

National Grange,
 National Milk Producers Federation,
 National Oilseed Processors Association,
 National Pork Producers Council,
 National Potato Council,
 National Renderers Association,
 National Sunflower Association,
 North American Export Grain Association,
 North American Millers' Association,
 Pet Food Institute,
 Pioneer Hi-Bred International,
 Rice Millers' Association,
 Snack Food Association,
 Sunkist Growers,
 The Fertilizer Institute,
 United Egg Association,
 United Egg Producers,
 USA Poultry and Egg Export Council,
 U.S. Canola Association,
 U.S. Dairy Export Council,
 U.S. Meat Export Federation,
 U.S. Rice Producers Association,
 U.S. Rice Producers' Group,
 U.S. Wheat Associates,
 Wheat Export Trade Education Committee,
 Zeeland Farm Soya.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent there be a period of morning business for the transaction of routine morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes.

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

THE MARRIAGE PENALTY TAX

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on the issue of the marriage penalty. Today, the House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly, 270-158, in favor of eliminating the marriage penalty tax. Unfortunately, that doesn't mean it is going to become law because the President has vetoed the bill, and even the overwhelming margin of 270-158 is not enough to override the President's veto.

So 21 million American couples are going to have to suffer an inequity in the Tax Code again this year. They are going to have to suffer and pay \$1,400, average, in taxes just because they decided to get married. If two people, a policeman and a schoolteacher, get married, they get hit the hardest because they suffer from the marriage penalty tax.

I am very proud of the House of Representatives for trying to override the President's veto. I am proud that they spoke overwhelmingly, even though it was 20 votes shy of the two-thirds majority that was necessary. But we need to fix the marriage penalty tax. We need a President who will sign marriage penalty relief, and we need a President who will work with us to have real tax relief for the citizens of our country who are working so hard to make this economy great.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

THE AWARDING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM TO SENATOR GEORGE MCGOVERN

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today with great pride and satisfaction to address an occasion of great significance that occurred during the Senate's August recess. On August 9, President Clinton awarded the highly prestigious Medal of Freedom to former United States Senator George McGovern. This medal is the very highest award presented to civilians by the United States Government, and is an honor that is richly deserved.

Throughout his long and remarkable career, George McGovern has distinguished himself as a scholar, a political leader, a humanitarian and a person of extraordinary integrity. A generation of American political leaders still define themselves as McGovern Democrats. At Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, South Dakota, George McGovern effectively emphasized the great importance of public service and civic involvement. As President Kennedy's Director of Food for Peace he helped launch our nation's commitment to combat world hunger. On the floor of the United States Senate, McGovern was a powerful voice for rural America, for our nation's disadvantaged, as well as for an end to the Viet Nam conflict. Today, as ambassador to the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization in Rome, Ambassador McGovern has continued his work on nutrition and has articulated a visionary plan for a world school lunch program.

As my colleagues are very aware, Senator McGovern won the Democratic nomination for President of the United States in 1972 in what turned out to be an unsuccessful presidential campaign. Historians will long ponder what the course of American history might have been if that campaign had turned out differently. But we don't have to wait for the judgment of historians to know George McGovern's life has had an incredibly important and lasting impact on America and the world. George continues to persevere and his commitment to a better planet continues to shine.

We in South Dakota understandably feel a profound pride in the life and career of George McGovern—a son of a South Dakota minister, a military hero, a national political leader, and a diplomat of the highest order. I extend my enthusiastic congratulations to Senator McGovern and wish he and his family the very best as he continues his critically important work in Rome.

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, it has been more than a year since the Columbine tragedy, but still this Republican Congress refuses to act on sensible gun legislation.

Since Columbine, thousands of Americans have been killed by gunfire. Until

we act, Democrats in the Senate will read the names of some of those who have lost their lives to gun violence in the past year, and we will continue to do so every day that the Senate is in session.

