

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1) to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate is now in a period of morning business.

#### OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, because of the traffic and the business in the Chamber yesterday, I was not able to speak on May as Older Americans Month, but I did submit a resolution as chairman of the Senate Aging Committee to recognize May as Older Americans Month, as we have for 38 years, saying that this is the official month during which we pay tribute to the contributions of 44 million older Americans.

It is during this month that we as a nation recognize older Americans for their service, hard work, and sacrifice that helped assure us the freedom and security we now enjoy.

There is a great deal more I could say, and through the month of May there will be a great deal said about the contribution that older Americans make to this great society of ours.

Of course, for those of us who still have parents or grandparents who are active and contributing to their communities, we know how valuable this group of citizens is in our culture.

The program we will be looking at when we reauthorize, as we did the Older Americans Act, is going to advance once again the surety of a good many of the programs that are available to them. We reauthorized it last year finally after 5 years. It is important we did that because so many of those programs drive results at the local community level that are extremely valuable to all of us.

With this authorization, Congress was able to add an important component to the act, and that was the program to authorize \$125 million to establish a new National Family Caregivers Support Program to provide grants to States to provide information and services to family caregivers, another one of those broadening concepts on which we work with the senior community of our Nation.

I wanted to take time briefly this morning to recognize May as Older Americans Month and the resolution that was submitted yesterday by myself and others.

#### GET-WELL CARD

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, as you know, I had a little round with the surgeon during our Easter break. I got a get-well card from a good friend who lives in Montana, something that would come out of sort of cowboy lore

or out of a cowboy camp. I knew this man's father. We go way back in Montana and the ranching history.

It says:

Friend CONRAD: Well, looks like you're done for. So I guess we might as well divide up your stuff. I'll take your saddle. Ray.

There is a kindness in that letter that probably only can be appreciated by those of us who have been in those cow camps and sat at these folks' fire. I thought I would share that with some folks. There is still some humility around and great comradery that comes from that.

#### A TRIBUTE TO CHIEF ROBERT LANGSTON

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, today I rise before you to honor the service of recently retired Chief Robert E. Langston of the U.S. Park Police. Chief Langston has honorably served the Department of the Interior, the National Park Service, and U.S. Park Police for over 30 years.

Chief Langston has led America's oldest Federal uniformed law enforcement agency, formed by President George Washington to serve the public squares of the District of Columbia. Congress later gave the Park Police the same powers and duties as the D.C. Metropolitan Police, and the Park Police have become a primary partner in keeping the peace.

Countless numbers of the visiting public tour Washington's monuments at all hours of the day and night with a confidence that they can visit these national treasures safely. What a testament that is to the Park Police, and to the Park Police leadership. How many other places, in a major urban area, can so many have so much confidence on such a regular basis, at all hours of the night? In fact, the Park Police are so good at what they do, that it is sometimes all too easy to take their valiant services for granted.

So in honoring Chief Langston, today, we also honor the entire Park Police, a full service department with over 800 officers and investigators and over 100 civilian employees. Among its jurisdiction, the Park Police are assigned to National Park Service lands, parkways, monuments, and memorials in Washington, DC, New York City, and San Francisco, CA.

Members of the force are trained at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Georgia, and provide a complete range of police services from foot and cruiser patrols to highly complex missions such as search and rescue, antinarcotics operations, and dignitary protection that includes protecting the President of the United States.

To support its operations, the force draws on resources that include award-winning air, water, and horseback units. The Park Police are so renowned for their attention to detail that they often are called upon by other law enforcement agencies to sites often far away from their permanent headquarters.

For over three decades, Chief Robert Langston has been an active and integral part of this esteemed and proud organization. Indeed, it is from a long tradition of police personnel who are of his high caliber that the Park Police have drawn their source of pride in their competence and their quality.

Chief Langston began his career with a bachelor of science degree in criminology from Florida State University. He started work as a Park Police patrolman covering foot, cruiser and motorcycle assignments. Even with the challenge of full-time police duty and a young family, he continued his education at the University of Virginia with master level courses in police administration, and at the FBI Academy in Quantico, VA. He was promoted to sergeant in 1971 with service in the training branch and later in the operations division as a patrol sergeant. In 1973, he was promoted to lieutenant and served as shift commander before accepting command of the communications section. He was promoted again, in 1975, to the rank of captain, and assigned as watch commander in the National Park Service's Southeast Region. Upon returning to Washington, he served as commander of the operations division's central district, and was promoted to major. His upward progress only continued, and he was selected as deputy chief in charge of the field offices division. In 1988, he became the assistant chief of police, and was named Chief of Police in 1991.

After nearly a decade of service as chief, Bob Langston still is the same gentleman of great enthusiasm and commitment that shows through in everything he does. His selfless dedication to duty has been thoroughly time-tested and consistently proven throughout each stage of his career. Even when resources were stretched and duty was intense, he calmly provided direction and oversight for the department. Through some of the most trying times literally in our Nation's history, Chief Langston always did much more than his duty.

Through it all, he stayed active in professional and civic organizations, such as the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the D.C. and Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Commission, to name only a few. Here, too, he willingly accepted the call to leadership, and served as president of the FBI National Academy Associates, and a member of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad for over 40 years, with 15 years as rescue squad president.

Chief Langston has gained much recognition for his service and exceptional efforts as part of the U.S. Park Police. He has been awarded the regional director's award for excellence as well as the Marshals Service award for outstanding service and the State Department's diplomatic service award for outstanding service.

For all his professional achievements, Chief Robert Langston is most

admired and respected for simply being a kind, decent human being who never let rising through the ranks cloud his eyes from seeing things from the grass-roots perspective as well as from the bird's eye view. His associates know him as a seasoned professional and his subordinates know him as a mentor; but, his neighbors know him simply as a trusted friend, and his wife Beverly, son Robert and daughter Kellie know him as a caring husband and faithful father. All who know Bob Langston know him as an upstanding Christian man of sterling integrity who is a role model in all that he does.

