

to Colonel Wreath on that date in a ceremony that was held in the Reserve Officers Association of the United States Building, in Washington. It is my pleasure to join those who are congratulating Colonel Wreath on this achievement.

Since 1997, Colonel Wreath has been an active duty Reservist, assigned to the United States Air Force Office of Congressional Affairs. During part of this time, Colonel Wreath served as the Acting Director of the United States Liaison Office in the Senate, where he became known to many Senators and members of their staffs. Colonel Wreath is currently assigned to the United States Air Force Headquarters, at The Pentagon, where he is implementing the recommendations of The Commission to Assess United States National Security Space Management and Organization, as well as serving as the Air Staff Legislative Liaison for Space Integration issues.

Colonel Wreath is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy. He has also earned the degree of Master of Science in Systems Management from the University of Colorado.

Doug Wreath began his career in the United States Air Force as a Space Shuttle Navigation Analyst in 1984, leavings, as a Space Operations Officer in 1992, when he transferred into the Reserve. While on active duty, Doug Wreath performed a variety of command and support activities at three duty stations, and as the Personal Assistant to the Commander of the Air Force Space Command, he assisted in establishing the operational plans and policies of the Air Force National Space Program.

Colonel Wreath is an outstanding American who has developed an impressive record of achievement through his service to our Nation. I am pleased to commend Colonel Wreath on his promotion and I extend my best wishes to him for much continued success.

#### 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 January 25 in Washington, DC. Two minors attacked two gay men leaving a gay bar in Dupont Circle. Before attacking the victims, the assailants shouted derogatory, anti-homosexual slurs at them. Local police have arrested one of the perpetrators.

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 and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

#### CHRISTEN O'DONNELL EQUESTRIAN HELMET SAFETY ACT

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, last week my colleague from Rhode Island, Senator CHAFEE, and I introduced legislation to provide greater safety for children and adults who ride horses in the United States. Each year in our country, nearly 15 million people go horseback riding. Whether it be professionally or for pleasure, Americans of all ages and from all walks of life enjoy equestrian sports. And, while everyone acknowledges that horseback riding is a high-risk activity, there are serious safety issues related to equestrian sports that can and should be addressed.

I first became aware of the problem of equestrian helmets when Kemi O'Donnell, a constituent of mine in Connecticut, called my office to relate her family's tragic experience. The story she shared opened my eyes to the danger posed by certain equestrian helmets. In 1998, Kemi's daughter, Christen O'Donnell, was a young 12-year-old resident of Darien, Connecticut, and a 7th grader at New Canaan Country School. Active and sporty, Christen was a talented intermediate rider who had five years of riding experience under her belt when she mounted her horse on the morning of August 11. As always, Christen wore a helmet and was accompanied by her trainer when she began a slow walk through the ring. Suddenly, without warning, the horse she was riding shook its head, and Christen was thrown off onto 4 inches of sand. Even though her horse was only at a walk, and Christen was wearing a helmet, that helmet offered her little protection, and she sustained severe head injuries as a result of the fall. She was rushed to Stamford hospital where, despite efforts to save her, she died the next day. The magnitude of their loss has been compounded by the thought that, had Christen been wearing a better constructed helmet, it is possible she could have survived this accident.

My colleagues may be shocked to learn, as Christen's parents were, that there are no government standards in existence for the manufacturing of equestrian helmets. Some helmets are voluntarily constructed to meet strict American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) testing requirements, but the vast majority of helmets sold in the U.S. offer little or no real protection and are merely cosmetic hats—a form of apparel. Frequently, parents of young riders like Christen—and even more mature riders—do not know that they are buying an untested and unapproved item when they purchase a riding helmet. Indeed, most riders believe that when they buy a helmet at the store, they are purchasing a prod-

uct that meets standards designed to provide real and adequate head protection. Bike helmets are built to minimum safety requirements, as are motorcycle helmets.