In the name of those who died, we will continue this fight. Following are the names of some of the people who were killed by gunfire one year ago today. September 13, 1999: Jonathan Holmes, 32, Detroit, MI; Edward Luckenbill, 51, Louisville, KY; Adrian Offutt, 19, Louisville, KY; Finnis Parron, 31, Houston, TX; Sherlyn Robinson, 37, Houston, TX; Unidentified Male, 29, Norfolk, VA; and Unidentified Male, 43, Norfolk, VA.

We cannot sit back and allow such senseless gun violence to continue. The deaths of these people are a reminder to all of us that we need to enact sensible gun legislation now.

MARKETING VIOLENCE TO CHILDREN

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, the Senate Commerce Committee held a hearing today on the critical issue of the entertainment industry's marketing of violent material to children. While I am not a member of the Senate Commerce Committee, I appreciated Chairman McCain and Ranking Member Hollings giving me the opportunity to share my perspective as the parent of three children and some insights on the issue I have gained from a series of youth violence meetings in South Dakota.

In response to the numerous school shootings around our country, I've held a series of roundtable discussions in South Dakota with parents, students, school officials, and local law enforcement. I heard repeatedly from parents and students themselves that no one believes that explicitly violent movies, video games, or music are the sole causes for violence among our nation's youth. However, South Dakota students acknowledged that the entertainment industry has a large influence on their daily lives, and South Dakota parents specifically asked for additional resources they can use to help keep violent material out of their children's hands.

My wife, Barbara, and I recently accompanied our youngest child to her first day at college. Seeing our daughter settle into her new home in the freshman dormitory brought feelings of sadness at the inevitable passage of time. Barbara and I also were relieved, in a sense, by the fact that our daughter's first day of college also marked the successful completion of her childhood. I can sympathize with the parents of children just entering their teen years who are concerned that it will be increasingly difficult to keep objectionable material from their sons and daughters as they grow up.

That is why I am troubled by the results of the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) Report on the Marketing

of Violent Entertainment to Children. As you know, the President asked the FTC to investigate two simple questions: Do the movie, music recording, and computer game industries market to young people products that contain violent content in a way that undermines the ratings they themselves apply to their products? If so, is that target marketing intentional? According to the recently-released FTC report, the answer to both questions appears to be yes."

The FTC report found that 80 percent of movies rated R" for violence were targeted to children under 17. A movie industry document even acknowledged that [o]ur goal was to find the elusive teen target audience and make sure everyone between the ages of 12-18 was exposed to the film." Another document spoke of using youth groups such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and 4-H Clubs in the market testing of R-rated" films.

Teenagers apparently have also been the target of the music industry's efforts to sell CDs with explicit content labels. According to the FTC report, all music recordings used in the study were in some way targeted toward children under 17. This practice included the placing advertising in media specifically aimed at a youth audience. Finally, the FTC report noted that 70 percent of all video games with "Mature" ratings for violence were targeted toward youth.

It is important to note that the FTC report also conducted studies on children's ability to access these products. The FTC found that most retailers make little effort to restrict children's access to products with violent content. Almost half of the movie theaters used in the study admitted children ages 13 to 16 to R-rated" films even when not accompanied by an adult. The FTC study also showed that unaccompanied children were able to buy explicit recordings and Mature-rated" video games 85 percent of the time.

The FTC's findings are staggering, and I am eager to hear the entertainment industry's response to the report. Clearly, the entertainment industry and its retail partners must refocus their efforts and work with the FTC and concerned members of Congress like myself to keep violent material out of the hands of children.

It is my hope that the entertainment industry will take this opportunity to help restore the faith of the American public in its voluntary ratings system. Parents in South Dakota and around the country must also have resources they can trust to help them prevent youth violence in their own communities.

