

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I draw to your attention an important event that is taking place this Saturday, October 4 from 10 am until 5 pm—First Lady Laura Bush and the Library of Congress is holding the third annual National Book Festival on the National Mall.

The Library of Congress and Mrs. Bush have planned an enjoyable day of presentations by nearly 80 award-winning authors, illustrators, poets and storytellers.

Famous fiction, mystery and history writers will read from their works. Children's authors such as R.L. Stine, of the Goosebumps book series and actress and children's writer Julie Andrews will be among those participating. Storybook characters from PBS will stroll the grounds and greet young festivalgoers. There will even be special readings in the teens and children's pavilion by NBA players representing the National Basketball Association's "Read To Achieve" campaign.

Additional activities will include book signings, musical performances, storytelling, and panel discussions. I am especially interested to hear that specialists will be on hand from the Library's Veterans History Project to provide information about collecting oral histories of America's war veterans. There truly is something for everyone at this year's book festival.

The National Book Festival is free and open to the public and promises to be a wonderful family event. I hope that everyone will join Mrs. Bush and the Library of Congress on Saturday in celebration of the joy of reading.

For more information, you may visit the Library's Web site <www.loc.gov> or call toll-free (888) 714-4696.

MINIMUM PAY PROTECTION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, we have some good news. The House of Representatives just a little while ago

passed, by a substantial margin, a motion to instruct their conferees to adhere to the Senate's position saying that the administration cannot go ahead to implement the rules on overtime which would take away overtime pay protection for over 8 million Americans. The vote in the House was 221 to 203.

This is a great victory for American workers today. It sends a very clear message to the administration: Don't mess with overtime pay protection. Don't take away from American workers the overtime pay protection that we have had in the law since 1938. This is a clear and unequivocal message from both the House and the Senate.

I hope the administration has the message. I now call upon the Secretary of Labor to forthwith, today, by sundown tomorrow, go ahead and extend overtime pay protections to hundreds of thousands of Americans on the low-income side of the scale.

Right now, the low-income threshold is \$8,060 a year. Part of the proposal the administration sent down would have raised that level to \$21,100 a year. This is an issue on which we all agree. This is something the Secretary of Labor can do today, tomorrow, before the week is out. This can be done with a stroke of a pen.

I call upon the Secretary of Labor to immediately issue a new regulation that would raise the low-income threshold from \$8,060 to \$21,100 a year and thus cover many more Americans with overtime pay protection.

What the House has spoken so loudly today is what we did in the Senate a few weeks ago. We want to extend overtime pay protection to more Americans. We do not want to talk it away.

Let us move forward together, call upon the Secretary of Labor to issue these regulations to raise that threshold. Now the administration can take those proposed rules they came out with this spring and put them in the fireplace. Get rid of them. Then, if we want to move ahead, we can do it in two stages. Raise the threshold right now, and then if we need to modify and change some of the overtime regulations to reflect more accurately the modern day workplace, let's do it together, do it with open public hearings, have our witnesses, and do it in a deliberate manner that reflects the will of the American people, not under the cover of night, putting out proposed regulations without any hearings whatever.

I stand ready as a member of the Labor Committee, and on both the authorizing and appropriations side, to work with the Secretary of Labor and others to set up a route by which we can, if we need to, change and modify some of the regulations to more accurately meet today's workforce. But in no case should we diminish the overtime pay protections in the law today for people, in no way. We need to extend and raise that threshold immediately. That is what I call upon the Secretary of Labor to do.

It would be a great victory today for American workers who are lacking in a lot of good news coming out of Washington these days for working families. This is one bit of good news for American working families today.

I yield the floor.

RULEMAKING EXTENSION

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the attached statement from the Office of Compliance be printed in the RECORD today pursuant to Section 303(b) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1383(b)).

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking—Extension of Period for Comment

A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR) for the proposed procedural regulations was published in the Congressional Record dated September 4, 2003. This notice is to inform interested parties that the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance has extended the period for public comment on the NPR until October 20, 2003. Any questions about this notice should be directed to the Office of Compliance, LA 200, John Adams Building, Washington, DC 20540-1999; phone 202/724-9250; fax 202/426-1913.

TRIBUTE TO DR. OTIS SINGLETARY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of a noted Kentuckian, a community leader, and a dedicated educator and administrator, Dr. Otis Singletary. I also want to take this opportunity to extend my condolences to his wife, Gloria, his three children, Bonnie, Robert, and Kendall, and all who knew and loved this remarkable man.

Dr. Singletary served his country in many capacities. A native of Mississippi, he joined the Navy at the outbreak of World War II and continued to serve in the Armed Forces through the Korean War. After earning his Ph.D., he taught history at the University of Texas. There the Students' Association recognized Dr. Singletary's talent and love for teaching and twice honored him with its Teaching Excellence Award. In 1958, he received the Scarborough Teaching Excellence Award.

An accomplished historian and published author, Dr. Singletary soon began to show his skills in administrative positions as well. After serving as the Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences at Texas, Dr. Singletary relocated to the University of North Carolina at Greensboro where he served as chancellor. In 1964, he took a leave of absence to direct the Federal Job Corps, Office of Economic Opportunity, under President Lyndon B. Johnson. Later, he served as the vice-president of the American Council on Education.

