and Wildlife for Malawi. He also served as the Coordinator of Wildlife Activities of the ten countries of the Southern African Development Coordination.

In 1989, Henri was nominated Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, a post he held for a year before beginning work with WWF in 1990. Henri led WWF's program in Africa for 10 years. During that time he focused in particular on the areas of building the capacity of people and institutions to manage natural resources, community based natural resources management, protected areas management and species conservation. He was co-author of "Voices from Africa: Local Perspectives on Conservation."

A strong African voice for conservation, Henri also knew how to reach Americans. About Henri, Kathryn Fuller, President of WWF, said, "Throughout his 10 years with WWF, Henri was an inspirational ambassador for conservation with the American public and our partners in Africa. He was also at the forefront of efforts to include women in conservation and increase their educational opportunities."

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Henri is remembered as a gifted storyteller who touched the lives of everyone he encountered. In a profile five years ago, he was asked to describe his idea of perfect happiness. He answered, "As a Christian, it's believing in what good was given to you and to be able to do good things for others. This is my 19th year of working in conservation. I've never done anything else and I never want to."

In Henri's honor, the World Wildlife Fund will establish a fund to ensure that Africans are given the opportunity to care for and manage their natural resources, a fitting tribute for one who believed so strongly in the importance of empowering Africa's people to sustainably manage their natural heritage.

Henri's funeral in Malawi this week was attended by 3,000 people, including eight ministers of the Malawian government. He was clearly loved and respected by many and has left a lasting legacy of sustainable management of wildlife and wildlands in Africa. For this we should all be enormously grateful.●

CARDINAL ROGER MAHONY

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I have spoken several times on the floor this year about the flaws that plague our nation's administration of the death penalty. I am not alone in raising this issue. The American Bar Association, the Reverend Pat Robertson, the NAACP, the National Urban League, and many other organizations and individuals have added their voices to the

chorus of voices supporting a moratorium on executions. A moratorium would allow time to review the system by which we impose the sentence of death. The National Conference of Catholic Bishops and United States Catholic Conference are among those groups who agree that it is time to pause.

I rise today to share with my colleagues the statement of Cardinal Roger Mahony, the Archbishop of Los Angeles. At the National Press Club here in Washington in May, Cardinal Mahony spoke eloquently in support of a moratorium on executions. He said, "the time is right for a genuine and reasoned national dialogue." In a letter to me, he later said, "the obvious inequities that surround the death penalty are truly shameful."

I encourage my colleagues to take a moment to read his statement. And let us begin the reasoned national dialogue here, in the United States Senate. Mr. President, I ask that the full text of Cardinal Mahony's statement be printed in the RECORD.

The statement follows:

[The National Press Club Washington, DC,
May 25, 2000]

A WITNESS TO LIFE: THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
AND THE DEATH PENALTY
(Address by Cardinal Roger Mahony,
Archbishop of Los Angeles)

Good afternoon. As I begin my remarks, I would like to thank John Cushman and the Board of Governors of the National Press Club for the invitation to speak before you this afternoon. I would also like to acknowledge the members of the United States Catholic Conference Committees on Domestic and International Policy as well as staff from the United States Conference who are joining me for today's program. Finally, I would like to extend a special welcome to Frank and Ellen McNeirney, the co-founders and co-directors of Catholics Against Capital Punishment.

I come to this prestigious forum as a pastor who has witnessed firsthand the irreparable pain and sorrow caused by violence in our communities and in our nation. I have presided at the funerals of police officers killed in the line of duty. I have sought to console and comfort families who have lost children to gang violence and drive-by-shootings. I have heard the concerns and fears of parents who live—day in and day out—surrounded by the violence that haunts their neighborhoods.

As a Catholic priest, I have seen the pain of those whose lives have been forever altered by the loss of a loved one to senseless murder. Their own struggles have tested not only their faith but the faith of those who walk with them. As their own quest for healing has brought them closer to God, their witness has been a light of hope to those who accompany them.

The cost of crime and violence is real. It is measured in the lives of parents, children, and families, not anonymous statistics. The hopes, dreams, and human potential that will never be realized are a loss to each one of us.

I believe the Gospel teaches that people are responsible for their actions. I believe that the reality of sin demands that those who injure others must make reparation. But I do not believe that society is made safer, that our communities are made whole, or that our social fabric is strengthened by killing

those who kill others. Instead, the death penalty perpetuates an insidious cycle of violence that, in the end, diminishes all of us.

For many Catholics, Pope John Paul II's visit to the United States in January, 1999 was a turning point on this issue. In calling the abolition of the death penalty an authentically pro-life position, he challenged Catholics to protect not only innocent human life, as we do in opposing abortion and euthanasia, but also to defend the lives of those who may have done great evil by taking the life of another. To demonstrate this conviction in a dramatic and personal way, he appealed for the life of Darrell Mease whose execution was postponed in deference to the People's visit.

The words and actions of Pope John Paul II in St. Louis brought renewed attention to the debate on the death penalty. It provided renewed moral support to those who have worked tirelessly over the last several decades for an end to capital punishment, and placed the Catholic Church even more squarely on the side of those calling for its abolition.

In articulating a consistent ethic of life, the late Cardinal Joseph Bernardin provided the framework for a "sustained moral vision." It now appears that this consistent moral vision is beginning to take root and gain ground. A recent article in America magazine notes that pro-life Catholics are far more likely to reject capital punishment than Catholics who do not embrace the Church's stand on abortion. Among these pro-lifers, fifty-two percent reject the death penalty while support among all Catholics—in 1998—remained at around 70 percent. While we still have work to do in our community, it is clear that this consistent ethic of life is resonating in the pro-life community.

I recognize that there are distinct differences between abortion and the death penalty. But like abortion, the death penalty remains one of the more contentious and volatile issues facing the nation. It is an issue steeped in deep emotion. It is a topic that evokes visceral responses from supporters and opponents alike. It is a debate that, unfortunately, often generates more heat than light, more passion than persuasion.

Among the signs that the nation as a whole may be taking a new look at the death penalty is a recent ABC poll that indicates support for the death penalty is a recent ABC poll that indicates support for the death penalty has dropped to 64 percent from nearly 70 percent just a few years ago. And in a Time magazine online poll, 43 percent of respondents expressed support for abolition of the death penalty.

This gradual shift is remarkable given that virtually no elected leader in the last decade has made the case against the death penalty. It is worth noting that in the last two elections, presidential candidates from both parties supported capital punishment. In some cases, candidates went to great lengths to advertise their supported capital punishment. In some cases, candidates went to great lengths to advertise their support throughout their campaigns. Both President Clinton and Governor Bush halted their presidential campaigns to reject appeals to delay executions in highly publicized cases.

In California, 565 inmates await execution on death row. Unfortunately, support for the death penalty is one of the few things that unites politicians of both political parties.

So the fact that, in the face of almost universal support among elected officials, the death penalty is slowly losing support among the public at-large is hope that the tide may be turning.

Movies such as "Dead Man Walking" and the "The Green Mile," and TV shows such as