

to a management plan that, to this Senator, seems to say that our forests are not managed, but mismanaged.

I yield the floor.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 3954 TO S. 2514

Mr. ALLARD. Madam President, on Friday, amendment No. 3954 to S. 2514 was approved by the Senate and I would like to make a few remarks regarding this important provision.

I am proud to have sponsored this amendment with my good friend from Florida, Senator NELSON. We both have a strong interest in space, for personal and constituent reasons, and believe this amendment, while only a Sense of the Senate, is important to show that the Senate is on record supporting assured access to space.

United States national security and economic vitality depend on our ability to launch a variety of satellites into earth orbit. Access to and utilization of space provides an advantage to the United States that must be maintained. Unfortunately, significant contractions in the commercial space launch marketplace have eroded the overall viability of the United States space launch industrial base and could jeopardize the ability of the Department of Defense to provide assured access to space in the future.

The Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle, EELV, program is the Air Force's solution for assured access. EELV is designed to be more responsive and affordable than current launch vehicles. With EELV, the Air Force has adopted a commercial launch services approach. The DOD also shared with the contractors the investment to develop next generation launch vehicles—the Atlas V and Delta IV. In 1997, at a time when worldwide projections envisioned 70 launches per year, the Air Force decided to retain both EELV contractors rather than down selecting to a single provider. The commercial satellite marketplace, it appeared, would provide adequate sustainment for the U.S. space launch industrial base, thereby justifying the large contractor investments in EELV, and providing the DOD a more robust assured access capability for a relatively modest government investment. Since 1997, however, such launch projections have deteriorated by 65 percent. The 2002 projection envisions approximately 25 launches per year.

As the EELV program transitions from development to recurring operations, the Air Force is evaluating a range of options for sustaining the

launch infrastructure and industrial base necessary to assure access to space. The key to this effort is the maintenance of two financially stable launch service providers that will keep U.S. launch providers competitive in the global market and provide backup for any technical or operational problems that may be encountered. Such a program will not fundamentally alter the projected cost savings associated with the EELV program, a 25–50 percent reduction over today's systems. The Air Force is currently negotiating with the two EELV contractors to develop an appropriate cost and risk sharing strategy for assured success.

The amendment calls on the Air Force to evaluate all the options for sustaining the space launch industry base, develop an integrated, long-range, and adequately funded plan for assuring U.S. access to space, and for the Air Force to submit a report to Congress at the earliest possible time.

Again, I want to thank Senator NELSON for working with me on this simple but important sense of the Senate. I look forward to working with him on this and other space issues in the future.

MILITARY CHIEF NURSES

Mr. INOUE. Madam President, today I wish to address a timely and important amendment to increase the grade for the Chief Nurses of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force to that of two stars. The existing law limits the position of Chief Nurse of the three branches of the military to that of Brigadier General in the Army and Air Force, and Rear Admiral, lower half, in the Navy.

Chief Nurses have a tremendous responsibility, their scope of duties include peacetime and wartime health care delivery, plus establishing standards and policy for all nursing personnel within their respective branches. They are responsible for thousands of Army, Navy, and Air Force officer and enlisted nursing personnel in the active, reserve, and guard components of the military. The military medical mission could not be carried out without nursing personnel. They are crucial to the mission in war and peace time, at home and abroad.

Organizations are best served when the leadership is composed of a mix of specialties, of equal rank, who bring their unique perspectives to the table when policies are established and decisions are made. This increased rank would guarantee that the nursing perspective is represented on critical issues that affect the military medical mission, patient care, and nursing practice. I believe it is time to ensure that the military health care system fully recognize and utilize the leadership ability of these outstanding patient care professionals.

E-MAIL SECURITY

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I rise today to address the Senate on an increasingly important topic: the security of the Internet, and specifically, the security of the e-mail we send across the Internet.

During my service on the Judiciary Committee I have held and attended a number of hearings on Internet oversight, and on the development of related legislation. Despite a thinning in the ranks of Internet focused companies, the Internet of course continues to become a more and more important part of our economic and personal lives.

