

Missouri officials acknowledge failings in their ability to protect residents. Their counterparts in Illinois see no significant problems despite complaints from inspectors.

Day 5—Legislative efforts try to make things better

Inadequate Laws Are Blamed for Lack of Prosecution in 4 Heat-Related Deaths (10/16/2002)—When four elderly women baked to death from soaring temperatures in a University City Nursing home in April last year, public officials expressed outrage and vowed to take swift action against those responsible.

Nursing Home Industry Wields Clout in State Capitals (10/16/2002)—More than 40 percent of the nearly \$2.6 million the nursing home industry contributed nationwide in state elections in 2000 flowed into Missouri and Illinois.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded and that I be allowed to speak for as much time as I may consume.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to thank my colleagues for their unanimous support for S. 2182, the Cyber Security Research and Development Act. I share the concerns and worries of Senator BOND and Senator GRASSLEY on many pieces of legislation and important matters that have not been passed due to various obstructions and problems. However, I am here to say we actually have done something very constructive which will soon be helping our country, and that is the passage of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act.

An extraordinary amount of hard work that went into this legislation. I thank my colleague from Oregon, Senator WYDEN, for his leadership and continued work in pushing this important measure through the legislative process.

Our bill, S. 2182, addresses the important issue of cyber and computer security. It is a truly historic piece of legislation because, for the first time, it assures and solidifies the Federal Government's commitment to basic, fundamental, long-term research in computer security as well as much needed graduate and postgraduate doctoral fellowships in computer security.

America must act now to protect our security on many fronts. As our reliance on technology and the Internet has grown over the past decade, our vulnerability to attacks on the Nation's critical infrastructure and network systems has also grown exponentially. The high degree of interdependence between information systems ex-

poses America's network infrastructure to both benign and destructive disruptions.

Such cyber-attacks can take several forms, including the defacement of Web sites, denial of service, virus infection throughout the computer network, and the unauthorized intrusions and sabotage of systems and networks resulting in critical infrastructure outages and corruption of vital data. These are just some examples of the problems that could arise and have previously arisen.

In fact, we have seen past attacks, such as the Code Red virus, that show the types of dangers and potential disruption cyber-attacks can have on our Nation's infrastructure. The cyber-threats before this country are significant and are, unfortunately, only getting more complicated and sophisticated as time goes on.

A survey last year by the Computer Security Institute and the FBI found that 85 percent of 538 respondents experienced computer intrusions. Carnegie Mellon University's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) Coordination Center, which serves as a reporting center for Internet security problems, received 2,437 vulnerability reports in calendar year 2001, almost six times the number that were reported in 1999, just 2 years previously. Similarly, the number of specific incidents reported to CERT exploded from 9,589 in 1999 to 52,658 in 2001. Again, in 1999, about 9,500, to 52,000-plus incidents reported just 2 years later.

What is alarming is that CERT estimates that these statistics may represent only 20 percent of the incidents that have actually occurred.

A recent public opinion survey indicates that over 70 percent of Americans are concerned about computer security and 74 percent are concerned about terrorists using the Internet to launch a cyber-attack against our country's infrastructure. One survey shows that half—half—of all information technology professionals believe a major attack will be launched against the Federal Government in the next 12 months. Indeed, cyber-security is essential to both homeland security and national security. The Internet's security and reliability support commerce and information transfer of vital data in our economy, they support our critical infrastructures and, obviously, systems that protect our national defense. At a time when uncertainty threatens the confidence of our Nation's preparedness, the Federal Government needs to make the information and cyber-security issue a top priority.

Currently, federally funded research on cyber-security is less than \$60 million a year. Experts believe that fewer than 100 U.S. researchers have the experience and expertise to conduct cutting-edge research in cyber-security. In this past academic year, there were fewer than 30 U.S. citizens enrolled in Ph.D. cyber-security programs. Our legislation will encourage the kind of

research and programs that will motivate students to pursue Ph.D. degrees in cyber-security because students will have the opportunity to receive research grants with the National Science Foundation.

