

Members of Congress, on both sides of the aisle, will see the wisdom in investing adequate dollars to carry out the worthy goals of this critically important piece of legislation—improved student achievement, increased accountability, and enhanced teacher quality. It is an investment in the future of America, and the future, after all, is in very small hands.

ON REAUTHORIZATION OF THE PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES PROGRAM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the Senate recently passed legislation reauthorizing an important child welfare program known as Promoting Safe and Stable Families. Under the auspices of this Social Security Act grant program, States are able to provide services to at-risk families to prevent the need for children to enter the foster care system.

Four types of services are included in the program: family preservation; community-based family support; time-limited family reunification; and adoption promotion and support. In addition, the program provides funding for state court improvement projects. I cannot proceed without praising Iowa's court improvement project which, under the leadership of Judge Terry Huitink and Judge Stephen Clarke, has produced valuable research to streamline the court process for children waiting to be adopted. The Iowan project also provides training for judges in order to increase understanding of the needs of children in the foster care system.

The reauthorization passed by the Senate ensures that money will be available for the next five years at an annual minimum of \$305 million per year. An additional \$200 million is authorized to be spent from discretionary funds determined annually by Senate appropriators. I am also pleased the 2002 Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and education appropriations legislation included \$70 million in discretionary spending for the Safe and Stable program, for a total funding level of \$375 million in fiscal year 2002. In fact, I and some of my Senate colleagues are sending a letter to President Bush tomorrow requesting that full funding of \$505 million for the program be included in the Administration's fiscal year 2003 budget.

The Promoting Safe and Stable Families program is a valuable weapon in the fight against child abuse and neglect. The Federal Government spends billions of dollars each year to provide services to children who have already been placed in the foster care system. Much less money is spent on providing services before removal from the home is necessary. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that between 1999 and 2003, money spent on removing children from their homes and placing them in foster and adoptive homes will exceed by nine times the amount of

money spent on services and prevention. Furthermore, annual spending during this period for removal and placement is expected to increase by thirty-five percent, from \$4.8 billion to \$6.5 billion, while annual spending for prevention and services is expected to increase by only nine percent, from \$0.57 billion to \$0.62 billion.

More than one hundred thirty thousand children are waiting to be adopted out of foster care in the United States, and at least 4,500 of those children live in Iowa. Each child deserves a loving family and a safe environment. Promoting Safe and Stable Families grants provide critical services to vulnerable families and children, and I am pleased the Senate fulfilled its duty and acted to reauthorize the program.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the Enhanced border Security Act of 2001. We must take the long term steps to strengthen the security at our borders. I want to commend my colleagues, Senators KENNEDY and FEINSTEIN, BROWNBACK and KYL, for their tireless work to address border security issues.

The bill we will be voting on today, the Enhanced Border Security Act of 2001, was a product of the thoughtful merging of two bills. As an original cosponsor of Senators KENNEDY and BROWNBACK's initial version of this bill, I have worked closely with the four principal sponsors to integrate the best of each of these two pieces of legislation, and have been very pleased with the outcome of this effort.

This bill addresses what I consider to be one of the most important issues in our fight against terrorism—how we can effectively secure our borders from terrorists. This bill address border security by increasing the number of border patrol and immigration personnel at the borders; improving the quality and sharing of identity information; improving the screening of foreign nations seeking to enter the U.S. on visas; and improving awareness of the comings and goings of these foreign nationals as they enter or exit our country.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I have been honored to work closely with Senators KENNEDY and FEINSTEIN to find ways to better protect our borders and provide necessary support to the men and women who work for the State Department, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the U.S. Customs Agency.

I, along with many of my colleagues, am currently pressing for funding to triple the number of Immigration and Naturalization Service and U.S. Customs personnel on our northern border and improve border technology, the authorization for which was included in the USA Patriot Act. In the past, a severe lack of resources at our northern border has compromise the ability of border control officials to execute their duties. I am pleased that Congress made the tripling of these resources a priority for national security, and I

will continue to fight for full funding of this measure. This bill also addresses these needs by increasing INS inspectors and border patrol staffing each by 200 persons per year for the fiscal year 2002–2006. The bill also authorizes \$150 million in spending for improving technology and facilities at our borders.

