

unalienable rights to a nation where the Pledge of Allegiance can be ruled unconstitutional without many intervening steps along the way. Those of us who oppose the many small steps taken down this path welcome those who finally stand aghast at where we end up. I hope this body and the Nation will move to correct the error.

REPORT ON TRIP TO BULGARIA, MACEDONIA, KOSOVO, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA AND BRUSSELS

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, over the Memorial Day recess, I joined seven members of the House of Representatives to participate in the spring meeting of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. Twice a year, legislators from NATO member countries and seventeen countries that have been given "associate" status—including NATO aspirants and members of the Partnership for Peace program—gather to discuss significant issues facing the Alliance.

At the forefront of the agenda this year were issues related to the war on terrorism, and questions that will be raised when NATO heads of state meet in Prague this November, including: the future direction of the Alliance; the growing gap in military capabilities between the United States and our European allies; and the selection of new members.

This was the third year that I have participated in the NATO Parliamentary Assembly's spring gathering. The meeting took on a new urgency as the Alliance continues to confront a changed international security environment in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on September 11th. As parliamentarians discussed the military campaign in Afghanistan and the role of NATO in the war on terror, I reminded my European counterparts of the need to invest in the defense budgets of their respective countries. Without fundamental military capabilities such as strategic airlift and command and control systems, the European contribution to the global war on terrorism will continue to be limited.

It was clear throughout the meeting that the events of 9-11 have impacted discussions in many areas, including expansion of the Alliance. During consideration of a Declaration on NATO Enlargement, I introduced an amendment calling attention to the significant threats that terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction pose to NATO countries, and recognizing that as NATO considers enlargement, the Alliance remains open to tolerant, democratic societies, which embrace values that terrorism seeks to destroy.

As the meeting progressed, I also expressed my strong support for a robust round of enlargement during the Summit of the Alliance in Prague later this year. I share the President's vision of enlargement, articulated in Warsaw, Poland last June, when he said that as

we approach Prague: "We should not calculate how little we can get away with, but how much we can do to advance the cause of freedom."

Yet while the Alliance should extend invitations to a number of countries in Prague, I believe it is premature to single out countries for membership at this point. Instead, we should continue to encourage aspirants to make progress on their membership action plans and move forward with democratic, economic and judicial reforms.

As such, during consideration of the Declaration on NATO Enlargement, I joined Congressman DOUG BEREUTER, the chairman of the U.S. delegation, and other members of the United States Congress at the meeting in abstaining from a vote on an amendment that identified seven countries as ready for membership in the Alliance. Despite U.S. concerns, the amendment was adopted.

While I do not disagree that the countries listed in the amendment—Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania—have made some strides in their preparations to join NATO, there are serious discussions that must take place between now and November regarding the selection of new members.

This spring's NATO Parliamentary meeting was especially important to its host country, Bulgaria, which hopes to receive an invitation to join the Alliance in Prague. I remain very interested in discussion about NATO enlargement, and while in Sofia, I was glad to have opportunity to visit with Prime Minister Simeon Saxe-Coburg-Gothé and President Georgi Parvanov to discuss Bulgaria's work to join the Alliance. I also met with Defense Minister Nikolay Svinarov and Foreign Minister Solomon Passy, who I have met with previously in my office in Washington, DC.

My first official visit outside of the NATO session was with Bulgaria's Defense Minister, Nikolay Svinarov. Just minutes before our meeting, Mr. Svinarov spoke to the NATO PA's Committee on Defense and Security, outlining Bulgaria's plans to move forward with defense reforms. His presentation was clear, and I congratulated him on his effort to describe Bulgaria's progress on the defense portion of the membership action plan (MAP). While noting the progress that has been made, I encouraged him to follow through on the vision that he articulated to the NATO parliamentarians. I was impressed with Bulgaria's plan; however, it is evident that there is still a lot of work to be done to implement their ambitious agenda for military reform.