Apparel helmets, like the one worn by Christen, offer little or no head protection, while ASTM-approved helmets are designed to significantly reduce head injury. The difference in aesthetic design between the two is minimal, but the underlying support structures of these types of helmet are substantial. ASTM-approved helmets offer a high degree of head protection, increase the survivability of equestrian accidents and, in my view, should be the standard for all equestrian helmets.

This lack of adequate safety standards in riding helmets is why USA Equestrian (USAEq), one of the largest equestrian organizations in the country, recently mandated that ASTM-approved helmets must be worn in all USAEq-sanctioned events. While this decision effectively eliminates the danger posed by "apparel helmets" at these events, each day many more students ride in lessons and in private shows that are not USAEq-sanctioned. For their safety, I believe that Congress should establish minimum safety standards for all equestrian helmets sold in the United States, so that all riders can obtain headgear that offers actual protection against head injury. This is not an unprecedented suggestion. As I stated before, Congress has already acted to similarly ensure the safety of bike helmets. The legislation that I and Senator Chafee introduce in Christen's memory today is modeled on this successful bike helmet law and would go a long way toward reducing the mortality of equestrian accidents.

The Christen O'Donnell Equestrian Helmet Safety Act would require that the Consumer Product Safety Commission establish minimum requirements, based on the already proven ASTM standard, for all equestrian helmets in the United States. Thus, there would be a uniform standard for all equestrian helmets, and riders could be confident that the helmet they buy offers real head protection. Let me be clear. This modest legislation does not mandate that riders wear helmets. That is a matter better left to individual states. But, it would take a significant step toward improving the survivability of equestrian accidents and would bring the United States in line with other industrialized countries with sizable riding populations. Countries like Australia and New Zealand have enacted similar safety legislation, and the European Union has set standards to make sure that helmets for equestrian activities meet continental standards. It is time for the United States to take similar steps.

This bill is supported by a wide-ranging coalition of equestrian, child safety, and medical groups. This bill has received the endorsement of the National SAFEKIDS coalition, an organization dedicated to preventing accidental injury to children, and the

Brain Trauma Foundation, a leading medical group dedicated to preventing and treating brain injury. Additionally, USAEq has passed a rule in support of the concept of the bill, requiring all children to wear ASTM approved helmets and strongly recommending that all adults do so as well. Further, in the *Chronicle of the Horse*, the trade publication for the Master of Foxhounds Association, the U.S. Equestrian Team, the U.S. Pony Clubs, The National Riding Commission, the Foxhound Club of North America, the National Beagle Club, the U.S. Dressage Foundation, the American Vaulting Association, and North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, and the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association, an article was published endorsing the ASTM rule. Given the wide range of organizations that endorse this bill, or have endorsed the ASTM rule, it is clear that riders, coaches, and medical professionals alike recognize the need for a standard, tested helmet design.

I would like to draw my colleague's attention to some alarming statistics that further demonstrate the importance and expediency of this bill. Emergency rooms all across America have to deal with an influx of horse-related injuries each year. Nationwide in 1999, an estimated 15,000 horse-related emergency department visits were made by youths under 15 years old. Of these injuries, head injuries were by far the most numerous and accounted for around 60 percent of equestrian-related deaths. These injuries occurred, and continue to occur, at all ages and at all levels of riding experience. That an inadequately protected fall from a horse can kill is not surprising when you examine the medical statistics. A human skull can be shattered by an impact of less than 6.2 miles per hour, while horses can gallop at approximately 40 miles per hour. A fall from two feet can cause permanent brain damage, and a horse elevates a rider to eight feet or more above the ground. These statistics make it evident that horseback riding is a high-risk sport. While all riders acknowledge this fact, reducing the risk of serious injury while horseback riding is attainable through the use of appropriate head protection. We should pass this bill, and pass it soon, to ensure that head protection for equestrian events is safe and effective.

