

Most everyone in this Chamber agrees there ought to be a modernization of Medicare with a prescription drug benefit. Most everyone in this Chamber agrees there should be additional investment in education, and there is a bipartisan bill that is beginning to work its way through the legislative process on increased investment in education and accountability. Most everyone in this Chamber agrees we have to pay our young men and women in the Armed Forces of this country more of a comparable wage in competition with the private sector in order to have the kind of skill and talent we need in today's all-volunteer Armed Forces.

Most people in this body would agree we have to have certain expenditures with regard to health care, planning for the end game, encouraging additional long-term insurance, equalizing the tax subsidies for health insurance now from a large employer to a small employer, or to an individual employer, or to an individual.

There are a number of items on which there is consensus that is built on this side of the Capitol where we should go with regard to expenditures in the future while controlling our fiscal appetite.

That brings me back to the budget resolution, for it is the very essence of adopting a budget resolution that we should have as our watchwords "fiscal discipline." That is why we need to have a full and fair discussion of all the issues in adopting a budget resolution. That is why we ought to mark it up and have that discussion first in the committee.

I wrap up by saying of all the debates that will take place this year, the debate on how we will allocate the resources with regard to the budget of the United States is one of the most important. It ought to have a full and fair and thorough discussion.

THE BIRTH OF WILLIAM BLUE HOLLIER

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to announce the birth of a fine young man, William Blue Hollier. William was born on Monday, March 5th, making him a couple of weeks old today. He is the first child of Will and Alyssa Hollier. Will serves as my Administrative Assistant and has been an invaluable part of my staff for over 8 years. I'm happy to report that mother, father, and baby are doing well, although Will and Alyssa are probably getting used to fewer hours of sleep.

Young William is the grandson of Charles and Judy Hollier of Lafayette, LA; Judy Myers of New Orleans; and Bob and Cheri Knorr of Sawyer, ND. His great-grandparents, Henry and Mary Myers of Opelousas, LA; Art Odegard of Minot, ND; and Walt Knorr of Devil's Lake, ND, also join me in welcoming this baby.

It is always a joyous event to bring a new family member into the world.

William has been much-anticipated and has held a place in the hearts of his parents and family for many months now as they have awaited his arrival. As the father of five myself, I know that Will and Alyssa are in for a most remarkable, frustrating, rewarding, and exciting experience of their lives. William Blue will make certain of that. Our best wishes go out to the Hollier family on this most auspicious occasion.

CHILDREN AND HEALTHCARE WEEK

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, each day, many of our Nation's children face illnesses that require a doctor's office or hospital visit. This can be frightening for both the child and his or her family, and underscores the need to continue providing quality, caring pediatric health services. This week in Greenville, SC, The Children's Hospital of The Greenville Hospital System is celebrating Children and Healthcare Week with a number of valuable activities for health care professionals, parents and community partners. Among the events are continuing education classes for medical residents and support staff as well as an awards ceremony to honor local individuals who have dedicated their lives to pediatric care.

Children and Healthcare Week highlights educational programming to increase public, parental and professional knowledge of the improvements that can be made in pediatric health care. In particular, it stresses new ways to meet the emotional and developmental needs of children in health care settings. Lack of quality health care should never be an impediment to the long-term success of our nation's children and I commend Greenville's dedication to Children and Healthcare Week.

45th ANNIVERSARY OF TUNISIA'S INDEPENDENCE

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I congratulate Tunisia on the occasion of her 45th year of independence.

Tunisia is a constitutional democracy striving to create a more open political society, diversify its economy, attract foreign investment, and improve its diplomatic ties with both the European Union and United States.

I am pleased to be a member of the Hannibal Club USA whose mission is to improve the political and economic ties between the United States and Tunisia. I am hopeful that a mutually beneficial relationship between our two countries will continue to grow in the years ahead.

ELECTIONS IN UGANDA

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to express my serious concern about the recent presidential elections

in Uganda. Uganda is a country of great promise; in the past year I and many of my colleagues have come to this floor to praise the Ugandan Government and the Ugandan people for their energetic and effective fight against the AIDS pandemic. In recent years, the economy has enjoyed moderate economic growth. Most strikingly, even given the persistence of brutality like that embodied by the Lord's Resistance Army, there can be no mistaking that Uganda has come a long way from the dark days when Idi Amin and Milton Obote terrorized their citizens. This progress toward stability and an improvement in the quality of life enjoyed by Ugandans has been cause for celebration, and legitimately so.