My impressions were reaffirmed several days later when I visited Graf Ignatievo air base, near the city of Plovdiv. The enthusiasm of the officers and pilots at the base was evident. Since 2001, the Bulgarian government has invested in modernization of base infrastructure, upgrading the runway

and the flight line and renovating buildings and training facilities. While this is certainly a positive development, I was concerned with the equipment at the base, including Soviet-era MiG-29 and MiG-21 aircraft. While the MiG-21s will be retired, the Bulgarians hope to upgrade their MiG-29s by 2004, with the goal of full NATO interoperability. There are serious questions not only about whether or not this can actually be done, but also whether this is money wisely spent. As NATO considers questions about military capabilities, it will be important to consider how NATO members and aspirant countries can best invest limited defense dollars to contribute to the overall mission of the Alliance. As Bulgaria continues with defense reforms, this will be one factor to consider.

Bulgaria must also confront challenges in other areas, including the need to move forward with judicial reforms. The government must take action to combat corruption and organized crime. I discussed this issue with Prime Minister Saxe-Coburg-Gothé and President Parvanov, as well as Foreign Minister Passy.

Perhaps one of the most eye-opening conversations I had during my trip to Bulgaria was with FBI Special Agent Victor Moore, who is working with the Bulgarian government and local NGOs to combat human trafficking. As a member of the Helsinki Commission and an active participant in the annual meetings of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, I have worked on this issue with Congressman CHRIS SMITH—who has a long record of work to combat the trafficking of men, women and children. I also follow the efforts of the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), which aims to combat trans-border crime in the region.

SECI has spearheaded an initiative to combat human trafficking in southeast Europe, and Vic Moore's efforts are tied directly to their objectives. Of his eleven years in the FBI, he spent nine of them working on drug enforcement in New York City. In Bulgaria, he is working to give law enforcement personnel the skills they need to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases. The Bulgarian government has formed a multi-agency task force, which has liberated more than 160 women, issued 60 arrest warrants and captured approximately 60 traffickers. This important work should continue. I believe it is important that the government take continued steps to strengthen the rule of law and reform the judicial systems. This will be important as NATO evaluates the progress of aspirant countries later this year.

In all of my conversations in Sofia, one thing was clear: the people of Bulgaria, and the members of government who represent them, want to join NATO. Over a breakfast meeting with members of the U.S. delegation at the home of our Ambassador to Bulgaria Jim Pardew, President Parvanov said that there is complete public and political consensus on NATO in Bulgaria.

I am hopeful Bulgaria's enthusiasm for NATO membership remains high, and the government stays committed to critical reform efforts.

After participating in the NATO Parliamentary Assembly meeting in Sofia, I traveled to Macedonia, Kosovo, Slovakia, Slovenia and Brussels to evaluate the situation in southeast Europe, and to examine progress in Macedonia, Slovakia and Slovenia as they work to join NATO.

Following my arrival in Skopje on Tuesday, May 28, 2002, I had the opportunity to visit with our Ambassador to Macedonia, Larry Butler, and his team at the U.S. Embassy. This was my third trip to Macedonia as a member of the U.S. Senate. I first traveled to Macedonia during the war and visited Stankovic refugee camp; my second trip was in February 2000, and I met with President Trajkovski, Prime Minister Goergievski, and ethnic Albanian leader Arben Xhaferi. At that time, our focus was on Kosovo. Since the spring of 2001, all eyes have been in Macedonia.

In August 2001, following the outbreak of violence in the spring by ethnic Albanian rebels from Macedonia and Kosovo, the government's political parties came together to sign a peace agreement. The plan—called the Ohrid Framework Agreement—called for the passage of laws and constitutional reforms to address concerns of Macedonia's ethnic Albanian minority, which makes up approximately one-third of the country's population.

At the time of my visit last month, the government was expected to pass a final package of laws to implement the Ohrid Framework Agreement. This was a primary topic of discussion in my conversations with our Ambassador and staff at the U.S. embassy, as well as President Trajkovski and Mr. Xhaferi. While the parliament did not act in the days immediately following my visit, as hoped, I was pleased to learn that fifteen of the seventeen outstanding laws were passed last Thursday, June 20, 2002. I am hopeful that action on the remaining issues will be taken soon.

During my meeting with Arben Xhaferi, he stressed the importance of the international community's involvement in Macedonia. He said the United States should continue to play a role in Macedonia—both with its military presence and financial assistance. While I agree with Mr. Xhaferi that U.S. involvement in the region is important, I stressed to him that the people of Macedonia—regardless of ethnicity—must take action to improve the situation in their country. While the international community can play a helpful role, ultimately, things are in the hands of the people and their elected leaders. As such, I encouraged Mr. Xhaferi to move forward with efforts to implement democratic and economic reforms, and to promote respect for the rule of law. I also shared with him my strong concern with organized crime,

corruption and human trafficking in the region, and urged him to take action in this area.

