

implementation of the first best practice guideline for the industry with in the first 6 months of 2004.

The memorandum of understanding recommends the continued development and implementation of transparent procedures. I would again call for a date certain to ensure the decisionmaking process set by ICANN is transparent, predictable and timely for all parties involved in the decisions ICANN influences. Established procedures for a transparent decisionmaking process should be established by the end of this year to ensure ICANN has this as a top priority and as a signal to ensure the industry and constituents involved in ICANN can begin to plan for a process that will be applied equally across all parties and in a predictable fashion.

One concern that has been noted through our congressional oversight hearing is that parties with contractual obligations to ICANN are disadvantaged in providing services that non-ICANN contracted parties are free to offer. There is reason for this discrepancy to exist in an open market. ICANN should take into consideration the entire global Internet industry when making decisions. Disadvantaging contracted parties should be a thing of ICANN's past and new service level agreements should be negotiated with all ICANN participants that allow the rights of a registry and root zone operator to independently determine functionality, pricing and operations of existing services and sue services as part of their new agreement with the Department of Commerce.

The decisionmaking process needs visible criteria and independent arbitration procedures to ensure no party is being unjustly prosecuted by decisions made at the hands of the ICANN board. Ensuring that ICANN is considered a decisionmaker in global economic commerce hinges on their ability to reach agreements with the other international bodies. They have been required in previous memorandums of understanding to reach agreements with the other country code operators. I would call on the Department of Commerce to put a target date in place for ICANN to reach an agreement with a majority of the other country code operators.

The new leadership of both ICANN and at the National Telecommunications Information Administration should be able to take a fresh look at the challenges that lie before ICANN and its partners and bring a more orderly and professionally accountable way of doing business that encourages competition, innovation and stability for the global internet structure.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the

Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred in Boston, MA. On November 16, 2002, a 31-year-old Pakistani man was physically assaulted at a convenience store where he was working. Three men, believing the store clerk was from Afghanistan and associated with the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on America, shouted racial slurs at the man and then proceeded to kick, punch and throw things at him. The trio were later charged with a hate crime violation.

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 is 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.

IRAQ SECURITY AND STABILIZATION FUND ACT

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I have joined with Senators BIDEN, KERRY and CORZINE to introduce legislation that will provide us with the necessary financial footing to appropriately execute our obligations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In 1998, following nearly 30 years of deficits and a 17-fold increase in Federal debt from \$365.8 billion to \$6.4 trillion, bipartisan cooperation brought the budget back into balance once again. For the first time in more than a generation, some of the funds which would have gone to pay interest on the debt were instead spent actually paying down the debt.

Now, deficits and interest costs are growing once again. Net interest payments on the Federal debt will increase sharply, from approximately \$170 billion in 2003 to more than \$300 billion by 2012.

We face a host of new challenges, particularly the war on terror, the war in Iraq, and the threat of North Korea. This has necessarily led to a shift in government spending toward improving our defense and homeland security capabilities. Yet many of the challenges predating September 11 are still with us: improving education, updating infrastructure, and preparing for the retirement of the baby-boom generation, which will severely strain the Social Security and Medicare trust funds.

The Congressional Budget Office predicts that the Federal deficit for fiscal year 2004 will top \$500 billion. A portion of every dollar we spend from this day forward until the end of September 2004 will be borrowed money—money that our children and grandchildren will have to repay.

It is no secret that if citizens wish to receive services or undertake activities as a Nation, they have the right to levy

a tax upon themselves to achieve those ends. We have somehow lost this sense of obligation and have concluded that providing for our national defense or for the education of children requires no more than charging the costs to a government credit card. This must stop.

We are spending our way into economic oblivion. The President has decided that the best way to reelection is to cut taxes and leave spending alone. He refuses to make the tough decisions. So, with my colleagues in the Senate, I will help him. If the President wishes to engage our troops in Iraq, a decision that I agreed with and continue to support, then he must agree to pay for it.

By seeking a modest increase in the tax rate that affects those making more than \$310,000 in taxable income we can pay for the President's most recent supplemental request. This bill generates precisely \$87 billion—enough to cover a portion of the cost of the war in Iraq and an even smaller part of our obligation in Afghanistan.

This bill is a first step toward putting our fiscal house in order. It would pay for the President's supplemental spending request and it does not revoke the 2001 reduction in the top income tax rate. Nor would it affect any other element of the 2001 tax package. It would merely temporarily raise the marginal income tax rate on the richest in our society. These individuals would continue to benefit from the other aspects of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, many of which predominantly accrued to them.

Nearly a decade ago, thanks to the commitment of Senators from both parties and all ideological persuasions, we were able to put in motion a successful plan to balance the Federal budget, and laid the groundwork for an unprecedented period of economic growth and prosperity.

I believe this bill moves us back to this path and represents our understanding that we have an obligation as a society to raise money from time to time to pay for those activities we deem important to our national well-being.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLACK HILLS NATIONAL CEMETERY

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to express our Nation's gratitude for the respectful services provided by Black Hills National Cemetery near Sturgis, SD. This year marks the 55th anniversary of the cemetery, and comes at a time when all Americans have been painfully reminded that our freedom is preserved by brave men and women in uniform who are willing to risk their lives in service to our Nation.

In the summer of 1862, thousands of soldiers had already died in a terrible

war that few believed would last more than a matter of months. On July 17 of that same year, Congress enacted legislation that would authorize the President to purchase cemetery grounds to be used as national cemeteries for soldiers who died while in service to the country. It was not long after that, in 1873, that all honorably discharged veterans became eligible for burial in national cemeteries. According to local legend, the hoofbeats of Custer's Cavalry may still be faintly heard today in the shadows of the Black Hills, where the Black Hills National Cemetery has provided a dedicated area for the honored burial of past and present South Dakota members of our Nation's armed forces and their eligible dependents for the past 55 years.

