

Just a few days ago, the Finance Committee approved a bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority bill by a vote of 18-3. This bill contains specific and detailed negotiating instructions relating to multilateral, regional, and bilateral trade negotiations. The issues raised in Section 602, especially those framed as negotiating instructions, should have been considered by the Finance Committee in the context of the mark-up of TPA legislation, not on the floor in the context of legislation authorizing appropriations under the Arms Export Control Act.

For these reasons, Mr. President, I will continue to hold this legislation until the concerns I have raised here are addressed.

#### CAMBODIA KILLINGS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, an article in last week's New York Times highlighting the continued problem of wildlife poaching in Cambodia. A conservation expert predicted that within the next 3 to 5 years several species will cease to be biologically viable. Without a doubt, this is a legitimate concern and I applaud efforts to protect these endangered species.

But there are other species which may be endangered that the New York Times did not cite—these species are called “Cambodian democrats”.

The killing of democracy activists in Cambodia deserve increase attention from the press and the international community. A total of 11 political activists and candidates from the royalist FUNCINPEC party and the opposition Sam Rainsy Party have been killed in the runup to local election scheduled for February, 2002.

Officials from the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) have blamed these murders on witchcraft and business deals gone sour. This is poppycock. Diplomats in Phnom Penh must show some spine in demanding the CPP to cease the killings and to hold credible and competitive elections—something they did not do prior to the 1998 parliamentary elections. I hope that the importance of free and fair commune elections in 2002 and parliamentary elections in 2003 is not lost on this crowd, who seem more willing to embrace “stability” at the expense of democracy and the rule of law. Long term development in Cambodia is possible only under new and dynamic leadership.

There will come a day when the CPP is held accountable for its extrajudicial and corrupt activities. This Senator has not forgotten those killed and injured in the horrific grenade attack against the democratic opposition in March 1997—nor American Ron Abney, injured by shrapnel and who continues to bear physical reminders of that awful day. I have not forgotten the 100 FUNCINPEC supporters killed during the July 1997 coup d'etat organized and executed by CPP Prime Minister Hun Sen. Nor have I forgotten those killed

and injured during the July 1998 elections. I ask Hun Sen: what kind of government kills Buddhist monks?

The international community can be part of the problem or part of the solution. It is past time they held the CPP and Prime Minister Hun Sen accountable for their repressive actions. Failure to do so will ensure that “Cambodian democrats” will join the list of species facing extinction in this Southeast Asian nation.

#### EMERGENCY SMALL BUSINESS LOAN ASSISTANCE

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I rise today to share concerns raised by the Bush administration and some of my colleagues regarding S. 1499, authored by my colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. KERRY.

I strongly believe that we must come to the aid of small businesses hurt hard by the September 11 attacks. That is why I have enthusiastically endorsed the Bush administration's ongoing, active, and aggressive efforts to provide emergency small-business loan assistance.

Unfortunately, S. 1499 came to the Senate floor without debate, without committee hearings, and without an opportunity for concerns about the bill to be raised and addressed. No CBO score was released, depriving those who are fiscally-responsible of a cost estimate of this legislation. Yet the Senate leadership attempted to pass this bill without affording us any opportunity to offer amendments.

Scarcely any explanation of this bill's provisions was ever offered before it was moved to the Senate floor—and that is extremely troubling.

We do know now that the costs of this bill—as much as \$815 million—would actually exceed the entire 2002 budget for the Small Business Administration, nearly doubling it, at a time of a economic slowdown.

Additionally, the agency responsible for carrying out this legislation—the Small Business Administration (SBA)—has raised a number of concerns about this bill that have not been adequately addressed.

First, some of the provisions of the Kerry bill duplicate efforts already underway by the Bush administration. After the terrorist attacks, the SBA established the September 11 Emergency Injury Disaster Loan, EIDL, assistance program to make loans available to small businesses throughout the United States, who could demonstrate economic injury as a result of the terrorist attacks.