During my meetings, it was also clear that demarcation of the border between Macedonia and Kosovo has become a significant political issue in both Macedonia and Kosovo. Some in Macedonia would like to move forward with the demarcation of border, recognized by the U.N. Security Council, which was formally agreed upon by Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in March 2001.

Judging from my conversations in Kosovo, however, it was evident that there is not yet a consensus regarding the right time to put down markers along the border. This issue must be approached with caution.

I am also hopeful that free and fair parliamentary elections will take place in Macedonia on September 15, 2002, as planned. The United States and members of the international community, including the European Union, should do everything in their power to stress to leaders in Macedonia the importance of permitting people to go to the polls without incidence this fall.

On Wednesday, May 29, 2002, I spent the day in Kosovo. It was my third trip to Kosovo since February 2000, and the fourth full day that I have spent there. During my time in the Senate, I have been very active on issues affecting southeast Europe, and I have been particularly concerned with the situation of ethnic minorities and respect for minority rights throughout the region—in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as Kosovo. As such, I was glad to have the opportunity to examine this issue in Kosovo last month.

I spent time with the Head of UNMIK Michael Steiner, as well as Commander of KFOR General Valentin. I also met with President Rugova and Prime Minister Rexhepi, and Serb leaders Rada Trajkovic and Ljubomir Stanojkovic. I met with Ambassador John Menzies and his team at the U.S. Office in Pristina, and I was glad to visit with General Lute at KFOR Main and some of our troops at Camp Bondsteel, as well as Ambassador Pascal Fieschi, who heads the OSCE Mission in Kosovo.

Around the time of my visit, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the U.N. High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) released the Ninth Assessment of the Situation of Ethnic Minorities in Kosovo, which describes the quality of life experienced by Kosovo's minority groups.

My impressions after spending time in Kosovo last month reaffirm many of the conclusions reached in the OSCE-UNHCR report: while there has been some improvement for ethnic minorities, there is still a long way to go.

My first reaction was that things seem somewhat better now than they were when I visited nearly 3 years ago. I attribute this to several factors, in-

cluding work done by the international community, including UNMIK, KFOR, the OSCE and others, as well as the interest that the people of Kosovo have shown in creating their own government following parliamentary elections last November and the election of new leadership in March. I believe the participation of the Serbian minority in the parliamentary elections last November was very important, as was the cooperation of the FRY government, which encourage Kosovar Serbs to vote.

Additionally, I was impressed with the "benchmark" goals that have been outlined by UNMIK, which call for progress in key areas, including respect for the rule of law, strengthening democratic institutions, and building a civil society.

The benchmarks paper also emphasizes respect for minority rights and refugee returns, which deserve attention both from the international community and from the newly elected leadership in Kosovo.

This document is very important, as it lays out a plan for Kosovo. It will be critical for the international community to refer to this document from time to time to assess progress and, as necessary, to redouble efforts in certain areas. In the past, I have been concerned that the international community has not been focused in its vision of Kosovo, and this document offers a positive step in the right direction.

To make real progress, however, we must encourage Michael Steiner and UNMIK to develop a strategic plan and a critical path for the implementation of the benchmark goals. When I attend the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly meeting in Berlin this July, I will encourage the Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo, Pascal Fieschi, to do so. This will allow UNMIK to monitor progress on the benchmark goals.

While in Kosovo, I also met with the Commander of KFOR, General Valentin, and discussed with him the security situation in the region. He is optimistic, and believes that there is progress every day. He said things are much better than they were three years ago. Ambassador Fieschi was also encouraged that things have gotten better for Kosovo's minorities, though he indicated that change has been slow.

While I agree that things are somewhat better, the findings in the OSCE-UNHCR report are less upbeat. With regard to security and freedom of movement, the report reads: "Despite the decrease in serious incidents of violence, harassment, intimidation and humiliation of members of minority communities in Kosovo continued to prevail as a feature of daily life." This affects all of Kosovo's minorities, including Serbs, Roma, Egyptians, Bosniaks, Croats, Albanians, Turks and others.