But the latest trends from Uganda are alarming. In particular, the days leading up to the March 12 presidential elections revealed a disturbing willingness on the part of the ruling party to retain power through intimidation. According to observers, the opposition was threatened with violence and arrests from state security forces throughout the campaign. Reports indicate that, in some cases, opposition supporters also resorted to violent tactics. While most observers agree that outcome of the vote would probably not have been different had the election not been marred in this manner, there can be no question that Uganda has been proven to be less democratic and less stable by these recent events, and the security of individual Ugandans wishing to exercise basic civil and political rights is not assured.

It is unquestionably true that many positive developments have unfolded in Uganda over the years that President Museveni has been in office. But Uganda's success is not about Mr. Museveni. Institutions, not individuals, are the backbone of lasting political stability and development. And the movement system currently in effect in Uganda, always dubious, increasingly looks like a single-party system by another name. Its defenders will point to last year's referendum on this so-called "no-party" system and claim that it is the will of the people. But the deck was clearly stacked against multipartyism in last year's referendum on the movement system—state-sponsored political education courses were used to mobilize support for the Movement, and the opposition boycotted the vote.

Today, in the wake of the presidential election and after long months of Uganda's involvement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo—an adventure that, while perhaps profitable for the few, is clearly unpopular with the Ugandan people—today, those of us who genuinely wish to see Uganda consolidate the successes of the past and make even more progress in the years ahead are profoundly troubled.

Some in Central Africa believe that the U.S. turns a blind eye to the shortcomings of the government in Kampala. I certainly hope that is not the

case, because that is not in the interests of the U.S. or the Ugandan people. I have recently had cause to reflect on the damage done by years of U.S. support for undemocratic and sometimes violently repressive regimes elsewhere on the continent. We do no one any favors when we fail to tell it like it is, when we look away from blatantly undemocratic acts because we so desperately want to encourage countries that hold great promise. It is precisely because Uganda has made such precious gains that I am troubled, for these gains will surely be wasted if the staying power of the current regime becomes the utmost priority of the government.

SILVER RIBBON CAMPAIGN

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and honor a campaign to raise disability awareness that originated in my State of Wyoming. I am very proud of the mission behind this effort that, in 3 short years, has gained steam nationally and internationally.

Known as the Silver Ribbon Campaign, this effort to honor disability awareness month, March, was begun by the Natrona County School District #1 Student Support Services and the Parent Resource Center. The campaign has generated significant activity among local officials and is responsible for a variety of training, educational and interactive activities related to raising disability awareness in the broader community. In addition to engaging local officials and the general public, the campaign has worked successfully with the business community and numerous media outlets to ensure a diverse yet unified front in heightening awareness about the reality of living with a disability.

I am particularly proud of the campaign's special effort to include activities targeted towards raising awareness among children. Not only will the public library host a reading hour on disability awareness, with awareness bookmarks available for the public, but public school buses and other public transportation will display the campaign's trademark silver ribbon during the month of March.

The campaign has issued the silver ribbon as a pin, and since its inception in 1998, more than 250,000 pins, along with thousands of balloons and displays, have been used to raise awareness around the State of Wyoming. As I mentioned before, similar activities are being duplicated nationwide.

I am honored but not surprised to once again have the opportunity to highlight a community-based effort invented in Wyoming that other communities are modeling. I hope hearing me today will encourage my colleagues to introduce their own State to the Silver Ribbon Campaign and further raise disability awareness in this country. This is a critical effort that every community should embrace.

EVERYBODY WINS!

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, Everybody Wins! is an innovative literacy improvement program that pairs adults with children for one hour a week to share lunch, a good book and friendship. The U.S. Senate launched Everybody Wins! at the Brent Elementary School in 1995. Today, this program serves 4,500 children in the Washington area.