In the wake of the September 11th and anthrax attacks, much of our attention has been focused on national security issues. The interruptions in traditional communications systems like the phone and traditional mail systems underscore the wisdom of the founders of the Internet, which began as a Defense Department project to develop a communications system that would be flexible and decentralized enough to withstand attacks that might cripple other systems. Internet technology is continually changing, and we need to be aware of its capabilities as well as any signs of vulnerability that can be exploited by those bent on using Internet access to attack the integrity of communications or vital data. In particular, since the anthrax attacks the nation has come to rely even more heavily on e-mail. There is no doubt that trust and confidence in e-mail, especially between businesses and consumers, is critical to the vital role such mail has played during recent months in keeping the channels of commerce and communication open despite blows to telephone service and traditional mail.

Yet, the Internet is vulnerable in its own ways. The Internet itself can be used by terrorists as well as by those of good intentions. While e-mail cannot be used by criminals and terrorists to spread harmful biological or chemical agents, there are risks in the way most e-mail is generated and transmitted. We have all been familiar with the various viruses that have been sent via e-mail and affected many computer systems. Among some of the risks are loss of privacy through unauthorized access to e-mail in transit and through invasions of e-mail host databases. Another technique is "spoofing," in which messages are sent purporting to be from a trusted sender in order to deceive the recipient, especially individual consumers and other citizens. We are increasingly threatened by viruses and other malicious code that can be carried on e-mails and unwittingly activated by the recipient.

We need to review industry's ongoing efforts to answer these challenges, and assess what individual consumers and policy makers can do. Some of these threats are familiar, others are just emerging. For example, by sending

messages with spoofed false send identities and misleading subject identifiers, hackers and unethical marketers can overcome the reluctance of even experienced e-mail recipients to open mail from unknown sources. As users are hurt or inconvenienced by falsified messages, their trust and confidence in the medium is damaged, and the usefulness of e-mail for all legitimate senders declines. We addressed some of these concerns in the PATRIOT Act last year, as we included a number of reforms to our computer fraud and abuse laws. It will be easier to investigate and prosecute unauthorized access to computer systems and to prevent cyberattack with these changes.

America has deep strategic interests in advancing the Internet, and especially its most frequently used service: e-mail. I am hopeful that, and have read about, new technologies and practices that can help improve sender accountability for e-mail, empower recipients to screen e-mail by assuring them of its real sender, and deliver on the promise of greater privacy for personally identifiable data.

It is important that we continue our efforts to keep our laws updated with new technologies and threats that could be posed using such new technologies. We should also take actions to motivate industry and the public where more needs to be done. Over the years, the public has come to value e-mail's convenience and speed, and to trust it as an alternative to the traditional postal envelope.

PROMOTING FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY IN THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE

Mr. AKAKA. Madam President, I rise today to urge the passage of two bills vital to our Nation's ability to combat terrorism, S. 1799, the Homeland Security Education Act, and S. 1800, the Homeland Security Federal Workforce Act. These bills are designed to assist our nation's national security agencies in recruiting individuals fluent in crucial foreign languages and skilled in other areas of critical concern. I fear that the lack of foreign language-speaking employees has contributed to one of the worst security lapses in the history of our great Nation.

The information that has surfaced in recent weeks about our intelligence agencies' inability to articulate a complete intelligence picture in the weeks and months preceding September 11 underscores the need for language-proficient professionals throughout Federal agencies to decipher and interpret information from foreign sources, as well as interact with foreign nationals.

In the article by Katherine McIntire Peters from the May 1, 2002, Government Executive Magazine, entitled "Lost in Translation," she demonstrates explicitly how a critical shortage of Federal employees with foreign language skills is hurting national security. According to the arti-

cle, the Army has a 44-percent shortfall in translators and interpreters in five critical languages, including Arabic, Korean, Persian-Farsi, Mandarin-Chinese, and Russian; the Department of State lacks 26 percent of its calculated need in authorized translator and interpreter positions, and the FBI has a 13-percent deficiency in the staffing of similar positions.