This was an appropriate and necessary response. I emphasize, Mr. President: these loans already are being made available.

In addition to duplication of ongoing efforts, the SBA also expressed the concern that provisions of the Kerry bill would actually increase the number of small-business loan defaults, at the expense of the American taxpayer.

As the SBA wrote in a letter to the sponsors of this measure:

By relaxing credit requirements, reducing interest rates, eliminating fees, increasing the government guarantee, deferring principal payments, forgiving interest and increasing government liability, S. 1499 could make government-guaranteed small business loans more attractive than conventional loans, potentially displacing private sector options. In addition, S. 1499 significantly reduces lender and borrower stakes in a loan, thereby increasing the likelihood of default.

Certainly the sponsors of this measure do not want to promote defaults. After all, the goal of small-business assistance is to help entrepreneurs build, sustain and grow small businesses, with sound and fiscally-responsible loan assistance programs.

The existing EIDL assistance program provides a reasonable mechanism for needed aid by offering up to \$1.5 million in emergency loans to small businesses at four percent interest over 30 years. Loans are not intended purely as a means of disaster relief.

Additionally, S. 1499's language is so broad that loan assistance could be provided to any small business that have “been, or, that (are) likely to be directly or indirectly adversely affected” by the terrorist attacks. Obviously, such language is ripe for abuse and could lead to exorbitant costs for the American taxpayer. Surely, this is not what the bill sponsors intended from this provision.

Lastly, the Small Business Administration expresses concerns regarding S. 1499's provisions providing emergency relief for Federal contractors. The provisions would allow an increase in the price of a federal contract that is performed by a small business in order to offset losses resulting from increased security measures taken by the Federal government at Federal facilities. As the SBA points out: “providing equitable relief through SBA acting as a central clearing house would prove inefficient, costly, and burdensome on the Federal acquisition process.”

All of us want to come to the aid of small businesses adversely affected by the September 11 attacks and their aftermath. But we can do so in a cost-effective and responsible way, instead of a rushed, haphazard process designed to thwart compromise.

I am confident that a bipartisan compromise on this issue can be found in the near-term, so that the concerns raised by the administration can be taken into account, and we can pass something the President will support.

#### 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 October 7, 1998 in Traverse City, MI. A gay man was attacked by two men yelling anti-gay epithets. The assailants, Jeremy Jamrog, 21, and James Johnson, 24, were charged with aggravated assault in connection with the incident.

I believe that 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.

#### LEGISLATIVE BRANCH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TASK FORCE

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I stand here today to pay tribute to a group of Americans who have worked tirelessly to protect all of us. Following the tragic events of September 11, Al Lenhardt, the Senate Sergeant at Arms and Chairman of the U.S. Capitol Police Board recognized the value of bringing together a group of experts from outside the legislative branch to provide the expertise necessary to respond to this unprecedented attack on America. He brought in a team of experts and created the Legislative Branch Emergency Preparedness Task Force to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the Capitol Complex and provide recommendations that would enhance our security.

This extraordinary group of experts could quite easily have taken a simplistic approach and recommended turning the Capitol into an armed camp. Fortunately, they recognized that this building, known throughout the world as a symbol of freedom and democracy, is first and foremost the public's domain and must remain so. Instead of taking the easy route, they developed a carefully crafted series of measures which enhanced the security of everyone who walks through these doors. Members of Congress, staff and visitors alike without denying the American people their right to see and meet with their elected representatives. They ensured that the Capitol remained "the People's House."

Mr. Gary Quay of the Department of Defense, Colonel Richard Majauskas, Lieutenant Colonel Donald Salo and Lieutenant Colonel Stanley Tunstall of the Army, Lieutenant Commander David Klain of the Navy, Deputy Chief Chris McGaffin and Captain Edward Bailor of the U.S. Capitol Police, Mr. Michael DiSilvestro of the Office of Senate Security, Mr. Michael Johnson of the Senate Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Kevin Brennan of the House Sergeant at Arms, and Mr. Bill Weidemeyer and Mr. Jim Powers of the Architect of the Capitol dedicated themselves to the task of looking at every aspect of emergency preparedness on Capitol Hill.