Serb leaders Rada Trajkovic and Ljubomir Stanojkovic discussed the situation for the Serbian minority with

me over lunch in Gracanica, which was my third visit to the city. Though there are still many concerns which must be addressed, I got the general impression that things are somewhat better for the Serbs than they were two years ago. I am encouraged that Dr. Trajkovic and Mr. Stanojkovic are active and participating with the new government, and I believe it is important that they continue to call on others to do the same. I believe it is essential that Serbs participate in the municipal elections this October and take advantage of the opportunity to participate and have a voice at the table of government.

During my visit, I met with Ibrahim Rugova, who was elected President in March. This was my second meeting with Mr. Rugova—we visited when I was in Kosovo in February 2000. At that time, I also met with ethnic Albanian leaders Hashim Thaci and Rexhep Oosja. Two years ago, as Mr. Rugova and others continued to call for independence, I expressed my belief that there could be little serious discussion on independence until the rights of all people in Kosovo—including minorities—were protected. During our meeting in May, I again stressed this point.

In addition to President Rugova, I also met with the new Prime Minister of Kosovo, Bajram Rexhepi, and discussed with him the situation in Kosovo. I was impressed with him during our meeting. He seems to clearly understand work that needs to be done, focusing on the need for refugee returns and respect for minority rights, as well as the need to stimulate economic development. He reminded me that U.S. leadership in Kosovo, and the region at large, is still very important.

While I was pleased that everyone I spoke with during my meetings in Kosovo last month, including President Rugova, Prime Minister Rexhepi, and Michael Steiner, was committed to refugee returns, I am concerned because there are still more minorities leaving Kosovo than returning. With regard to returns, the OSCE-UNHCR report notes that if more people are to actually return, it will “require much more meaningful and broad progress on the main issues,” such as security, freedom of movement, essential services and employment.

I also believe it is critical that Mr. Steiner and UNMIK articulate a clear action plan for returns. Additionally, following my visit to Kosovo, I remain very concerned with the situation in Mitrovica, which remains divided between north and south. I believe the only way to achieve any progress will be if the international community works with the elected leadership in Kosovo to find a solution. While there are different schools of thought as to what should happen in Mitrovica, it is imperative that discussion continues and the parties act to normalize life for all the city's residents. This should happen quickly, and any plan on decentralization to give local communities

more a stronger voice should be finalized before the municipal elections in the fall.

I also believe we must watch the situation along the border with Macedonia carefully. This issue has become controversial in both Kosovo and Macedonia. While some in Macedonia would like to move forward with the demarcation of the border, this is a sensitive issue which must be approached calmly and rationally. The people of Kosovo do not support this border agreement, and at the end of May, the Kosovo Assembly passed a resolution denouncing the border agreement—which Michael Steiner immediately annulled. I believe there should be discussion on this matter, with all involved parties together at one table.

Following my time in Kosovo, I traveled to the Slovak Republic to discuss the country's aspirations to join the NATO Alliance, and to assess their progress as they continue to participate in the membership action plan process. Though my time was limited, I was pleased to finally have the chance to travel to Slovakia—which was the only country aspiring to join the NATO Alliance that I had yet to visit.

While in Bratislava, I spent time with our Ambassador to Slovakia, Ron Weiser, who is working hard to promote the merits of democracy, the rule of law and a free market economy as the country looks toward membership in NATO. I believe his work is important in the months leading to parliamentary elections this September, which could be a determining factor in Slovakia's candidacy for NATO membership.

During my visit, I had the opportunity to meet with Prime Minister Mikulas Dzurinda, who has pushed forward with critical economic and democratic reforms in Slovakia since becoming prime minister in 1998. His government has placed a top priority on joining NATO and the European Union. Prime Minister Dzurinda and I discussed ongoing efforts to liberalize the economy, strengthen democratic institutions and modernize the country's armed forces. We also talked about the importance of respecting minority rights including the rights of the country's ethnic Hungarian community. Additional, I expressed my strong concern with the problems of organized crime, corruption and human trafficking in central and eastern Europe, and encouraged the Prime Minister and his government to move forward with efforts to address these problems.