The Enhanced Border Security Act of 2001 addresses several other critical issues. In hearings this session before the Immigration Subcommittee and the Technology and Terrorism Subcommittee, as well as the full Judiciary Committee, we heard repeated calls for better sharing of law enforcement and intelligence information as it relates to admitting aliens into the United States. The bill addresses this problem by mandating INS and Department of State access to relevant FBI information within one year. I am pleased that the authors of the bill have included provisions to protect the privacy and security of this information, and require limitations on the use and repeated dissemination of the information.

Two of the most important provisions of this legislation address international cooperation in enhancing border security. Protecting U.S. borders requires the assistance and cooperation of our closest allies. Indeed, we share an interest in protecting our respective borders. Citizens of several countries, including most European countries, Japan and Canada, can enter the U.S. without visas. And this is as it should be. But the U.S. must, with new urgency, continue to engage Canada, Mexico and other countries that may be interested in sharing law enforcement and intelligence information to protect our respective borders. We must improve information sharing, and must improve the technology to make sure information is shared with the right people and in a timely manner.

In October, we passed a major anti-terrorism bill that contained a number of provisions that will enable our law enforcement community and the intelligence community to obtain and share vital information regarding persons who are a threat to the U.S. One of the most important new tools I was pleased to have had included in USA Patriot Act is a requirement that State and Justice develop a visa technology standard to help secure our border and make certain each individual who seeks entry into our country on a visa is the person he or she claims to be and there is no known reason to keep that person out.

We must work with our allies to take advantage of this technology standard to improve interoperability on an international scale. We should do what we can to eliminate technological barriers to information-sharing regarding dangerous individuals and to address our mutual concern for border security. To this end, this bill requires the Department of State to report to Congress within six months on how best we

can undertake “perimeter” screening with our partners, Canada and Mexico. Further, the bill requires the Department of State, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Office of Homeland Security to report to Congress within 90 days on how best to facilitate sharing of information that may be relevant to determining whether to issue a U.S. visa. Our borders are only as secure as the borders of those countries whose citizens we allow into our country without a visa.

The provisions we have achieved in the USA Patriot Act laid the foundation for more specific provisions to assure the best use of technology to improve the security at our borders. This bill fulfills the promise of the USA Patriot Act to assure information sharing will be thoughtfully implemented in short order.

With the enactment of the USA Patriot Act of 2001, the federal government committed to developing a visa technology standard that would facilitate the sharing of information related to the admissibility of aliens into the United States. I proposed this language recognizing that, for many years, the U.S. law enforcement and intelligence communities have maintained numerous, but separate, non-interoperable databases. These databases are not easily or readily accessible to front-line federal agents responsible for making the critical decisions of whether to issue a visa or to admit an alien into the United States.

To build on and fulfill the goals of establishing this standard, this bill will do three things. First, it will require technology be implemented to track the initial entry and exit of aliens travelling on a U.S. visa. We know now that several of the terrorists who attacked America on September 11th were traveling on expired visas. We have had the law in place for several years now, but due to concerns about maintaining the flow of trade and tourism across our borders—concerns I share—the provisions of Section 110 have not been fully implemented. Technology will address those concerns, allowing electronic recordation and verification of entry and exit data in an instant.

Second, I believe it is necessary to require the Department of State and Justice to work with the Office of Homeland Security to build a cohesive electronic data sharing system. The system must incorporate interoperability and compatibility within and between the databases of the various agencies that maintain information relevant to determining whether a visa should be issued or whether an alien should be admitted into the United States. This legislation will require interoperable real-time sharing of law enforcement and intelligence information relevant to the issuance of a visa or an alien's admissibility to the U.S. The provision will require that information is made available, although with the appropriate safeguards for pri-

vacy and the protection of intelligence sources, to the front-line government agents making the decisions to issue visas or to admit visa-holding aliens to the United States.