For most people this career would represent a lifetime worth of achievement, but Dr. Singletary was just getting started. He assumed the presidency of the University of Kentucky in 1969, a time of national campus unrest. While other college leaders faltered in the wake of the Kent State tragedy, Dr. Singletary successfully calmed the fears of his students and led the university forward. Under his guidance, the University of Kentucky prospered and became a nationally recognized research institution. To compensate for shrinking State funds, Dr. Singletary encouraged a vigorous fundraising campaign targeting private donors. He raised almost \$140 million in his 18-year presidency. A selective admissions policy, endowed professorships, the expansion of library holdings, and an undergraduate honors program were all implemented during his tenure. Upon his retirement in 1987, Dr. Singletary had supervised over \$250 million in new construction and renovation at UK, including facilities for the arts, biological sciences, equine research, agriculture, and cancer research.

Dr. Otis Singletary will forever be remembered for his unwavering dedication to the University of Kentucky, its faculty, staff, and its students. I ask each of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Otis Singletary, for all that he has given to his students, his community, and his Nation. He will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO JUSTICE ROBERT E. ROSE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I take a moment to pay tribute to a long-time friend and Nevadan, Justice Robert E. "Bob" Rose, who is being honored by the Fellows of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Justice Rose was elected to the Nevada Supreme Court in 1988. He was re-elected in 1994 and again in 2000.

However, before Justice Rose was a member of the Nevada Supreme Court, he was elected Washoe County District Attorney and thereafter Lieutenant Governor of Nevada. In fact, he was my successor in that office.

After serving as Lieutenant Governor, he returned to the private practice of law for several years in Reno, NV.

In 1986, he was appointed District Court Judge for the Eighth Judicial District in Las Vegas by former Governor, who is also a former U.S. Senator, Richard Bryan.

The road to the Nevada Supreme Court started at a young age for Bob Rose. The dream began in 1964 when he clerked there for one year following his graduation from New York University Law School.

While he set his sights high, his path wasn't always an easy one. I remember during his tenure as Lieutenant Governor, he cast a vote in the Nevada State Legislature on a very controversial Equal Rights Amendment. It was

1977, and he cast the tie-breaking vote against it.

It is not always easy to live and work in the public spotlight, but he did what he felt was right. He has always been a man of courage and integrity.

In his time to date on the Nevada Supreme Court, he has served as Chief Justice, and he has earned a reputation as a "reformer" by creating the Nevada Judicial Assessment Commission for the study and improvement of the courts. He has also chaired and co-chaired the Committee to Establish Nevada Business Court and the Nevada Jury Improvement Commission, respectively.

Additionally, Justice Rose has been active with the Nevada Democratic Party, the American Cancer Society, and Nevada Easter Seal.

Today I would like to say to my friend, Bob, Justice Rose, congratulations on the honor you are receiving and good luck to you in all your future endeavors. As a lawyer and a Nevadan, I am proud to have you on our State Supreme Court.

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 Atlanta, GA. In May 2001, Ahmed Dabarran, a gay man who was a Fulton County Assistant District Attorney, was brutally beaten and murdered. Dabarran's perceived sexual orientation by his attacker was a motivating factor in his death. Sadly, even though his killer confessed to the crime, a Cobb County, GA, jury later acquitted him.

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.

LESSONS OF 9/11 AND THE D.C. AREA SNIPER SHOOTINGS

Mr. KENNEDY. A year ago, the entire capital region was terrorized by unknown killers striking randomly, without warning, without any discernible pattern, and without mercy. Sadly, we know now that those savage murders could have been prevented.

On 9/11/2001, we had learned that the oceans could no longer protect us from the terrorism that has plagued other nations. We learned that our law enforcement agencies and our intelligence agencies were not adequately

organized, trained, or prepared to identify the terrorists and prevent them from striking.

We learned, especially from the report of the Senate and House Intelligence Committees, that there were serious problems with information analysis and information sharing between agencies at the Federal, State and local levels, and even between Federal agencies.

As the FBI Director told the committees, no one can say whether the tragedy of 9/11 could have been prevented if all of the problems of our foreign and domestic intelligence and law enforcement agencies had been corrected before 9/11. But 9/11 was certainly a wakeup call to these agencies. They were on notice that, whatever the reasons for their failure to connect the many "dots" which their separate activities had uncovered before the terrorist attacks, they needed to change their ways.

The tragic DC area killings of a year ago, in which 13 people were shot and 10 lost their lives, provided a dramatic test of how well we had learned the lessons of 9/11. At the time, we had no way of knowing whether the shootings were the work of demented citizens, home-grown terrorists, or foreign terrorists bent on spreading mortal fear among the people.

In many ways, the law enforcement response was a model of the lessons already learned. Over 1,300 Federal agents of all types joined hundreds of State and local law enforcement personnel in a joint intensive effort to identify and apprehend the killers. The cooperation among law enforcement agencies in the area was close and seemingly effective.

But in some vital respects, the events of last October revealed shockingly that a year after 9/11, we had not yet filled obvious gaps in our day-to-day law enforcement and intelligence activities.

We had not made sure that all of the Nation's police agencies at all levels were communicating with each other with the fastest possible technology, and acting in real time to share the useful information they had gathered.

Unfortunately, too much of the national effort had been invested in arguing over broad and controversial new investigative and enforcement powers that threatened draconian violations of basic rights and liberties, with little benefit to homeland security.

These debates deflected attention from the urgent need to assure that every jurisdiction in the Nation has—and uses—full access to the vast array of already available Federal resources specifically designed to assist them in their local responsibilities. The DC sniper case showed us a year ago that we need even more focus on this very practical and achievable goal, and less focus on the distracting shortcuts urged on the Nation by those who believe we must sacrifice our rights to gain security.