I look forward to working with my Senate colleagues and members of the industry on ways to keep violent material out of the hands of children without infringing on fundamental First Amendment rights.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, September 12, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,684,118,446,519.63, five trillion, six hundred eighty-four billion, one hundred eighteen million, four hundred forty-six thousand, five hundred nineteen dollars and sixty-three cents.

Five years ago, September 12, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,964,466,000,000, four trillion, nine hundred sixty-four billion, four hundred sixty-six million.

Ten years ago, September 12, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,232,127,000,000, three trillion, two hundred thirty-two billion, one hundred twenty-seven million.

Fifteen years ago, September 12, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,823,101,000,000, one trillion, eight hundred twenty-three billion, one hundred one million.

Twenty-five years ago, September 12, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$549,340,000,000, five hundred forty-nine billion, three hundred forty million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,134,778,446,519.63, five trillion, one hundred thirty-four billion, seven hundred seventy-eight million, four hundred forty-six thousand, five hundred nineteen dollars and sixty-three cents, during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. EMILY E. ROME

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I hereby recognize Ms. Emily E. Rome of the Paterson School District as the 2000-2001 Passaic County Teacher of the Year. For the past 50 years, Ms. Rome has served as a physical education teacher and has received numerous awards and accolades along the way. Her accomplishments range from prestigious recognition by the U.S. Congress and the Governor of New Jersey to various awards granted by the New Jersey Education Association and the National Education Association.

However, the effectiveness of her service reaches far beyond the view of the public eye. In the classroom, Ms. Rome has dedicated herself to creating a supportive and productive environment for the youth of Passaic County. As an educator, she has helped to shape the mind and spirit of these individuals during a crucial stage of development in their lives. Further, as a member of the community, Ms. Rome has demonstrated the high level of service and commitment that we all should strive to achieve.

Ms. Rome's accomplishments and accolades reflect only a small portion of the many contributions she has made to those she has served. Her efforts have spanned from the children of Passaic County to a variety of young individ-

uals who aspire to follow in her footsteps and education and service in the future. She is an exemplar of the professionalism that we hope to find in our educators, and the type of citizen that we hope to find in our communities. Ms. Rome is a representative of excellence, and her dedication to the world both inside and outside of the classroom is to be commended.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT CRESANTI

• Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my employees, Robert Cresanti. Robert has worked as my staff director on the Special Committee which addressed the Y2K problem which I chaired and has also served as a subcommittee staff director and counsel on the Banking Committee where I sit. Robert is a wonderful example of an outstanding man who has given much of his time and talents to the U.S. Senate and the American people. He has developed excellent skills in the legislative process and in the ways of Washington. I know he will be successful in his future endeavors. As he leaves the Senate to go into the private sector I express my great appreciation to him for his 8 years of loyal service and wish him the very best as he starts his new professional opportunity.●

TRIBUTE TO BENJAMIN HILL III OF FLORIDA

• Mr. GRAHAM. Today I offer a tribute to a great Floridian who has advanced the cause of quality judicial appointments to an independent Federal judiciary: Mr. Benjamin Hill III of Tampa.

For four years, Mr. Hill has served as chairman of Florida's non-partisan Federal Judicial Nominating Commission, which screens candidates for federal judgeships. Mr. Hill has done an outstanding job of leading the Commission and saluting the principle that those appointed to the federal judiciary should be among the best in the legal profession.

This year the United States Senate has confirmed six new federal judges for Florida; five in the Middle District and one in the Southern District. The investiture ceremony for two of those new judges, the Honorable James Moody and the Honorable James David Whittemore, will be held September 18, 2000, in Tampa, Florida, followed by other investitures elsewhere in our state. The federal judiciary, the legal profession and the public welcome these new federal judges.

As we applaud new jurists, we also recognize the tireless work of Mr. Hill in managing a judicial-selection process focused on meritorious appointments. A leader in his community, his church and his profession, Mr. Hill is a past president of the Florida Bar and a current member of the Board of Governors Executive Committee of the American Bar Association.

The United States Constitution specifies that one of the functions of