Keeping terrorists out of the U.S. in the first place will reduce the risks of terrorism within the U.S. in the future. Aliens known to be affiliated with terrorists have been admitted to the U.S. on valid visas simply because one agency in government did not share important information with another department in a timely fashion. We must make sure that this does not happen again.

Until now, we had hoped that agencies would voluntarily share this information on a realtime and regular basis. This has not happened, and although I know that the events of September 11 have led to serious rethinking of our information-sharing processes and procedures, I think it is time to mandate the sharing of fundamental information.

Advancements in technology have provided us with additional tools to verify the identity of individuals entering our country without impairing the flow of legitimate trade, tourism, workers and students. It is time we put these tools to use.

Improving our national security is vitally important, but I will not support measures that compromise America's civil liberties. The bill we are voting on today includes a number of safeguards to protect individuals' rights to privacy. The bill provides that where databases are created or shared, there must be protection of privacy and adequate security measures in place, limitations on the use and re-dissemination of information, and mechanisms for removing obsolete or erroneous information. Even in times of urgent action, we must protect the freedoms that make our country great.

I urge a favorable vote.

TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER JOHN F. TIMONEY

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the long and distinguished career of one of our Nation's top police executives, Philadelphia Police Commissioner John F. Timoney.

Commissioner Timoney will leave the Philadelphia Police Department in early January, and I want to highlight some of his achievements. I believe John's record of achievement will benefit America's police officers for years to come.

John Timoney immigrated to the United States from Ireland at the age of 13. In 1969, after graduating from high school, he joined the ranks of the New York Police Department. He spent the first twelve years of his career as a patrol officer and later a narcotics investigator on the streets of Harlem and the South Bronx. As his reputation for integrity, innovation, and perseverance grew, he rose through the department's

management structure, eventually assuming the position of Chief of Department, the highest ranking uniformed position in the department. It was during Mr. Timoney's tenure in the upper echelons of the NYPD that New York's crime rate began to drop precipitously, due in no small part to the new management structure he instituted, merging the Housing and Transit Police Department with the NYPD. In 1996, upon his departure from the NYPD, then-Chief Timoney had accrued over 65 Department Medals, including the prestigious Medal of Valor.

After retiring from the NYPD, John entered the world of private security consulting, and offered his expertise and advice to law enforcement authorities all across the country and around the world. He served as Vice Chairman of the Irish Commission on Domestic Violence, and he advised Britain's Patton Commission, which focused on policing Northern Ireland.

In March of 1998, Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell appointed John Commissioner of the Philadelphia Police Department. His tenure in that position was marked by the same commitment to excellence and improvement which characterized his career in New York. John brought the innovative Compstat system to Philadelphia, and helped to reinvigorate the department. Running a department of 7,000 officers and 900 civilian employees is no easy task, and Commissioner Timoney's efforts to modernize the department have been rewarded by a decline in Philadelphia's crime rate.

While I thank John profusely for what he has done to make the streets safer for millions of New Yorkers and Philadelphians, I rise today for another reason: to thank Commissioner Timoney for the lessons that his expertise and experience have taught the entirety of the law enforcement community. While his achievements as a cop on the beat deserve our thanks, I want to make special mention of the contribution he has made to our understanding of how police departments can better employ their resources to combat crime across the country.

Commissioner Timoney's career in the upper echelons of law enforcement have been marked by two major paradigm shifts. Without them, law enforcement would not be nearly as successful. And because Commissioner Timoney's work represents what I think is the best of law enforcement—because I believe that we at the Federal level ought to encourage and promote police departments around the nation to promote just this kind of progress—I want to draw special attention to it.

First, Commissioner Timoney was at the forefront of efforts to get both the New York and Philadelphia Police Departments to embrace Compstat, a high-tech system which allows police departments to monitor and analyze crime data better, empowering them to re-deploy resources as needed.