With such a startling lack of workers with proficient foreign language skills throughout the Federal Government, enacting S. 1799 and S. 1800 is essential for our national security. The 107th Congress must act now to alleviate these grave deficiencies to recruit personnel possessing vital skills. To do this, we must promote the pursuit of language skills at all levels of education.

S. 1799 strengthens national security by assisting in the expansion and the improvement of primary through graduate-level foreign language programs. This bill gives a boost to the foreign language programs taught in our Nation's schools by promoting concentrated and effective language study and by providing intensive professional development for teachers. Language study from a very early age will open students' minds to the opportunities and benefits of learning foreign languages. These benefits, combined with an across-the-board strengthening in science and engineering programs, will ensure an educated and competitive citizenry while providing a qualified applicant pool for national security positions.

S. 1800 provides incentives for accomplished university students to enter governmental service. The bill provides an enhanced loan repayment program for students with degrees in areas of critical importance and also provides fellowships to graduate students with expertise in similarly sensitive areas. These incentives will result in the recruitment of the highly-trained, dynamic young individuals our Nation needs to assist in the war against terrorism.

Our security organizations will benefit tremendously from an influx of proficient foreign language speakers. In addition to increasing the number of security personnel entering the Federal service with language proficiency, the legislation encourages current employees to improve their language ability and to hone other skills. We must provide training to improve foreign language skills of our present Federal workers and invest in the next generation of employees to ensure a dedicated and capable workforce that will contribute to our national security. The legislation I and the other sponsors have proposed would accomplish this.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 1799 and S. 1800.

I ask unanimous consent that the Government Executive Magazine article to which I referred be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

[From the Government Executive Magazine, May 1, 2002]

LOST IN TRANSLATION

(By Katherine McIntire Peters)

When then-CIA field agent Robert Baer served in Tajikistan in the early 1990s, he saw a golden opportunity to collect information that might prove vital to U.S. interests. Thousands of refugees were pouring into Tajikistan from Afghanistan, where civil war was raging. The refugees represented a gold mine of intelligence from a nation at the crossroads of American interests in the region. But Baer, who spoke Arabic and Russian, didn't speak Dari or Pashto, the language predominant among the refugees. So he contacted CIA headquarters and asked the agency to send Dari and Pashto speakers to debrief the refugees. The CIA couldn't—there weren't any, according to Baer. The refugees continued to come, and the United States missed an opportunity to get a life-saving glimpse into the brewing threat of radical Islam in Afghanistan.

Baer related his experiences in *See No Evil* (Crown Publishers, 2002), his memoir of a 21-year career in the CIA. During his two decades of service, the agency grew increasingly reliant on satellite technology and electronic intelligence-gathering at the expense of maintaining the language skills and regional expertise of its field officers. When Baer was transferred out of Tajikistan in 1992, his replacement spoke neither Tajik nor Russian, essentially crippling the agency's human intelligence-gathering efforts there, an assessment confirmed by another U.S. government official who served in Tajikistan at the time.

Baer's experience is hardly unique. Across government, countless opportunities are squandered every day for want of personnel who speak and understand foreign languages. While Baer was lamenting the CIA's lack of people with language skills in Central Asia, the FBI was sitting on its own gold mine of information back in New York—if only the agency had had the eyes and ears to recognize it. Only after terrorists bombed the World Trade Center in February 1993, did agents go back and translate previously taped phone conversations and confiscated documents, all in Arabic, that offered vital clues to the bombings. But the FBI missed those clues because it didn't have enough translators to get through the material when it might have been useful in preventing an attack, instead of understanding the attack after the fact.

More than 70 federal agencies require employees with foreign language skills, which are vital to national defense, law enforcement and economic security. In March, Susan Westin, managing director of international affairs and trade issues for the General Accounting Office, told the Senate Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation and Federal Service that shortages of language-qualified personnel have hindered operations in a range of areas:

The Army doesn't have enough linguists to support its current war plans or meet intelligence-gathering requirements.

Intelligence agencies lack the staff to translate and interpret thousands of technical papers that detail foreign research and development in scientific and technical areas.

Without more timely translation of Spanish conversations, the assistant U.S. attorney in Miami in charge of health care fraud investigations soon will have to turn away