American consumers deserve to be confident that their protective gear, should they choose to wear it, offers real protection. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4954. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a vol-

untary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program, to modernize and reform payments and the regulatory structure of the Medicare Program, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 4231. An act to improve small business advocacy, and for other purposes.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 5011. An act making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated.

POM-262. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Hawaii relative to Medicare coverage of oral cancer drugs; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 65

Whereas, cancer is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in the State of Hawaii and throughout the Nation; and

Whereas, cancer is disproportionately a disease of the elderly, with more than half of all cancer diagnoses occurring in persons age 65 or older, who are thus dependent on the federal Medicare program for provision of cancer care; and

Whereas, treatment with anti-cancer drugs is the cornerstone of modern cancer care, elderly cancer patients must have access to potentially life-extending drug therapy, but the Medicare program's coverage of drugs is limited to injectable drugs or oral drugs that have an injectable version; and

Whereas, the nation's investment in biomedical research has begun to bear fruit with a compelling array of new oral anti-cancer drugs that are less toxic, more effective and more cost-effective than existing therapies, but, because such drugs do not have an injectable equivalent, they are not covered by Medicare; and

Whereas, non-coverage of these important new products leaves many Medicare beneficiaries confronting the choice of either substantial out-of-pocket personal costs or selection of more toxic, less effective treatments that are covered by the program; and

Whereas, Medicare's failure to cover oral anti-cancer drugs leaves at risk many beneficiaries suffering from blood-related cancers like leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma, as well as cancers of the breast, lung, and prostate; and

Whereas, certain Members of the United States Congress have recognized the necessity of Medicare coverage for all oral anti-cancer drugs and introduced legislation in the 107th Congress to achieve that result (H.R. 1624; S. 913), now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the Twenty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2002, the House of Representatives concurring,* That the Congress of the United States in respectfully requested to enact legislation requiring the Medicare program to cover all oral anticancer drugs; and be it further.

*Resolved,* That certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

POM-263. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to the Federal Prison Industries Competition in Contracting Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION No. 211

Whereas, In 1934, Federal Prison Industries (FPI) was created as a wholly owned government corporation. Today, FPI operates 103 factories, with over 21,000 inmate workers and annual sales of more than \$500 million per year. The operation offers over 150 products. FPI enjoys significant advantages over private manufacturers making similar products because of government procurement policies, including a "mandatory source" requirement for government agencies; and

Whereas, With obvious personnel and benefits advantages over private sector firms, there is a clear penalty to employers and workers under the current situation. Some of the most respected companies in many fields suffer significantly from the unfair competition from FPI; and

Whereas, In Michigan, the impact of current FPI policies has been strongly felt by many working families. Last year, Michigan lost thousands of manufacturing jobs; and

Whereas, Congress is presently considering a measure that would bring comprehensive reforms to the operations of FPI. The Federal Prison Industries Competition in Contracting Act would address directly the present unfair government purchasing policies. This legislation, H.R. 1577, includes specific requirements that FPI would have to follow to achieve fairness and promote the training of inmates. Under the Federal Prison Industries Competition in Contracting Act, FPI would compete for contracts in a manner that minimizes unfair advantages and ensures that government agencies get the best value for taxpayer dollars. The legislation also includes numerous accountability measures, increased emphasis on preparing inmates for a return to society, and enhanced restitution for victims of crime; and

Whereas, A more appropriate approach to prisoner-based manufacturing will not only bring fairness to the marketplace and thousands of America's working families, but it also will enhance the federal corrections system; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate,* That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact the Federal Prison Industries Competition in Contracting Act; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-264. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Hawaii relative to veterans benefits to Filipino veterans of the United States Armed Forces; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION No. 26

Whereas, the Philippine Islands, as a result of the Spanish-American War, were a possession of the United States between 1898 and 1946; and

Whereas, in 1934, the Philippine Independence Act (P.L. 73-127) set a ten-year timetable for the eventual independence of the