

before the holidays with one slight modification that represents the Bond amendment on expensing, which was adopted. Otherwise, the amendment is the same as what has passed the House of Representatives and the President said he would sign.

I hope we have an opportunity to get 60 votes for cloture on the amendment and that we are able to get that amendment adopted, get the bill to the President for signature, and consequently, then, immediately—not 3 or 4 months down the road when we have a conference committee trying to reach some agreement—get help to stimulate the economy through accelerated depreciation for business, through middle-income-tax reduction, making it permanent the 27-percent bracket down to 25-percent bracket, and tax rebates for low-income people to stimulate the economy on the demand side, consumer spending. All three are meant to create jobs and will create jobs.

Also, this amendment is for the displaced workers; those mostly affected because of what happened on September 11 will get an increase of unemployment compensation of 13 weeks and a 60-percent tax credit for health insurance, and we do it in a way that people can have the option, if they do not want COBRA, to have other insurance, and also to help those who did not have any COBRA insurance where last employed.

It is a well-rounded stimulus package that will get the job done. The fact that it passed the House of Representatives and will be signed by the President is reason enough for this body to adopt it, particularly because in this body nothing gets done that is not bipartisan. This has bipartisan support.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak for a period not to exceed 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH PROGRAM

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, last Friday the children in my State of West Virginia had reason to celebrate. I am delighted to announce that the Communities in Schools Program and America's Promise have joined to form a new partnership aimed at giving our children resources that help them to

stay in school and be successful in life. This exciting new program, launched on January 31, 2002, is called the Alliance for Youth.

Bill Milliken, Communities in Schools CEO and West Virginia Governor Bob Wise joined together last week to signal the start of a major initiative to help students. The Alliance for Youth combines the missions of education and community service with the goal of making each more accessible to students in West Virginia. Through the Alliance, children can connect with concerned adults and have a safe place where they can develop useful life skills, have a wholesome start in life, and have the opportunity to become involved in their communities. As a former VISTA worker, I personally know how public service can change and improve someone's life. Providing more opportunities for public service will help both the communities served and the students involved. By helping to shape the lives of our children, the Alliance for Youth Program is making the most important investment in our future.

Years ago, the National Commission on Children which I chaired, challenged society in general to create a moral climate for our children. The Alliance for Youth Program responds to this challenge. We all understand that the chances for children's success are tied to quality education, strong child development, and strong support from family and caring adults. It is my hope that the Alliance for Youth will continue the worthy and important work of providing children with extra support for a successful start in life. I applaud this new partnership, and I look forward to seeing the results of its valuable work.

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 last 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 August 30, 1997 in Chicago, IL. A woman and two gay men were attacked by several men who were shouting anti-gay epithets. The assailants, Matthew W. Polley, 21, Jason C. Polley, 22, and Kenneth A. Schultz, 20 were each charged with a felony hate crime 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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SOUTH DAKOTA'S SUPER BOWL XXXVI PARTICIPANTS

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I congratulate Adam Vinatieri of the New England Patriots. Adam, a native of Rapid City and a South Dakota State University graduate, was instrumental in the Patriot victory in Super Bowl XXXVI. With :07 left in the fourth quarter and the score tied at 17, Adam kicked the game winning 48-yard field goal.

Adam has had a long and very successful football career. During his NFL tenure, Adam has been to two Super Bowls and numerous playoff games. Prior to Adam's professional career, he played for the Jackrabbits from 1991-1994 and was all-North Central Conference punter and kicker from 1992-1994. Also, during Adam's early athletic years at Central High School in Rapid City, I was pleased to have nominated him for a service academy appointment.

Although Adam will be remembered for his Super Bowl winning kick, his two field goals during the playoff game against the Oakland Raiders may have been even more impressive. During a snowstorm, he kicked a 45-yard field goal to send the game to overtime, and then kicked the game winning field goal in overtime to win the Divisional Playoff game. Without his leadership and resolve, the New England Patriots would not have been in a position to play in the Super Bowl, let alone win it. Adam reflects the best of South Dakota, and I know I speak for the entire State when I say congratulations on the great victory. We are all very proud of you.

Also, I would like to congratulate several other participants from Super Bowl XXXVI who have South Dakota ties, including Adam Timmerman, a guard for the St. Louis Rams and a SDSU graduate; Matt Chatham, a University of South Dakota standout and backup linebacker for the Patriots; Brad Seely, a Baltic native and Special Teams coach for the New England Patriots; and Mike Martz who was born in Sioux Falls and is the head coach of the Rams.

It is very satisfying to know that even though South Dakota has no professional or Division I sports, we were very well represented in the biggest sporting event in America. Congratulations to all who played and participated in one of the best Super Bowls ever played.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to honor February as Black History Month. Each February since 1926, our Nation has paused to recognize the contributions of black Americans to the history of our Nation. This is no accident, February is a significant month in black American history. Abolitionist Frederick Douglass, President Abraham Lincoln, and

scholar and civil rights leader W.E.B. DuBois were born in the month of February. The 15th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified 132 years ago this month, giving black Americans the right to vote. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded in February in New York City. Last Friday, February 1, was the forty-second anniversary of the Greensboro Four's historic sit-in. And on February 25, 1870, this body welcomed its first black Senator, Hiram R. Revels of Mississippi.

I want to take time during this important month to celebrate some of the contributions made by black Americans in my home State of Oregon. Since Marcus Lopez, who sailed with Captain Robert Gray in 1788, become the first person of African descent to set foot in Oregon, a great many black Americans have helped shape the history of my State. Throughout this month, I will come to the floor to highlight some of their stories.