Too often, it seems that Congress forgets those men and women who sacrificed a part of their lives to serve their country. In a Nation as wealthy as ours, the very least we can do to repay veterans for their service is to provide them with the final resting place they deserve. Today, the National Cemetery Association ensures our veterans have a proper burial, while also maintaining the national cemeteries as shrines to their memory. In the words of Abraham Lincoln, the "nation must care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan."

The Black Hills National Cemetery has long been part of that respected tradition since World War II, when the first four burials were conducted on September 27, 1948. Three additional burials were done before the official dedication of the Black Hills National Cemetery on October 3, 1948. Since those initial entombments, the remains of more than 17,000 courageous soldiers who have served their country have been laid to rest there, including South Dakota's only casualty from Operation Iraqi Freedom, Hans Gukheisen.

The Black Hills National Cemetery is also the final resting place to such notable men as United States Senator Francis H. Case, who also gave the dedication address in 1948, suggesting that the Black Hills National Cemetery be the "Arlington of the West," and Brigadier General Richard E. Ellsworth, Commander of the Rapid City Air Force Base, which was later renamed Ellsworth Air Force Base in his honor, was also laid to rest there.

As the father of a soldier who has recently returned from Iraq, I have made it a priority to give veterans the recognition and treatment they deserve for their outstanding service to our country. I am proud to have the Black Hills National Cemetery located in my home State of South Dakota, and I am honored today to congratulate the Black Hills National Cemetery on their first 55 years of service. I know that our entire Nation shares in this expression of gratitude.●

MILLIE MAIRS AWARDED 2003
"ANGELS IN ADOPTION" AWARD

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of Mrs. Millie Mairs, a woman who has demonstrated her enormous capacity for love by serving some of West Virginia's most vulnerable children. Through her work with the West Virginia Children's Home Society Adoption Program, Millie has touched the lives of many new families in my home state and is a cornerstone of adoption services there. Later this month, Millie will be honored alongside other "Angels in Adoption." This is a special award created by the Congressional Adoption Caucus. I would like to take a moment to tell you more about the work and accomplishments of this quiet, gentle lady who has worked on behalf of children for more than twenty years at the West Virginia Children's Home Society.

The West Virginia Children's Home Society was created in 1896 and has long provided care for children in need. Today, the Society offers adoptive, child protective, and emergency services through an expanded mission. Twenty-eight years ago, Millie Mairs came to the Children's Home Society Adoption Program as an adoption secretary in order to assist West Virginia families who hoped to adopt a child. Since then, Millie has served those families in a variety of roles and has maintained a strong relationship with many of them, including some of her very first clients. From administering support services to meeting with prospective parents to guiding birth mothers through appropriate after care, Millie's name has become synonymous with adoption advocacy in West Virginia.

Those who know Millie best say that no one is better suited to serve as an adoption advocate than she. Her colleagues use words such as "rare," "special," "kind," and "considerate" in order to describe her. Her clients depend on her as they complete necessary paperwork and interviews, and as they work through the many emotions that adoption brings. And while Millie serves as a valuable resource for those entering into the adoption system today, her knowledge of previous adoptions is priceless to those who seek even the smallest amount of information about their past. Millie has provided a comforting ear and soothing words to these individuals since her first days at the Children's Home Society and has also reunited birth mothers and their children from that time. She has always understood and has tried to convey to others that adoption is a selfless act of love from the perspective of both birth mothers and adoptive parents. As you can imagine, this has brought great comfort to children, birth mothers, and adoptive parents alike.

The Angels in Adoption Award recognizes individuals like Millie who work every day to better the lives of others through the field of adoption. On Sep-

tember 30, Millie and other Angels will come to Washington in order to be recognized for their good works. While they will look just as any other visitors to the Capitol complex that day, I have been assured by Millie's colleagues and by others that they truly are angels in our midst. I hope that you will help me in welcoming them and honoring them. Further, I hope that you will carry their message with you: that all children deserve a safe, healthy, and permanent home and that, for some children, this is only possible through adoption.

I have worked for many years in bipartisan coalitions to promote adoption and improved services for abused and neglected children. While these issues rarely command headlines, they change the lives of children and families across our country. People like Millie Mairs and programs like Angels in Adoption remind us of the importance of our adoption and child welfare programs. In 1997, Congress passed the Adoption and Safe Families Act to ensure that a child's health and safety are paramount, and to express the belief that every child deserves a permanent home. Since then, adoptions from foster care have nearly doubled. While this is wonderful news, more than 100,000 children remain in foster care. As Millie and her peers would tell us, we clearly have more work to do.

I am delighted to have had this opportunity to tell you more about Millie Mairs and her work with the West Virginia Children's Home Society. I have long believed that the people of West Virginia are its greatest resource; individuals such as Millie prove this point again and again.●

HONORING JUDY HADLEY OF
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND

● Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I wish to share with my colleagues a story demonstrating one person's ability to protect the environment from the threat of pollution, for the benefit of wildlife and human enjoyment alike.

Thirty years after the passage of the Clean Water Act, the Blackstone River has shaken off a legacy of neglect and re-emerged as a vital community asset. The water quality has improved, a bikeway is under construction, and mill buildings are being restored as apartments and condominiums. The National Park Service is promoting a new appreciation for the work and culture of the families who have made the Blackstone Valley their home. And just last week, I joined the Army Corps of Engineers in celebrating the restoration of wetlands in a floodplain that had been paved over for 50 years. So there is a great deal of activity on the banks of the Blackstone.

While the Federal Government has been a major player in the river's re-birth, none of these exciting developments would have been possible without the personal commitment of Blackstone Valley residents. It is their hard