

attacks, hundreds of foreigners have been rounded up though not charged with any terrorism-related crime.

Yet at the same time, "hundreds, if not thousands, of foreign nationals who have been plausibly accused of the most heinous human rights crimes, including torture and assassination, either have lived or still live freely in the U.S." [William Schulz, "The Torturers Among Us," *New York Review*, p. 22, April 25, 2002.]

This bill would not only add the new grounds, but also expand current grounds, for inadmissibility and deportation, by barring those aliens who have engaged, outside the United States, in "torture" and "extrajudicial killing" and removing artificial limitations on the current grounds for exclusion for aliens who commit "genocide" and "particularly severe violations of religious freedom." This bill is important for the victims of these heinous crimes who seek refuge in this country and important for Americans to show that we will not tolerate perpetrators of genocide, extrajudicial killing and torture, living among us.

I urge the Republican Members who have blocked passage of this bill to come forward and identify themselves, to share any concerns they may have so that we may proceed without further delay.

I was pleased when the Senate did take up and pass the Mychal Judge Police and Fire Chaplains Public Safety Officers' Benefit Act of 2002 that I sponsored with Senators CAMPBELL, SCHUMER, CLINTON, and BIDEN.

Named for Chaplain Mychal Judge, who was killed while responding with the New York City Fire Department to the September 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, this legislation recognizes the invaluable service of police and fire chaplains in crisis situations by allowing for their eligibility in the Public Safety Officers' Benefit Program. Father Judge, while deemed eligible for public safety officer benefits, was survived by his two sisters who, under current law, are ineligible to receive payments through the PSOB Program. This is simply wrong and must be remedied.

Indeed, Father Judge is among 10 public safety officers who were killed on September 11, but who are ineligible for Federal death benefits because they died without spouses, children, or parents. This bill would retroactively correct this injustice by expanding the list of those who may receive public safety officer benefits to the beneficiaries named on the most recently executed life insurance policy of the deceased officer. This change would go into effect on September 11 of last year to make sure the families of Father Judge and the nine other fallen heroes receive their public safety officer benefits.

In addition, this bill would retroactively restructure the Public Safety Officers' Benefit Program to specifically include chaplains as members of the law enforcement and fire units

they serve, and would make these chaplains eligible for the one-time \$250,000 benefit available to public safety officers who have been permanently disabled as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty, or to the survivors of officers who have died.

This measure is strongly supported by the National Association of Police Organization, the Fraternal Order of Police, and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

Despite its Senate's passage and in spite of the fact that the House Judiciary Committee has favorably reported the House companion bill with bipartisan support to the House, the House Republican leadership has refused to follow through with passage of these measure. I urge the House Republican leadership to reconsider its decision and allow this important matter to proceed to final passage.

These bills are not alone in being blocked by anonymous Republican holds. Holds have been placed on other important bills that the Judiciary Committee has acted upon and reported favorably to the Senate. Let me just cite a couple examples: S. 2010, the Corporate and Criminal Fraud Accountability Act, which I introduced after the Enron debacle to restore confidence in our securities; S. 2179, the Law Enforcement Tribute Act, which was introduced by Senator CARNAHAN to help State and local police pay for memorials to honor fallen officers; and S. 407, the Madrid Protocol Implementation Act, to help American businesses better protect their intellectual property in the international marketplace.

In addition to the Mychal Judge Police and Fire Chaplains Public Safety Officers Benefit Act, many other Senate-passed are languishing in the House of Representatives. These include the Federal Judiciary Protection Act, S. 1099, which I cosponsored with Senator GORDON SMITH; the James Guelff and Chris McCurley Body Armor Act, S. 166, which was sponsored by Senator FEINSTEIN; and the TEACH Act, S. 487, which I sponsored with Senator HATCH. These bipartisan measures were passed by unanimous consent through the Senate last year, but have been held hostage without action in the House for too many months.