The Cyber Security Research and Development Act will play a major role in fostering greater research in methods to prevent future cyber-attacks and design more secure networks. Our legislation will harness and link the intellectual power of the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Science and Technology, our Nation's universities, and the most creative minds in the private sector to develop new and improved computer cryptography and authentication, firewalls, computer forensics, intrusion detection, wireless security, and systems management.

In addition, our bill is designed to draw more college undergraduate and graduate students into the field of cyber-security research.

It establishes programs to use internships, research opportunities, and better equipment to engage students in this field. America is a leader in the computer hardware and software development fields. To preserve America's technological edge, we must continue to have new students involved in computer science study and research.

S. 2182 highlights the role the Federal Government will play in helping prepare and prevent against cyber-attacks, but only if we can ensure the cutting edge research and technology funded in this legislation is made commercially available. Clearly, there is an urgent need for the private sector, academic, and individual users, as well as the Federal and State governments, to deploy innovative security measures.

I am confident the Federal investment for long-term projects outlined in this legislation will yield significant results to enhance the security and reliability of cyberspace.

I am glad to see the Senate, in a rare moment in these last few weeks and months, has come together and passed this important legislation. Again, I thank my colleague from Oregon, Senator WYDEN, for his leadership. I have enjoyed working with him on successful passage of this positive and constructive legislation that will improve the security of Americans.

I am also grateful to the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, Senator ORRIN HATCH of Utah, who thoughtfully suggested we add an assurance that the grants provided in this legislation will go to individuals who are in full compliance with all immigration laws.

I thank all my colleagues. It was a good team effort. In the future, our Internet and our cyber-security will be stronger for it.

I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter in the RECORD.

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

BUSINESS SOFTWARE ALLIANCE

October 17, 2002.

Sen. RON WYDEN,
Chairman,
Sen. GEORGE ALLEN,
Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Science, Technology & Space,
Committee on Commerce, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN WYDEN AND RANKING MEMBER ALLEN: We are writing to express our support of the Business Software Alliance (BSA) and the Information Technology Association of America (ITAA) for S. 2182, the Cyber Security Research and Development Act, and to urge quick Senate passage of the bill.

Our associations represent the world's leading research-based software and hardware developers and manufacturers. As builders of many of the products, networks and systems that power the world's information infrastructures, and of the leading security tools used to protect them, our members are extremely committed to cyber security.

S. 2182 authorizes federal expenditures on fundamental basic, long-term research into computer security, as well as much-needed graduate and post-doctoral fellowships in computer security. The bill complements the hundreds of millions of dollars spent each year by the information technology industry on cyber security R&D. Government-funded research, undertaken in close partnership with industry, is a critical component of an effective government strategy to advance cyber security, and we commend your efforts to further the Federal Government's work in this area.

We also appreciate the efforts you and your staffs have undertaken to address concerns that were raised by industry earlier in this process with regard to provisions of the legislation pertaining to Federal computer systems. Your receptivity to these concerns has resulted, in our view, in a stronger bill, and we commend you for your efforts in this regard.

We are pleased to offer you our support of this legislation and to encourage its swift passage by the full Senate.

Sincerely,

ROBERT W. HOLLEYMAN II,
President and CEO,
Business Software Alliance (BSA).

HARRIS N. MILLER,
President,
Information Technology Association of America (ITAA).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CORZINE). Who yields time?
The Senator from Hawaii.

THE ECONOMY

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to express my concern over the current state of the economy. Too many working Americans are confronted with difficult financial situations due to the slowdown in the economy. I continue to believe in economic education and financial literacy as a major part of the solution for people to improve their unique situations. However, such efforts cannot truly succeed without sound fiscal policies to keep our economy strong. Many American families are having difficulties making ends meet. Over two million jobs have been lost since January 2001. The unemployment rate for September was 5.6 percent, an increase from the 3.9 per-

cent unemployment rate in September and October of 2000. Home foreclosures are occurring at the fastest rate in thirty years and others are falling behind on their payments. Health care costs have increased rapidly. As a result, many are paying substantially more for their insurance coverage. Rising prescription drug costs have made it costly to obtain necessary medication, particularly for seniors.