One important story in the history of the Pacific Northwest belongs to a black pioneer named George W. Bush. George Washington Bush, a veteran of the War of 1812, headed west on the Oregon Trail in 1844 hoping to leave the racism of Missouri behind him. A wealthy farmer, Bush purchased six wagons, packed up his friends and family, including his Irish wife, and settled in The Dalles. Upon arrival, Bush discovered that the racism he was trying to escape was, tragically, alive and well in the Oregon Territory.

While slavery was illegal in Oregon, my State shamefully tried to drive out blacks through the enactment of exclusion laws, including a disgraceful "lash law." The lash law required that a black person be whipped twice a year "until [they] shall quit the territory." As a result of this law, Bush was forced to move across the Columbia River to live under the more hospitable rule of the Hudson's Bay Company. Bush thrived as a farmer and rancher in the Puget Sound area, and his success attracted a large number of settlers to the Northwest. Because his prosperity helped spur the tremendous growth of settlements north of the Columbia, Bush, one of the first black Oregonians, is now credited by some historians for bringing the land north of the Columbia River, present-day Washington State, into the United States.

Bush might never have completed his journey to Oregon had it not been for one of the first Oregon Trail guides, a black man named Moses Harris. Harris spent years trapping in the Northwest, and was one of the explorers who christened Independence Rock in what is now the State of Wyoming. Harris was renowned for his knowledge of the region, and, on more than one occasion, saved lost or stranded wagon parties from certain death along the treacherous route to Oregon. He guided thousands to the Pacific Northwest, including the famous Whitman party, and did so until his death of cholera in 1849.

Without Moses Harris, and people like him, Oregon, as we know it, would not exist today.

Moses Harris and George Bush are only two early examples of the black men and women who changed the course of history in Oregon and in the United States. During the remainder of Black History Month, I will return to the floor to celebrate more Oregonians like Harris and Bush, whose contributions, while great, have not received the attention they deserve.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

MAJOR STEWART H. HOLMES

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to congratulate Major Stewart H. Holmes upon the completion of his career of service in the United States Marine Corps. Throughout his 22 years military career, Major Holmes served with distinction and dedication.

He joined the Marine Corps when he was 17 years of age and rose from private to major, serving in a wide variety of assignments along the way. He served as the Marine Corps Appropriations liaison to both the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives, and he has been a legislative fellow in my office. He has carried out his responsibilities with great ability and dedication.

His parents, Wilhelmina and Jacob Holmes, and his fellow Marines can be proud of his distinguished service. Major Holmes, and his wife Deborah, have made many sacrifices during his Marine career, and we appreciate their contribution of conscientious service to our country.

I am also pleased that Major Holmes will continue his work in my office as a Legislative Assistant with responsibilities for defense and military programs and issues. I look forward to having the continued benefit of his dependable counsel and assistance.●

TRIBUTE TO VICTOR SWENSON

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, for more than twenty-eight years it has been my pleasure to know and work with Victor Swenson in many efforts to promote the humanities at the State and national levels. On February 1, 2002, Victor retired as the Executive Director of the Vermont Council on the Humanities, a leadership role he has effectively filled since the Council's inception in 1974. Today, I rise to express my gratitude for his dedication and service to all Vermonters.

Every State has a humanities council, but few are as innovative, creative, and self-sufficient as the Vermont council on the Humanities. Early on, under Victor's stewardship, the Vermont Council determined that the first step in broadening Vermonters' participation in humanities programming was ensuring that all Vermonters were able to read. This undertaking,

creating a state in which every individual reads, participates in public affairs, and continues to learn throughout life, involves an enormous commitment. It is a self-imposed and ambitious challenge that the Council has taken on completely. The Council has distinguished itself as a national leader in promoting reading.

Victor's work with the Council has been so successful and has enjoyed such a long tenure that it would be impossible to discuss one without a complete mention of the other. Throughout this long association, Victor has held an unfading belief that the humanities can and must be used to improve life in meaningful ways. Victor believes rightly that all Vermonters benefit from any investment in the humanities, and the Council has been his vehicle for advancement. In January 1974, Victor set up office in Hyde Park, VT, with a budget of \$140,000. His first two grants were to the Crossroads Humanities Council in Rutland, VT, and to the Vermont Historical Society. As with those first two grants, the Council has used its position to challenge the people of Vermont to enrich their lives locally through the humanities. The Council has worked for the preservation of historic papers and documents, the creation of reading programs, initiatives to improve teachers' abilities in teaching the humanities and many, many other meaningful projects.

The importance of Victor's influence in Vermont for more than a quarter of a century cannot be overemphasized. I congratulate Victor on his retirement and I sincerely wish him the best of luck in whatever he may do next.●

THE TRIUMPH OF THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today I salute the New England Patriots for their amazing win in Super Bowl XXXVI. We are so proud of our Patriots for bringing home this championship and for the manner in which they achieved it: through determination, class and teamwork. Some followers of the Pats through their startling season have deemed New England a team of destiny. I agree with that characterization if one defines team of destiny as a collection of individuals who worked together as an efficient, loyal combination in the face of adversity and doubt.

From Fort Kent, ME, to Waterbury, CT, from Williamstown to Wellfleet, New England sports fans have hungered for a sports title since 1986. Few would have guessed that it would be the Patriots who would end this drought by bringing home their first championship. Although blessed with four decades of star players such as Gino Cappelletti, Jim Nance and Babe Parilli in the 1960s; Sam (Bam) Cunningham, Russ Francis, and Jim Plunkett in the 1970s; John Hannah, Mike Haynes, and Stanley Morgan in