I also met with Robert Fico, leader of the Smer (Direction) political party, who hopes to be the country's next prime minister. Young and charismatic, Fico's animate campaign signs were all around town as we drove from one meeting to the next. Fico and his colleague also expressed their strong support for Slovakia's membership in NATO and the European Union. As the polls are close, it is possible that he

could play a role in the formation of the next government.

Following my arrival at the Bratislava airport, I met with Defense State Secretary Ratislav Kacer. We discussed ongoing defense reforms, and the country's efforts to increase defense spending. During my time in public service, I have often said it is important to “work harder and smarter,” and do more with less.” Mr. Kacer knew of my philosophy, and said this could be helpful to Slovakia as the country works to modernize with limited resources. He reiterated the country's strong support of NATO, and said the government has aligned its own national defense priorities with issues important to the Alliance.

Additionally, I have the opportunity to visit with ethnic Hungarian Leader Mr. Laszlo Dobos, who was a member of Slovakia's parliament during the 1990s. Dr. Dobos is founder and chairman of Madach Posonium, as a Hungarian non-governmental organization that operates Hungarian bookstores in Slovakia and publishes Hungarian periodicals. We discussed a number of issues of concern to Slovakia's Hungarian community, including higher education and greater autonomy for local governments.

During all meetings in Slovakia, I noted that the upcoming elections will be very important to the future of the country. Voters will decide the direction of the Slovak Republic—and whether it moves toward membership in NATO and the EU, or whether it is left behind as others join the broader European Community of democracies. Values are the hallmark of the NATO alliance, and I believe it is critical that Slovakia embraces the ideals of democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights, consistent with the current government, and break with the leadership of Vladimir Meciar that has been of strong concern to the United States, the European Union and other members international community in the past.

I was also glad to have the opportunity to visit Slovakia to talk about the country's work to join the NATO Alliance. I have long followed developments in Slovenia, and I believe the country is in a very good position as we approach the NATO summit in Prague.

Slovenia has made considerable progress on democratic, economic and defense reforms, and there is continued discussion on the merits of NATO membership in the public. At the same time, it is important that the government act to bolster public support for NATO, which has continued to hover around 50 percent. It is also imperative that the country work to increase its defense budget to the 2 percent mark. Currently, Slovenia allocates approximately 1.5 percent of GDP for its armed forces.

During my time in Slovenia I had the opportunity to visit with President Milan Kucan, who I have known for

many years. We discussed the country's work to join NATO, as well as its progress in efforts to prepare for membership in the European Union. With regard to public opinion, President Kucan indicated that public support for NATO is not a problem. He said people want to discuss the implications of membership in the Alliance and debate the merits of joining NATO. We also discussed Solvenia's progress on military reforms, as well as the country's interest in working to promote security and stability in southeast Europe.

I again discussed these issues and found the same enthusiasm for Slovenia's membership in NATO and the European Union with members of the Slovenian parliament, including the President of Parliament Borut Pahor, President of the Foreign Affairs Committee Jelko Kacin and President of the Defense Committee Doran Marsic. Even the opposition expressed a solid commitment to moving forward with efforts to join the NATO Alliance. During consideration of a resolution on whether or not to have a national referendum on Slovenia's membership in NATO before the Prague summit, there was a very strong consensus that this should not happen until after the November meeting—with 63 agreeing that this should not happen immediately, with 9 opposing.

I also discussed these issues with Prime Minister Janez Drnovšek, who has recently announced his intention to run for President of Slovenia, as well as Minister of Defense Anton Grizold. Additionally, I visited with our ambassador, John Young, and discussed the country's strong candidacy for membership in both NATO and the European Union. I am hopeful that public support for NATO membership will continue to grow, and I am glad that this will be an enlightened decision in Slovenia given the high level of discussion on the issue.

Following meetings in Slovenia on Friday, May 31, 2002, I traveled to Brussels to visit with our Ambassador to NATO, Nick Burns, and the director of Javier Solana's Balkans Task Force, Mr. Stefan Lehne.

During my meeting with Stefan Lehne, I discussed my long interest in southeast Europe and impressions from my recent visits to Macedonia and Kosovo. I spoke with him about my strong concern with political situation in Macedonia, and urged the European Union to remain involved in efforts to bring all parties to the table to discuss disagreements over the order between Macedonia and Kosovo. I also told him I believe it is essential that the international community do everything in its power to encourage the Macedonian government to remain committed to free and fair parliamentary elections scheduled for this September.