I agree with the Majority Leader in his prescription for the sick economy. Unemployment insurance must be extended to help those who are still struggling to find work in these tough economic times. An estimated 1.5 million people exhausted their Federal extended unemployment benefits by the end of September. The total for the end of the year is expected to rise to 2.2 million individuals.

The minimum wage needs to be increased. Since establishing the minimum wage requirement in 1938, we have had only 19 increases in the minimum wage. The latest occurred in September 1997. The earnings of average Americans have grown little, and the overall distribution of income has become increasingly unequal. The real value of the minimum wage has fallen by 11 percent since the last increase. Currently, a minimum wage employee working full time earns about \$4,000 below the poverty line for a family of three. We need to increase the minimum wage to help those millions of Americans earning the minimum wage who are rapidly becoming a permanent underclass in our society.

The savings of Americans have been ravaged in the last few years. The reduction in the value of retirement accounts is particularly troubling because Americans will have a harder time achieving the goal of a comfortable retirement. Over \$210 billion in 401(k) and other defined contribution plans was lost in 2001. Individual Retirement Accounts lost over \$230 billion in 2001.

Enron, WorldCom, Tyco, and other criminally managed companies have shaken the markets after the accounting scandals and disclosure of corporate misdeeds. We need the Securities and Exchange Commission to be aggressive in its pursuit of fraud and corporate malfeasance.

Without trust, our markets and economy cannot effectively function. The Sarbanes corporate accountability legislation that passed this summer will help provide additional safeguards for investors. With the recent addition of the new Securities and Exchange Commissioners, I look forward to the development of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. It is my hope that the organization will become a friend and advocate for the investor—not the accounting industry. The corporate accountability bill must be strongly enforced. In addition, pension protection legislation needs to be enacted to empower workers to make it easier for them to sell company stock

and to make their investments more secure.

It is troubling that revenues have declined when there are so many domestic and defense needs. The 10-year, \$1.35 trillion tax cut, which was enacted in June 2001, has contributed to a rapid surge in the size of the Federal budget deficit. The FY 2002 budget deficit is now estimated to be \$157 billion, according to the Congressional Budget Office's monthly budget review. Gone are the years of budget surpluses. Although some of this can be attributed to necessary spending for national security in the wake of September 11, 2001, we cannot ignore the overall impact of last year's tax cut package. We must reexamine the tax cuts that have yet to take effect. The tax cuts were enacted at a time when the economy appeared stronger, there was a Federal budget surplus, and the tragic events of September 11 had not yet occurred. Now, fiscal responsibility requires all options to be on the table, such as postponing or canceling specific upper income tax cuts. I know that some of my colleagues share my concerns, and I look forward to working with them on this issue.

The American people will pay a large price for the tax cuts that generally are for the wealthiest Americans. When fully implemented, the tax cuts will give more tax breaks to the top one percent of taxpayers than to the combined total of the bottom 80 percent. It will be extremely difficult to pay down the public debt, which at the end of FY 2002 was estimated to be \$3.6 trillion. It also will be difficult to provide a meaningful Medicare prescription drug benefit for seniors, and to adequately fund education and other vital programs and services.

Unfortunately, there are those who want to further compound our fiscal crisis by making the tax cuts permanent. Responsible fiscal policy is needed, or possible adverse effects, such as increasing interest rates, may further weaken the economy. Prior to the enactment of the tax cuts, the public debt was expected to be eliminated by 2009. This is no longer true. Future generations of taxpayers will be stuck paying the bill for these current tax cuts, and the picture would look even worse if the cuts are made permanent.

As a former classroom teacher and principal, I would like to say another word about education, which is one of the most important responsibilities we have regarding our children and our nation's future. The No Child Left Behind Act became law in January of this year. This sweeping reform of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act places before our schools dramatic mandates that they improve student performance or face tough consequences. The FY 2003 budget request, rather than including the funding needed to properly implement changes in the Act, requested the smallest increase in education spending in seven years. Furthermore, the budget request