None of these 10 matters should be partisan, yet again and again, anonymous Republican holds have stopped Senate and congressional action. I appeal to my Republican colleagues in the Senate to lift their secret holds and to the Republicans in both Houses to stop obstructing these bipartisan bills, that are intended to protect our national security, our public safety, America's borders, and American businesses.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

ENTREPRENEURS OF THE YEAR

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Melissa Mabon and Brooke Savage, two of New Hampshire's Entrepreneurs of the Year. It is doubtless that their success is a tribute to their hard work and dedication.

As cofounders of Pragmatech Software Inc. in Amherst, Brooke and Melissa have built a company from conception into what it is today. Their business knowledge and planning have led them to build a company with no outside investment giving them greater flexibility with respect to management decisions. Pragmatech, which was founded in 1994, offers several services including an expert knowledge base that supports automated responses to "requests for proposals" and "form-based proposals." They also feature programs that assemble proposals, provide point-by-point responses to specifications, publish on the Web, and gauge the effectiveness of proposals, just to name a few.

It is my great pleasure and honor to represent Brooke and Melissa in the United States Senate and wish them all the best in future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO KENTUCKY RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the Kentucky Rural Health Association. The Kentucky Rural Health Association recently held its annual conference in Frankfort, and I would like to take a few minutes today to voice my support for this organization. The Association is helping to shape and implement changes to improve the health of rural Kentuckians.

Since 1999, the Kentucky Rural Health Association has worked to create an equitable and effective health care environment, in terms of access and distribution, for rural Kentuckians. Their efforts in educating the public, empowering the people, and positively influencing government policy and legislation have been extremely beneficial to individuals and families throughout the Commonwealth.

While I regret that I was unable to attend their conference this year, I commend all the members of the association for safeguarding Kentucky's right to affordable and accessible health care. Adequate healthcare is critical to improving an individual's quality of life, and I urge them to continue their hard work on behalf of rural Kentuckians.●

COMMENDING STUDENTS FROM MASSABESIC HIGH SCHOOL

• Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of an outstanding group of

young people from Massabesic High School in Waterboro, ME. This group of 20 students represented Maine in the national finals of "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" in Washington, DC, May 4-6, 2002. The students from Massabesic High School demonstrated teamwork and dedication to reach this milestone and represented Maine ably and with determination. During the competition, students from 50 classrooms across the country put their skills to the test demonstrating their understanding of the values and ideas embodied in American constitutional government.

I would like to recognize the participating students, Allie Auger, Kirsten Benham, John Blow, Selina Carter, Alyssa Daniels, Scott Doyle, Brian Dupee, Kaleigh Gerity, Tucker Gilman, Matt Kimball, Matt Krueger, Aaron Libby, Eric Matheson, Bri Morin, Glen Petrarca, Meghan Roubo, Joe Rousseau, Jason Roy, Courtney Strout, and Dawn Theriault for their persistence, dedication, and drive. I also stand to recognize the dedication and work of their teacher, Joseph Wagner, the district coordinator, David Ezhaya, and the state coordinator, Julia Underwood.

I am very proud to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of this exceptional group of students from Maine and bring their achievement to the attention of the Senate. •

TRIBUTE TO MAVERICK LEZAR

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the achievement of Maverick Lezar, a fourth grade student at the Hockaday School in Dallas, TX. Maverick wrote a wonderful poem that earned first place in the 2002 Poetry Society of Texas contest. Annually, the Poetry Society sponsors a Poetry in Schools contest which is open to any Texas student from first grade through college. This contest recognizes and encourages talented students and fosters their creativity as aspiring writers and poets.

Maverick Lezar's award winning poem, "God Bless Me," speaks to the strength and spirit of America. It serves as a striking reminder of the beauty in our Nation's physical landscape as well as the ideals for which America stands.

I am as powerful as the burning sun.
I am as brave as the cobra standing tall.
I am as brilliant as a gold carriage glinting in the sun.

God bless me,
I am the thing that makes you free.
I am as strong as a bald eagle soaring high.
I am as gentle as the lovebird's song.
I am as beautiful as the weeping willow's sway.

God bless me,
I am the thing that makes you free.