Last night, I had the honor of attending a reception to celebrate the Everybody Wins! program. I was joined by my colleague Senator JIM JEFFORDS who I commend for his leadership in making the Everybody Wins! program such a success in the U.S. Senate, and Art Tannenbaum, the visionary behind this wonderful program.

I was especially honored to join First Lady Laura Bush at last evening's event. Mrs. Bush's passion for reading and strong commitment to early literacy touched the lives of thousand of families in Texas, and it is clear from last night that she brings that same commitment to children all across the country.

I was deeply moved by her remarks last night and her real passion for children and their needs, and I believe my colleagues would appreciate her thoughtful statement as well.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print Mrs. Bush's remarks from last evening into the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

FIRST LADY LAURA BUSH'S REMARKS,
EVERYBODY WINS! EVENT, MARCH 20, 2001

Thank you very much, Dr. Billington.

First I want to thank Lisa Vise.

Lisa, you are a remarkable girl. You remind us that one person's work can make a difference in a lot of other people's lives.

Senator Jeffords, Senator Kennedy, Mr. Chabreja, Mr. Cole, Mr. Woodward, distinguished guests, I'm pleased to be with you tonight.

Everybody Wins is the largest children's literacy and mentoring organization in the District because you understand the value of spending quality time reading to children.

I am fortunate because someone spent time reading to me as a child—my mother. Thanks to her I developed a lifelong passion for reading, and I grew up to become a teacher. As much as I loved being read to as a child, I love reading to children even more.

The Everybody Wins volunteers will agree reading together has tremendous results. Children who are read to by an adult learn two things: First, that reading is worthwhile, and second, that they are worthwhile.

Reading is the foundation of all learning. Children must have good reading skills to succeed in every subject in school. Those who do not read well by the end of the third grade often have a difficult time catching up. Sadly, thousands of children can't read well in America.

According to a 1998 study, 68 percent of fourth-graders in our nation's lowest-income schools were unable to read at even a very basic level.

We may grow numb to statistics, but we cannot grow numb to our children. That so many children can't read is a clear indication of a fundamental failure of adult responsibility for children's lives and futures.

I know we can turn those numbers around. With caring Americans like you, we will turn those numbers around.

George's defining commitment to children is a quality education. His budget includes \$5 billion over the next five years for reading initiatives. Through his Reading First program, he wants to give states and schools the funding and tools to implement sound reading programs in Kindergarten through second grade.

While government does its part, it's up to us as parents and citizens to help children read and succeed in life. Children need more than a program; they need a voice. They need strong role models to put loving arms around them and read to them. You recognize that need. I'm proud you are lending your voice and a hand to Everybody Wins.

Please continue supporting this worthy endeavor. Because of you, Everybody does win.

Thanks to the Senators for demonstrating your commitment to children and sharing your common love of reading. Reading is common ground for all of us. Thank you all so much.

COMMEMORATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I wish to add my voice to the many who have come before the Senate to honor the brave men and women who served our nation so honorably in the Persian Gulf War. March 3, 2001 marked the tenth anniversary of the end of the Persian Gulf War. I pay special tribute to the families of those who gave their lives in this effort.

I would like to draw my colleagues attention to an important event that will be taking place this Sunday, March 25th, 2001, in Manchester, NH. A group of dedicated Americans is gathering to observe the 10th anniversary of the Persian Gulf war, to honor those who served, and to evaluate the fulfillment of our promise to care for those who suffered as a result of their service. A driving force behind this event is the New England Persian Gulf Veterans Inc., NEPGV, and its dynamic founders, David and Patricia Irish. Since the NEPGV's inception in 1996, David and Trish have worked tirelessly to promote the issues and challenges of Gulf War Veterans in New England and beyond. I want to publicly thank them for their efforts and let them know that I will be with them in spirit on the 25th of March.

This is an appropriate time to remember the outstanding job our service men and women did in liberating Kuwait from occupation. Together with our allies, this action stated that in the post Cold War world, the unprovoked conquest of one's neighbors would not be tolerated. The unprecedented coalition of twenty six nations rolled back a tyrannical dictator and a military ill prepared for the determination of the United States and its allies, nor the might and professionalism of the soldiers involved. In the face of the poor performance of old Soviet equipment, the Gulf War firmly established the military superiority of the United States and confirmed our