We also discussed my interest in the Stability Pact—in particular, the Stability Pact's Quick Start Infrastructure Projects. I believe it is critical that the Pact make its intentions clear on the Quick Start projects.

Finally, we discussed my concern with organized crime, corruption and trafficking in human beings, drugs and weapons that plague many countries in central and eastern Europe. I encouraged Mr. Lehne to make these problems a top priority, as they undermine efforts on behalf of the international community to promote democratic reforms and respect for the rule of law in many of Europe's new democracies.

With Ambassador Nick Burns, I discussed my interest in NATO enlargement and observations from my visits to Bulgaria, Macedonia, Slovakia and Slovenia. While I share the vision of President Bush for a large round of enlargement in Prague, I expressed to Ambassador Burns my strong concern with the need for continued action in candidate countries.

As we approach Prague, we must decide whether each candidate country has gone far enough to take the necessary steps to join the Alliance. And as we answer that question, we will also ask whether or not action is still needed, and whether reforms are best encouraged if that country is extended an invitation at Prague, or if that country is instead asked to continue reforms while looking toward the next round of enlargement. These will be difficult questions, and we must be prepared to answer them.

I look forward to continued discussion with the administration and my colleagues in the Senate on NATO enlargement in the months ahead, and I encourage NATO aspirant countries to take as many steps as they can between now and November to address issues outlined in their respective Membership Action Plans.

Additionally, I will continue to be active and involved in the Senate on issues affecting southeast Europe. We had a very productive Helsinki Commission hearing to examine the situation for ethnic minorities in Kosovo earlier this month, and I will continue to discuss this issue when I participate in the annual meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly next week.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN CELEBRATES 140TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the Children's Aid Society of Southeastern Michigan (CAS) on its 140th anniversary. In that time CAS has been an organization dedicated in service to children, youth, and families. For nearly a century and a half, CAS has been a dynamic and compassionate presence in the Michigan community.

CAS, the oldest child welfare agency in Michigan, is a non-profit, non-sectarian private organization dedicated to the preservation and quality of family life in Southeastern Michigan based in Detroit. Begun in 1862 by members

of the Presbyterian Church to help Civil War orphans, CAS has expanded in the years since to help hundreds of thousands of troubled children and families. CAS aims to build strength within the family unit by providing a variety of comprehensive child and family-focused services, seeking to create the foundation for a better and healthier society.

The services that CAS provides are innovative and humanistic, viewing each individual and problem as unique. For example, the Work Works program gives high-risk youth between the ages of 13 and 17 training in employment skills and helps them in finding a job. Alumni of the program help other staff teach the skills of positive self-esteem, work ethics, and job readiness. Another program, Moving Families in the Right Direction, aims to prevent delinquency and school dropout by strengthening family functioning and relationships. Staff go into homes, schools, and the community to conduct counseling sessions and group work with youth between the ages of 10 and 17 who have been referred to them by the Police Department or Juvenile Court. By giving at-risk children and families early attention, CAS tries to help prevent the family break-up and juvenile delinquency that plagues so much of our country today. CAS also provides day care and has programs for early childhood education, mental health, child abuse, teen families, and parents.

Southeastern Michigan and the larger Detroit metropolitan area are deeply indebted to the work CAS has done for families and children over the last 140 years. Year in and year out CAS has fought to hold families together and ensure the welfare of children. The vital support services that CAS provides help children and parents deal with the difficult personal and societal issues they face in the 21st century. Having performed these important social services for over 140 years is indeed a tremendous accomplishment and deserves hearty commendation.

I know my Senate colleagues will join me in congratulating the Children's Aid Society of Southeastern Michigan for 140 years of success and in wishing it a fruitful future that only adds to its rich legacy of compassion.●

EDS' 40TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President. I extend my congratulations to EDS and to its employees on the company's 40th anniversary. On June 27, 1962, Electronic Data Systems was incorporated in Texas, and EDS is still headquartered in Plano, TX. The company's initial goal was simply to help companies use their computers more effectively. Since then, EDS has been a leader in the information-technology services industry.

EDS has flourished by adapting to its clients' needs and by providing information-technology and business consulting services to every sector of the