Call me and I'll listen.
Listen and I'll call.
I echo through the mountains.
I whisper through the fields.
I sing through the river.
I yell across the hills.

Wherever you go
Whatever you see
There will always be at least
A little bit of me.
I am America
The proudest of them all. •

CONGRATULATING THE GIRL SCOUTS ON 90 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT

• Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, 90 years ago on March 12, 1912, the first troop of 18 Girl Scouts met in the United States. To date, there are nearly 4 million girls and adults who are part of this extraordinary program.

Today, at the Denver Zoo in my home State of Colorado, Girl Scouts, their families, and others interested in scouting will be celebrating this 90th anniversary with hands-on activities and a variety of entertainment. I would like to congratulate the Mile Hi Council of the Girl Scouts on this historic achievement and wish them all the best during today's celebration. What a fantastic way to share the efforts of the Girl Scouts nationwide.

Throughout the 20th century, the Girl Scouts have been a visible force behind efforts to serve people in times of national unrest. During World War I, they sold war bonds and collected peach pits for the manufacturing of gas mask filters. Girls collaborated to learn about food preservation and conservation by canning fruits and vegetables.

When the Great Depression hit, troops of Girl Scouts led community relief efforts to provide the things necessary for basic survival. They collected food and prepared meals for the poor, carved wooden toys for children, and assisted in hospitals to treat those in need of medical care.

By the 1940s, women's involvement in our national security was on the rise after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and many women were taking over positions once dominated by men. The Girl Scouts led the vanguard of young women who were interested in helping those enlisted overseas as well as those trying to maintain a sense of normalcy here in the United States. They collected over 1 million articles of clothing for victims of war overseas, and put in numerous hours dedicated to farm aid projects. Additionally, they were part of efforts to teach women survival skills during raids and blackouts.

The Girl Scouts have left their mark on endeavors to improve social climate. In 1952, *Ebony* Magazine reported on their "progress toward breaking down racial taboos." They launched a campaign in the sixties to encourage girls to respect every aspect of themselves and to get to know others who are fundamentally different whether it be by race, national origin, or religion.

In the last 20 years, the Girl Scouts have worked together to tackle issues plaguing society's well-being, such as drug addiction, violent crime, environmental destruction, and the AIDS epi-

demic. Through collaborative work with the government and local communities, girls have promoted the positive influences of literacy, personal health, and individual responsibility.

Now more than ever, we are looking to our young people for a collective face of hope and prosperity for this Nation's future. We have witnessed the vulnerability of human life, but know the strength of collective effort and the potential for individual integrity. Our national security and viability as a community depends on this strength.

However, recent reports indicate that girls are less likely to pursue careers in math, science, or technology—fields vital to our progress in this global economy. Sometime during their teen or preteen years, many girls lose their zest in the classroom and, unfortunately, conform to attitudes that boys are inherently better in math and science.

The Girl Scouts are, again, at the forefront of this issue by confronting the disparity head on. They have collaborated with the National Science Foundation to provide opportunities for girls interested in studying wildlife and environment in Antarctica. In addition, they have created programs to provide girls with hands-on technology training, computer science skills, and access to information on physics and engineering. Most importantly, the Girl Scouts give girls tools to close the gender gap and the confidence to succeed in these traditionally male-dominated fields.

The Girl Scouts have fostered an environment *Where Girls Grow Strong*—their modern mantra. But, while the activities of the Girl Scouts may change over the years, its commitment to young women nationwide is resolute. By encouraging personal responsibility, social awareness, community service, and individual freedom, the Girl Scouts have shaped the physical and mental well-being of young women everywhere.

Thank you for allowing me to congratulate the Girl Scouts on 90 years of exceptional achievement. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them all the best in the years to come, and in giving a "Mile Hi" salute to the Girl Scouts celebrating today in Denver and throughout the Nation.

I ask that the Girl Scout Law be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

THE GIRL SCOUT LAW

I will do my best to be
honest and fair
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do,
and to
respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place, and
be a sister to every Girl Scout. •