All of us remember the confusion that reigned on September 11. In light

of what happened, that confusion was perfectly understandable. After all, never before had someone turned one commercial airliner into a weapon of mass destruction, let alone four. I am convinced that the rapid implementation of the Task Force's recommendations by Jeri Thomson, the Secretary of the Senate, Alan Hantman, the Architect of the Capitol, and Jim Varey, Chief of the U.S. Capitol Police, has significantly enhanced our ability to respond to emergencies and will prevent a repeat of that day's confusion.

In a world where cynicism and selfishness rule the day for some, I am proud to say this is not the case for these dedicated Americans. The safety of our nation's Capitol, and all who work in and visit it, is enhanced by their efforts. On behalf of Americans everywhere and the 107th Congress in particular, I am proud to stand here today and say "Thank you—job well done!"

#### PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH AN AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE MUSEUM

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, one of the most important chapters in our national story of human freedom and dignity is the history and legacy of the African American march toward freedom, legal equality and full participation in American society. Yet in our Nation's front yard, the national mall, there is no museum set aside to honor this legacy.

Yesterday, the Senate began the very important step toward establishing a national museum in Washington, DC to honor the rich history of African Americans.

With the passage of H.R. 3442, a bill that creates a Presidential commission that will develop a plan to establish and maintain the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the Senate has taken a tremendous step closer to honoring those African Americans who not only fought for their own freedom but fought for the freedoms in this country that we enjoy today.

I thank my colleague Senator MAX CLELAND for his leadership in the Senate on this issue. Senator CLELAND worked diligently with me to draft a bill that would properly honor the history of African Americans. This legislation will enable our Nation to start the process that will honor this important aspect of American history.

Specifically, the legislation creates a 19-member commission made up of individuals who specialize in African American history, education and museum professionals. The commission has 9 months to present its recommendations to the President and Congress regarding an action plan for creating a national museum honoring African Americans.

The commission will decide the structure and makeup of the museum,

devise a governing board for the museum, and among other action items, will consider planning the museum within the Smithsonian's arts and industries building, which is the last existing space on the national mall.

As a Kansan, I feel a special connection to honoring the legacy of African Americans. The State of Kansas not only played a significant role in the civil war but also was chosen by many African American families as a place to begin their new life of freedom and prosperity in the "exodus" to Kansas.

I believe that it is long over due that we properly honor African American history by establishing a world class museum that showcases the achievements of African Americans in this country. I look forward to the commission's recommendations for establishing this museum on the national mall in Washington, DC, where African American history belongs.

I do not pretend that this legislation is a cure-all for the problem of racial division, it is, however, an important and productive step toward healing our nation's racial wounds. This museum will both celebrate African American achievement and serve as a landmark of national conscience on the historical facts of slavery, the reconstruction, the civil rights struggle and beyond.

Dr. King expressed his hope for national reconciliation. I too hope "That the dark clouds of [misconceptions] will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear-drenched communities and in some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty."

Today, we are one step closer to fulfilling this goal. I am proud to be a part of honoring this magnificent history. As a nation we have an extraordinary opportunity before us—a chance to learn, understand and remember together our nation's history and to honor the significant contribution of African Americans to our history and culture.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, the gas additive MTBE has become a huge concern for millions across the nation because of the contamination that it has caused.

That is certainly true of many communities throughout New Hampshire where it has become a crisis, and the crisis will continue to escalate unless it is dealt with.

I have been fighting for the past two years to get the Senate to act on legislation that will solve this problem and up to now, unfortunate roadblocks have prevented this from happening.

I was pleased last week when the majority leader made a commitment to me that the Senate will vote on MTBE legislation before the end of February and I know that the majority leader will honor that commitment and I want to express my appreciation to him for working with me.