

include the following section in the report accompanying the FY 2003 Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs appropriations bill. I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD following the remarks of the Senator from Vermont.

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

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. LEAHY. My friend from Kentucky and I agreed to include this section in the report, but we regret that it was not included before the report hit the printing presses. It is our hope and expectation that it be considered as if included in the fiscal year 2003 Foreign Operations report, as originally printed in the RECORD last week.

EXHIBIT 1

DEMOCRACY OVERSIGHT AND COORDINATION

The Committee strongly supports programs and activities that advance democracy and freedom abroad, and has included funding in this Act for specific democracy programs it believes are important to United States security interests. The Committee believes that democracy promotion abroad can be an effective bulwark against terrorism, if properly established and implemented.

However, the Committee remains concerned with the inconsistent application of democracy programs by State and USAID, and the apparent lack of coordination of these programs within, and between, the agencies. For example, while the Committee applauds State's comprehensive review of Middle East democracy programs, it is perplexed by its lack of leadership and support for the advancement of democracy in Burma.

In order to address these concerns, the Committee recommends that State and USAID jointly conduct a comprehensive review of democracy programs, and consider centralizing oversight and coordination within the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor. The Committee will review the progress made in this endeavor as it considers action on the fiscal year 2004 foreign operations appropriations bill.

NOMINATION OF GOVERNOR RIDGE

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, apparently within the next 24 hours we will have the opportunity to vote on the President's nominee to head our new Department of Homeland Security. The President has made an excellent choice. It is hard for me to imagine a better choice to undertake this responsibility than Governor Ridge.

Twenty years ago this month, Governor Ridge and I stood with about 80 other freshmen Congressmen and women at the other end of this building and raised our right hand and took an oath of office to defend our Constitution and country. He and I then served together in the House for the next 10 years and actually helped to lead one of the Banking Committee subcommittees as ranking Democrat and Republican.

Later we served as Governors in the neighboring States of Pennsylvania and Delaware. Even before we came to Washington, we served in the Armed Forces of our country where he served with real distinction in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam war.

I will always be especially grateful for a breakfast Governor Ridge came to almost 20 years ago. I had just been elected the at large Congressman from Delaware and ended the campaign with a little bit of debt. We decided to have a fundraising breakfast to help take care of the debt, and Senator BIDEN, then the junior Senator from Delaware, was good enough to come and speak at our breakfast. We had a whole host of Democratic colleagues from the House, new freshmen who wanted to show their support for their new colleague. One Republican stopped by that breakfast, and it was the freshman Congressman from Erie, PA.

I will always be grateful for that appearance and for the friendship that has spanned some 20 years. I will be pleased to vote with my colleagues and join, I suspect all of them, in making him a unanimous choice for Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

While I believe Governor Ridge is more than qualified for the job, the task he faces is daunting. Congress has given him a Department that at least on paper should be able to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks more effectively than Federal Government and State governments can today. We have authorized the transfers of literally dozens of agencies and tens of thousands of workers. We have outlined a skeleton organization that should be able to pull together under one roof information on threats and vulnerabilities and to use that information to improve security and better prepare our first responders.

Very little of what we have outlined, though, will be in place on day 1, and day 1 is tomorrow for all intents and purposes. A number of outstanding questions remain. Both in the Committee on Governmental Affairs where I serve and on the Senate floor, we have had a healthy debate over the details of how the transition to a new Department of Homeland Security should work. I know some of my colleagues are uncomfortable with what we have. I have a few concerns of my own.

That being said, I think it is important now that we put aside our disagreements and do what we need to do to enable this Department to do what it needs to do, to protect American lives.

Let me take a few minutes to discuss a couple of the issues I hope Governor Ridge will address early on during his tenure as Secretary of this Department.

First, let me touch on the subject of rail security. Now that the Transportation Security Administration has for the most part achieved the goals we set for them, it is time for them and for the Department of Homeland Security to focus on other modes that have received less attention, especially rail. As I said before, our failure more than a year after September 11 to act to improve the security of our rail infrastructure is an Achilles' heel in our Na-

tion's effort to secure our total transportation system.

In New York City today, hundreds of thousands of people on their way to work pass through tunnels that are badly lit, poorly ventilated, and from which escape is very difficult. In fact, there is even a rail tunnel that goes under the Supreme Court and congressional offices just a couple of hundred yards from where we are gathered this evening. Every day thousands of people pass through that tunnel under this Capitol on their way to work or to home.

Passenger safety demands a real investment, but to ask Amtrak to do more with respect to security without providing more resources is, in my view, an unfunded mandate, not a solution. I thank Governor Ridge for understanding the importance of improving rail security, not just for passenger rail but for freight rail as well.

I also thank Governor Ridge for acknowledging at our hearing last week that Amtrak is likely to need some additional financial assistance, if it is expected to make the security enhancements that need to be made.

Let me also touch on the matter of first responders. States and localities are in desperate need of additional new resources to help prepare their police, their fire, and emergency personnel for any future terrorist attacks. At the same time, most State and local governments are suffering through extraordinary fiscal crises that are forcing some to raise taxes or cut services. We see that in Delaware, in Tennessee, and a host of other States as well.

I am disappointed that the omnibus appropriations bill on the floor this evening and today and again tomorrow probably does not provide State and localities with the level of first responder aid that they need. In the future, I hope Governor Ridge, soon to be Secretary Ridge, and our colleagues in Congress and the President will heed the calls from back home for more first responder aid.

