

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred April 13, 2001 in San Antonio, TX. According to police, a 39-year-old man was attacked because the suspect thought he was a homosexual. The victim had stopped in a park to look at some rocks when a man with a knife came up behind him. The man held the victim in a bear hug before stabbing him in the chest with a knife that he described as a three-inch Buck knife. The suspect allegedly called him anti-gay names as he stabbed him.

I believe the government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH 2001

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to celebrate our Nation's 33rd Hispanic Heritage Month, which commemorates Hispanic Americans and their contributions to the strength of our Nation in the past, present, and future.

Congress started the tradition of Hispanic Heritage Month in 1968 with the National Hispanic Heritage Week, and expanded the annual celebration to a month-long event in 1989. This year, the month follows the terrorist attacks on our country on September 11. More than ever, it is essential to take this opportunity to recognize the many hardworking Hispanic Americans who have helped make our country great and will continue to do so throughout our future. Our country stands united, with Americans of Central and South American descent standing alongside Americans with roots from all over the world.

There are many shining examples of Hispanic Americans who have stood up for our country and communities in times of war and peace. Ancestors of present-day Hispanics sacrificed or risked their lives throughout the many years of North American history that led to our country's beginning. Hispanic Americans have served the United States in every war since World War I. Many Hispanic American service members have earned distinction in our military, such as Emilio A. De La Garza, who entered the U.S. Marine Corps in Illinois and was awarded the Medal of Honor, America's highest decoration for valor.

In Silvis, IL, there is a monument to eight heroes of Mexican-American de-

scend who gave their lives in defense of this nation. The street the monument is on was once called Second Street USA, but it is now called Hero Street USA. The street's name honors 84 men from the 22 families on one small block of this street participated in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Many of them grew up on this street, some working for the railroad as their fathers did in Mexico. Today the street serves as a remembrance of those who courageously served our country.

Other Hispanic Americans stand up for their communities on a daily basis. Whether serving in our town councils, fire departments, or police departments, they are always working to advance our safety and quality of life. These local heroes include Raymond Orozco, who led the Chicago Fire Department with distinction until his recent retirement, and Jaime Gonzalez, the first Hispanic police officer in Elgin, IL.

Hispanic Americans also have enhanced our national prosperity and will continue to play an important role in our economy. A study by the National Academy of Sciences found that the Latino community contributes about \$10 billion to the U.S. economy per year. According to the Census, Hispanics owned about 1.2 million nonfarm businesses in 1997, employing over 1.3 million people and generating \$186.3 billion in business. The Small Business Administration tells us that minority and women-owned businesses are the most rapidly growing segments of the business community, and the number of Hispanic-owned businesses has increased by over 600 percent over the past 20 years. Female Latino-owned businesses are growing faster than any other segment of business owners. According to the Center for Women's Business Research, two-thirds of Latina entrepreneurs came into business ownership not by purchasing, inheriting or acquiring a business, but by starting their own. These are women like Chicagoan Sonia Archer, who, while raising a child, founded a home-based business marketing discounted legal services for people who cannot afford attorneys' fees. Stories like Sonia's illustrate how Hispanic Americans bring great innovation and success to our economy.

A wide array of talented Hispanic Americans enrich arts and athletics in our country. In the literary world, Sandra Cisneros brings us powerful, eloquent stories of young women growing up in communities in Chicago, or on the Mexican border, that are full of challenges and beauty. Tito Puente, known as "El Rey" or The King of Mambo, delighted audiences around the world with his musical gifts, using the timbal, vibraphone, trap drums, conga drums, claves, piano, saxophone, and clarinet. Hispanic Americans have also brought tremendous talent to America's pastime: baseball. Among the earlier figures was Roberto Clemente, who played right-field for

the Pittsburgh Pirates from 1955 to 1972, and won four National League batting titles, twelve Golden Glove awards, and the title of National League's Most Valuable Player in 1966. Then there is Nomar Garciaparra, who in 1997 set several rookie records during what Baseball Weekly called the greatest rookie season in history. Today we have Sammy Sosa, who is outfielder for the Chicago Cubs and the only player in the history of baseball to hit 60 home runs in each of three different seasons.

As we take time to reflect upon the strength Hispanic Americans bring to our country, we must also remember that many Latinos face challenges in our society. Fair and equal treatment of all Americans is a cornerstone of our society and our political system. Unfortunately, despite great progress, the struggle for civil rights and equal treatment under the law continues today for many citizens, including our fellow Hispanic Americans.

A time of national crisis reminds us that we must unite against hate and bigotry. I support several key bills that would bring us closer to this goal. First, I hope to see passage of the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001, also known as the hate crimes bill. Among other things, this legislation would expand current Federal protections against hate crimes based on race, religion, and national origin; authorize grants for programs designed to combat and prevent hate crimes; and enable the Federal Government to assist State and local law enforcement in investigating and prosecuting hate crimes. I have also introduced the Reasonable Search Standards Act, which would prohibit United States Customs Service personnel working at our borders and in our airports from searching or detaining individuals solely based on their race, religion, gender, national origin, or sexual orientation. Finally, I am cosponsoring the End Racial Profiling Act, which would make profiling by any law enforcement agent or agency a crime prosecutable in any State court of general jurisdiction or in a District Court of the United States; and would require Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies receiving Federal grants to maintain adequate policies and procedures designed to eliminate racial profiling. I believe these measures take important steps toward preventing discrimination and violence based on race and ethnicity.

There are currently 31.5 million Hispanic Americans living in the United States, and Hispanic Americans comprise 35 percent of the population under the age of 18. Sadly, only 57 percent of Latino students complete high school and only 10.6 percent earn a bachelor's degree. We can do better. This year Congress has worked with the administration to facilitate real education reform based on high standards and meaningful accountability measures.