I know his colleagues, friends and family join me today when we say to Chief Robert Langston, thank you for staying the course and thank you for helping mold and maintain the Park Police into one of the truly great police forces of our Nation. In an unpredictable world, Chief Langston and the men and women of the Park Police do their duty with a diligence that is dependable, supporting us and keeping us safe to enjoy sacred symbols of freedom that the Department of the Interior, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Park Police both protect and in fact embody for the people of America and for the future of our Nation.

#### THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGRESS'S CREATION OF AMTRAK

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, Yesterday marked the thirtieth anniversary of Congress's creation of Amtrak. Congress acted then because we realized that along with cars and planes, passenger rail was a vital part of America's transportation future. Today the need for passenger rail is greater than ever. All across this great land, travelers are facing gridlock not only on our highways but we are quickly approaching it in our skies too.

I believe many Americans are growing tired of spending so many hours stuck in traffic, or hanging around airport terminals. They want an alternative, now.

Fortunately, there is an alternative to growing gridlock and "winglock." It is called high-speed passenger rail, and it is a way of traveling that is pleasant and easy, and allows travelers to make the most of their valuable time.

So far, high-speed rail exists only in the Northeast. But Amtrak's vision is to build a national passenger railroad system consisting of many regional high-speed corridors linked by long-distance service. This plan will bring another option to the American business traveler, commuter and tourist no matter where they live.

That is why I strongly support the High Speed Rail Investment Act of 2001. It will provide Amtrak with what our highways and airports already have: a source of long-term capital with which to build the high-speed rail corridors of the future.

With high-speed rail, we can give travelers the choices they deserve, and

improve our over burdened transportation system. Passage of the High Speed Rail Act of 2001 isn't just in Amtrak's interest; it is in America's interest.

#### THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY CARE ACT

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join the distinguished Senators from Minnesota and Maine, Mr. WELLSTONE and Ms. COLLINS, in the introduction of the Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research, and Education Act.

I have worked with them over the past several months to develop this legislation.

The Muscular Dystrophy CARE Act will help ensure that federal agencies are coordinating muscular dystrophy initiatives. The bill will create three Centers of Excellence under the National Institutes of Health. These centers will conduct basic and clinical research that will help move scientific discoveries from the laboratory to the bedside. The act also ensures that the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention will conduct basic epidemiological research and data analysis of the impact this disease has on our country.

The passage of this legislation will help improve the quality and length of life for tens of thousands who suffer from muscular dystrophy. I encourage all Senators to support this effort.

#### 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 last month. 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.

Today I would like to detail a heinous crime that occurred June 1, 2000, in Baltimore, MD. Gary William Mick, 25, pleaded guilty to first-degree murder, attempted murder, and armed robbery after admitting that he murdered a gay man and tried to kill another because, he told police, he thought gay men were "evil." In the first attack, a New Jersey man was bludgeoned to death with a claw hammer at the Admiral Fell Inn in Fells Point. Mick met his second victim, a dentist, at a bar, had dinner with him and went home with him. He later attacked him with a knife. The men struggled and the victim escaped. The perpetrator told police that a childhood incident caused him to hate homosexuals.

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 by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, May 1, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,651,070,445,048.89. Five trillion, six hundred fifty-one billion, seventy million, four hundred forty-five thousand, forty-eight dollars and eighty-nine cents.

One year ago, May 1, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,660,726,000,000. Five trillion, six hundred sixty billion, seven hundred twenty-six million.

Five years ago, May 1, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,096,321,000,000. Five trillion, ninety-six billion, three hundred twenty-one million.

Ten years ago, May 1, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,438,851,000,000. Three trillion, four hundred thirty-eight billion, eight hundred fifty-one million.

Fifteen years ago, May 1, 1986, the Federal debt stood at \$2,020,548,000,000. Two trillion, twenty billion, five hundred forty-eight million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$3.5 trillion, \$3,630,522,445,048.89. Three trillion, six hundred thirty billion, five hundred twenty-two million, four hundred forty-five thousand, forty-eight dollars and eighty-nine cents during the past 15 years.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### A PASSOVER MESSAGE FROM RABBI ISRAEL ZOBERMAN

• Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I ask that a "Passover Message from Rabbi Israel Zoberman" be printed in the RECORD.

The message is as follows:

The Biblical account of the Exodus from Egypt became the Leitmotif of Rabbinic theology, perceiving in the Israelites' redemption from a House of Bondage God's guidance and goodness. Thus the three Pilgrim Festivals of Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot, revolving around the common theme of the Exodus, point at the divine gifts of both freedom and responsibility as essential requirements for fulfilling the human potential.

The awesome and complex journey—physically, spiritually and psychologically—from servitude to liberation of the people of Israel was to be a model for the entire human family, culminating the Messianic vision of a world redeemed in the prophetic promise. We have chosen to transform the bitter herbs of our exile into the sweet charoset of homecoming in all. It is the symbolic hovering presence at the Seder table of the prophet Elijah for whom we open the door and set aside a special cup of wine, which provides the eternal hope for universal shalom. It is the peace we have kept alive as a flickering light in the darkness of a trying and challenging history.

Our Passover joy is diminished through by the continued detention in China of the twenty-four-member crew of the U.S. Navy plane as we pray and call for their release, as well as the release of Dr. Gao Zhan, who has been separated for too long from her husband and child in Virginia. The festival's promise by a compassionately passionate heritage is ultimately rooted in its revolutionary view of the infinite worth of each of the Creator's children, recalling that God silenced the angels on high when jubilant at the drowning