I also hope Governor Ridge works quickly in the coming weeks to set up a communications link between the new Department and first responders so their needs can be heard and information on what they need to do to protect their communities makes its way down to them.

When the Committee on Governmental Affairs first marked up the Homeland Security Act and again when a modified version of the bill reached the floor, Senators COLLINS and FEINGOLD and I offered an amendment to create an office of State and local coordination within the new Department. That would place a homeland security liaison office within each State. Our language, unfortunately, was not included in the final bill, but I do hope Governor Ridge will consider setting up something like what we recommended once this new Department is in place and he and his employees have gotten their sea legs.

I want to close with some comments on relations with employees. A matter that held up final passage of this legislation when we created the new Department last month was really relations with employees, what kinds of rights they have under the collective bargaining laws and under the merit rules of the civil service rules of our country.

Recently, ADM James Loy, head of the Transportation Security Administration—I am told a very able person—used the authority Congress granted him under the airline security legislation we passed after September 11 to forbid airport screeners from joining unions. He cited his view that the screeners perform sensitive national security work as the reason for his decision.

The admiral's decision may or may not have been the right one. Whether it was or not, it has not done much to improve relations between the administration and thousands of unionized employees who are being transferred to this new Department, who perform work just as sensitive as—or in some cases even more sensitive than—that performed by the screeners.

As he works with the Office of Personnel Management to develop a human resources management system for this new Department, I urge Governor Ridge to work swiftly to repair the strained relationship between the administration and the public employees' union. He will benefit by doing that, the employees of that Department will benefit, and I believe our Nation will, too.

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.J. RES. 2

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 9:20 a.m. on Wednesday, the Senate resume consideration of the Inhofe amendment No. 86, and it be modified in order to be a first-degree amendment; further, I ask unanimous consent that there be 10 minutes for debate equally divided between Senators INHOFE and EDWARDS; I further ask consent that following the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to a vote in relation to the Inhofe amendment, to be followed immediately by a vote in relation to the Edwards amendment No. 67, with no amendments in order to either amendment prior to that vote.

Mr. REID. I have no objection.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business and that Senators be permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. In the last Congress Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement 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 May 3, 2001 in Los Angeles, CA. An African-American man was shot by an Hispanic man, Carlos Garcia. Garcia shot and critically wounded the victim after telling him that he "did not like black men associating with Hispanic women," according to police. After the incident, the gunman hijacked a bus and caused a deadly crash as he was fleeing from police.

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.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER CHARTRAND

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Jennifer Chartrand, who is leaving the Republican staff of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee.

Jennifer hails from Brooklyn and graduated from Fordham University. She began her career in the Senate with the Ethics Committee and went on to become a legislative assistant for Senator CONRAD BURNS. Jennifer's next move was to join the Foreign Operations Subcommittee, where my staff members got to know her well. She served both in the majority and the minority and was a valuable source of institutional knowledge on a range of issues.

While she was a tenacious fighter for Republican priorities, she always worked for good ideas, irrespective of which Senator came up with it. Perhaps most importantly, she always fought for the institutional prerogatives of both the Appropriations Committee and the Senate as a whole. Jennifer also recently staffed a congressional delegation to Europe which I was a part of. I truly appreciate all of her hard work in putting together that trip.

While I hate to see Jennifer leave, the good news is that she is only moving across the hall to the Defense Subcommittee. I hope that Senators STEVENS and INOUE will not mind if we borrow her from time to time.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO UCONN HUSKIES WOMEN'S BASKETBALL RECORD- BREAKING STREAK

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to rise in tribute to the University of Connecticut Huskies women's basketball team, which on Saturday, January 18th made Division I history by winning their 55th consecutive game. In doing so, they surpassed the 54-game streak set by Virginia Tech between 1980 and 1982 and delighted fans all across my state.

Fifty-five straight wins would be an incredible accomplishment in any sport at any time. But it's especially impressive in women's college basketball today because this is an era of true parity in the sport. There are so many strong teams able to compete with and, on any given night, beat a great team like the Huskies. But the Huskies keep on working, and they keep on winning, at home and on the road, in blowouts and in squeakers. Sometimes they win with defense. Sometimes with three-point shooting. Sometimes with pure hustle. But they always find a way.

It's no wonder the Huskies have an admirer in legendary UCLA coach John Wooden, whose UCLA men's basketball teams in the early 1970's set an all-time Division I record with 88 straight wins. Coach Wooden said of what the Huskies have accomplished, "It's a tremendous feat in any era. I think they play the pure game, more so than the men. The best college basketball in my opinion is played by the better women's teams."

Of course, last year the very best team in the nation was UConn, which racked up a perfect 39-0 season en route to the national championship. The players on that team—led by All-American seniors Sue Bird, Tamika Williams, Swin Cash and Asjha Jones—built the bulk of this record streak.

And this season, a team led by All-American junior Diana Taurasi and many terrific young players is in the hunt for the championship again. There will be tons of tough games to play. Just this Monday, January 20th, they matched up against Notre Dame and extended the streak to 56. And on February 1st, they will play Duke, now ranked first in the country.

Mr. President, competition isn't about perfection. It's about perseverance. I'm reminded of the words of Michael Jordan, who said, "I have missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I have lost almost 300 games. On 26 occasions I have been entrusted to take the game winning shot . . . and I missed. I have failed over and over and over