As we work to raise the bar for students and teachers, we must also ensure that schools across the country have adequate resources to hire and train teachers and principals, help all students attain fluency in English, integrate technology effectively in the classroom, and provide children with enriching after-school activities. I support the 21st Century Higher Education Initiative, which will substantially expand college opportunity through student aid, early intervention efforts, and more resources to strengthen minority-serving institutions. I also introduced the Children's Adjustment, Relief, and Education, CARE, Act to enable immigrant children to fulfill their potential and pursue higher education on the same terms as other children.

According to the 2000 Census, 60 percent of Latinos in this Nation are natives of the United States. Whether Hispanic Americans were born here or moved to our country later in life, most of them feel the impact of immigration policy. Many live in immigrant families or communities, and many, like most Americans, have strong memories of or connections to our immigrant heritage. I support reforming immigration laws to ensure the due process rights of immigrants, so that they are guaranteed fairness in our courts and are not unnecessarily detained for indefinite periods. We also need to enhance the efficiency and accountability of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Finally, it is essential to protect the safety of our Nation's immigrants and their due process rights at our borders, while enforcing our immigration laws and protecting our national security.

Hispanic Heritage Month in 2001 gives us an opportunity to deepen our understanding, appreciation, and common bonds with each other. It also gives us pause, reminding us of the American ideals we must continue to fight for. The challenges that we face in Congress and our Nation are not insurmountable. Together, we can stand up for the rights of all Americans, including our Hispanic American friends. And together, we can recognize how our diverse cultures and talents contribute to our collective strength as Americans.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. WILLIAM D. WATLEY

• Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues a great man in the State of New Jersey, Reverend Doctor William D. Watley.

Reverend Watley is a man of integrity who is committed to the spiritual, mental, social, and economic well being of his congregation and the residents of the City of Newark.

Reverend Watley has dedicated his life to his ministry. As Pastor of the

St. James A.M.E. Church in Newark, he ensures that everyone has a voice and gives hope to those who feel they have no hope. Under his leadership, St. James A.M.E. Church has reached out to the community and established numerous programs, including a soup kitchen that feed over 1,000 people per week, a clothing program, and a drug and alcohol abuse program. Reverend Watley is also an outstanding advocate for children and families. His vision was to start a state of the art preparatory school in the heart of Newark, preparing students mentally, physically, and spiritually for the challenges ahead. His dream realized, St. James Prep opens its doors every day stressing academic excellence and social responsibility.

Reverend Watley is a true American, one who believes that all people should have access to America's promise. One of his many gifts is the ability to bring people together to work for a common cause. Reverend Watley is an unselfish man whose motivation is not self-gratification. He possesses a higher calling.

This week, Reverend Watley celebrates 17 wonderful years of pastoral ministry at the St. James A.M.E. Church in Newark, NJ where over 3,000 people attend services each Sunday, and where I have frequently joined with the congregation in being spiritually uplifted by Reverend Watley's message of hope. Under his expert guidance, St. James A.M.E. Church has experienced enormous growth and is a warm congregation filled with joy and love.

Reverend Watley has been a true friend to me. I admire him for his leadership in and outside the walls of his church. He is a role model for all of us. I can boldly say that the State of New Jersey is a better place because of the leadership of Reverend Doctor William D. Watley and I am a better man today because of my friendship with him. It is an honor for me to bring him to your attention.●

RECOGNITION OF MISSOURI STATE REPRESENTATIVE LINDA BARTELSMEYER

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the contributions Missouri State Representative Linda Bartelsmeyer has made to her community, State and nation.

Missouri State Representative Linda Bartelsmeyer is a native of Southwest Missouri and is serving her fourth term in the Missouri Legislature representing Barry, Lawrence and Newton counties. This year, during the annual conference, she will have the distinct honor of becoming President for the 2001-2002 National Organization for Women Legislators. The National Order of Women Legislators is the oldest and largest bipartisan organization of its kind, created in part to kindle and promote a spirit of helpfulness among present and former women State legislators. Missouri State Rep-

resentative Linda Bartelsmeyer has devoted her life to public service by actively serving on the local, State and national levels for 27 years. She has led by example and proved be an outstanding citizen. I am privileged to call on the United States Senate to recognize her outstanding accomplishments.●

A SPECIAL POEM

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to share a special poem with my colleagues. Ethel A. Smith is a friend and poet from the city of Baltimore. She is a former activist, who wrote poems for various Baltimore newsletters. She is now 93 years old and continues to write poems. She wrote the following poem to express how moved she was by the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Like so many Americans, she is drawing on her strong faith, family, and community to help at this difficult time.

I ask that the poem be printed in the RECORD.

The poem follows:

TURN BACK TO GOD
(By Ethel Smith)

Turn back
Turn back
To God
Dear friends
He will not turn you away.

Come back
Come back
To God
Everyone
We have wandered to far away.
Then fall on your knees and pray.

Come back
Come back
To the church of your choice
Then ask that Faith take sway.

Oh! Come back
Come back
Come back
Dear friends
Let not your prayers e'er cease.

Come back
Come back
To God
Everyone
To pray for our country and peace.
Then while you are praying for God's blessings
On our land that we love so true
Let us pray and ask God
For his blessings
On other lands
Caught in this war too.

We also pray
Dear Father
For the thousands that have lost their life
and lie beneath all the rubble
While their families await in strife.
Have mercy on each and every one of us
Dear Father
As the suffering continues from the terrorist
attack
on September 11, 2001.
Amen.●

ALASKAN SMOKEJUMPER: MR. DAVID LISTON

• Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, life as a smokejumper is not glamorous